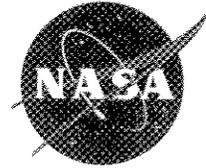


National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



February 12, 2009

General Law Practice Group

Reply to Attn of:

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Attendees at the Dearth of Women in Academic Science & Engineering on February 24, 2009

On February 24, 2009, The Dearth of Women in Academic Science & Engineering will host a luncheon at the B-338 of the Rayburn House Office Building, in Washington, DC, from 12:00pm-1:30pm. The event is to educate Congressional staff and stakeholders from academia, industry, government, and non-governmental organizations on strategies related to the improved recruitment and retention of women and underrepresented groups in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) departments.

The Dearth of Women in Academic Science & Engineering and related event will be widely attended by individuals from other Federal agencies, academia, the aerospace industry, and others who are involved in NASA projects, and with whom NASA personnel will be involved in the implementation of its program. The Luncheon will be widely attended by NASA employees, other Federal Agency Officials, members of Congress, leaders of educational institutions, and the media. The estimated cost of the luncheon, which includes all food and beverages, is \$23.60 per person. Approximately 600 people are expected to attend. 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 NASA personnel attending the event. The luncheon will allow NASA employees to share their views with others in the discussion to the NASA's programs and NASA's contribution to educate women around the world. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the event sponsors may accept an invitation for free attendance to the reception for themselves and their invited spouses or guests.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the event sponsors, such as by way of procurement duties, or who are in non-career positions for which the President's Executive Order of January 21, 2009 requires signing the ethics pledge, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(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