

Procurement Countdown

Winter 2001, No. 121

Safety: It's Up to You

By Tom Luedtke, Associate Administrator for Procurement

Falling isn't hard, it's the landing that will hurt you.

In recent years, the Agency has been seen as totally mission focused, almost a "missions at any cost" view. Today, NASA is stressing the new philosophy "Mission Success Starts with Safety." In other words, safety first. It is still important that missions be accomplished on time and within budget, but the Administrator has made it clear that safety should be our main priority. A mission that unduly risks the safety of people and equipment is not a successful mission.

The Administrator has placed an emphasis on Safety, unlike anything we have seen in the last decade. The NASA Safety hierarchy follows a very specific and logical outline:

The first priority of NASA's safety policy is to protect the general public. Many people within NASA don't understand why the public comes first, let me put it this way: We sign up for these

missions, the public doesn't. We owe it to them to keep them safe during missions. To date, we have successfully done this. We must ensure that the safety



of people outside of NASA is our primary goal. They pay our bills. We need to protect them. As I said, NASA has done a very good job of this, so far. We will continue to do it.

The second priority of NASA's Safety program is the astronauts, pilots, and other high-risk employees. These are the people who risk their lives as they push the knowledge envelope. They have jobs with the potential for danger and even fatal accidents. They know that. It is our job to ensure that they only have to take acceptable

risks. We must keep them safe from the unacceptable dangers.

The third priority is us, the NASA workforce. Some NASA employees come into contact with dangerous chemicals; many of us do not. Whether it's hazardous materials or extension cords, we run into dangers everyday. Our safety is important to the NASA mission. We must do all we can to stay safe.

Finally, in the NASA Safety hierarchy is the high value machinery. This does not mean computers. This means Space Shuttles and other items whose loss would negatively impact NASA's access to space and ability to do our mission.

One of the most frustrating issues about safety is that people in the Agency don't see it affecting them. But it does. Because we in procurement touch every part of a mission, from planning to disposal of property, it is critical that we view safety as a major part of our job. That means all of our job, from including clauses in a

(continued on page 7)

Highlights...

Following on to the last issue, we have more DAWIA news on page 2.

Read about the retirement of two former Procurement Officers you may know on page 2.

What's it like leaving HQ for a detail at a center? Read how it was for one person on page 4.

GSFC played host to the most recent Contractor Open Forum. Details on page 5.

Read about the first on-orbit award fee process, page 6.

Take a closer look at the Ames Acquisition Management team on page 8.

A new Peer Recognition system is now in place at MSFC. See how it works on page 11.

A new document generation system is on its way, page 18.

Recent Changes to Education Requirements for DoD 1102s

By Anne Guenther, Analysis Division

On January 25, 2001, *Government Executive* published an article on its website at www.govexec.com that caught the eye of a number of our 1102s. The article is entitled, "Senator: DoD misinterpreting employee education requirements." The article, which is very short, reported on a statement made by Senator Warner's office. The Senator's office was commenting on new education requirements that were included in the recently enacted FY2001 National Defense Authorization Act. His office said that the requirement did not reflect the intent of the drafters and that, if necessary, the Senate Armed Services Committee would work

on legislation to correct the language. Because the article provides no details on what the



new education requirements are, most of you who have read the article don't know how it applies to you, if at all. The purpose of this article is to "explain" the changes *Government Executive*

refers to and their impact on NASA 1102s.

What were the recent changes made to the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act of 1991 (DAWIA) and what is Senator Warner's office objecting to? Starting October 1, 2000, anyone occupying an 1102 contracting position within the Department of Defense (DoD) **at any grade level** must possess a 4-year degree **and** 24 semester hours of business courses. The same applies to anyone entering a DoD contracting position at any grade level (or being reassigned to a

(continued on page 14)

Two Former Ames Procurement Officers Retire

By Carolyn S. La Follette, Ames Research Center

Jana M. Coleman and Dennis R. Brown, two of Ames Research Center's former Procurement Officers, retired on January 3. Coleman retired with 33 1/2 years of service. Brown retired with 34 years. Each of them had 30 years at Ames. Coleman worked in procurement for the Army in St. Louis, Oakland, and Ames prior to transferring to NASA. She worked in several acquisition positions including Contract Specialist, Procurement Lead for the 40'x80'x120' Wind Tunnel Modernization Project, Branch Chief, Deputy Procurement Officer, and was the Procurement Officer from March 1984 to April 1991. She then became the Deputy Director for Administration, the Director of

Administration, and ultimately the Director of Center Operations. A native of Portland, OR, she has her BA degree from Portland State University, an MS from St. Mary's College of California, and attended Cornell University under the Education for Public Management Program in 1976-77. She holds numerous NASA awards for her management achievements, including NASA's Exceptional Service Award and the Presidential Rank Award for SES, Meritorious Service. She plans to eventually relocate to the Portland area.

Brown worked for the Army in Oakland and Ames prior to his transfer to NASA. He advanced through the ranks as

Contract Specialist, Branch Chief, Deputy Procurement Officer, and was Procurement Officer from 1991 to 1996. His immediate job prior to retirement was Special Assistant to the Director of Center Operations for the last four years, serving as the Directorate lead for ISO and VPP. He is a San Francisco native and received his BS from San Francisco State University. He attended Syracuse University under the Maxwell Mid-Career Development Program in 1985. He is currently working part time as on-site manager for an 8(a) contractor at Ames. His immediate plans are to remain in the Bay Area.





People on the Move

GSFC: Over the course of the last quarter, GSFC has had several internal and external personnel moves. We congratulate those from each category. Jeff Lamke, was selected as the Head of the SEB office at Kennedy Space Center; Phyllis McNatt was selected as a Procurement Analyst at HUD; Bryan Ball was selected as a Contract Specialist at IRS; and Kevin Dosey has left GSFC to begin a career in private industry at NiSus Technologies. Kellie Murray, who has worked so hard in the past to coordinate Goddard's input into the *Procurement Countdown*, was selected for a one-year detail in our Human Resources Office. She will be missed. In the Fall 2000 issue of the *Countdown* many of you may recall reading "My Weirdest Procurement" by Gary Cox. This article proves that Gary is an advocate of faster, better, cheaper and that he will do what it takes to please the customer. With such qualities it's only natural that Gary would be selected to Head the Customer Interface Branch here at GSFC. Kudos also go to Jennifer Fraser on her recent selection as Administrative Support Specialist and to Theresa Bryant on her selection as Grants Team Leader in the Headquarters Procurement Office.

As a part of the maturity process within GSFC's Procurement Operations Division

Little Arrivals:



GSFC

Jennifer O'Connell, Code 212, recently gave birth to her first child. A beautiful baby girl, Jena Rose, was born to Jennifer and Donald O'Connell on December 11, 2000. She weighed 7 lbs. 14 oz. and was 19 inches long. Jim Debelius, Code 214.2, is now a proud Daddy. Jim and Hope Debelius' new "Bundle of Joy" Grace Annabelle was born December 30, 2000. She weighed 8 ½ lbs. and was 20 inches long.

LaRC

Nancy Hornung gave birth to Christopher Nash Hornung on November 5, 1999. Christopher was 19 ½ inches long and weighed 8 lbs. 9 oz. Deborah Ford gave birth to Lauren Nicole Ford on July 24, 2000. Lauren was 19 inches long and weighed 6 lbs. 1 oz. Sharon Hare gave birth to Shelby Lynn Hare on December 22, 2000. Shelby was 19 inches long and weighed 6 lbs. 8 oz. Sang Lee's wife, Jessica, gave birth to Erica Jiwon Lee on July 9, 2000, Erica was 20 inches long and weighed 7 lbs. 12 oz.

individuals are at one time or another rotated within the organization. The following transfers were also implemented this quarter:

Dawn Fountain from Code 219 to Code 216

Deanna Herschell from 211 to 216

Jamie King from 214.3 to 216

Kim Wiggins from 216 to 219

Maria McNamee from 219 to 212

Mary Petkoff from 219 to 214.1

Mary Stevens from 216 to 214.1

Doris Wood from 214.2 to 211

HQ: Headquarters has recently acquired several new personnel: Lou Becker, of the Contract Management Division, worked for the Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA), formally Defense Contract Management Command (DCMC) for 19 years. Most recently, he was the Corporate Administrative Contracting Officer assigned to the Lockheed Martin Corporation. Prior to that position, he was the Contracts Division Chief at DCMAO

Baltimore. Lou was born and raised in Baltimore and graduated with a B.S. degree from the University of Baltimore. He is married, has two children, and enjoys playing golf.

Rex Elliott has temporarily joined the HQ staff. He is on a one-year detail in the Analysis Division through the Goddard-Headquarters procurement exchange program. Rex grew up in Washington state, graduating from Seattle University in 1981. After completing his masters degree in Public Policy from Rutgers University, Rex entered the Presidential Management Internship Program. For the next 17 years, Rex worked in a variety of procurement assignments at the Goddard Space Flight Center. At HQ, Rex's particular assignments are in the area of Sponsored Research Business Activities (SRBA), where he's responsible for re-writing part 1872 of the NASA FAR Supplement.

The list of **People on the Move** only includes those names that were submitted to the *Procurement Countdown*. If you know people who should be listed in this column, contact your Center *Procurement Countdown* point of contact, or send the names to the editor, Susie Marucci, on (202) 358-1896, or email at susie.marucci@hq.nasa.gov.

(continued on page 16)

My Detail to the GSFC

By Kenneth A. Sateriale, procurement analyst/wannabe writer, Analysis Division

How Do I Get Myself into These Things?

It was time to update my Individual Development Plan, and I was puzzling over what paths of self-improvement I should pursue. I then had a radical thought. Ask for advice. So, I went to my boss and threw a slow softball: “how might I improve myself and be a more valuable employee to NASA?” He immediately pointed out that I had not worked in procurement operations for over eight years, and even then, never in NASA operations. The remedy was obvious; I needed to get to the frontline of NASA procurement! Serendipitously, Code H had just started a program to send one HQ Procurement Analyst per year to the GSFC for a rotational assignment, i.e., CON 800, Real World Refresher. I applied and was accepted, presumably on the basis of the depths of my need. I was joyful. However, as is typical in such adventures, after the initial euphoria wore off, reality, and then fear, set in. My ignorance would be exposed for all to see. There was a potential for substantial embarrassment, even humiliation. Then, in my mind, I heard the comforting words of Blanche Dubois: “I have always relied on the kindness of strangers.”

For those of you who have never had the pleasure of visiting GSFC, I will describe it. Picture a tidy wooded campus of NASA offices and laboratories set in a temperate climate. Picture tennis courts, picnic grounds and recreational activities galore! Add ponds, marshland, deer and Canadian geese. (Do drive very carefully and mind where you step!) Yes, GSFC appears to be a

veritable workers’ paradise. Curiously, however, I never observed the facilities being used much by procurement people, whom I believe were too busy trying to establish balance in their lives. I think you know what I mean.



The Real World Re-Discovered

1. An eternal fusillade of incoming PRs! Some have good descriptions of the item to be procured. Some have realistic need dates. All need action. The typical customers: world class scientists dedicated to increasing human knowledge of our planet, who desperately need procurement support, and have utter disdain for bureaucratic processes. “Yes, I will write the technical evaluation after I return from Mongolia next month.” (And they are not being facetious!)
2. Nonstop policy to be implemented! PBC, RBAM, safety clauses...ad infinitum. (Oh yes, let the punishment fit the crime.)
3. Management Assistance! Surveys, data calls, questionnaires.
4. Training: IT Security, Safety, CON, OPM 1102, etc.

Somehow, within that procurement maelstrom there was a palpable atmosphere of satisfaction. Through the always diligent, and occasionally heroic, efforts of a dedicated and professional procurement

workforce, the PRs are processed, the contracts are awarded, the customers are made happy, and science is advanced. And procurement is an essential part of something very, very important. And that feels good.

Procurement really hasn’t changed. Yes, there’s been automation and streamlining. But they don’t translate into leisure. As always, it is a world of contracts and documentation and thorny issues and stress. But it is too easy to get totally out of touch with all that when you are sitting, pontificating, in the ivory tower of Headquarters. (It’s really a bunch of humble cubicles, but keep your illusions if you must.) An occasional return to the frontline is good for the soul.

Thanks!

I am very grateful to Mike Lodomirak, Rick Keegan, and all of my GSFC procurement colleagues for making my visit highly beneficial, both professionally and personally. I am especially grateful to Bill Hatchl, whom I assisted at the Earth Sciences Directorate. He is a fine captain and keeps a worthy crew. And I am most grateful to that crew for their patience and their kindness in re-educating me.

As in a dream, the time passed wondrously. Impossibly much seemed to have happened in a very short time. And just as the dreamer awakens to the alarm, my phone rang. There was the voice of Anne Guenther, who gently announced that my visit had ended. Something about VPO...whatever that is.

NASA Holds Open Forum At Goddard

By Sherry Pollock and Debbie Hollebeke, Goddard Space Flight Center

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! All NASA contractors invited! Come hear Tom Luedtke, NASA's Associate Administrator for Procurement, discuss NASA's newest initiatives used in the award and administration of contracts. He'll even provide you an opportunity to ask questions and profess your likes or dislikes.

Goddard Space Flight Center hosted its first Procurement Open Forum on January 23, 2001. The purpose of the meeting was to have an open discussion between NASA's Associate Administrator for Procurement, industry, and the public. The forum provided a format for NASA to solicit questions, views, and opinions of interested persons or firms concerning NASA's procurement policies, practices, and initiatives. The meeting doors opened at 1:30 p.m. and by 2:00 p.m. we had about 60 contractors and representatives from other government agencies in the audience. During the two-hour meeting, Luedtke's discussion included safety and health, risk-based acquisition management, the consolidated contracting initiative, and performance-based contracting.

Luedtke started his presentation discussing NASA's commitment to protecting the safety and health of the general public, the NASA workforce and our high valued assets. He followed by explaining our need to fully implement risk-based management in our contracts and emphasized the importance of industry's role in the success of this initiative.

The discussion continued to the current trend of awarding longer-term contracts and how this requires building and managing relationships. Some of the challenges he addressed with longer-term contracts were developing a well-defined scope of work, providing flexibility, and pricing.

Luedtke discussed NASA's pilot program for award-term contracting. "With award-term contracting we can reward excellent performance with additional contract terms.



As an added benefit, our technical customers appear to like it," stated Luedtke. He also addressed some of the challenges we are facing during the pilot program. These include pricing an effort with a potential period of performance of ten years or more, as well as the challenge to accurately predict all the requirements over the extended period of time.

Luedtke was asked whether NASA would use more indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity contracts and he responded with a "yes." "Our experience is that they offer flexibility and have been reasonably successful to date. One example is Goddard's

Rapid Spacecraft contract." He also told the audience we would continue issuing orders on GSA contracts and other multi-agency and government-wide acquisition contracts. "Why shouldn't we use another government agency's contract," stated Luedtke. "We're foolish not to take advantage of these contracts. They enable us to meet our customer's requirements, save procurement time, resources, and money."

There was an interest during the forum in the increased number of large contracts awarded to small businesses. Luedtke confirmed NASA's commitment to support small businesses. He stated that we have had some good experiences contracting with small businesses and have recently had some large requirements that were well suited for set-asides. In addition, Luedtke stated that NASA continues to look for new ways to do business. Most recently this included using more cooperative agreements, establishing institutes, and using the Announcement of Opportunity process for major systems acquisition.

Luedtke was asked to give his assessment on the impact of the new administration on NASA, in particular NASA procurement. "At this time it does not appear there will be any significant changes to the way NASA does business," Luedtke affirmed. He further stated that in recent years NASA's budget has stabilized and remained

(continued on page 12)

Space Station On-Orbit Award Fee

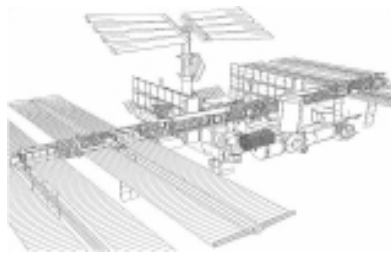
By J.R. Carpentier, International Space Station Procurement Office, Johnson Space Center

Since the formation of NASA in 1958, there have been many great accomplishments in the area of space exploration: July 20, 1969 — Neil Armstrong sets foot on the moon. April 12, 1981 — Launch of the first shuttle mission (STS 1) with Astronauts Robert Crippen and John Young. June 18, 1983 — Shuttle Astronaut Sally Ride becomes the first American woman in space (STS 7). And October 31, 2000 — the first International Space Station (ISS) crew launched from the Baikonur Cosmodrome establishing the latest milestone in NASA's history: a permanent human presence in space.

This ISS milestone is of current interest to those of us in the JSC ISS Procurement Office, as it signifies the beginning of our On-Orbit Award Fee Process — the first award fee evaluation of its kind in the history of NASA. This is an award fee evaluation that revolves entirely around the technical performance of the ISS hardware, software, and integrated systems while on-orbit. An important milestone, considering that the possibility now exists that future NASA contracts may require evaluations of performance on-orbit where end-to-end system integration and testing was not performed on the Earth's surface, and delivery and final acceptance occurs in space.

The formation of the on-orbit award fee process dates back to late 1994 during the transition from Space Station Freedom to the ISS. After the issues that arose from the Hubble Space Telescope, a renewed focus was

directed at post-deployment system performance. As a result, NASA Headquarters directed the space station procurement team to include some form of on-orbit performance incentive in the ISS contract. An on-orbit award fee plan was subsequently drafted with the intent of motivating the contractor, in this case Boeing,



to “strive for excellence in all aspects of performance leading to successful on-orbit operations of the space station.”

Areas of Emphasis

The plan's foundation is built upon several critical issues necessary to properly evaluate on-orbit performance. Briefly stated, areas of emphasis (AOEs) were created based upon three factors: assembly, operations, and science capabilities, with increased emphasis being placed on assembly and operations at the beginning of construction, and more emphasis on science capabilities as assembly progresses. Second, milestone station construction flights were identified that corresponded best with the station's evolution, and milestone weightings were assigned to these flights. Third, an on-orbit evaluation board, made up of both NASA and non-NASA members, meets after

each milestone flight to review the on-orbit performance of the station in relation to the configuration of the stage on-orbit. The board then makes a recommendation to the Performance Incentive Determination Official (PIDO), who determines the final on-orbit award fee score.

The on-orbit award fee plan operates much as any normal award fee plan, however, there are some distinct differences. First, the typical award fee approach identifies a grade of 80 percent as nominal performance. The ISS on-orbit award fee approach considers nominal performance as 100 percent. This is because successful performance of the ISS hardware is absolutely essential, and a grade of 100 percent represents completion of the milestone as planned. Second, the on-orbit award fee pool is tied directly to the contractor's on-ground performance. The contractor, throughout the period of performance of the contract, earns provisional on-ground award fee dollars. These provisional dollars are the basis for the on-orbit award fee pool, and become the maximum amount the contractor may *retain* at each milestone. The calculation is represented in this way: when a milestone flight occurs, the contract specialist determines the on-ground award fee dollars earned to date. This amount is then multiplied by the milestone weighting to determine the available on-orbit dollars for the period. The available on-orbit dollars are then

A Procurement Milestone

multiplied by the PIDO score, and that amount is retained by the contractor. Once the contractor retains fee through the on-orbit evaluation process, it can book the fee as profit. Put simply, award fee dollars are earned on-ground, and a percentage is retained through on-orbit performance. This process will occur after each milestone flight, creating not only a review of the milestone flights, but also a continuous assessment of the station as it grows and evolves to “assembly complete.” And finally, because there is no use of adjective ratings, the on-orbit award fee plan provides an additional amount of objectivity to a primarily subjective process by making a definitive determination as to whether or not the ISS systems perform as planned.

The first on-orbit evaluation board met on December 7, 2000, to assess ISS milestone flight 2R, and discuss the current station configuration and its performance. A joint NASA/Boeing presentation was given to the board members and afterward, discussions were held by the NASA board members to determine a fee recommendation.

The board unanimously agreed that a score of 100 percent for the first milestone was warranted. All contractor-responsible systems were operating at/or above nominal performance, and the Expedition 1 crew is now working and living on a functional space station that is meeting all current configuration requirements. All anomalies so far

have been minor, and to date, there are no risks to the continuation of station assembly as planned. Everyone agrees that, as assembly progresses, future on-orbit boards will become more and more complicated as systems expand and new challenges arise, but that is to be expected when one attempts to build the largest structure ever to orbit the Earth. What really happened on December 7 was the marking of a major milestone in the ISS program — a functioning, inhabited space station, and a massive team of civil servants and contractors coming together and agreeing to a unified evaluation process that objectively assesses on-orbit system performance and rewards the contractor accordingly.

This is an exciting and significant time to be a procurement professional within NASA. The Shuttle and Station programs are running at near peak performance. We are learning how to effectively do more with less, but more importantly, a new era of space exploration is emerging. As the 21st century unfolds, technology will continue to provide NASA with the ability to pursue more difficult and challenging missions. This will require innovative and creative contracting techniques, some of which will be pathfinder type contract solutions to profound performance issues. As we strive to go farther and farther away from our planet, flexible incentive plans to motivate the contractor to produce safe, reliable flight systems will become a vital part of our jobs.

Safety

(continued from page 1)

contract to reporting unsafe conditions.

Part of safety means taking action. Don't wait for someone else to report a slippery surface, you report it. Don't wait for someone else to report an unusual odor, you report it. And if you can figure out a better, safer way to do something, shout it out, and keep shouting until someone hears you. By being proactive, you will save time, energy, and money that would have gone into hospital stays and workman's compensation paperwork. Remember, by thinking safety, you can make a difference, you do make a difference.

Even in a “safe” job, accidents can happen. (It's not the falling, it's the landing that hurts. And it can hurt any of us if we aren't careful.) Safety starts here. We all need to be aware of any problems that may exist. Every office has a safety representative. If you see something that needs correcting, tell your safety officer. A word from you could save someone else from a hard landing.

With the 15th anniversary of the Challenger accident just past, it is time for all of us to remember that every person, inside and outside the Agency, needs to be safe from potential dangers. It's up to us to take the initiative in making NASA a safe place. How safely we do our jobs is critical to the Agency and to the success of every mission.

A closer look:

The Ames Acquisition Management Team

by Carolyn S. La Follette, Ames Research Center

The Ames Research Center (ARC) Acquisition Division is composed of over 65 employees in professional, administrative, and clerical positions and awards. On an annual basis, contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, and purchase orders are valued at approximately \$690 million. The total value of procurement actions being administered is in excess of \$4 billion. Anyone acquainted with federal acquisition within the last several years knows of the huge regulatory and operational changes that have befallen us, most of which have been positive. However, implementing these changes successfully does not just happen by waving a magic wand. It takes dedicated line, staff, and management personnel to succeed and meet the numerous challenges encountered.

The ARC Acquisition Division Management Team is composed of personnel with varying backgrounds and work diversity. As a result, while each person may approach an issue with a different perspective, it is this very difference that makes it such a successful team. Each member has had a variety of jobs with experience in broad and diverse areas. This is the essence of what makes it an excellent and cohesive management team, possessing and demonstrating a solid acquisition knowledge and management approach with which it leads the Center's acquisition force in a highly skilled manner. The acquisition management team encourages innovation beyond the current initiatives and has empowered

the division personnel to "think out of the box" for smarter and better ways of meeting the needs of the Center, while complying with the rules and regulations. Although typically supportive of one another, it must be noted they do not always agree on issues and meetings can sometimes be something to behold. Underlying this, however, is total respect of each other and a willingness

The logo for the Ames Research Center (ARC) consists of the letters "ARC" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letters are enclosed within a thick black rectangular border.

to listen, discuss, and determine the best overall approach to an issue. Although each operates with a different management style, in the end the overall division-wide approach is open, direct, innovative, and empowering. None shy away from trying new and different approaches and welcome streamlining as a benefit. Allow us to introduce to you this highly successful team.

Chuck Duff

Charles (Chuck) W. Duff II is the Procurement Officer and Chief of the Ames Research Center Acquisition Division. Chuck served in several key positions within the Department of the Air Force, beginning his career as a Copper Cap Procurement Intern contract negotiator at the Air Force Space Division in Los Angeles, moving to Headquarters Air Force Systems Command (AFSC) in Washington, DC, and the Air Force Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary (Contracting) at the Pentagon. In April 1992, he

joined NASA to serve as the Special Assistant to Don G. Bush, the (then) Associate Administrator for Procurement, NASA Headquarters, in Washington, DC.

Prior to joining the ARC Acquisition Division in June 1995, he served in the Headquarters Office of Procurement Program Operations Division as a senior procurement analyst for 21 major programs including Space Shuttle propulsion, Space Station, and Expendable Launch Vehicle. These programs were valued at over \$6 billion. He graduated from Whitman College with a BA in Political Science. Born in Superior, Wisconsin, he has worked as an industrial photographer, radio disk jockey for separate country western and rock stations at the same time (ran between studios), sales, third helper (lowest possible person on the totem pole) on a blast furnace in a 110 degree F steel production plant, and warehouseman. Chuck is an avid fan of 20th Century history and loves photography, skiing, and cycling.

Connie Cunningham

The Deputy Procurement Officer and Deputy Division Chief since 1991, Connie L. Cunningham has 25+ years of varied procurement and management experience. A Nebraska native, she moved westward with her family, eventually ending up as a "desert rat" in Needles, CA. She attended the University of California at Santa Barbara,

earning a BA degree. Her federal procurement career began with the Air Force Sacramento Air Logistics Center, moving to the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation, the Navy, and then NASA Ames in 1984.

Connie's supervisory experience as branch chief began with DOI, was enhanced at the Regional Contracting Department, Naval Supply Center, Oakland, and later at Ames. NASA selected her for a one-year mid-career program at Harvard, so she took the opportunity to earn her Masters in Public Administration. When she and her husband, Dennis, relax they are driving their 1977 VW pop-top bus camping around the country at one or another of the splendid US National Parks. Favorites are Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming and the Redwood National Park in northern California.

Carolyn La Follette

Carolyn S. La Follette is currently Chief, Acquisition Branch for Center Operations and Space. An Indiana native, she received her BA degree from Ball State University and later acquired an MS degree in Procurement and Contract Management from St. Mary's College of California. She brings to the Ames acquisition management team an extensive background in the acquisition and/or management of such items as supplies, subsistence, construction, services, information technology, and research and development, acquired during her 30+ years

of acquisition experience. She began her civil service career as an Army Materiel Command intern in St. Louis at the Mobility Equipment Command and the San Francisco Procurement Agency in Oakland. When the Agency was closing, she took the opportunity to go overseas and worked at the Army Korea Procurement Agency in Seoul. She returned to California and worked at the Defense Contract Administration Services Office at the FMC plant in San Jose.

Connie joined NASA in 1975 and became a branch chief in 1982. She received the NASA Exceptional Service Medal in 1993 for her acquisition management support for the reconstruction and modernization of the 12' Wind Tunnel project. A history buff and avid mystery/spy novel reader, she also loves movies and plays. She is owned by several cats (more than one, less than ten is her standard response).

Earl LeMar

Earl B. LeMar, Chief, Acquisition Branch for Information Systems, was born in Eureka, South Dakota and lived on a farm the first five years of his life. He went to California, then eventually ended up in Reno, NV, where he spent his teenage years. He enlisted in the Navy at age 17 for four years, worked in Nevada, then came back to California to go back to school, graduating from Sacramento State College. He immediately got an intern job with the US Army at Fort Ord doing "post, camp, and station procurement." He then transferred to the Naval Undersea

Center in San Diego and later to the Naval Plant Rep Office in Burbank, CA. Switching services again, he went to the Air Force Plant Office at TRW in Redondo Beach, CA, then joined NASA and came to ARC. He went to the Geological Survey to manage a small branch then returned to Ames to become a branch chief.

He has 28+ years in government procurement and has been a supervisor for 19 years. ("God, am I stupid or what!" he exclaims.) While at Ft. Ord, he met his wife. They have two daughters, both through college and working at ARC. Earl likes to tinker with older cars; his current toy is a 1979 Tenth Anniversary Pontiac Trans Am with a 6.6-liter V8, fully loaded. He likes to fish when time permits and hopes to resume flying light aircraft again, money, and time permitting.

Dee Morrison

Dolores (Dee) M. Morrison is Chief of the Acquisition Branch for Business and Policy. A California native from San Francisco, she received her BS degree in Zoology, University of California Davis. She has a total of 25 years in procurement, including four years in management. She started as an intern for FORSCOM at the Presidio of San Francisco, then moved across the bay to work for the Navy Supply Systems Command at the Naval Supply Center in Oakland. Moving east again, she landed in London, England to

(continued on page 15)

GettinG the Job Done!

This Woman Does it All — Becky Brewer

By Susie Marucci, Headquarters

If something goes really wrong, where do you turn?

Of course, it depends on what the problem is, but if it's not a procurement problem, then chances are it's an administrative problem. And in the Office of Procurement, that means you turn to Becky Brewer.

Rebekah (Becky) Brewer is the Ms. "Fix-It" of Procurement. At Headquarters, she does just about every administrative thing that needs to be done. And while many of you may not have talked to her, or even known her name, there's a good chance she's done something that made your life a little better or a little easier.

Becky works closely with all of the Procurement Officers. She sets up the Procurement Officers' conferences twice a year, and makes sure they all have their action items in to her on time. She also arranges the hotel and other accommodations so that the Procurement Officers can focus on their work because the hotel is comfortable and the food is good — Becky has made sure of it. She takes care of all the details. She handled all of the administrative details for the big conference in Washington last year. So if you were one of the lucky ones who got to go, Becky made sure you'd enjoy your stay.

The single way Becky impacts people at the centers the most is through awards. Becky is the focal point for the Annual Procurement Awards and the Acquisition Improvement Awards. She sends out the calls, receives the writeups, gets them to the teams for review, has the certificates printed, and gets the awards and (where applicable)

the money to the award winners. All personnel who have ever gotten acquisition awards from Headquarters have had Becky Brewer on their side, making sure everything was done as quickly and accurately as possible.

Becky is the budget guru for the Office of Procurement. She gets and tracks the budgets for Code H. She makes sure we are on target with our



spending. When centers call and ask if we can pay for a center person's trip, Becky is the one looking at the spreadsheets and figuring out if we have the money. So those of you who have traveled on Headquarters money have Becky to thank.

In between all of the work she does for the centers, Becky has Headquarters work to do too. Probably her biggest job is personnel. She is the Code H personnel point of contact. She processes every rotation, promotion, retirement, and step increase for the people who work here. She does the research on what has to be done to get people promoted. She handles the money for Code H awards. It's an important job and she does it

very well.

Some of the other work Becky does, is unseen by many people, but is required nonetheless. Becky is the code collateral safety officer. If anyone gets hurt, Becky has to make sure the paperwork is filled out. But with our current focus on safety, her job is more to make sure the office is safe and that no one gets hurt.

Becky is the security officer, making sure everyone who needs a clearance gets one and has it updated regularly. Becky is the training officer. She tracks the training that people in Code H have and make sure they meet their required training every two years. Becky is the space planner. Headquarters configuration changes fairly often. Every time the building is reconfigured, or new people need offices, Becky works with the Headquarters space planner to ensure that all people have the space they need to do their jobs.

In other codes, there are sometimes three or more administrative officers. Becky does all that work and more by herself. She makes sure that everyone in the Office of Procurement, and where appropriate, at the centers, has everything they need to do their jobs well.

When something goes wrong, and you don't know where to turn, who are you going to call? Becky Brewer, at (202) 358-0496 is always a good place to start.

WhAt's it AlI About:

Peers Recognized At MSFC

By Wayne Harmon, Marshall Space Flight Center

At NASA, our eyes and thoughts naturally look to space, the planets, the means of transporting us there safely, and expanding our technologies to keep us there permanently. We look to the astronauts as symbols of our work force, and to the rockets, shuttles, and space station as the symbols of our accomplishments. However, few among us are actually astronauts and the vast majority of our workdays are spent supporting programs whose benefits are shared by a great many, hardware we are seldom able to see, or launches that we infrequently experience in person.

In addition, until recently our personnel coped with the difficulties of a shrinking workforce and corresponding increases in workloads. This often resulted in feelings of being lost in the shuffle. Various morale surveys revealed that employees often felt unappreciated and some thought that awards that were given were not administered fairly. At MSFC, Steve Beale, the Procurement Office Director, formed a Peer Awards committee to find solutions to these problems. Various centers were contacted to ascertain what they were doing to recognize deserving individuals and these findings were developed into a presentation made to the entire procurement workforce at MSFC for comments and further refinements.

Out of this study developed two types of awards.

One award is a bi-monthly award given to three individuals drawn randomly from among that period's peer nominations for efforts felt deserving of special recognition. The second award is the Procurement Peer Award. This award is set up to recognize the individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the Procurement Office as recognized by peers. The special aspect of this award is that only people who are in non-supervisory positions can make nominations and selections, thus making it truly a peer award. The nomination itself is limited to no more than one page. A formal selection committee composed of one individual from each procurement department evaluates the nominations as a group after each committee member has evaluated the nominations individually. The committee then arrives at a consensus on which nomination best demonstrates the appropriateness of the award to a particular individual. As we have just experienced, an individual can be nominated not only by one, but also more than one peer.

We have probably all worked with someone whose positive attitude seems to make the work environment more pleasant, who always seems willing to give precious time to help others, who volunteers for the group activities, who has an exceptional knowledge of the job, and who never seems to get the deserved recognition. The Peer Award is provided to recognize that type of person.

To be nominated by one's peers is indeed an honor and to

win the award is a greater honor still. However, as most of us seldom object to being handed a little green, the award is of even greater value to the winner! Our Director was generous enough to allow these recognitions to be accompanied by cash awards. The winner of the annual Peer Award receives an amount of \$1,500. The bi-monthly award winners each choose to receive either \$200 or 8 hours time-off. The people have spoken, the votes have been tallied, and our first annual selection has been made. I will refrain from an attempt at humor at the expense of our recent presidential vote as the area is too vast to be worthy and too overworked to be further enjoyed. Suffice to say that the Marshall Space Flight Center's Procurement Office recent selection went very smoothly and the first annual Peer Award was given to Ms. Marlyce Alexander at our December All-Hands meeting. Ms. Alexander is a contract specialist in the Space Transportation Support Department and was nominated by several of her peers as recognition for her consistent willingness to mentor others and her unceasing dedication to her customers.

The first of the bi-monthly awards will be given in late February. The Peer Award is on a 12-month trial basis, but if our first winner is any indication of the quality of subsequent winners, it is a sure bet is that this special way of recognizing deserving individuals will continue as long as the funding is available to keep it going.

2000 Procurement Award Winners

Eight NASA Procurement professionals and one person from outside the procurement organization were chosen to receive the 2000 Annual Procurement Awards. These awards are the highest procurement honors at NASA. The annual procurement awards are used to recognize those people and centers that have made outstanding contributions to the procurement effort throughout NASA. As in past years, it was a very tough competition with many worthy candidates nominated by the centers.

The winners of the awards are:

Contract Manager of the Year: Verron M. Brade (GSFC)
Contract Specialist of the Year: Nancy M. Sessoms (LaRC)
Simplified Acquisition Specialist of the Year: Mary E. McKaig (GSFC)
MidRange/Commercial Person of the Year: Teresa L. Monaco (GRC)
Grants Specialist of the Year: Deborah T. King (GRC)
Procurement Analyst of the Year: George Huff (JSC)
Procurement Support Person of the Year: Karen R. Weaver (GSFC)
Procurement Supervisor of the Year: Wayne A. Thomas (JSC)
COTR of the Year: Bonita J. Kaltenstein (GRC)



Agencywide Use of Support Service Contractors

By Jack Horvath, Contract Management Division

The Office of Inspector General recently released a report (Report No. G-00-016) on the Agencywide use of support service contractors at NASA. The IG makes the point that NASA relies heavily on contractors to achieve our mission, and that there is pressure on government agencies to increase their outsourcing requirements. The IG felt that the use of on-site support service contractors could be improved by better distinguishing between the proper functions of civil servants and contractors. Further, they believed this was especially important in the area of general administrative support services which consists of secretarial, clerical, and administrative office support personnel performing a wide range of functions in support of one person or a group of individuals. In order to ensure that proper requirements are being used when developing a support service contract, it is essential that *FAR 11.106 Purchase descriptions for service contracts* be followed. This regulation specifically spells out the need that requiring activities shall ensure that inherently governmental functions are not assigned to a contractor. It further specifies that proper identification should be required for contractor personnel who attend meetings, answer government telephones, or work in situations where their actions could be construed as acts of government officials. So, when you're working on your next support service contract, be sure you follow the above FAR provision, and other documents, e.g., NPD 3310.1, that govern our use of support service contracts.

Open Forum

(continued from page 5)

relatively flat and we can probably expect similar funding levels in the upcoming fiscal years.

Performance Based Contracting (PBC) was of great interest to the audience. Luedtke emphasized that we must continue to focus on the essentials of PBC: clearly define what we want; establish performance standards; and measure performance. He told the group about the findings from the recent PBC Assessment. He stated that the Agency continues to struggle with PBC on R&D contracts, nonetheless NASA remains committed to its 80 percent Agencywide PBC goal and continues to perform above this standard.

The forum was a big success, and the feedback we received confirmed this. This was an opportunity for industry and other federal agencies to gain valuable insight into our latest innovations and offer important feedback on our work.

A Heartfelt Thanks

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Yes it's true, after 26 ½ years I have left NASA to accept a Senior Contract Specialist position at the Federal Communications Commission in downtown Washington, DC. They made me an offer I just could not refuse. Last Monday, I joined thousands of other commuters on the Washington Metro. Tuesday it snowed. Most of you know how much I like that white stuff. Not sure my new coworkers know what to think of me yet.

I want to send a heartfelt thanks to all my friends at NASA and in industry. Several of you provided me with the much needed mentoring and guidance over the years. A special "Thank You" goes to those of you who took time in your busy holiday schedule to attend my luncheon and to Lavern Harris and Kathy Richardson for organizing it. Also, many thanks for your generous gifts. I will cherish them forever.

Most of all I am especially grateful for your friendship and camaraderie! It really has been a pleasure working with so many of you over the years. Below is my phone number and address where I can be reached at the FCC.

I have plenty to learn going to a new Agency after all those years at NASA, however, I am excited about the new challenges I face and definitely plan to stay in touch. Please send a message every now and then to let me know how you are doing.

I wish all of you a wonderful Holiday Season and a Prosperous, Healthy, and Blessed New Year,

Wilma Mooney
email: wmooney@fcc.gov

SBA Associate Administrator Visits Ames

By Tom Kolis, Small Business Specialist, Ames Research Center

On November 30, 2000, Luz Hopewell, Associate Administrator, US Small Business Administration, Office of Government Contracting, visited the Ames Research Center as part of an orientation tour of the SBA's Area VI facilities and some of the federal agencies that the Area VI offices support. Hopewell recently joined the SBA after having served as the Director of the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization for the Department of Transportation. She currently directs and oversees several programs and services that assist small businesses in meeting the requirements to receive government contracts, either as prime contractors or subcontractors. These programs include prime contracting, subcontracting, the Procurement Preference Goaling Program, the Certificate of Competency, the Non-Manufacturer Rule Waiver, the Size Determination program, and special initiatives such as the Women's Procurement Program, the Procurement Awards Program, and the Annual Procurement Conference.

During her visit at Ames, Hopewell was accompanied by Mr. Robert Paccione, US SBA Area VI Director, Office of Government Contracting; his Deputy, Mr. James Gambardella; and Tom Kolis, the Ames small business specialist. She participated in high-level discussions with William Berry, Ames Deputy Director, and Jana Coleman, Director of Center Operations, and commended the Center for its successful FY2000 socioeconomic contracting achievements, with special notice given to Ames exceptional performance in awarding prime contracts to women-owned small businesses. In a separate meeting, Charles W. Duff II, Ames Procurement Officer, and Connie Cunningham, Deputy Procurement Officer, briefed Hopewell on some of the innovative acquisition practices initiated by the Ames Acquisition Division. Hopewell departed with a very favorable impression of the Ames mission and its socio-economic contracting program, and this undoubtedly will serve the Agency well in future dealings with the SBA.

DAWIA

(continued from page 2)

different 1102 position) on or after October 1, 2000. DoD 1102s who are in their positions as of September 30, 2000, are grandfathered as long as they stay in those positions. It is important to note that Senator Warner supports this legislation except for one specific aspect. In stating that the new law did not reflect the intent of the drafters, Senator Warner was referring specifically to the fact that the original intent was not only to grandfather the educational requirements for DoD 1102s who are in their positions as of the effective date “as long as they stay in those positions” but was also intended to allow those personnel to be promoted (up to the GS-12 level) or reassigned without meeting the new requirements. An oversight in the final legislation deleted this allowance for promotion or reassignment.

In considering how these new requirements might apply to NASA 1102s, consider that the recent changes to DAWIA levy far more stringent education requirements on DoD contracting personnel at the GS-5 through GS-12 levels (and applicants to positions at those levels) than have been imposed to date on civilian agency 1102s at those levels. The Clinger Cohen Act (which imposed education and training requirements on civilian agencies) was enacted in February 1996 to ensure that the same education and training requirements that applied to DoD 1102s under DAWIA were applied to civilian agencies. So what is the likelihood that these recent

DAWIA changes will be applied to us as well?

Code H’s position on this issue is that we do not support any legislation or Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) policy actions that would impose more stringent education requirements on civilian agencies’ 1102s. And we have taken a very proactive



posture in this area. We closely monitor proposed legislation and provide specific comments to OFPP and OMB on proposed language that would impact our acquisition workforce and on other agency’s legislation.

Some time back, legislation was proposed that would have imposed onerous requirements on DoD 1102s. We fought alongside DoD to stop the burdensome legislation. We aggressively argued against it, with the support of the Headquarters Human Resources Office. Fortunately, that legislation did not pass. OFPP has said they will not pursue any change to the Clinger Cohen Act to reflect the recent change in DAWIA. That is very good news. The fact that Senator Warner is now questioning the severity of the new educational requirements, as they apply to the existing DoD 1102 workforce, is also encouraging. While it is prudent to be concerned about the new DoD requirements, they don’t apply

to us at this time – and they may never apply to us. So relax!!

Code H intends to closely follow legislation that affects the DoD acquisition workforce (and the civilian agency workforce also!) in the future and will let you know when you are going to be affected.

What should you do in the future when you have questions about issues like this one – or any other questions related to our training program? You can always contact Barbara Cephas, the Acquisition Career Development Program Manager, at (202) 358-0465 or by email at barbara.cephas@hq.nasa.gov.

Better yet, you might want to check out a new site on the Procurement Library Page that Code H is creating. It should be up and running by the end of March 2001. Commonly asked questions that Barbara hears regarding training and certification requirements will be posted, along with information on issues of widespread interest like the one this article addresses. In the future, if you have a question or issue, and you think others would also be interested in seeing it posted along with its answer, please email Barbara Cephas and she will add it to her “Most Commonly Asked Questions” site.

ARC

(continued from page 9)

work at the NAVSUP Naval Regional Contracting Center Detachment Office.

Upon her return, she came to Ames as a contract specialist. EPA Region IX in San Francisco was next, returning to NASA Ames to work on the Space Station Biological Research Project. The Coast Guard in Alameda, CA, was next where she was procurement analyst, small business specialist, training coordinator, mentor, and coach. She returned to NASA Ames (we've told her this is the last time!) to support the Astrobiology Institute. Following a detail as a procurement analyst, she was selected as branch chief. Hobbies include reading, gardening, hiking, and bird watching. She owns 3 cats and a dog; the frogs and hamster died. She volunteers at the Lindsey Wildlife Museum feeding baby birds, cleaning up after baby raccoons in the summer, and doing programs for school groups on California wildlife the rest of the year. First graders can be very intimidating; so can the raccoons! Her parting shot: "When I grown up I want to be a wildlife biologist."

Gene Moses

Gene Moses is the Acquisition Strategy Manager for the Division. Born in New Hampshire, he graduated from Plymouth State College with a BA, later earning an AA in Purchasing and an MBA. In 1970, the Air Force commanded his attention for four

years, then civil service. His "real" career in procurement started with the Air Force in 1980, with NASA Ames next.

He became a branch chief in 1992. In 1995, he began a management journey including many Agency focused areas, e.g. Code R's Project Reliance, NASA Acquisition Internet Service, and Integrated Financial Management Program. In 1990-91, he was at NASA Headquarters on the Professional Development Program. He is one of the founding members of the NASA Acquisition Internet Service team and helped create a synopsis posting process which was the precursor to the NASA Electronic Posting System. He is the leader of the Electronic Procurement (EPRO) team.

The Acquisition Strategy Process brings focus into development early in the procurement cycle and includes the promotion of communication within and outside the Agency via publication of the Acquisition Plan (such publication being a first in the federal government). Genealogy is a hobby that has allowed the tracing of family roots back to the family arrivals in 1629 and back to the 1400 and 1500-era relatives in England, Scotland, and Ireland. He and his wife count travel as a pleasant way to spend leisure time, with reading and wine tasting as additionally pleasant diversions. His latest challenge is learning to use a home computer without the help of the friendly system administrator.

Daryl Wong

Daryl Wong is Chief of the Acquisition Branch for Aeronautics. He was born and raised in San Francisco. He joined the Navy in 1971 and was stationed in San Diego and aboard ship (USS Carpenter) ported in Pearl Harbor; Treasure Island, San Francisco; and Naval Supply Center, Oakland. After the Navy, he attended San Francisco State University where he received his BA and MBA. He joined the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) in 1978 at the Defense Contracts Administration Services Management Area – San Francisco (DCASMA-SF) office in San Bruno, CA. He continued his career within DLA at the plant representative office at Ford Aerospace where he was chief of the Contract Management Division and at the Sunnyvale South Bay Residency office as chief of the Contract Operations Section. In 1989, Daryl joined NASA Ames Acquisition. As a senior Contracting Officer, he performed several major acquisitions including support of the NASA Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V) Facility in West Virginia. In 1997, Daryl was selected as branch chief. Daryl is also the chairperson of the Ames Asian American Pacific Islander Advisory Group, a member of the Multicultural Leadership Council, the Center Operations Directorate College Recruitment Team Lead, a mediator on the Center's Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Team, and a member of the DART Emergency Operations Center (EOC) staff.

People on the Move

(continued from page 2)

Yolande B. Harden, of the Contract Management Division, was previously a procurement analyst with the NASA Office of Inspector General assigned to Johnson Space Center (JSC). Prior to that, she served as a Contracting Officer and a contract specialist at JSC from 1991 through 1999. Yolande received a BA in Political Science and MA in Urban Planning from the University of Houston. She is a native of Louisiana.

Gene Johnson, of the Analysis Division, has been in the acquisition field for 17 years. Before coming to NASA, Gene was a Contracting Officer at FAA for about seven years. While there, he was a Contracts Team Leader for programs such as Flight Inspection Aircraft, STARS, Washington Flight Program (Hangar #6), and the Aeronautical Data Link. He started his career as a contract specialist at the Naval Air Systems Command. At NAVAIR, he worked on such programs as Contractor Support Services, SPARROW Missile, E2/C2 Aircraft, and Cruise Missile. Gene grew up in Arlington, VA. He has an A.A.S. degree in Accounting and a B.S. Degree In Business Administration (Majoring in Acquisition Mgmt.) from American University in Washington, DC.

Ron Lentz, of the Contract Management Division, came here after 20 years at the Johnson Space Center. Ron is originally from Alabama where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business (Accounting) from

Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama. Prior to going to work for NASA, he spent 8 years with the Defense Contract Audit Agency as an auditor of government contracts/contractors. His most recent experience has been as a Contracting Officer on the Space Flight Operations Contract with United Space Alliance.

Rita Svarcas, of the Analysis Division, returns to the Office of Procurement after several years away. She recently finished a one-semester NASA Fellowship at the Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs in Syracuse, NY, where she earned a Certificate in Public Administration. Prior to that, she was the Procurement Officer at the NASA Management Office, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, CA. She has been working for NASA since 1992, at duty stations including NASA HQ and the International Space Station's Moscow Technical Liaison Office in Moscow, Russia.

Congratulations to Tom Sauret, of the Program Operations Division. He is heading to the Harvard MBA program for most of the next year. We'll miss you, Tom!

JSC: Jose Garcia has been selected for a team lead position in the Procurement Policy and Business Systems Office. Delene Sedillo was selected to fill a team lead position in the Projects Procurement Office.

LaRC: Langley has taken a big picture approach and listed the personnel changes going back over the last year, and then some.

New Hires: Terry Cobb – Transferred to the Office of Procurement in August 1999 as a contract specialist in the Supply & Simplified Acquisition Contracting Branch. Terry previously worked as a voucher examiner in the Financial Management Division at Langley.

Donna Blanding-Settles – Joined Langley in September 1999 as a contract specialist in the Grants and Research & Development Contracting Branch. Donna was previously employed as a contract specialist in the International Space Station Procurement Office at Johnson Space Center.

Vickie Allen – Transferred to the Office of Procurement in August 1999 as a contract specialist in the Supply & Simplified Acquisition Contracting Branch. Vickie previously worked as a voucher examiner in the Financial Management Division at Langley.

David Garner – Joined Langley in September 1999 as a contract specialist in the R&D Programs Contracting Branch. David previously worked as a contract specialist in the Technology Applications Program Office at Fort Eustis in Newport News, VA.

Carol Reddic – Joined Langley in March 2000 as a procurement technician in the Grants and Research & Development Contracting Branch. Carol was previously employed at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO.

Roberta Hollifield – Joined Langley in February 2000 as a contract specialist in the Supply & Simplified Acquisition Contracting Branch. Roberta was previously employed as a team leader in the Services Division of the Defense Commissary Agency.

Richard Cannella – Joined Langley in February 2000 as a contract specialist in the Grants and Research & Development Contracting Branch. Richard was previously employed as a Contracting Officer primarily for operations and maintenance of radar sites at Langley Air Force Base in Hampton, VA.

Donna Forbes – Transferred to the Office of Procurement in May 2000 as a program support specialist in the Procurement Operations Branch. Donna previously worked as a public affairs specialist in the Office of External Affairs at Langley.

Marie Smith – Joined Langley in July 2000 as a contract specialist in the Supply & Simplified Acquisition Contracting Branch. Marie was previously employed as a Contracting Officer primarily for information technology at the Defense Information Systems Agency, Scott Air Force Base in Belleville, IL.

Maxine Batina – Joined Langley in July 2000 as a contract specialist in the Services and Construction Contracting Branch. Maxine was previously employed as a contracts manager for unique requirement services (air crew

training) at Langley Air Force Base in Hampton, VA.

Kimberly Dalgleish – Joined Langley in September 2000 as a contract specialist in the Procurement Operations Branch. Kim was serving a 1-year rotational assignment at NASA Headquarters when she accepted the position at Langley. Kim was previously employed as a contract specialist at Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, OH.

Karen Brown – Joined Langley in July 2000 as a secretary in the Supply & Simplified Acquisition Contracting Branch. Karen was previously a cooperative education student at Thomas Nelson Community College before accepting a full-time position with Langley.

Interns and COOP's: Nicole Carnicky – Served a 3-month term from April through July at Langley as a Naval Acquisition Intern in search of experience with Research and Development (R&D) contracts. Nicole is permanently employed at the Norfolk Naval Supply Center.

Jessica Nelson – Is currently serving a 3-month term from January through March at Langley as a Naval Acquisition Intern in search of experience with Research and Development (R&D) contracts. Jessica is permanently employed at the Naval Air Systems Command in Patuxent River, MD.

Joe Hearn – Served a 9-month term from April through December at Langley as a NASA Contracting Intern in search of general procurement experience. Joseph is currently a student at

Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA.

David Robinson – Served a 9-month term from April through December at Langley as a NASA Contracting Intern in search of general procurement experience. David is currently a student at Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA.

Alphonso Garcia – Is currently serving a 1-year term at Langley as a Cooperative Education Student in the Grants and Research & Development Contracting Branch. Alphonso is currently working on a Masters Degree in Accounting at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA.

Autumn Pimperl – Is currently serving a 2-year term as a student trainee (Office Support) through the Secretarial Cooperative Education Program in the Office of Procurement. Autumn is currently a student at Thomas Nelson Community College in Hampton, VA.

Tiffany Clark – Joined Langley in October 1999 as a secretary through the Stay-In-School Program and works in the Grants and Research & Development Contracting Branch. Tiffany is currently working toward a degree in Biology/Pre-Medicine at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA.

Goodbye! Sharyn Hilstrom retired in January 2001 after 37 years of service at Langley. Sharyn worked in the Office of Procurement for 17 years.

Center Procurement Awards

The following GSFC acquisition personnel received NASA Annual Procurement Awards for their outstanding contributions to the Agency (the full list is located on page 2):

- Ron Brade – NASA Contract Manager of the Year
- Mary McKaig – NASA Simplified Acquisitions Specialist of the Year
- Karen Weaver – NASA Procurement Support Person of the Year

The following people received their center nominations in recognition of their dedication to the acquisitions process at GSFC and MSFC:

- Sandy Presnell – MSFC Contract Manager of the Year
- Mindy Goeres – GSFC Contract Specialist of the Year
- Walt Melton – MSFC Contract Specialist of the Year
- Victoria Dixon – MSFC Simplified Acquisition Specialist of the Year
- Cheryl Lefebvre-Brazel – GSFC Midrange/Commercial Person of the Year
- Betty Kilpatrick – MSFC Midrange/Commercial Person of the Year
- Adrian Jefferson – GSFC Grants Specialist of the Year
- Glen Alexander – MSFC Grants Specialist of the Year
- Rosa Acevedo – GSFC Procurement Analyst of the Year
- Jane Maples – MSFC Procurement Analyst of the Year
- Elaine Kuespert – MSFC Procurement Support Person of the Year
- Cindy Tart – GSFC Procurement Supervisor of the Year
- Mark Stiles – MSFC Procurement Supervisor of the Year
- Curt Schroeder – GSFC COTR of the Year
- Jerry Smelser – MSFC COTR of the Year



Web-Based IDGS Coming Soon

By Steve Miley, Analysis Division

Having access to an automated document generation system (DGS) has been one of the most pressing needs identified by center contracting personnel and Procurement Officers on recent procurement workforce surveys. However, purchase of new systems and significant development of legacy systems have been discouraged with the expectation that a new Integrated Financial Management Program (IFMP) procurement function would fulfill document generation needs. Based on the current schedule, IFM will not have completed the rollout of a procurement module (with its

corresponding DGS function) across all centers until early FY04. Therefore, it is necessary to put in place an interim solution that will provide a document generation capability for those centers/personnel that want to use it, on a voluntary basis, until a “permanent” solution is implemented via the IFM procurement module.

Over the last several months, the Office of Procurement has evaluated several systems that might have potential to meet our short-term need. Based on the decision criteria to make a DGS system available as soon as possible with minimal cost and resources, a web-based system

has been selected and will be called Interim Document Generation System (IDGS). The existing software (known as Web.speedyDGS) will be migrated from GRC to the NAIS team at MSFC and will undergo some development during the next two months. We especially appreciate the support from GRC, and in particular from Bruce Shuman, in helping transition the software to NAIS.

The initial rollout for all centers is planned for no later than April 30, 2001. The Headquarters point of contact is Steven Miley, 202-358-0493.

Procurement Countdown

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