

Report #15 - 2025 SOL Foundation Symposium
Grand Hotel Dino, Lago Maggiore, Italy | October 25–27, 2025
by John Shartle

Overview

First, I want to express my deep appreciation and heartfelt gratitude to Vince Lisi for making it possible for me to attend this important event. His vision and deep connection to the unfolding mystery of Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena (UAP) continue to open doorways, creating space for conversations that stir the spirit, and invite us into deeper awareness of the unknown.

Note: A glossary of terms is included at the end of this report.

The 2025 SOL Foundation Symposium continued its commitment to deepening the global conversation on UAP and related topics, again bringing together an impressive range of international scholars, scientists, military officials, political leaders, and experiencers. Like last year, the event was thoughtfully organized around half-day thematic sessions, reflecting both the seriousness of the inquiry and the accelerating push toward interdisciplinary and international collaboration.

For those new to this conversation, I invite you to explore background information on SOL’s mission, as well as Now Creations’ affiliation and support of the organization, which can be found in last year’s SOL Report, available at nowcreations.org under the “Cosmic Citizens Committee” tab. I also encourage everyone reading this to visit the SOL Foundation directly at thesolfoundation.org.

Day 1, Morning: The UAP Situation Today

The symposium opened with a session dedicated to the current state of UAP understanding.

- Dr. Beatriz Villarroel presented her groundbreaking work on “transients” observed in the pre-satellite era (1949–1956), suggesting that certain unexplained astronomical phenomena have historical precedent long before the modern aerospace era.

- Aerospace executive and U.S. Army Colonel (Ret.) Karl Nell delivered a strikingly original talk drawing parallels between contemporary UAP political realities and the strategic environment faced by five Roman emperors. His framework highlighted the complex strategic and psychological dimensions of the UAP disclosure conversation.

- European perspectives were offered by aerospace engineer Luc Dini and French General and Defense Official on Space Issues (Ret.) Pierre Bescond, who placed the UAP discussion within both contemporary and historical European frameworks, underscoring the importance of international dialogue.

Afternoon: Understanding the Ramifications

This session explored broader philosophical, theological, and scientific implications of the UAP Phenomenon.

- Dr. Diana Walsh Pasulka, Chair, Department of Religious Studies, University of North Carolina, Wilmington, delivered a provocative presentation entitled “Angels or Artificial Intelligence (AI) - Higher Order Beings in a Post-Biological Universe,” diving deep into the work of Dr. Steven Dick and the intersection of technology, divinity, spirituality, and revelation.

- Dr. Peter Skafish, a cultural anthropologist and SOL Foundation co-founder, examined the socio-political dynamics of contact with Non-Human Intelligence (NHI), urging a reevaluation of human-centric frameworks. Note: Dr. Skafish has addressed similar themes at the two previous SOL symposia, and they are each powerful, instructive, and worthy of the time to watch them.

- Physicist Dr. Karl Svozil highlighted the need for theoretical physics to evolve alongside UAP realities, critiquing the field’s stagnation in light of emerging theories and information.

- Renowned scholar of UAP and the Phenomenon, Dr. Jacques Vallée offered a compelling case study from Hainesville, Louisiana; a lesser-known incident that stands among what he considers the most mystifying and credible UAP cases.

- The day concluded with a dialogue between SOL co-founder Dr. Garry Nolan, and Jake Barber (Skywatcher Foundation), who discussed Barber’s

work on telepathic/psionic communication with UAP and the potential for emergent new modalities of contact.

Day 2, Morning: Developing a Response

- Political Scientist, Dr. Christian Peters opened the day with a presentation on UAP secrecy, political realism, and the shift from “natural” science toward “social” science frameworks. His message was clear: this is no longer just a physics or aerospace issue; it is sociological, political and cultural.
- Mr. Fabio De Masi, former member of both the German Parliament and European Parliament, called for U.S./European cooperation and named whistleblower David Grusch as his personal inspiration for becoming interested in the UAP issue.
- UK legal scholar and professor, Dr. Michael Bohlander advocated for a robust ethical framework to guide present and future interactions with NHI, arguing that current legal and ethical structures are inadequate for a meaningful contact framework with NHI.
- Maura Mindrilla of the SOL Foundation spoke passionately about Europe’s unique opportunity to take a leadership role in fostering international cooperation on the UAP topic.

Afternoon: Facing the Future – Opportunities and Dilemmas

- Returning speaker, U.S. Navy Admiral (Ret.) Tim Gallaudet presented the idea that a global, collaborative reimagining of the conversation around UAP and disclosure is needed. He suggested internal U.S. politics have hamstrung progress, which has created an opening for international groups to take leading roles.
- Astrobiologist Dr. Jacob Haqq-Misra presented ongoing work by his organization (Blue Marble Space Institute of Science) using cutting-edge technology, and exploring the scientific foundations and methodologies in the search for life beyond Earth.
- Dr. Anna Brady-Estevez of the National Science Foundation (NSF) and Jonathan Berte (SOL co-founder and technology/AI entrepreneur) jointly

presented on investment opportunities in UAP research, emphasizing the role of AI tools in analyzing large data sets and anomalous signals.

- The day closed with Italian researcher Roberto Pinotti, who detailed the alleged 1933 UAP crash in Magenta, Italy, and its ramifications for the Mussolini government. This is a noteworthy historical case which adds political depth and dimension to the UAP narrative.

***Note**

While we did not attend the final sessions on Monday, October 27, U.S. military whistleblowers Dylan Borland and Jeff Nuccitelli expanded on their sworn testimony before Congress in September 2025. This sworn testimony is related to their own personal experiences with UAP. Their contributions are significant, and I highly recommended reviewing the entire Congressional hearing if you have not seen it. Video of the hearing is available on YouTube. Cut and past the link, below, into your browser.

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=House+uap+hearing

Key Takeaways from the 2025 SOL Symposium

1. UAP is a global issue—not just American.

European scientists, politicians, and military officials offered grounded perspectives that often contrasted with more politicized U.S. narratives. In particular, presentations by General Bescond, Mr. Dini, Mr. De Masi, and Dr. Bohlander revealed a measured, pragmatic approach centered on transparency and international cooperation.

Many nations are conducting UAP research alongside each other. The symposium underscored the need for these efforts to converge. International dialogue, shared data, and collective analysis are no longer luxuries, they are necessities.

2. The phenomenon is more complex than once imagined.

This symposium moved the UAP discussion well beyond more simplistic "extraterrestrial craft" theories. Discussions touched on consciousness, dimensionality, spiritual and metaphysical frameworks. Dr. Pasulka's and Jake Barber's presentations reframed the UAP question as potentially emergent from Awareness itself. The Phenomenon is not just objects in the sky, but a greater "something" woven into the fabric of reality.

3. Artificial Intelligence is emerging as both a tool and a topic.

This year, Artificial Intelligence (AI) was no longer peripheral to the conversation, it was integral. Whether as an aid to research or a possible form of NHI in its own right, AI's significance is growing rapidly within this discussion. Its emergence reframes how we gather information, analyze data, and possibly even conceptualize the meaning of "Non-Human Intelligence."

4. Important breakthroughs come from scientific rigor.

Dr. Villarroel's peer-reviewed research on historical "transients" represents a significant breakthrough within mainstream science, precisely because it avoids spectacle. Her rigor, restraint, and scientific discipline may serve as the bridge to finally bringing this topic into serious academic acceptance and discourse.

5. My Personal Revelation (a very subjective takeaway)

One of the most challenging takeaways from the symposium, and the one that's most difficult to articulate, is the sheer breadth of disciplines now drawn toward "the Phenomenon." These disciplines include physics, military intelligence, consciousness studies, theology, anthropology, and metaphysics among many others. It is being approached from every angle known to us, from "nuts and bolts" to artistic interpretation.

Still, no matter how much we bring to the table, conversation about the Phenomenon eventually becomes ephemeral, slipping away from language into the

mists of pure wonder. Every framework, no matter how exacting, eventually fails to contain it. We are attempting to map the edges of something we cannot even fully name.

It is my sense that this conversation may ultimately not be about the Phenomenon itself, at all. More likely, it may be about us, and what kind of consciousness is required to even perceive what's trying to show itself. The Phenomenon, whatever "it" is, doesn't appear to care about intellect or credentials. It doesn't seem to want to be solved or decoded. To me, it feels like it wants to be acknowledged, witnessed, and respected, revealing more to us as we evolve in our ability to comprehend. Which reminds me of one of my favorite quotes:

"The Universe is full of magical things, patiently waiting for our wits to grow sharper."

Eden Philpotts, 1862 - 1960

Conclusion

Once again, the SOL Foundation Symposium proved to be an exceptional gathering and a marketplace of ideas unlike anything else in the world. The caliber of presenters, spanning the globe and representing academia, military, government, and private sectors, was extraordinary. Each offered insights that were not only thought-provoking, but often paradigm-shifting.

The need for interdisciplinary and international cooperation was echoed throughout the event. But, more than that, there was a shared sense that the topic of contact with UAP and NHI is no longer speculative. It's a reality with implications that touch every human life.

What happens when this truth becomes undeniable? How will global diplomacy, religion, science, and economics respond? And deeper still, what will stir in the heart of the individual? When the reality of NHI contact sinks in, what new questions will surface in living rooms, in classrooms, in places of worship and in quiet reflection? What ontological shifts will unfold as people everywhere are asked to reckon with a larger story, one that includes them, but encompasses vastly more than the human story?

These are the questions that SOL continues to boldly invite us to consider, not in some faraway future, but right now.

As in previous years, video recordings of the symposium will be made publicly available on YouTube, and I will provide that information when it becomes available. For those drawn to this mystery, I encourage you to explore the archive of previous Sol Symposium presentations, which are available on the Sol Foundation channel on YouTube. I am also happy to answer any individual inquiries related to this topic, and provide additional resources. I may be contacted at jts99362@gmail.com.

Glossary:

UAP - Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena; this term subsumes “UFO”, and includes submerged objects, those stationary on land, and those which defy prosaic explanations.

NHI - Non-Human Intelligence; this term has replaced the more familiar “alien” as it includes potential inter-dimensional, plasmic, energetic and other forms of intelligence.

The Phenomenon - This term refers to the myriad manifestations of UFO/UAP/NHI incidents including, but not limited to, physical, spiritual, psychic, extrasensory, and dreams.