



**Robin Henderson,
Associate Director, Management,
NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center**



Robin Henderson, associate director, management, of NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala., manages and leads development of the center's business operations, guides daily business decisions, and oversees center operational policy and processes. In addition, she serves as a senior advisor in advancing the direction of the center's future.

The Marshall Center, which employs nearly 6000 employees including Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans, has a strategic, critical responsibility to advance NASA's exploration mission. Ms. Henderson, appointed to her position in August 2004, provides executive leadership to the center's senior management for NASA space transportation, propulsion, space systems, and scientific research programs and projects.

From 2002 to 2004, she was chief operating officer of the National Space Science and Technology Center in Huntsville, a facility that enables collaborative research and education opportunities among members of the Marshall Center, regional research universities, not-for-profit organizations and corporations in the private sector. Ms. Henderson was responsible for managing operations and recommending business strategies to the NSSTC executive director.

From 1998 to 2002, she served as deputy manager of the Microgravity Research Program Office, which developed research experiments and missions to be conducted aboard NASA's space shuttles and the International Space Station, pursuing new scientific and commercial discoveries in the near vacuum of Earth orbit.

Ms. Henderson was deputy project manager of the Microgravity Projects Office from 1995 to 1997, and served as business manager from 1993 to 1995. She was business manager from 1990 to 1993 for the Upper Stages Project Office, supervising all business aspects of the Marshall Center's development of expendable rocket stages and associated systems.

From 1988 to 1990, Ms. Henderson was assistant to the manager of the Space Systems Project Office. She served in 1987 as a technical analyst for the Space Station Projects Office. In 1986, she took a special assignment at NASA Headquarters in Washington, supporting the International Space Station Program Office. There, she supported the Program Control Plans and Schedules Division, establishing and implementing program-wide performance measurements for integrating various aspects of space station data and resources.

Ms. Henderson joined the Marshall Center in 1983. She was a technical analyst until 1986 for the Hubble Space Telescope Project Planning & Control Office, helping prepare NASA's first Great Observatory for delivery to space.

She earned a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering in 1983 from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. She was selected as a University of Alabama College of Engineering Distinguished Engineering Fellow in 2010.

During her Marshall career, Ms. Henderson has received a number of awards, including the 2006 Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Executives – the highest honor for federal employees. The annual award is given to a select group of senior federal executives by the president of the United States for outstanding leadership and service to their agency. She also received the Outstanding Leadership Medal in 2005 for outstanding leadership, dedication and professionalism demonstrated during the Marshall Center realignment with NASA's initiative calling for new exploration of the moon, Mars and beyond. Ms. Henderson was awarded NASA's Exceptional Achievement Medal in 1996 for her outstanding contributions in planning and developing multiple microgravity projects.

Ms. Henderson was president in 2004 of the Marshall Management Association, an organization of center leaders and employees that supports excellence across the work

force and participates in education initiatives designed to inspire and nurture future generations of engineers, scientists and space explorers.

Ms. Henderson and her husband, Cecil W. Henderson Jr., have three grown children.