



◆ NASA Annual Occupational Health Conference

in 2004: Make plans now to attend the *NASA Occupational Health Conference* in Colonial Williamsburg, VA, on June 21-25. The conference theme this year is **Embracing Change in Occupational Health - Moving Towards One NASA**. The conference will be held at the [Hospitality House](#), located within walking distance of Colonial Williamsburg. The conference will begin on Monday, June 21, with a day of professional development courses. The conference reception will be Monday evening and will be followed by a candlelight tour of Colonial Williamsburg. The general session will begin on Tuesday, June 22, and will end Friday June 25, at noon. For more details about the conference and to register please visit the NASA OH website [conference and meeting page](#). This is an excellent opportunity to network with Occupational Health professionals from the 14 NASA Centers and Facilities.

Colonial Williamsburg



◆ **EHRIS Project Update:** The EHRIS Project increased its pace this month with an announcement that procurement of an application vendor would begin in May. As a result, a Task Force ViTS, held on March 16, focused on generating user input on a requirements document outlining the technical and functional needs of an Agency system. In a separate action, four members of the task force were invited to participate on the procurement team. All accepted and will provide much needed clinical and technical expertise to the vendor selection process. In the coming months, the EHRIS project team plans to begin computer and medical equipment hardware assessment in preparation for clinic implementation. While no concrete date has been established, with a successful vendor selection, the first clinic could go live with the EHRIS in mid 2005.

◆ **Diet Plans Guide:** A comparative chart of eight popular weight management and diet plans against the USDA Food Guide Pyramid will be mailed out to NASA Health Promotion and Wellness Committee in mid April. The [pamphlet](#) has also been placed on the NASA OH website.

◆ **American Board Of Industrial Hygiene (ABIH) moves to computer based exams:** Beginning this spring the CIH and CAIH exams will be given on computers at Prometric testing centers. There will be two testing windows each year, each two months long. The spring exam period will be April and May and the fall examination period will be October and

November.

◆ Institute of Medicine (IOM) of the National Academies is Assessing Worksite Preventive Health Program Needs for NASA Employees:

NASA has funded this IOM [project](#). A multi-disciplinary ad hoc committee has been convened to assess existing work-site preventive health programs, and assess employee awareness and attitudes concerning these existing programs. The committee will prepare a report that evaluates and recommends: (a) specific options for future work-site preventive health programs focusing on, but not limited to nutrition, fitness, and psychological well-being, (b) incentives or methods to encourage employees to voluntarily enlist and sustain participation in work-site preventive health programs, (c) ways to create healthier work-place environments that are conducive to more active lifestyles, (d) supportive nutrition options to reduce risk factors for chronic disease, and (e) ways to evaluate the effectiveness of such programs. The picture below is from the OHMS presentation to the IOM committee at the National Academy of Sciences on March 25.



◆ **NASA OH Website Training Area Upgrade:** The [training area](#) has been revamped, please take a look.

◆ **American Occupational Health Conference (AOHC):** Make plans to attend the 2004 [2004 American Occupational Health Conference \(AOHC\)](#) in Kansas City, Missouri, on April 30-May 7.

◆ **NASA IH Meeting at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference & Exposition (AIHCE) in Atlanta:** NASA IHs will be [gathering](#) on Monday, May 10, 5:30 – 7:30 PM at the downtown Atlanta *Embassy Suites*

◆ **HPS Annual Meeting:** Health Physicists (HP) at the NASA centers are encouraged to attend the [annual HP meeting](#) July 11-15 in Washington, DC. A NASA HP breakout session during this meeting is still being explored.

◆ NASA OH Center Evaluation Calendar:

- May 24-28 – Glenn Research Center

◆ Upcoming Occupational Health ViTS:

- EAP ViTS – April 5, 3:00-4:00 PM EST
- Fitness ViTS – April 12, 1:30-2:30 PM EST
- EH Monthly ViTS – April 16, 2:00-3:00 PM EST
- Worker's Compensation ViTS – April 26, 2:00-3:30 PM

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