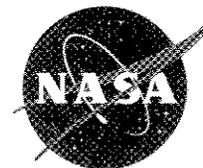


National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Headquarters  
Washington, DC 20546-0001



August 26, 2008

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

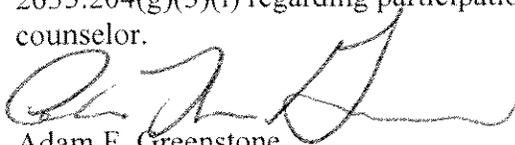
SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the 2008 Future Forum in San Jose, California on September 18, 2008

During 2008, NASA and other aerospace leaders are sponsoring a series of Future Forums throughout the United States. Specific sites include: Seattle, Washington; Columbus, Ohio; Miami, Florida; San Francisco, California; Boston, Massachusetts; and Chicago, Illinois. These forums will consist of NASA leadership, astronauts, scientists, and engineers, along with local business, technology, and academic leaders and local, state, and Federal officials. They will discuss the role of space exploration in advancing science, engineering, technology, and education for the benefit of local communities and the nation. These presentations will feature an exciting preview of NASA's Constellation Program and will highlight America's future plans for space exploration.

On September 18, 2008, the Museum of Science, Boston, Massachusetts, California, will be the site of a Future Forum. The co-sponsors of the event are NASA, the Museum of Science, Massachusetts Space Grant Consortium, Raytheon, Jacobs Engineering, and Nortel. Approximately 250 people are expected to attend the forum featuring panel discussions, a NASA presentation, including 25-30 NASA employees. The luncheon will have a keynote presentation on space exploration or related issues. Registered attendees include members of the public; media; aerospace industry; scientific community; NASA employees; local, state, and Federal officials; and academia. The cost for the continental breakfast and luncheon is approximately \$55 per person. An after-hours reception will have a cash bar, but the cost for the refreshments is approximately \$15 per person. These costs will be borne by the corporate co-sponsors.

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 they will have the opportunity to share views on the Constellation Program and discuss other NASA projects and their results. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the sponsors may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event, including breakfast, refreshments, and lunch.

NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the sponsors, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from a NASA Headquarters ethics counselor.



Adam F. Greenstone