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Abstract

Space settlement is moving from the fringe of space conversations towards the center. As this happens some will object to one or more aspects of space settlement. Most of these objections have been heard before. Indeed, since space settlement became part of the discussion with Gerard O'Neill's work on free space settlements in the 1970s, many of the same objections have surfaced again and again. The space settlement movement, including this author, has some experience responding to these attacks. This paper is intended to be a place to find rebuttals to objections to space settlement. For each objection there are talking points and a brief discussion.

A short bio

Al Globus worked at NASA Ames for 39 years as a contract software engineer on space settlement, asteroid mining, Hubble, space stations, X37, shuttle, Earth observation, TDRSS, cubesats, lunar teleoperation, spaceflight effects on bone, molecular nanotechnology, scientific visualization, and space solar power publishing dozens of papers on these and other topics. He founded and has run the annual NSS Space Settlement Contest for 7-12 grade students for over 25 years. The contest attracted 14,000 kids in 2020. Most recently, he found a way to build O'Neill-style space settlements.