

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



February 19, 2008

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance at the Associated Universities Reception

On the evening of February 21, 2008, the Board of Trustees for Associated Universities, Inc. will hold a reception and buffet for the annual Board of Trustee Meeting in Washington, DC, at the Madison Hotel at 6:30 p.m. Associated Universities is a non-profit science management corporation that currently operates the National Radio Astronomy Observatory under a Cooperative Agreement with the National Science Foundation and is the North American executive for the Atacama Large Millimeter Array, an international astronomy facility under construction in Chile.

There will be a reception and buffet dinner for 250 people who will be attending the annual meeting. Attendees will include the astronomers, academia, federal agencies, research institutes, Congressional members and their staffers, and astronomy and physics associations. The per person cost of the buffet dinner is approximately \$50.00.

I find that the reception 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 astronomy that may be needed for future space missions with a wide-range of people from industry, academia, Congress, and other Federal agencies.

NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the sponsor, 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", written in a cursive style.

Adam F. Greenstone