

Former EOPO Chief Realizes Childhood Imprint

By Dewayne Washington

Growing up in a household of educators can easily imprint upon a young mind the tendency to become involved in the education of others. Such a tendency seems to have guided Goddard's former Chief of the Equal Opportunity Program Office (EOPO) to accept a new position that now places the education of others as his top priority.

On December 27, Dillard Menchan accepted the new position of Goddard's Deputy Chief for Education. Apparently it has become obvious to Menchan that growing up in a household of educators has predisposed him to the ways of an educator. "I guess sometimes circumstances allow people to eventually come home again, and to me, coming home again is working with education programs," said Menchan.

In his growing up years, the Menchan household was located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and included his father, who was the Dean of Academic Affairs at Cheyney State College (now known as Cheyney University), and his mother, an elementary school teacher. "You see, I've been around the education of others all my life," said Menchan. "My father also wrote several books about child development and was responsible for starting a pre-kindergarten program for children in Alabama during the 1930's, decades before Head Start programs."

Following high school, Menchan was accepted and later graduated from Howard University, with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science. His first federal position was as a staffing specialist at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. After two a year tenure, Menchan accepted a position with the District of Columbia Department of Corrections. Responsibilities for the young collegian worker included employee staffing and development, and labor relations. "It was a great learning experience," said Menchan. Within 8 years on the job, he reached the top, becoming chief of the personnel office with a full range of management responsibilities.

Acknowledging that he was looking for a new challenge and fortified with a Master of Arts Degree in Political Science, Menchan accepted the responsibility of employee development within the personnel office at Goddard. "I didn't even know where Goddard was when I got the call," said Menchan. The new authority provided this advocate for the rights of others, another challenging 8 years. But again, he felt the urge for change and new challenges.

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Photo by Chris Gunn/293



Menchan speaks to students at Ballou High School about the importance of education

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- *To understand and protect our home planet
- *To explore the Universe and search for life
- *To inspire the next generation of explorers as only NASA can

For further detail of the NASA mission, go to:
http://www.nasa.gov/missions/solarsystem/explore_main.html

Editor: Trusilla Steele
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A Good Man is Hard to Find

Taken from 15 issues of the Academy Sharing Knowledge (ASK) Magazine

By Marty Davis

The Compton Gamma-Ray Observatory (CGRO) was the heaviest astrophysical payload ever flown at the time of its launch in April 1991. Working on CGRO, we accumulated our fair share of that second breed of story. I'll share a few of them here:

The one-person syndrome

The Energetic Gamma Ray Experiment Telescope used light pipes to measure time-of-flight. These were simple pieces of plastic, bent and glued together, and this appeared to be an easy task to accomplish. The catch here is that the task appeared easy.

It was known to the engineers that only one person had been able to complete this task successfully so that the light pipes worked optimally. Unfortunately, this man was about to retire, and an attempt to procure the light pipes from another source failed. Only by appealing to the man to save the project and the Center's reputation did he agree to hold off his retirement to finish the work and to train a replacement.

It was much the same way when it came to a contractor who made the photomultiplier tubes for the science instruments and who used only one of their assemblers to make the tubes. The specifications were quite rigid, and the one assembler who knew how to make the tubes had a success rate of just 40 percent. CGRO needed more tubes and this one man was on vacation. The project office put pressure on the contractor to keep the production line working. The contractor reluctantly agreed.

Ten tubes were pushed through the manufacturing process and the yield was zero. What the one man did working at an identical station with identical parts is not known, but CGRO lost time and the contractor lost money. They informed us that

The stories we usually want to tell are the outright success stories — but the ones we also need to hear are the “things we did wrong and should have known better.”

from then on we should wait until their one man was available. We agreed.

What do these cases say to a manager? Project life is rarely as simple as it seems. Make sure you find out how difficult the work is — and if told only one person can do the job, no matter how “trivial” that work might appear to be, pay careful attention to the situation so that you know that one person will be there when you need him or her most.

One-person depth

One-person depth is not the same as “only one person can do it.” The problem here is the assignment of complex systems to only one team member — a situation often necessitated by budget constraints, but one that adds risk to a project.

For example, on CGRO the design of the digital electronics for the COMPTEL instrument was a one-person effort. The system was ahead of schedule. The prototype was finished and had undergone preliminary tests ahead of schedule. Everything sounds wonderful, right?

But then the engineer was offered a better job. He gave notice, and left the project. No one else was familiar with the system and how the changes identified from testing should be made. This led to six months of long days and weekend work for team members who had to fill in.

The mechanical design of the Energetic Gamma Ray Experiment Telescope (EGRET) was another one-person job. Sadly, the design engineer died during the build of the mechanical engineering test model. The engineer we hired to replace him had to hit the ground running; he had to finish the build, and move right on to testing.

Though the documentation was in good order, the new design engineer never got the chance to study the design in detail and get familiar with the work that had been completed by the first engineer. Tests indicated that changes had to be made. This resulted in a series of change and test, change and test. In the meantime, the replacement engineer decided to retire. The EGRET instrument was finished but there was an uncomfortable, lingering feeling that no one knew the design in depth.

One-of-a-kind solutions

What can we learn from these stories? In cases like these, a manager should estimate how many of the systems on a project are one-person affairs. He or she should then try to keep some reserve resources to cover lost personnel. A team member lost late during system development may require that two to three people come on board to pick up the work, which normally means that one of the experienced persons on the project must be one of those chosen to do part of the work. Filling one void may require shifting a lot of responsibilities.

There may be no way out of this situation since having two people from the start adds too much cost. What to do is simple, albeit no guarantee of a solution: Make certain there is adequate paperwork for someone to see what has been done, what is left to do, and how and what to do next.



The Energetic Gamma Ray Experiment Telescope (EGRET) captures an image of Earth's moon.

The Huygens Probe Speeding Towards Titan's Surface

By Cynthia O'Carroll

The Huygens Probe successfully detached from the Cassini orbiter on Dec. 24 and is headed for a dramatic plunge into the atmosphere of Saturn's moon Titan, on January 14. The probe has no navigational capability itself, so the Cassini orbiter had been placed on a deliberate collision course with Titan to ensure that the saucer-shaped Probe would stay on an accurate track. The Probe was ejected by springs from the spacecraft and telemetry data verified that all of the planned maneuvers went smoothly.

On December 27, the Cassini spacecraft completed a getaway maneuver to keep it from following the Probe into the atmosphere of Titan.

The Probe and its instruments will explore the unique environment of Titan, whose chemistry is thought to be very similar to that of early Earth before life arose.

Goddard scientists are excited about the Probe's arrival at its final destination after waiting for seven long years for it to arrive. NASA Goddard's Atmospheric Experiment Branch, Code 915, built the Gas Chromatograph Mass Spectrometer (GCMS) on board the spacecraft and the Principal Investigator is Dr. Hasso Niemann.

The GCMS instrument will investigate the chemical composition, origin, and evolution of the atmosphere of Titan. By sampling gas directly from the atmosphere as the Huygens Probe descends by parachute, the GCMS will continuously measure the atmospheric composition and the isotope ratios of the major gases until the Probe reaches the surface, a time of approximately 2 1/2 hours. Once the Probe reaches the surface of Titan, the GCMS will continue to operate as long as the Huygens Probe is functioning. A surface operating time of seconds or minutes is hoped for but is not a major goal of the mission.

The Huygens Probe descent to Titan will last between 120 and 150 minutes. Five batteries onboard the probe are sized for a Huygens mission duration of 153 minutes, corresponding to a maximum descent time of 2.5 hours plus at least three additional minutes (and possibly a half hour or more) on Titan's surface. These batteries are capable of generating 1800 Watt-hours of electricity. During its descent, Huygens' camera will capture more than 1,100 images, while the Probe's five other instruments will directly sample Titan's atmosphere and determine its composition. Data from Huygens will be relayed to the Cassini Orbiter passing overhead. The data will be stored onboard Cassini's solid-state recorders for playback to Earth. The data gathered will be transmitted by the JPL control center to the Huygens Probe Operation Center in Darmstadt, Germany and from there it will be distributed to each instrument team.

The Cassini spacecraft has been in orbit around Saturn since June 30, 2004, and has returned stunning pictures of Saturn, its rings and many moons. The latest Cassini flyby of Saturn's icy moon Iapetus occurred on December 31. Iapetus is Saturn's two-faced moon — one side is very bright, and the other is very dark.



A stunning picture of Iapetus taken during the December 31 flyby of the Cassini spacecraft.

The Cassini Mission is an international collaboration between three space agencies. Two spacecraft actually comprise the Cassini Mission: the Saturn Orbiter and the Huygens Probe, the latter of which is attached to the Orbiter. The Orbiter was built and managed by NASA JPL in Pasadena, Calif. The European Space Agency (ESA) built the Huygens Probe and the Italian Space Agency provided Cassini's high-gain antenna and Huygens Probe to Cassini spacecraft communications system.

The Saturn Orbiter includes 12 instruments that will spend four years taking an extensive survey of Saturn, its rings and moons. The instruments on board the Saturn Orbiter that Goddard scientists and researchers built are the Ion and Neutral Mass Spectrometer (INMS) and the Composite Infrared Spectrometer (CIRS). Goddard scientists also assisted in building the Cassini Plasma Spectrometer (CAPS) that is also on board the Orbiter.

The Cassini-Huygens mission is a cooperative project of NASA, the European Space Agency and the Italian Space Agency. JPL, a division of the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, manages the Cassini mission for NASA's Science Mission Directorate, Washington, D.C. JPL designed, developed and assembled the Cassini orbiter. The European Space Agency built and managed the development of the Huygens probe and is in charge of the probe operations. The Italian Space Agency provided the high-gain antenna, much of the radio system and elements of several of Cassini's science instruments.

To find out the latest news about the mission you can attend the Space Chat about Huygens Probe and Titan led by Conor Nixon, research scientist in the Laboratory for Extraterrestrial Physics. The event will be held on Friday, Jan. 14, at 7 p.m. at the Goddard Visitor Center. There is no fee to attend, but registration is required for planning purposes. For questions, contact Karen Miller at x6-9041. Register online at <http://www.gsfc.nasa.gov/vc> by clicking on "Space Chats."

More information on the Cassini-Huygens mission is available at: <http://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov> and <http://www.nasa.gov/cassini>

More information concerning Goddard's role in the mission is available at: <http://huygensgcms.gsfc.nasa.gov>

Wallops Fire Department Leads Rescue Effort

By Betty Flowers

The motor build-up area which houses the two M-Buildings is one of the most remote locations on the Wallops Main Base. The fence that encloses all of the Main Base runs directly behind the M-Buildings.

Another routine day was winding down for the workers in M-15 at around 3 p.m. on Thursday, Dec 2, when one of them heard someone calling for help. Upon investigating, a man was found on the outside of the fence directly behind M-15.

The man, soaking wet and covered in marsh mud, was exhausted and on the verge of hypothermia. He had abandoned his 14-foot boat in a cove of Mosquito Creek when it ran aground in low water and became mired down in mud behind Building M-20. The man in his mid-20s had made his way through waist deep mud, crossed a channel, walked the marsh, climbed a 30-foot embankment and walked the fence line through the woods to find help.

Wallops Fire Department personnel carried the unidentified male to the Fire Department where he was warmed and given dry clothes. He told them he was gathering his crab pots and had run aground earlier in the day. Realizing that the tide was rapidly going out, (low tide was at 6 p.m.), he had left his wife huddled in the boat against the cold and gone for help knowing that although they had dressed for the weather they would not survive until high tide (around midnight). Afternoon temperatures averaged near 46 degrees with an overnight low of 39 degrees.

Wallops Fire Fighters David Kulley and Robert Hill immediately went into action to rescue the woman before night fall. A call was made to the Navy requesting a canoe from their Activities Group. Virginia Marine Resource Commission Officer, Allen Marshall, also arrived with a boat, which he was not able to launch through the dense woods and marsh.



Rescuers attempt to reach stranded boater before night fall.

The canoe was lowered down a 30-foot embankment and pushed through the marsh, where Kulley and Marshall pushed and shoved it through the mud to the stranded boat. Marshall climbed into the boat to assist the young woman into the canoe. Marshall and Kulley also climbed into the canoe using oars to shove themselves back across the mud while personnel on the marsh pulled a rope hooked to the canoe.

Just after night fall, the woman, very cold and near hypothermia, was transported by ambulance to the Fire House. The rescued boaters did not require hospitalization.

Additional personnel assisting in the rescue were Chad Parks, Jeff Bell and Phil Kelly, Wallops Fire Department; MK3 Matthew Ellinger and BM3 Colin Penny, U.S. Coast Guard; Les McGongial, NASA Safety Office; Betty Flowers, NASA Public Affairs Office; Chuck Chesser and Charlie White, Wallops Security. ■

Gamma Ray (cont'd from page 2)

Despite these problems, CGRO was graced by having a project manager who believed in the abilities of his people, who projected a "can do" attitude, and who generated enthusiasm for the project. In that sense, no effort was truly a "one-person" effort. Because we believed in what we were doing, we pitched in when the time came and, in the end, the project was generally regarded as a resounding success.

Lessons

- Project managers need to identify in advance those critical tasks for which they don't have sufficient overlap or redundancy in their work force.

- In positions that are "one-person" jobs, the project manager copes through a combination of documenting as much as possible, providing opportunities for team members to share their knowledge, and fostering a sense of shared responsibility on the team.

Question

As a project manager how do you allow individuals the satisfaction that comes from making unique contributions to the team at the same time that you protect the team against being too dependent on any one individual?

To read more, visit ASK Magazine article http://appl1.nasa.gov/ask/issues/11/stories/ask11_stories_scheduling.html ■

Highlighting Technology Transfer at GSFC

By Marianne Dailey

The NASA Goddard Technology Transfer Investment Workshop, hosted by the Office of Technology Transfer (OTT) at the Greenbelt Marriott on Dec 9, 2004, was the second workshop in a series of four. The highlight of the event was a presentation given by John Preston, President and CEO of Atomic Ordered Materials Corporation and Former Director of Technology Development and Licensing at MIT. Preston provided attendees with a new way of viewing the projects they are working on, including how to leverage external sources for partnering and/or licensing opportunities. A panel comprised of NASA managers responsible for the Director's Discretionary Fund, Independent Research and Development (R&D) Program, Earth Science



Technology Office, and Technology Transfer Acceleration Partnership discussed various technology funding opportunities available to the GSFC R&D community. The event helped attendees to understand the benefits of working with external partners to help further the development of their technologies. The next workshop will take place in the Spring of 2005.

The OTT's mission is to seek partners for NASA technology projects. For more information visit the OTT website at [http://](http://techtransfer.gsfc.nasa.gov)

techtransfer.gsfc.nasa.gov ■

Menchan (cont'd from front)

Photo by Chris Gunn/293



Menchan speaking at Lincoln University

"I was looking for new challenges when the then Deputy Director of Management Operations talked with me about other possibilities at Goddard. Because of his influence on me, I applied for the Chief of the Equal Opportunity Program Office. I saw the position as new possibilities to do some good. In human resources, I felt somewhat confined with no room to develop real change," said Menchan.

He admitted that he really came into his own and saw a lot of possibilities, challenges, and accomplishments during

his 19 years as chief of EOPO. "I really enjoyed the opportunities to be involved in positive change for numerous, diverse careers at Goddard," said Menchan.

When asked what he will miss most about his EOPO days Menchan readily admitted, "The stories. The stories of how many members of NASA got here, their trials and their tribulations. I like to think that I was someone you could come to in an attempt to overcome career challenges. I've been involved in the start of many a minority career at Goddard and I remember their stories."

Also during his time in EOPO, Menchan was able to facilitate steady growth within the education programs. "We had about 25 interns when I got here and I've seen that number go as high as 89," said Menchan. "It is the student programs that have really kept me here, especially the Minority University Programs."

In his new role, Menchan will now be able to focus his full attention on the education of others. "Thanks to Mr. O'Keefe and Dr. Adena Loston, education now has even more resources. And with our new Center Director, Goddard has a new enthusiasm about education," said Menchan. He also admits that he feels a special bond with Goddard's Chief of Education, Dr. Robert Gabrys. "I have a comfort level with him and we have a mutual respect that will allow me to do what I do best," added Menchan.

Gabrys too is looking forward to continuing the close working relationship they have developed during his 8 years in the education office. "I am really happy Dillard is joining us. He brings not only his expertise in education matters; he also brings a wealth of knowledge with his HR experience. This will really fit the vision as we partner with HR concerning the pipeline issues. His experience base in these areas will serve the Goddard community well," said Gabrys.

With the experiences of working within the arenas of human resources, EOPO and the education programs under EOPO, Menchan feels he is equipped to be successful in this pioneering role at Goddard. "There will be more possibilities, challenges, and accomplishments I am sure," said Menchan. He has a vision about inspiring the next generation as only NASA can for the new NASA vision. "I feel that developing the pipeline will be my beat. I feel I can position Goddard to capture quality people to become part of the NASA team."

Continued on page 8

GSFC Investigation Selected for the Mars Science Laboratory

By Cynthia O'Caroll

NASA has selected a Goddard Space Flight Center proposal to provide instrumentation and associated science investigations for the mobile Mars Science Laboratory (MSL) rover, scheduled for launch in 2009.

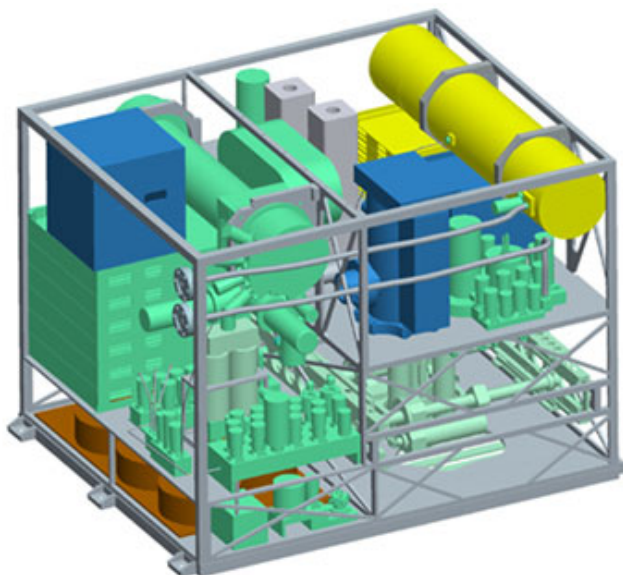
Sample Analysis at Mars (SAM) is an integrated suite consisting of a Gas Chromatograph Mass Spectrometer (GCMS), and a Tunable Laser Spectrometer (TLS). The Principal Investigator, Paul Mahaffy, of GSFC's Atmospheric Experiment Branch of the Laboratory for Atmospheres, will perform mineral and atmospheric analyses, detect a wide range of compounds and perform stable isotope analyses of organics and noble gases on Mars. The SAM GCMS will be looking especially for organic molecules and what they can tell us about the chemistry of carbon on Mars.

"I'm just delighted that our Goddard team, together with our US and international partners, has this exciting opportunity to play a major role in this ambitious rover mission," stated Dr. Mahaffy. "With the Analytical Laboratory of the Mars Science Laboratory, we can now put our notions of Mars as a promising location for the emergence of life to a more rigorous test. The SAM investigation will play a key role in this exploration."

The SAM investigation was one of eight proposals selected by NASA, and the only one from GSFC, in response to an Announcement of Opportunity released in April. The MSL mission, part of NASA's Mars Exploration Program, will deliver a mobile laboratory to the surface of Mars to explore a local region as a potential habitat for past or present life. MSL will operate under its own power and is expected to remain active for one Mars year, equal to two Earth years, after landing.

The SAM suite of instruments is a critical element of the advanced Analytical Laboratory of MSL. SAM's mass spectrometer and its chemical processing laboratory will be designed, built and calibrated at GSFC. The

University of Paris will provide its gas chromatograph. SAM's tunable laser spectrometer will be provided by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and its sample manipulation system by Honeybee Robotics. The SAM suite will be integrated and qualified at GSFC and delivered to JPL in 2008. SAM operations on Mars will largely be carried out from GSFC. Science Co-Investigators and collaborators come from GSFC, other NASA centers, universities, and industry.



The Sample Analysis at Mars Suite consists of instruments that measure gas chemical and isotopic composition and their support systems such as vacuum pumps, sample manipulators, and ovens to release gases from solid samples

necessary for life.

The SAM gas chromatograph mass spectrometer and tunable laser spectrometer will sample both atmospheric gases and volatiles released from samples collected and processed from

rocks and outcrops found on or near the Martian surface. SAM will carry out a broad search for organic compounds of biotic or prebiotic relevance in these samples and will also investigate sources and destruction paths for carbon compounds that might reside on Mars. SAM will measure the chemical state of other light elements such as sulfur, phosphorus, oxygen, nitrogen, and hydrogen that are also important for life, as we know it on Earth. The present and past habitability of Mars is explored by SAM through measurements of oxidants such as hydrogen peroxide and through precise

measurements of isotope ratios of noble gases and light elements that can tell us about the history of volatiles in the atmosphere and past conditions for habitability. ■



Photo by NASA

The Mars Science Laboratory will be designed to rove the surface of Mars for an entire Mars year with approximately 10 times the payload mass of the Mars Exploration Rovers

NASA Dominates American Geophysical Union Meeting Press

By Rob Gutro

NASA Earth and space science was well represented at this year's American Geophysical Union (AGU) annual Fall meeting in San Francisco. The meeting took place at the Moscone Center, and ran from Dec. 13-17.

NASA's Earth Science News Team, located here at Goddard and part of public affairs and the Directorate, helped establish several press conferences and coordinated them for NASA Headquarters. There were 13 media events in total and the AGU meeting had a record number of news reporters attending.

Each of the press conferences were well attended and well received. Each press conference and news release had a corresponding story written and published on the NASA portal. In addition, several news conferences had video from NASA-TV.

There's a lot of effort that goes into organizing press conferences, web stories, video, and organizing the scientists. The coordination effort included many people: Rob Gutro, Krishna Ramanujan, Mike Bettwy all of NASA's Earth Science News Team; Lynn Jenner, GSFC Webmaster who posted all NASA portal stories; Ed Champion, Lynn Chandler; John Bluck, Bill Steigerwald, Guy Webster, Alan Buis, Carolina Martinez, all of NASA Public Affairs; Wade Sisler, Rani Chohan, Rachel Weintraub, Michael Starobin, Sarah Dewitt, Liz Smith, all of NASA-TV; and Gretchen Cook-Anderson and Don Savage of NASA Headquarters. Coordinating efforts with all of these folks from public affairs, Headquarters, and NASA-TV was tremendous, and everyone worked well together.

All in all, it was likely the biggest exposure for NASA Earth and Space science research during one week, over the entire year. Even Harvey Leifert, public outreach at the AGU, said that NASA had the most press conferences, and had the biggest presence of news stories.

Following is a listing of releases that were discussed at press conferences and events with links to the original stories and images.

- 1) Media Advisory: NASA Announces News Conferences
http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/lookingatearth/AGU_news.html
- 2) AGU AMES News Conf: Relationships Between Climate Change, Trees and Insects
http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/environment/climate_bugs.html
Insect control and tree planting could greatly affect Earth's greenhouse gases, according to NASA scientists who presented their findings during this press conference.
- 3) Press Conference: Latest Findings from NASA's Durable Mars Rovers:
NASA's twin Mars Exploration Rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, are exploring the Martian atmosphere, and how water shaped the landscape, targeting the "Endurance Crater" and "Columbia Hills."

4) News Conferences: ICESat: "NASA's ICESat Mission: New Light On a Changing World"

http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/lookingatearth/icesat_light.html
NASA's Ice, Cloud, and land Elevation Satellite (ICESat) precise measurements of Earth's ice sheets, atmosphere, land masses and volcanoes provide a unique look at our planet.

5) News Conference: Deep Impact Pre-Launch Mission web site: www.nasa.gov/deepimpact

Held at NASA HQ, Washington, simulcast in the AGU Press Briefing Room. The Deep Impact spacecraft is designed to launch a copper projectile into the surface of Comet Tempel 1 on July 4, 2005, when the comet is 83 million miles from Earth.

6) News Conference: AURA Sheds New Light On Ozone Hole and Air Quality

http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/lookingatearth/aura_first.html
NASA's Aura satellite helps track sources of pollution and lead to better air quality forecasts. Aura also provides new insights into the physical and chemical processes that influence the health of stratospheric ozone.

7) News Conference: Reduction of Ice Cover at High Latitudes

<http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/lookingatearth/icecover.html>
Additionally: <http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/lookingatearth/thinningice.html>

Scientists presented findings on dramatic changes to Arctic sea ice and warming in that region, changing ice cover in high latitudes, glacier acceleration, and newly discovered relationships between ice sheets, sea level rise and climate warming.

8) News Conference: Earth's Safe Zone Became Hot Zone During Legendary Solar Storms

http://www.nasa.gov/vision/universe/solarsystem/safe_zone.html
Space physics experts discussed the record-breaking solar storms in the fall of 2003 event and its important implications to all who want to develop the final frontier, from multi-billion dollar satellite corporations to spacewalking astronauts.

9) AMES Release: NASA Scientists to Discuss South Asian Giant 'Brown Cloud'

http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/environment/brown_cloud.html

10) News Conference: NASA Helps Visually Impaired Students Touch the Sun (Reforming Geoscience Education & Broadening Participation)

http://www.nasa.gov/vision/universe/solarsystem/touch_sun.html
"Touch the Sun" is the first book to present images of the Sun to blind and vision-impaired students. Author Noreen Grice was on hand to discuss the book, which features images from NASA's SOHO and TRACE solar-observing spacecraft.

11) News Release: NASA Tutorials Help Students Explore World's Oceans from Space (GES DISC Online Visualization and Analysis Infrastructure) - poster at the AGU

<http://www.nasa.gov/vision/earth/everydaylife/giovanni.html>

12) Press Conference: Cassini's One-Two Punch:

This briefing featured the latest information on Cassini flybys of Saturn's moons Titan on Dec. 13 and Dione on Dec. 15.

<http://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov/> ■

Educators Are Certified To Explorer Moon Samples

By Dewayne Washington

Educators from New Jersey to Virginia stopped by the Goddard Visitor Center recently to take a certified look at the moon. Known as Lunar and Meteorite Certification, the semi-annual workshop is designed to inform and inspire educators about NASA's lunar, meteor, comet and asteroid missions and ongoing research.

Photos by Chris Gunn/293

The one day event includes information, activities and resources necessary for participants to become certified for 3 years in the lunar/meteorite sample program, offered by NASA. The highlight of the day involved examining lunar samples brought back during the Apollo missions, which included a moon rock retrieved during the Apollo 17 mission.



Ron Ernst conducted hands on activities.

"The rocks are a great tool for use in the classroom and for having discussion about the Apollo missions," said Bernadette Williamson-Taylor, Educator Resource Center (ERC) Manager. "It is also a good sag way into the new vision for space exploration. Students have the opportunity to see the importance of this history and our returning to the moon," said Williamson-Taylor, host of the workshop.

Ron Ernst, a Goddard Aerospace Education Specialist, welcomed the group and talked about NASA's new vision, and solicited their help to inspire the next generation of explorers. "With this new vision, we are going back to the moon and beyond. Goddard is in the center of this vision, having the responsibility to develop lunar robotics," said Ernst. He also talked about the wealth of NASA resources available to everyone including 4 million web sites, according to Ernst. "And soon we will have the capability to respond to your online request that could include providing you with lesson plans and support material," he told the educators.

Geophysicist, Dr. Patrick Taylor, followed with a presentation about NASA's lunar missions, history, events, discoveries and milestones as they related to the Apollo missions. The session was designed to present an understanding of the basic scientific principles behind the earth-moon relationship. Following his talk, the educators where allowed the opportunity to see the moon up close and personal, viewing moon samples through a microscope.

Following lunch, Dr. Pamela Clark, space scientist at Goddard spoke about NASA's missions related to meteor, comet and asteroid studies, discoveries and milestones. Her talk was intended to provide an understanding of meteors, meteorites and meteoroids to include the compositions of various types, origin and the insights they often hold about our solar system,



On left, high school teacher, Meghan Milanchus, looks at samples from Apollo missions.

galaxy and the universe. Later, participants were also able to view meteorite samples using a microscope.

The final presentation of the day concerned security agreements and procedures for checking out NASA lunar samples. Following a question and answer session, the participants were certified to participate in the

Lunar Sample Borrowing Program.

To date, more than 2500 persons have been certified through Goddard's ERC. The workshop is open to formal and informal educators. The next workshop is scheduled for April. For more information, call Bernadette Williamson-Taylor at 301-286-8570. ■

Mechan (cont'd from page 4)

Menchan also talked about enhancing Goddard from a human capital perspective. He would like to see greater representation of minorities within NASA programs and understands that has to start with the pipeline. "I believe I am well suited for that, even though HR will still have the lead for recruitment," said Menchan. "I feel good about working the education programs especially, dealing with kindergarten through 12th grades, as well as post-high school educational opportunities."

Other than work and spending time with his wife, Menchan admits he has very few interests. "If you ask Dorothy, she would tell you I watch too much sports," said Menchan. The Philly native loves to root for his hometown teams but does consider the local area teams his second favorite. "I love to play golf but I am terrible at it. Maybe, Dr. Gabrys can give me some pointers," he said with a smile.

While staring off into the distance for a moment, Menchan stated aloud, "I am sure my father would be most proud of this move. And if I conferred with my dad's contemporaries, I am sure they would agree and probably say you are right where your dad would want you to be." ■



An Interview with the Deputy Director as New Champion for Diversity

By Trusilla Steele and Sharon Wong

Below is second part of an interview with the Deputy Center Director which continues from the Dec.04 issue of Goddard News.

How is the new senior leadership demonstrating commitment to diversity?

Look at the appointments we've made. Another example, for the new science organization, we are looking for someone to head the organization that will bring a diverse set of communities that you can think of in the science community. That's why it's been a long-term task.

That's what we want to do across the board. For example, in the PMC we are trying to include more people to participate. Before we had the launch of Swift we invited the whole Swift team to discuss whether or not we should proceed; trying to get all viewpoints.

I have seen situations where this is not the case — if you don't include the workforce, they don't know where they are going and they don't share their concerns. As a result, there were missions either derailed or delayed just because people didn't understand what was going on. So we're trying to include people in our appointments, we're trying to select people that will be inclusive and include the workforce in those decisions where we can.

Do you feel Diversity is a challenging issue and/or a touchy subject?

I think it is for some people. It never was for me because I was always trying to move from a different direction. I was fortunate that there were people that didn't mind people who were different. But I have watched and seen that there are people who have a hard time dealing with it; any kind of diversity or difference is difficult for some people. We have to work with them so they can understand the benefits of diversity and how they can help us achieve our workforce vision

of respecting, appreciating and valuing people despite their differences. Unfortunately, I think it's getting even harder now in some ways because of terrorism. There is a lot of people that are more suspicious than what they used to be.

We are in a challenging time and we have to continuously educate people, reminding them about the importance of tolerance, understanding and recognition of different cultural or religious norms that people can misconstrue.

It's going to be a bit of a challenge for the future, but there is one thing that I am confident about with Goddard in particular, and that is that we have one of the best workforce in the world. Everybody is extremely motivated to help the Center, their project, their division, their branch to do their best work.

That is something that I've always felt from the day I first came to Goddard. I still believe that's the case. So although I think there are some challenges and there are some people that may be a little difficult, I know that Goddard's employees are really out there to do the best they can and to help their colleagues do and be the best they can be.

Are there any near goals or activities you feel need to be accomplished within the next year or two?

In the next year I would like to become more engaged in working with the Diversity Council so that it becomes an even more effective force on the Center. I would like to be able to attend all of the activities, and also have more participation at these events.

Photo by Chris Gunn/293



Scolese wants to become more engaged with the Diversity Council to become an even more effective force on the Center.

I think the other area we need to work is in our hiring. It's been for many years either a self-imposed hiring ban or hiring restrictions imposed upon us. I would like to see us be able to go off and reach a broader segment of the population and bring them in over the next year and hire where we can in areas

Continued on page 10

Scolese Interview (cont'd from page 9)

where we aren't so well represented. One area I'd like to see is for us to largely go after younger people. We have a population that's older; I finally went past the median age, another milestone in your life, I guess. That's what I would really like to do; bring in the younger population and have them participate more in all of our activities. Sharon and I have had these conversations and she agrees that we need to engage employees in what we are doing.

In fact one the things that we've started off which has been kind of rocky is the monthly Center reviews. This is something where we want to see more participation. We want to get the word out about the good things that are happening at the Center as well as the areas where we have challenges. Everyone knows about the good things and everybody wants to talk about the good things. When you have the challenges, you would like for people to see them because they may be someone that is not participating in a particular activity who may have a solution to the particular challenge.

What would like to say to or ask of employees to get their assistance and buy-in in meeting Goddard's Diversity commitment?

I would like to see them participate. No one should feel afraid to bring up whatever issue that they have as long as it's appropriate. I know a lot of people look at Ed or myself and feel like, 'Oh I can't talk to them.' Or they may look at the director, division chief or the branch head and say, 'We can't talk with them.' I have an open door policy, I try to answer all my emails and I want to encourage people to participate. If anyone has questions or concerns, they ought to find an avenue to address or introduce them. I know Sharon and Bill were always available to employees and heard from employees on diversity issues.

In general, I want to see people try the different things that are available on the Center. Certainly their priorities should be family and their present job, but there comes a time when they have to look at and participate in other things. They should never feel that they can't express their views and opinions.

For more information on the Diversity Council and diversity efforts at Goddard, please visit <http://diversity.gsfc.nasa.gov> ■

Diversity Council Host Special Presentation from Holocaust Survivor

The Goddard Diversity Council will host a talk by Holocaust Survivor, Nesse Godin. This presentation is a effort to enhance understanding of the imperative to nurture and maintain a society of respect, rights and inclusion.

Nesse was born to an observant Jewish family in Siauliai, known in Yiddish as Shavl. Her parents owned a store that sold dairy products. The city was home to a vibrant Jewish community of almost 10,000 people. It had over a dozen synagogues and was renowned for its impressive cultural and social organizations. The Germans occupied Lithuania in 1941 and established a ghetto in Siauliai. Nesse lived in the ghetto until 1944 Nesse, her mother and a brother were deported to the Stutthof camp near Danzig.

Ms Godin, a survivor of Stutthof Concentration Camp and of the death march to the West that took place as the Russian army advanced from the East, will tell of her experiences during this period in world history. The talk will be held on Thursday, Jan. 27, 2005 in the Building 3 Goett Auditorium at 10:00 am. Please mark your calendar for this

<p>THE GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER DIVERSITY COUNCIL IS HONORED TO SPONSOR AN INFORMATIVE TALK BY</p> <p><i>Nesse Godin</i></p> 	
<p>Nesse (Galperin) Godin Born March 1928, Siauliai, Lithuania</p>	<p><i>holocaust survivor.</i></p> <p>Thursday January 27, 2005 10:00 a.m. Building 3 Auditorium</p>
	<p>45-minute presentation with Q&A</p>

informative talk. Sign language interpreter is available via request call 6-8313. For more in, view the flyer via pdf at : http://aetd.gsfc.nasa.gov/aetd_info/Holocaust_1-27-05.pdf ■

Safety Alerts

The Center receives information from the Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP) concerning product recalls. In an effort to keep employees informed of recalls that may affect you at work and at home, Code 300 will provide alerts or recalls that have been issued by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) along with web site links for retrieving further information on the recalls or alerts.

New Federal Web Site for Agency Recalls: <http://www.recalls.gov>

CPSC, Technical Consumer Products Inc. Announce Recall of Fluorescent Light Bulbs.

<https://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml05/05064.html>

CPSC, Psion Teklogix Corp. Announce Recall of AC Power Adapters.

<https://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml05/05070.html>

CPSC, Zippo Announce Recall of Multi-Purpose Utility Lighters.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml05/05019.html>

CPSC, Robertshaw Controls Company Announce Recall of TS-11 Thermal Safety Control Gas Valves.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml05/05031.html>

CPSC, Schneider Electric North American Division Announce Recall of AFCIs.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml05/05035.html>

CPSC, Aloha Housewares Inc. Announce Voluntary Recall of Radiant Heaters.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml05/05041.html>

CPSC, RMM Corporation Announce Recall of Black CAT Electric Pressure Washers.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml05/05045.html>

CPSC, Black Diamond Equipment Announce Recall of Headlamp Batteries.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml05/05043.html>

CPSC, Robert Bosch Tool Corp. Announce Recall of Abrasive Cut-Off Wheels.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml05/05046.html>

CPSC, Lakewood Announce Recall of Fan-Forced Mini-Personal Heaters.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml05/05056.html>

One NASA Peer Award Recipient

By Esther Johnson

On Nov. 30, 2004 the first One NASA Peer Award was given to Kathy Shifflett from the EOS Program office. Ms. Shifflett was recognized for her cross-center cooperative financial leadership in support of the One NASA team. Many of the issues do not directly relate to her office, yet she is patient, supportive, and executes for the overall good of One NASA. This One NASA behavior, in leadership and decision making for the common good, is exemplified in Kathy. She has a talent for working with the system and the points of failure to achieve success. Her stature in the financial arena transcends Center and internal NASA boundaries.

Mr. William Schiavone, Deputy Project Manager/Resources of the EOS Program office presented Ms. Shifflett with the award in the Tuesday morning Staff Meeting. She received a special "One NASA" lanyard, given only to recipients of this award, along with a certificate indicating her contributions to the Agency.

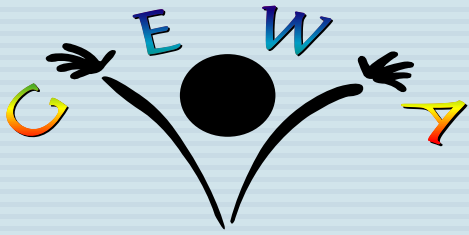
In addition to receiving the individual award, Ms. Shifflett's nomination will also be considered, along with other Goddard recipients for the Goddard "Center Best" Award.

Photo by Debbie McCallum/293



At left, Kathy Shifflett is presented One NASA Peer Award from Deputy Project Manager/Resources of the EOP Program Office, William Schiavone.

If you would like information about the One NASA Peer Award or if you would like to submit a nomination, please visit www.onenasa.nasa.gov, or contact Esther Johnson at 301-286-0023 or Ronald Mink at 301-286-5324. ■



GEWA Activities

Children's Holiday Party Photos

The photos are ready at the GEWA store. If you haven't already done so, please go to the GEWA Store at Goddard to pick up the photos of your child(ren) taken at the GEWA Children's Holiday Party on December 11. For HQ personnel, you can catch the NASA shuttle bus to Bldg. 8, and the Store is located across the street, in Bldg. 1 just inside the main gate of Goddard. Also, the photos will be on <http://gewa.gsfc.nasa.gov/kdearth> and listed as 2004ChildHolPtyTISBPix.

Any questions, please email Kenny at kdearth@pop500.gsfc.nasa.gov.

Please go to <http://gewa.gsfc.nasa.gov/SpecEvents/> for more information.

Goddard Bible Club

The Goddard Bible Club meets on Tuesdays at noon in building 21, room 242. We have both speakers and videos, details may be found in Dateline. You are welcome to eat your lunch during the meeting. If you have questions, please call Bill 6-7756.

GEWA Art of Living Club Offers Free Guided Meditation Every Monday and Wednesday at Noon

Come and feel more peaceful and less stressed; be more focused and energetic - no training required! Our mental and emotional state affects those around us, and by culturing a state of mental stillness we bring that peacefulness into our environment, one mind at a time. There are some things that effort cannot accomplish. Meditation is the delicate art of doing nothing - letting go of everything and being who you are. It gives your mind such a wonderful rest. Come get a charge, and help make Goddard a better place to work. On Monday, we meet at 12:15 p.m. in bldg. 23, Rm S300, and on Wednesday, we meet at 12:00 noon in the same place. Please call Bill Hayden at 6-4267 or Chris Smythe-Macaulay at 6-2490 if you have any questions. For new folks, we will be there 5 minutes early for a quick orientation.

Swing Into the New Year

Join the Goddard Dance Club for the New Beginner's Dance Series featuring Foxtrot, Waltz, Swing, Cha Cha, Tango and Rumba. Classes are Wednesday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in Bldg 8 Auditorium. No partner required. \$40 per person.

Also Available:

Basic Ballroom Classes, featuring Rumba and Quickstep on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. \$60 per person

Intermediate Classes, featuring Mambo, Swing and West Coast Swing on Mondays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. \$60 per person
 Dance lesson every Sunday 6 to 7 p.m. featuring a new dance every two weeks. Monthly Pot Luck Dances every 3rd and 5th Saturday.

For more info visit <http://gewa.gsfc.nasa.gov/clubs/dance/goddard.htm> or contact Sam Floyd on 301-286-6881 or by email Samuel.R.Floyd@nasa.gov

Ireland Comes to Goddard!

There's a special ticket sales event for MAD's Winter show *Dancing at Lughnasa* on Jan. 11, 2005 at the NASA Federal Credit Union in the Aerospace Building, 10210 Greenbelt Road at Forbes Boulevard.

The story occurs during the turbulent times in Ireland where five unmarried sisters are living on a rugged farm outside of Ballybeg in the 1930's. The play deals with the tides of change in which the old world meets the new, the old versus the young, and the familiar versus the different. It also employs the central motif of dancing and music, and comedy and drama, to explore themes of Irish cultural identity, nostalgia, historical change, and pagan ritual.

Celeste MacMillan as Kate;
 Carole Long as Maggie;
 Kathryn Johnson as Agnes;
 Barbara Lambert as Rose;
 Ellyne Kinney as Chris;
 Robert Schaefer as Michael;
 Brendan Perry as Gerry;
 Alan Centa as Father Jack

Don't miss this charming show! For more information visit the MAD website at <http://www.madtheater.org>

Announcements

Checkout the New Goddard Homepage!

The Goddard homepage has moved! We've relocated as of December 1 to our new home on the NASA Portal. The Goddard site is now available at: <http://www.nasa.gov/goddard>

We hope you like the new site that incorporates the look and feel of the NASA Portal. The migration is an ongoing effort, so there are still pages to be migrated to the Portal from our old site. Should you require archived information from our old site, sections of it will remain for another 6 to 12 months.

If you are looking for the internal home page (for employees only), please note that we have not included that link on our new page. The reason behind this is that with the move to the NASA Portal our audience has changed and become more diverse. But rest assured, the internal page still exists! The URL for the Goddard internal site is: <http://internal.gsfc.nasa.gov> We suggest you bookmark this page for easy access in the future!

Please enjoy the new and improved Goddard site. Should you have any comments or questions about the site, please feel free to submit them at this URL:

http://www.nasa.gov/centers/goddard/about/contact_us.html

Volunteers Needed

What: North County High School needs judges for Science and Engineering Fair. It is that time of year - time for the Science Fair! Why don't you volunteer to judge this year's science fair? That's right - actively participate in one of the main activities that make science students choose science as a career. See how these hardworking students have done and share in the excitement. If you are a college student, you can see how high school freshmen are excelling in science. Many college students volunteer their time to judge science fairs. The results of this judging will send the top students and projects to the county competition in March.

When/Where: Wed, Jan. 19, 2005 at North County High School, 10 E. First Ave., Glen Burnie, MD 21061 in the media center from 7:45 a.m. to 2p.m. You can choose:

Shift A - 7:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Shift B - 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

If you are willing to help out, please contact Stacie Forman, Science Fair Coordinator via e-mail - MrsFormanBiology@aol.com or Sforman@aacps.org or Phone - 410-222-6970

Dateline Newsletter

The Dateline Newsletter is a daily bulletin that highlights current GSFC events and announcements. The newsletter is e-mailed daily to subscribers only. To subscribe to Dateline send an e-mail message to Majordomo@listserv.gsfc.nasa.gov in the text area type subscribe dateline_daily_copy and within a few days you should start receiving dateline. To submit announcements direct e-mails to dateline@listserv.gsfc.nasa.gov For more information, contact Natalie Simms at x6-8955.

Want To Challenge Students to Focus On Their Futures?

The Maryland Business Roundtable for Education needs volunteers from the working world to participate in its nationally renowned Speakers Bureau. The Bureau is part of a comprehensive program that informs and motivates middle and high school students about the rigorous coursework they will need to take and complete while in high school in order to succeed in the future, whether they go on to college or directly into the workplace.

Volunteer speakers are asked to commit to making 3-5 classroom presentations. Before entering the classroom, they are equipped with a lesson plan and receive 3 hours of training on facilitating the Achievement Counts presentation. The messages they deliver are based on their own personal and work experiences, with each speaker bringing his or her own unique perspective. If you are interested please contact Charles Mercer at 301-286-7478 or by email at cmercer@pop100.gsfc.nasa.gov so we can set-up a training session for employees here at Goddard.

To sign up to be a speaker visit our website: <http://www.mbrt.org/speak> or contact LaTara Harris at 410/727-0448 or latara@mbrt.org.

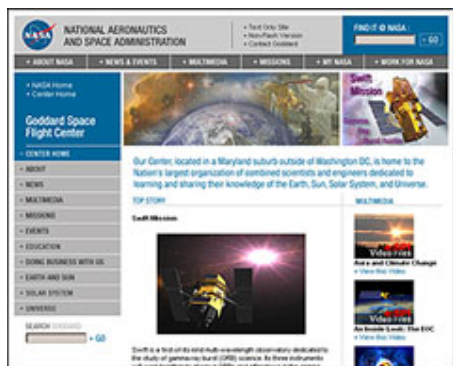


Image of new Goddard homepage

Volunteers Need for USDA Nutrition Study

The Nutrition Research Center is recruiting for a nutrition study being conducted at the Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center. Through the interest of volunteers like yourself, we are able to accomplish our mission to define the role of food and its components in optimizing human health.

For this study, your Body Mass Index must be between 28 and 35. Diabetics, persons with history of cardiovascular disease, hypertension, cancer, kidney, liver and gastrointestinal diseases are excluded from participating.

Over a six month period (January to July 2005) volunteers will agree to come to the Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center weekly. Weekly visits may include collection of body composition, physical activity and dietary information. Blood and urine will also be collected at the beginning and end of the study period. This is a free living study and volunteers will eat their own meals.

Interested and want more information? Come a informational meeting:

Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center
Center Drive, Building 307B, Room 130
Beltsville, MD 20705

Meeting dates and times are listed below; you must attend ONE of them to participate. YOU DO NOT NEED TO PREREGISTER. Meeting times are:

Monday Jan. 3 - 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday Jan 4 - 12:00 noon & 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday Jan. 5 - 5:30 p.m.

Monday Jan 10 - 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday Jan. 11 - 12:00 noon & 5:30 p.m.

For more information, call 301-504-5454; email: volunteers@bhnrc.arsusda.gov; or visit www.barc.usda.gov/bhnrc and click on "volunteering information"

Goddard Referral Service

Looking for information on issues such as adult care, child care, legal or financial assistance, health & wellness, or education, but don't know where to start? Let Goddard's Referral Service do the work for you! This service includes a website as well as specialists available 24 hours a day/7 days a week - whenever the need arises. Check it out at: www.worklife4you.com, and enter the following information: Agency Code: GSFC; password: last name + last 4 digits of SSN. Don't worry - the site is very secure & you're information remains confidential. Please contact Khrista White at X6-9059, khrista.n.white@nasa.gov, or <http://ohr.gsfc.nasa.gov/family/home.htm> for assistance.

GSFC Software Assurance Website Launched

The Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) Software Assurance Website <http://sw-assurance.gsfc.nasa.gov> provides tools, procedures and training materials for software and safety

assurance personnel, software engineers, as well as program and project managers.

Practitioner assets can be found for each of the five Software Assurance disciplines, including:

- * Software Quality
- * Software Reliability
- * Software Safety
- * Software Verification and Validation
- * Software IV and V

For more information, please contact Susan Sekira (<mailto:Susan.J.Sekira@nasa.gov>) at 301-286-6160, or visit the website at <http://sw-assurance.gsfc.nasa.gov>.

Register for the NASA Aeronautics and Space Database

The NASA Aeronautics and Space Database is the Scientific and Technical Information (STI) Programs new repository for documents relevant to NASAs mission. From your own workstation, you have free access to over 3.5 million metadata records that include citations and abstracts of NASA journal articles, technical reports, conference papers and proceedings, preprints, theses, and other forms of STI. Content ranges from the early NACA publications to todays latest research. Innovative features include full-text images in PDF format, custom display formats, saved search capability, and on-line document and video purchase. Register for free at www.sti.nasa.gov.

Frederick County Public Schools and NASA

On **January 12, 2005** Students from **Frederick County Public Schools' Earth System Science Research Course** will hold a poster session to present their Earth System research projects. Their research demonstrates how a public school can partner with NASA to do independent research projects. Everyone on center is invited to come by and view the students' work and discuss with them how they used NASA mission data to complete their research. They will have their work on display from 10:20 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. in Building 33, Room H114.

Science Fair Judges Needed

Judges are needed for the Science Fair at Mayfield Wood Middle School in Elkridge, Md. on **Jan. 14, 2005** from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. If you are interested in being an judge for this event please contact Phil Brown at 410-313-5022 or by email at phillip_brown@hcpss.org.

Weight Watchers

Start the New Year healthy and lean by joining the new, at-work Weight Watchers "2 system program." Registration for the 12-week session begins **Wednesday, Jan. 12**, at 11:30 a.m. in Bldg. 11, Rm. S203. Regular support sessions will be on Wednesdays. If you wish to join or need additional information, contact Ellen at x6-8043 or Daphne at x4-5288.

Events

Scientific Colloquium

All colloquia are held on Fridays in building 3 Goett Auditorium at 3:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Who: Steve Squyers, Cornell University will discuss *Science Results from the Mars Exploration Rover Missions*. Squyers will discuss evidence of water-related processes found at the two rover's landing sites.

When: Jan 7, 2005

Who: Dr. Mark Schoeberl, Goddard's Earth Science Directorate will examine, *The Interaction between the Troposphere and the Stratosphere: What are We Learning from Satellite Observations?*

When: Jan. 14

Who: Steve Ackerman, Univ. of Wisconsin, will discuss *Assessing from Space the Effects of Clouds on Weather and Climate*.

When: Jan. 21

Who: Dr. Richard Mushotzky, Goddard's Laboratory for High Energy Astrophysics will speak on *The Accretion History of the Universe- New results on active galaxies from Chandra and XMM*.

When: Jan. 28

Who: Dr. Marshall Shepherd, Goddard's Laboratory for Atmospheres will look at *How Cities Affect Weather and Climate*. Dr. Shepherd will discuss various ways that cities can impact weather and climate and also address what the future implications are for weather forecasting, climate change assessment and prediction, water resource management, public health, agriculture, and urban planning. The discussion will also offer a set of recommendations for what type of studies, observations, and models are required in the future.

When: Feb. 4

Engineering Colloquium

All Engineering Colloquia are held in Bldg 3 Goett Auditorium at 3:30 unless state otherwise

Who: Anne Davies, Department of Energy will discuss *Fusion: Next Steps*

When: Jan. 24

Fitness for Life

What: The biggest excuse for not exercising is that people don't have enough time. This presentation is designed to help individuals find ways to incorporate exercise into everyday activities to live a more active lifestyle and improve their energy level, mental state, and physical health. Elizabeth Blumberg, a Licensed Nutritionist and Registered Dietitian specializing in preventative and therapeutic nutrition, will serve as the lecturer. Blumberg is also a certified personal trainer who has spent the past eight years in the DC Metro area working as a guest speaker, nutritional consultant and fitness enthusiast. Elizabeth currently owns and operates EB Nutrition Consulting, LLC in Rockville, MD.

When/Where: Wed. Jan 19, 2005 at 12 noon to 1p.m. in Bldg 8, Room 121

For more info: Keana Wilkes, Fitness Center, ext.6-8404

Center Director's Colloquium

All of the Center Director's Colloquia will held in the building 3 Goett Auditorium from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. with afternoon group discussion at 2 p.m. in the bldg 1 training facility.

Who: Amanda Trosten-Bloom, co-author of *The Power of Appreciative Inquiry: A Practical Guide to Positive Change and The Encyclopedia of Positive Questions*, will offer us insights on how we can become a more appreciative organization and employ these powerful principles based on what gives life to human systems when they are at their best. It is based on the assumption through inquiry and dialogue people can draw attention and action away from problem analysis and by focusing their energy and attention on creating new possibilities for the future.

When: Tues. Jan. 25, 2005

Who: Mr. Seth Kahan, author of the recently published book *Building Beehives: A Handbook for Creating Communities that Generate Returns*. Kahan will offer us a key tool for growing and sustaining a community and jumpstarting organizational change - storytelling - an age-old practice that is one of the most effective tools a leader can use. It's hard to imagine the future.

When: Wed, Feb. 2, 2005

For more information, check out: <http://centerdircolloq.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

Can We Talk?

Do you have something you want to talk to the Center or Deputy Director about? Well here's your chance, the monthly *Can We Talk* sessions is your opportunity to discussion whatever is on your mind. These sessions do not focus on particular topics or agendas; just an open and engaging dialogue. If you want to participate in the next session on **Thursday, Jan 27**, go to: <http://internal.gsfc.nasa.gov/canwetalk.cfm>

Special Cassini-Huygens Space Chats

What: All are invited to a special Space Chats that will commemorate the historic event as the Cassini- Huygens Probe approaches Titan. Dr. Conor Nixon, reasearch scientist in the Laboratory for Extraterrestrial Physics will discussion the Cassini-Huygens spacecraft and mission as well as providing the late breaking news. In addition, get telescope views of Saturn, Titan and other bright astronomical objects with the Goddard Astronomy Club.

When/Where: **Friday, Jan 14** at the Goddard Visitor Center from 7 to 10 p.m.

While there is no fee, registration is required for planning purposes at <http://www.gsfc.nasa.gov/vc> by clicking on "Space Chats"

Upcoming Training

You may also contact Tracey White at x6-7823 or Tracey.C.White.1@gsfc.nasa.gov to enroll in any of the listed courses.

One-On-One Career Coaching...

Whether you are contemplating a career change, in need of assistance with resume writing, interviewing techniques, or trying to develop an Individual Development Plan (IDP), a career coach can help. To schedule a confidential one-on-one appointment, contact Tracey White at x6-7823. This service is provided to civil servants only.

Second Annual NASA Project Management Conference

Project team members interested in learning new concepts during a full 2-days of high-quality, high-intensity professional interaction. Teach, learn, and network about Project Management. This conference includes:

- Major keynote speakers daily
- Highly informative speaker sessions
- Thought-provoking case studies
- Engaging panel discussions
- Innovative project management tool demonstrations

When/Where: **March 22-23, 2005** at the University of Maryland University College Inn and Conference Center College Park, MD

Conference website (pmchallenge.gsfc.nasa.gov) still has the presentations from the 2004 Conference. Check back soon for the new 2005 website.

Contact Conference Chairpersons: Dorothy J. Tiffany - NASA GSFC 301-386-5917 Walt Majerowicz, PMP – CSC 301-286-5622

To add names to our mailing list: Sandy Adorney 301-286-3413