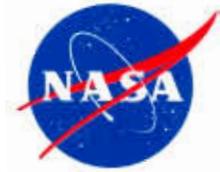


National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



January 15, 2008

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance at the Space Studies Board Reception and Dinner on January 16, 2008

On September 10, 2007, the Space Studies Board (SSB) of the National Academies launched a public seminar series on the 50th anniversary of the International Geophysical Year (IGY), when the Space Age was born with the launching of the first artificial satellites. The purpose of the SSB seminar series is to engage scientists and the public in assessing the scientific and social contributions of space science. On January 16, 2008, Carl Walz, Director, Advanced Capabilities, Exploration Mission Systems Directorate at NASA Headquarters will give a public lecture on "The International Space Station as a Laboratory and Technology Testbed." The Seminar will be held at The Challenger Learning Center in Tallahassee, Florida. There will also be a panel discussion led by local space scientists on the future priorities for space science.

In conjunction with this seminar, there will be a reception and dinner party for around thirty people hosted by the SSB. Attendees will include the members of the SSB; employees from NASA, Challenger Learning Center Officials and Board Members; Florida State University Officials; Florida A&M University Officials; representatives of local government; and high achieving undergraduate students who are interested in becoming math and science teachers. The per person cost of the dinner party is approximately \$51.00.

I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g). I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event because it will further Agency programs or operations. Attendance at the reception will allow NASA representatives to exchange views on the scientific and social contributions of space science with people from industry, academia, government, and the SSB. NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect any of the sponsors, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.205(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam F. Greenstone".

Adam F. Greenstone