

NEWSLETTER

NOTE
FROM THE
DIRECTOR

UPCOMING EVENTS

100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF GENERAL RELATIVITY

DIALOGUES WITH HUGH DOWNS & MARIETTE DICHRISTINA

CREATIVITY TO MADNESS

ANNOUNCING
ORIGINS EDUCATION PORTAL

**SCHOLARSHIPS
AND AWARDS**

VISITING DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS

NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR



It is with great pleasure that I share with you details about our expansion and the exciting direction The Origins Project is headed in the year to come. Due in part to generous support from our donors, and also because of our growing international profile, The Origins Project continues to develop in its dual role in fostering forefront research and also engaging the public in the newest and most exciting ideas and individuals who help develop them.

In 2015 we launched a new event format with Alan Alda and Noam Chomsky in our Origins Project Dialogue series. We held a scientific workshop and Great Debate Extinctions: Tragedy to Opportunity, which included key figures such as ASU President Michael Crow, Director of ASU's School of Earth and Space Exploration Lindy Elkins-Tanton, Diane Ackerman, Svante Paabo, Ian Tattersall, and Neil Gershenfeld. Nobel Laureate Frank Wilczek was our Visiting Distinguished Professor during spring 2015 semester, and I am happy to share that he is planning on returning soon. We provided a variety of awards and sponsorships, including our inaugural Origins Project Postdoctoral Prize Lectureship to winner Adrian Liu. We hosted Liu for a week at ASU where we hosted four talks of his, including his public lecture Observing Our Origins in the First Galaxy. We hope that you were able to attend these and others. For those who were unable to, I encourage you to watch the video recordings of those noted and additional events we held abroad, available on our [Origins Project YouTube channel](#).

In 2016 we aim to explore and bring topics to the public within the scope of Life and Death in the 21st Century. As we embark on the new academic year, there is much to look forward to, by means of education and community outreach with unique online content via our newly announced Origins Education Portal, and exclusive and public events around origins and our future. This fall we welcome Peter Singer as a Visiting Distinguished Professor who will join me for an Origins Project Dialogue on Ethics for the 21st Century, and panel on Evolving Ethics: Food, Sex and Death. We have offerings of multiple awards and scholarships to many, including undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral students at ASU and beyond, as well as new and expanded support for faculty research designed to help support and nurture their growth and exploration in areas relative to The Origins Project. In spring 2016 we will host a number of events, many of which will be announced soon, including Dialogues with Hugh Downs and Mariette DiChristina as well as Great Debates.

We have many new faces on our team who are talented, enthusiastic and committed to our success and positive impact in the community. With this expanded team we will be able to offer more and extend our reach to better serve and create more opportunities for experts, the general public, and all in between to engage and get involved.

We greatly appreciate your support and hope you will stay in touch and look for ways to participate in our programming. Thank you for helping us fulfill our missions to create new opportunities for transdisciplinary research at the forefront while increasing the public's understanding of and interest in science.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Krauss'.

Lawrence M. Krauss
Director, The Origins Project at ASU



“PRIVILEGE CONFERS OPPORTUNITY AND OPPORTUNITY CONFERS RESPONSIBILITY.

Responsibility means dedication to challenging, questioning the verities that are imposed upon us by doctrinal systems, and working, challenging, and doing something about it.”

NOAM CHOMSKY

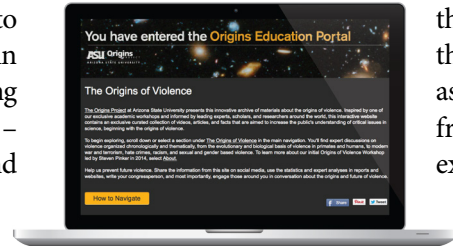
ORIGINS PROJECT DIALOGUE: CHOMSKY AND KRAUSS



ORIGINS EDUCATION PORTAL

As you may have discovered, we have a new component to our offerings here at The Origins Project. We've been working non-stop to launch the Origins Education Portal, an innovative, open-access resource archive that will bring you exclusive intellectual content from our private academic workshops. It also features select materials from throughout the world curated to help you more fully engage with each topic. The

Origins Portal will become your gateway to the best subject matter experts in the world have been developing origins issues – associated with of violence and the origins processing in the brain, to the origin of pattern in the space and time. We hope you will find the Origins Portal a resource for discussing some of the most pressing questions of our time.



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We are excited to present the first offering from the Origins Portal, the Origins of Violence: An Overview. The curated materials found in the Origins of Violence are informed and inspired by one of our high-level academic workshops held in April 2014. Led by Harvard Professor of Psychology Steven Pinker, this workshop featured the world's top scholars in deep discussion about the socio-cultural and neuro-biological forms of violence. Topics ranged from its evolutionary utility in primates and early humans to the success of nonviolent protests propelling wide scale social change. We have used the workshop as a reference point for the Origins of Violence: An Overview, as well as supplemented relevant information that we believe necessary for a more robust understanding of violence - its roots, evolution, and means of mitigation.

We hope that you will use this information, share it on social media, talk to your friends about it, and help us create a more equitable world for humanity.

Stay tuned to our website for more updates on additional offerings from the Origins Portal. If you would like more information on the Origins Portal or Origins of Violence: An Overview, contact us at origins.project@asu.edu. If you are an educator and would like to discuss using the Origins Portal or Origins of Violence: An Overview in your classroom, contact Michelle Iwen at Michelle.Iwen@asu.edu.

ENTER THE PORTAL AT ORIGINSportal.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

SPRING 2016 - TICKETS AVAILABLE SOON

JAN 22

ORIGINS PROJECT PANEL: EINSTEIN'S LEGACY: CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF GENERAL RELATIVITY

ASU GAMMAGE AUDITORIUM, 7 PM

100 years ago today, Albert Einstein forever changed our view of space, time, and the cosmos. Join Kip Thorne, Frank Wilczek, Adam Riess, Diana K. Buchwald, and Lawrence Krauss for the culmination of a year long centenary celebration of Albert Einstein's developments of the theory of general relativity. Gain new insights into Einstein and his most famous work, exciting developments in physics, and what we can expect in the next 100 years from this groundbreaking theory.

FEB 16

ORIGINS PROJECT DIALOGUE: DOWNS AND KRAUSS

SCOTTSDALE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, 7 PM

Join television legend and Emmy Award winner Hugh Downs and Lawrence Krauss for an intimate discussion on taboos in journalism and society at large. The former *Today Show* host will discuss his more than 50 years of influence in media, the changing landscape of public knowledge, and the few taboos that remain in modern journalism. Krauss and Downs will touch on scientific topics that were once forbidden, as well as particularly taboo areas of research that could impact humanity for generations to come. [Tickets on sale now!](#)

MARCH 12

ORIGINS PROJECT EVENT TBA: CREATIVITY TO MADNESS

ASU GAMMAGE AUDITORIUM, 7 PM

In partnership with the National Institutes of Health, we will hold a scientific workshop and public event to spark discussions of unanswered big questions of how the brain and machines process patterns for the future of our species. Save the date!

APRIL 22

ORIGINS PROJECT DIALOGUE: DICHRISTINA AND KRAUSS

CENTER STAGE, HERBERGER THEATER, 7PM

Trailblazing science journalist and *Scientific American* editor-in-chief Mariette DiChristina and Lawrence Krauss come together for an enlightening evening on the role of science in our life. Watch as DiChristina and Krauss discuss how to better fuse the relationship between science and journalism in the digital age, the importance of science education and critical thinking to the prosperity of our world, and fun facts from the storied history of *Scientific American*. [Save the date!](#)

APRIL 23

ORIGINS PROJECT GREAT DEBATE TBA

ASU GAMMAGE AUDITORIUM, 7 PM

Save the date for an exciting Great Debate that will feature a distinguished panel of experts, intellectuals, and public figures. More details to come.

FALL 2015 - PAST EVENTS

OCT 16, 2015

ORIGINS PROJECT DIALOGUE: SINGER AND KRAUSS

SCOTTSDALE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, 7 PM

The Origins Project welcomed renowned moral philosopher Peter Singer to join Lawrence Krauss for an intimate evening of conversation in this Dialogue discussing animal liberation, dying with dignity, food, global poverty, and effective altruism. It was truly a night to remember as a candid and unscripted conversation on Ethics for the 21st Century unfolded. Be sure to watch videos and read blog posts from the event on our [website](#).

DEC 2015

ORIGINS PROJECT CRUISE: SCIENCE AND ADVENTURE IN ANTARCTICA

The Origins Project and guests spent 10 days aboard the beautiful Silver Explorer which provided the perfect setting to explore questions ranging from the origin of the universe and life within it, to issues of climate change and our planet's future.

To view photos and videos from the trip and to read blog posts, please visit our [website](#).

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT ORIGINS.ASU.EDU/EVENTS

SPRING 2015 EVENTS



ORIGINS PROJECT DIALOGUE: ALDA & KRAUSS

Stage and screen legend Alan Alda and Lawrence Krauss engaged in an insightful and candid conversation on Science and Art: Long Lost Lovers in January 2015 at the Orpheum Theatre in downtown Phoenix.

BLOG

VIDEO

ASU NEWS



ORIGINS PROJECT GREAT DEBATE: EXTINCTIONS: TRAGEDY TO OPPORTUNITY

A cadre of experts and leaders in their fields gathered together on stage at the ASU Gammage Auditorium in February 2015 to discuss and debate the nature of extinction from our earliest events to the future of our species.

BLOG

VIDEO

ASU NEWS



ORIGINS PROJECT DIALOGUE: CHOMSKY & KRAUSS

Intellectual giant Noam Chomsky joined Lawrence Krauss in a thought-provoking and candid conversation on the nature of humanity, the power of science and the mind, and global social justice in front of a sold out venue at the ASU Gammage Auditorium in March 2015.

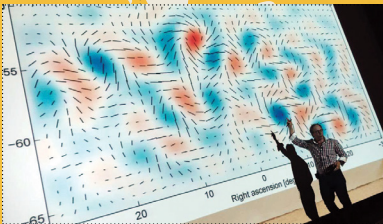
BLOG

BLOG

VIDEO

ASU NEWS

AROUND THE WORLD



FEBRUARY 2015 DUBLIN, IRELAND

Origins Project Dialogue with Richard Dawkins and Lawrence Krauss as part of Outer Surface events in February 2015 in Dublin, Ireland.

APRIL 2015 OLOMOUC, CZECH REPUBLIC

Origins Project Dialogue with Richard Dawkins and Lawrence Krauss at the Academia Film Olomouc (AFO), International Festival of Science Documentary Films in April 2015.



JUNE 2015 SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Origins of the Universe lecture by Lawrence Krauss at Sydney Opera House in June 2015 in Sydney, Australia.



AUGUST 2015 TEMPE, ARIZONA

Journey to the beginning of Time talk by Lawrence Krauss as part of the ASU School of Earth and Space Exploration Discovery Series in August 2015 at ASU's Tempe campus.

ORIGINS PROJECT HISTORY



ORIGINS PROJECT SYMPOSIUM

Over 100 public intellectuals from around the world gather at ASU to explore forefront questions of origins, establishing the first all-day public event to fill Gammage Auditorium.

SCIENCE & CULTURE FEST

The Origins Project Science & Culture Fest takes place over 6 days. The public enjoys lectures, discussions, film screenings, and more.



SCIENCE TAKES CENTER STAGE

The Storytelling of Science brought together a panel of esteemed scientists, public intellectuals, and award-winning writers to convey the excitement of science and its importance for public understanding.



THE PROJECT GOES GLOBAL

2014 marks the 5 year anniversary of The Origins Project. We also go international with a cruise to the Galapagos and appearances on Japanese public television.



THE DIALOGUES BEGIN

Lawrence Krauss hosts dialogues with Noam Chomsky and Alan Alda.



TODAY

The Origins Project continues to bring together a diverse collection of the world's leading scientists and scholars. The Origins Education Portal launches with great success. Lawrence Krauss welcomes Peter Singer to a dialogue on Ethics for the 21st Century.

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

The Origins Project provides a variety of unique awards and scholarships to students, scholars and researchers. There are a number of opportunities available that we encourage you to explore, all of which are intended to help foster education, research and collaboration related to our mission. Now accepting applications/nominations for:

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP REOPENS IN MAY 2016

The Origins Project is excited to announce the winners of the inaugural Undergraduate Research Scholarship. These scholarship funds for joint research projects between ASU undergraduates and their faculty mentors consist of a \$5,000 research fund for both the student and their mentor, for a total of \$10,000 awarded per project.



MICHAEL
BUSCH



ALEXI
CHOUERI



ADITYA
DHUMENTARAO



ALEXANDRA
NORWOOD



NITISH
PEELA

FACULTY RESEARCH FUNDING REOPENS IN FEBRUARY 2016

The Origins Project will sponsor a limited number of ASU faculty members whose origins-related research project would benefit from additional funding. Professor Rogier Windhorst's project 3D IMAGINE was awarded \$1,000 in 2015 Faculty Research Funding. Regents Professor in the School of Earth and Space Exploration, Rogier Windhorst's 3D Imagine project is focused on developing alternative learning tools for visually impaired astronomy students.

FACULTY WORKSHOP FUNDING COMING SOON

LEARN MORE, NOMINATE AND/OR APPLY AT ORIGINS.ASU.EDU/PRIZES-SCHOLARSHIPS

VISITING DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS

The Origins Project hosts distinguished professors at ASU where they spend periods ranging from a week to a full term meeting with students, engaging in research, giving public lectures, and collaborating with faculty and students in accordance with the mission of the project. Visiting distinguished professors this year will include the following:



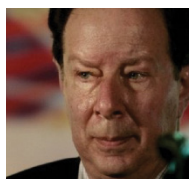
FRANK WILCZEK

Nobel Laureate, Professor Frank Wilczek will be joining us from his home institution of Massachusetts Institute of Technology during the 2015-2016 academic year. He previously visited Arizona State University during spring semesters in 2011-2015.



PETER SINGER

Peter Singer is an Australian moral philosopher. He is the Ira W. DeCamp Professor of Bioethics at Princeton University and a Laureate Professor at the Centre. Professor Singer was inducted into the United States Animal Rights Hall of Fame in 2000. He will be visiting ASU this fall semester.



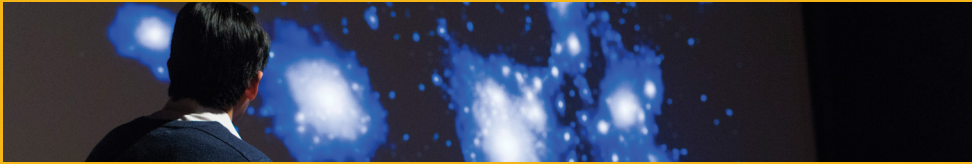
SIDNEY ALTMAN

Nobel Laureate, Professor Sid Altman will be visiting from his home institution of Yale University during the fall 2015 semester. He previously joined us at ASU during spring semesters in 2011 and 2013.

POSTDOCTORAL AWARD LECTURESHIP

The Origins Project offers an annual program honoring a recent postdoctoral researcher in any area of Origins Project activities, from any country in the world. This program brings the winning candidate to ASU for a week where they will lecture on his or her areas of expertise, addressing faculty, students, and also the general public. This award includes \$10,000 to be awarded to the winner, making it the largest prize of its kind in the world.

The inaugural winner was Adrian Liu, from the University of California, Berkeley Center for Cosmological Physics. We encourage you to watch his talk on Observing Our Origins in the First Galaxies on our ASU Origins Project YouTube channel.



THE NORM PERRILL ORIGINS PROJECT SCHOLARSHIP

APPLICATIONS OPEN IN DECEMBER 2015

The Norm Perrill Origins Project Scholarship is made possible by the generosity of ASU Professor Emeritus Dr. Norm Perrill and is awarded annually to one ASU graduate student and one ASU undergraduate student who demonstrate academic excellence and show academic rigor in Origins-related issues.



CARL FIELDS



ERIC WOOLF

The 2015-16 Norm Perrill Origins Project Scholarship winners include Biology PhD student Eric Woolf and Physics and Astrophysics undergraduate student Carl E. Fields. Woolf is studying the development of cancer cells and Fields' research interests include compact objects, supernovae and stellar physics. Applications will open again in December 2015.

GIVING TO THE ORIGINS PROJECT

The Origins Project continues to strive for excellence and has an increasingly positive impact in the communities we serve by offering unique events and programs. As we enhance and evolve our offerings, we seek additional support to carry out the ambitious agenda we have established and to build on our past success, from exploring frontier research issues to reaching out to the general public. Through the generation and broad dissemination of knowledge, as well as the excitement of learning, we hope to help scientists, the public, journalists, and policy makers use this knowledge to help create a better future for everyone.

The Origins Project offers opportunities for people of all ages and walks of life to participate in this unique and exciting initiative. Drawing upon the strength, breadth, and intellectual diversity of ASU's resources, we represent a powerful opportunity to help accelerate discovery, promote innovation, and to encourage broad public understanding of and participation in the modern scientific research while connecting science and culture in new and exciting ways.

Your financial generosity will help us continue to further enhance our ability to meet these exciting goals, associated with the effort of understanding the most important questions of our time.

PLEASE CONSIDER GIVING AT ORIGINS.ASU.EDU/GIVING

MEET THE TEAM



LAWRENCE KRAUSS

Director, The Origins Project



AMELIA HUGGINS

Executive Director



MANFRED LAUBICHLER

Associate Director



MICHELLE IWEN

Assistant Director, Educational Content and Programs



CYNTHIA SCHULZE

Business Operations Manager



TESSA MENKEN

Web Developer



SYDNEY LINES

Event Coordinator



JENA SPRAU

Interaction Designer



MARTHA MENDOZA

Business Operations Specialist



JESSICA COOK

Postdoctoral Researcher



KAITLYN SELMAN

Office Assistant, Student Worker

THANK YOU

YOUR GENEROSITY HELPS US EXPLORE

fundamental questions, speed discovery, and enhance public understanding and excitement about science and scholarship and their role in our culture. Your generosity is vitally important as we expand the frontiers of our mission and make strides to enhance our vision for the future.

WAYS TO GIVE AND SUPPORT THE ORIGINS PROJECT CAN BE FOUND AT ORIGINS.ASU.EDU/GIVING

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE?



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