

From: J <jeevacation@gmail.com>

To: Richard Kahn <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Fwd: Recovering your past donation to the ASU Origins Project by January 16, 2019, and announcing the formation of The Origins Project Foundation.

Date: Tue, 01 Jan 2019 16:34:59 +0000

lets deal with this this week ,

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Lawrence Krauss <[REDACTED]>

Date: Mon, Dec 31, 2018 at 4:45 PM

Subject: Recovering your past donation to the ASU Origins Project by January 16, 2019, and announcing the formation of The Origins Project Foundation.

To: Lawrence Krauss <[REDACTED]>

Cc: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Friends of Origins,

Forgive the mass emailing, but I wanted to inform you that the deadline to contact the ASU Foundation to ask for a return of the money you had previously donated to the Origins Project on behalf of The ASU Foundation is **Jan 16, 2019** and update you on exciting news that will allow you to continue to support the mission of the Origins Project.

As most of you are probably aware, ASU discontinued the ASU Origins Project shortly after the University decided not to renew me for a third 5 year term as Director. The Origins staff were subsequently moved to an unrelated project at ASU, and the ASU Origins website, and the resources it contained, were taken down from ASU's web pages. Happily, even though the videos of past ASU Origins Project events are no longer accessible via the ASU Origins website, they remain accessible directly on youtube, either at <https://www.youtube.com/user/ASUORIGINS/videos> or at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSTp9P8taR5vTLITkHzyWSJHoljSX8iYF>.

I reached an agreement with the University to retire in May 2019, and on your behalf, I asked that the following provision be added that will allow many of you to have your donations returned:

Funds Donated to ASU Foundation for Origins Project: *If, within 90 days of the Effective Date, any of the following donors to the ASU Foundation to support the Origins Project makes a request that the ASU Foundation return their donation, ASU will not oppose the return of funds to the donor:*

- (a) Donors who contributed \$4,000 or more, including multiple donations from a single family, since January 1, 2017; and*
- (b) Donors who contributed in excess of \$300,000 since 2010.*

Only requests from these individuals or groups will be considered for return. The ASU Foundation shall be solely responsible for determining the method for calculating the amount of funds attributable to each donor that are available for return, making the calculation, and specifying the form of the consent or direction necessary from the donor.

Since the original mission of the Origins Project that you supported is no long being carried out directly at ASU, I felt that it was important that people who donated to the project should feel free to reassign their donations elsewhere. I am thus reaching out to you now to inform those of you who fall into one of the categories described above, and who may wish to have your donations returned for reallocation elsewhere, that you need to contact the ASU Foundation by January 16th to initiate the process of having your donation returned to you. Those of you who do not fall into one of the categories are also free to contact the foundation to make a similar request, but I do not know how rigid ASU and the Foundation will be in this regard.

Either way, the first step in this process is to contact the ASU Foundation and ask for the return of your funds by Jan 16, 2019. Contact information for the Executive Director of the ASU Foundation is given below.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

For those of you concerned about the tax implications of recovering money in 2019 that you donated in a previous year, you can consult the IRS booklet (<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p17.pdf>) pp. 92-93, under the "Recoveries" (A recovery is a return of an amount you deducted or took credit for in an earlier year.) As instructed there, taxpayers will list the amount recovered on the relevant line of 1040 form as income in 2019 (ASU will send to the IRS a 1099-Misc form indicating the amount they are refunding you, if the refund is more than \$600 and if they had previously sent you an acknowledgment of your donation). If you then re-donate these funds to another charity in 2019 you can deduct this amount among your charitable deductions, assuming you itemize your deductions, so the net tax burden to you should be zero for this process.

Next, perhaps not surprisingly, I have exciting news about a new organization to which you can re-donate the amount you recover from ASU (and of course any additional donation you wish to make).

The Origins Project's original mission will continue through the work of a newly created non-profit corporation, The Origins Project Foundation, INC. This is being formed as a tax-exempt organization under 501 (c) (3). The Origins Project Foundation is currently based in Phoenix, and we will host the same type of remarkable forefront public panels that you are familiar with, as well as a host new and exciting travel and other educational opportunities, in order to provide the public direct access to leading scientist, scholars, artists, musicians, writers and thought leaders, as they discuss the issues that are most important for meeting the challenges of the 21st century.

While the new program is currently under development, I am very happy to announce that John Edwards, Joseph Logan, and Steven Horne have joined me as directors of the Origins Project Foundation. Our website has just been launched, and you can follow future developments and be added to the mailing list as our full slate of public programs and other activities unfolds. The website is: <https://originsprojectfoundation.org>. We are hoping to begin programming by the summer or fall of 2019.

If you wish assistance in moving your funds to provide a tax free gift to the new foundation, please contact the foundation via its web site, or directly email "[REDACTED]" or contact: John Edwards, the treasurer of the Foundation, directly at 805.766.3873. John can give you banking information and other guidance.

Also, whether or not you decide to reallocate your original ASU Origins Project donation to The Origins Project Foundation, we want to ensure that your request to the ASU Foundation for return of your funds is handled smoothly. To facilitate this, please cc the Origins Project Foundation at its email address ([REDACTED]) on all correspondence you send to the ASU Foundation.

Your support of the work of the ASU Origins Project helped create a program that was one of the most exciting public education opportunities anywhere in the world. Leading that program was one of my proudest achievements in over 30 years as a professor at various institutions around the world, and that is why I am extremely excited about carrying on and expanding that legacy through this new initiative. I am hoping you will join us as we move forward with an exciting new Origins Project, building on our past experience, and expanding it to create new exciting opportunities to connect forefront world leaders with the public to help build a better future for us all. Stay tuned for further announcements.

Whatever you should decide to do, I wanted to personally thank you for helping make Origins such a success over the past decade, and I hope to see you again in Origins Project Foundation programs in 2019 and beyond. With your help, the best is yet to come.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Krauss

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please note

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