



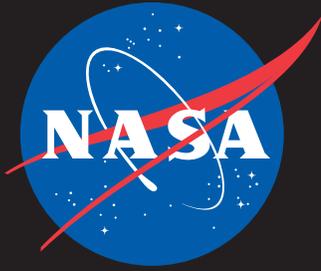
IT Talk

April - June 2020

Volume 10 • Issue 2



NASA's Web Modernization



IT Talk

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300 E Street, SW
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Chief Information Officer

Renee Wynn

Editor & Publication Manager

Eldora Valentine

Graphic & Web Designer

Michael Porterfield

Copy Editor

Meredith Isaacs

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For distribution questions or to suggest a story idea, email:
eldora.valentine-1@nasa.gov

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Message from the NASA CIO

For the past year, NASA has made significant strides in modernizing its websites. This has been an exciting opportunity to refresh and modernize NASA's digital presence and make sure we have the best tools that represent the NASA brand. In this issue, we'll look at this effort, which is making communications more effective and strengthening our technological and cybersecurity capabilities while reducing costs for the Agency.

We'll also explore how some new software tools are improving our collaboration efforts at NASA. Finding the right teamwork tool can make all the difference in the success of your meetings and your work.

And I'm pleased we are highlighting some prestigious industry honors at the Centers. We have a terrific lineup, so I hope you enjoy what we have in store for you.

Finally, after nearly five years on the job as Chief Information Officer at NASA, I will bid you all a fond farewell at the end of April. I decided to retire after 30 years of Federal service. I'll miss everyone! I will miss that front-row seat of history in the making. I'm sad that I won't be here to see the Mars 2020 Rover launch this summer or the Artemis 2 Moon mission test that is coming soon.

I want to thank all my staff at the various NASA Centers for the hard work they've done to improve information technology at NASA. We've made terrific progress, and I know I am leaving this ship behind in capable and good hands. So, keep pressing on and reaching for the stars!



~Renee



Members of the CIO Staff Meeting team during a face-to-face on January 28 - 30 at Johnson Space Center.

Teamwork Tools to Work Remotely

By Luis Bares, Agency Collaboration Services Lead, Kennedy Space Center

As NASA transitions to a completely remote workforce, the NASA CIO is reprioritizing its active projects to ensure that any services that may enable a more effective mobile workforce are being delivered as soon as possible. More than ever, NASA employees are depending on the Agency's remote work capabilities, such as Virtual Private Network (VPN) access, mobile email, audio and video conferencing, and secure collaboration in applications like Office 365 Teams.

The NASA CIO has also expanded its monitoring of operational services and the NASA network to ensure that technologies and infrastructure are meeting the demands of the NASA workforce.

To support the newly remote workforce, NASA is accelerating the deployment of Office 365 Mobile Applications. This capability allows users to download the NASA approved version of Office 365 applications onto mobile

phones. Users will then have mobile access to audio and video meetings, as well as Teams chats, through their approved devices. To date, Teams meetings have only been accessible via computer-provided audio which has posed an issue for users without a computer headset.

Users will also have the ability to download the NASA approved versions of Outlook, Planner, and Office Online (e.g. Word, PowerPoint, Excel). This project was slated for piloting in June 2020 and the project team has been diligently accelerating the engineering and testing over the last few weeks to help speed up the effort. The pilots started on March 18, 2020 and a rollout to the Agency's mobile users is expected in early April.

Similarly, NASA OCIO is developing a rapid deployment plan to add a call-in phone number to Teams meetings. This service is called Teams Audio Conferencing and will allow Teams meeting participants (both

NASA-credentialed and external partners) to join NASA Teams meetings by using a call-in phone number instead of computer-provided audio or the NASA Teams mobile application.

For additional information regarding other approved and unapproved teamwork collaboration tools, employees are encouraged to visit our When to Use What site (still in beta-testing) at <https://approvedtools.nasa.gov> [internal to NASA].

If you have questions or insight on how NASA IT services can better serve your team during this remote work period, chat directly with the NASA CIO team by connecting to our NASA Remote Work Chat in O365 Teams. We have useful links and resources, as well as answers to many of your questions provided by the NASA CIO staff. You can also contact Luis Bares, the Agency Collaboration Services Lead at luis.bares@nasa.gov.

Teams in the Time of Telework

By Shaina Strom, Communications Specialist, End User Services Program Office, Marshall Space Flight Center

Collaboration can't happen without effective communication and Microsoft Teams created an incredibly capable tool to do the job. Teams helps you get in touch with the right people at the right time with targeted communication that you design. If you're looking for relief from email, Teams can help organize conversations alongside documents, project plans, and Outlook.

It all starts with a team. Add the people you need to collaborate with on a particular task or project. Don't know where to start? Think small. Small groups facilitate better collaboration, and you can always add people later. In most cases, you'll put together a Team to knock out a project. In other cases, you might create an organizational Team for announcements.

Channels are places to have conversations with different people within the Team. Divide conversations up with specific and dedicated channels formed around a project or topic, and then chat about progress, share files and hold meetings.

If you just want a quick way to reach out to your coworkers, try Chat. Teams Chat allows you to reach out one-on-one and quickly get answers with a robust set of chatting tools: call your coworker's laptop for a voice call, use video to talk face-to-face, or share your screen so they can see exactly what you're working on.

With these tools at your fingertips, here are some tips remember to keep your Team performing in times of uncertainty:

- **Proactively communicate.** Send out short progress updates throughout the day, even if they're not required. Communicating early and often is an important way to clarify expectations and work in sync with teammates. Use it as an opportunity to collaborate effectively with your team and gauge progress, even if you're not in the same office.
- **Document collaboratively.** Co-creating documents is a great way to ensure that the document everyone is working on is the latest version – because it's always updated. For teams keeping track of meeting notes, create a Notebook tab to collaborate.
- **Make the most out of meetings.** Forget busy teleconference lines or using multiple tools to get the meeting done. It's time to make the switch from Skype before Microsoft decommissions the tool later this year. Only the owners of a meeting can add a Teams link, but it never hurts to nudge them in that direction.
- **Try not to interrupt.** In a Teams Meeting, you can see who is talking in real-time,



so you know how to navigate your social graces. And in true Teams fashion, every Meeting has a chat window so you can have an effective sidebar without interrupting the speaker.

- **Be patient.** It's a new tool, and we're all learning to use it at an unusual time! If you're not sure where to start, try Make A Test Call and troubleshoot your calls before there's a coworker on the other line.

If you have any issues, [ESD](#) is ready to help – create a ticket at nasa-esd@mail.nasa.gov, or call 1-877-677-2123. Want to learn more? Check out the [EUSO Teams Site](#), or the [Office 365 Support Portal](#).

Ready to get started? Check out our [Telework with Teams Quick-Guide](#) (internal to NASA).

Collaborating with External Partners

By Meredith Isaacs, Communications Specialist, NASA Headquarters

Maintaining consistent and effective Agency operations often requires collaboration with partners and organizations outside of NASA. There are a number of ways NASA employees, even when working remotely, can work effectively with their external partners. Please note, most links below are internal to NASA only.

Voice

It's easy to keep in touch with a simple phone call, whether you use [Jabber](#) (as available) to place a direct call or host a conference call using the [Instant Meeting](#) conference service. [Teams](#) and [Webex](#) (there is a fee associated with this service) also have audio options to avoid crowded phone lines.

Email

Keep using email to collaborate with NASA's partners! NASA employees can access their email when on VPN or by using mobile device management on their approved smartphone. As always, be aware of phishing and other malicious activities in email. Verify senders before opening attachments or links, [digitally](#)

[sign and encrypt email](#), and report any suspicious cybersecurity activity to NASA's Security Operations Center at soc@nasa.gov.

Chat

Send and receive instant messages using Skype or Teams.

Meetings

There are several ways you can host meetings with those inside and outside of NASA. External partners, if included as a meeting attendee on the invitation, can join NASA Teams, Skype, and Webex meetings. They will be able to participate in audio, video, and screen sharing.

File Sharing

To share and collaborate on files with external partners, use [NASA Box External](#), [Large File Transfer](#), or [NASA G Suite](#) (there is a fee associated with this service). Data security level rules and encryption policies for sensitive information for these services must be followed; click above for more information about each service.

External users are not allowed to collaborate in Teams or other areas of Office 365 where content is stored unless they are vetted and provided with NASA credentials and VPN access. For more information, visit: <https://nasa.sharepoint.com/sites/o365/SitePages/Your-Data-Sharing-Questions-Answered.aspx>.

Maintaining Information Security

When sharing information with our external partners, whether via email, on a conference call, through screenshare, or through a file sharing service, it is important to know that each member of your audience is allowed to hear or view the content you are sharing and to follow the encryption guidelines for the information and service you are using.

Have questions or looking for other ways to work with external partners? Visit NASA's When to Use What site (still in beta-testing) to find approved teamwork tools: <https://approvedtools.nasa.gov>. Contact Agency-WTUW@mail.nasa.gov for questions about collaborating with external partners.

NASA Information Technology (IT) Strategic Plan— Goal #2: Data

By Jonathan Walsh, IT Strategic Planner, NASA Headquarters

NASA's IT Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2018–2021 is an outcome-oriented plan based on conversations with diverse stakeholders in support of achieving NASA's missions. Progress toward the plan helps NASA improve Agency outcomes by driving discoveries as a strategic partner; accelerating results through productivity; sharing NASA's data and results; and increasing quality, resiliency, and cost-effectiveness.

The Agency is on a journey to manage IT as a strategic resource to securely unleash the power of data. The safe sharing and use of data are fundamental needs, as required by the Space Act of 1958 for NASA to “provide for

the widest practicable and appropriate dissemination of information concerning its activities and the results thereof.” Effective data management, access, and innovation are necessary to support the increasing requirements of our scientific, engineering, and business communities and can dramatically amplify the effectiveness of NASA's missions and stewardship.

NASA is introducing digital capabilities to revolutionize how we work. This effort will reinvent mission and mission-support processes, products, and capabilities enabled by an innovative culture, digital-savvy workforce, and advanced digital technologies built on modern data management and ac-

cess. The transformation will accelerate product and system development, significantly increase productivity and operational efficiencies, and improve innovation. To ensure success, we must take calculated risks and transition promising innovations into operations in a timely, effective, and scalable manner.

NASA's IT Strategic Plan is reviewed annually and updated as necessary to reflect NASA's overall strategic direction and Presidential administration priorities.

For more information, visit www.nasa.gov/ocio/itsp or e-mail agency-itsp@mail.nasa.gov.

NASA's Web Modernization

By Robert Garner, Public Affairs Specialist, Goddard Space Flight Center

In May 2019, NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine issued a memo that requires the Agency to comply with the Integrated Digital Experiences Act (21st Century IDEA), signed into law in December 2018. His memo also requested a “full modernization of NASA’s digital presence to best reflect the priorities and activities of the Agency in this new era of science, discovery and exploration.” This led to the creation of the NASA Website Modernization Team (NWMT)—tasked with reviewing the Agency’s entire web footprint and providing recommendations as well as responding to the requirements of the IDEA Act.

Over the past several months, the team has taken great strides toward “cleaning up the Agency’s web presence,” said NASA Chief Scientist Jim Green, who leads the multi-Center and multidisciplinary group.

Progress So Far

With goals to reduce website cyber vulnerability, decrease redundancy, and maximize effectiveness of communications efforts, the team undertook an inventory of 2,867 NASA web domains.

Upon completion of this census, Center Web Managers were notified of their Center-specific websites and asked to work with stakeholders to address the following:

- **Redirect groups of related sites to a single website:** About 20 percent of sites were found to be exact copies of other content (e.g., <https://esto.gsfc.nasa.gov>, <https://esto.nasa.gov>, <https://esto.ndc.nasa.gov>). Site owners will work with the respective IT managers and determine if one domain will suffice, while the rest will be redirected to the preferred address.
- **Employee-only sites:** Publicly accessible sites intended only for employees will be moved inside the NASA firewall.
- **Login sites:** Determine if these sites must be public. Move behind the NASA firewall if not.

- **“Unknown” sites:** Four hundred fifty-five of the sites inventoried returned “forbidden” or “server not found” errors. Web managers will begin removing these sites.
- **Vanity sites:** A standalone, one-person résumé site or URL for a specific person.

Future State and Consolidation

At the same time as his memo, the Administrator placed a moratorium on creating new public web domains. This moratorium remains in effect today, but a major deliverable of the team’s work so far has been the creation of a workflow governing how and by whom new domains will be approved. This workflow, which assigns authority based on the nature of the content, will be codified first as a NASA Interim Directive for one year, then as a NASA Policy Directive with any needed changes.

The modernization effort is intended to address and improve the public’s experiences interacting with NASA online. To that end, the team has partnered with Blink UX, a user-experience research and design firm that has worked with NASA in the past on optimizing web content.

Blink UX’s in-depth analysis and user-testing results, due to NASA in April 2020, will help inform the team’s recommendations to the NASA CIO on the future hosting architecture and design of Agency public websites.

The Web Modernization Team does expect to recommend site consolidations to the CIO, but specific actions will not be considered until Blink UX’s assessment is complete.

“What we’re not doing is making any changes before we have the data,” Green said. “Gathering that data on what NASA’s web landscape looks like today will inform our recommendations and decisions

for what it looks like tomorrow.” Site owners can rest assured that the team will not “force” their content onto the existing www.nasa.gov “portal,” and web traffic will not be used as the sole metric for any action. The team will not take any steps without attempting to work with site owners.

It is important to note that sites operated by partner institutions and sites whose primary purpose is to host scientific data are not currently in scope for this effort, though it is expected the team’s work will be applicable and beneficial in these cases as well.

The Web Modernization Team is also investigating a long-term archival system (such as that used by the Library of Congress) to preserve web content and material with historical value but without the need for ongoing updates—past NASA mission websites, for example.

The future NASA web landscape will most likely encompass far fewer web domains. At a high level, it is hoped that this effort will lead to a culture shift in how new web domains are requested—the discussions of the need for a new domain must precede any independent investment of resources. This will allow stakeholders the opportunity to find the right home for content among NASA’s existing sites, better serving both the public and the NASA community.

Future State of NASA Web

- Better, faster, and more secure web experience
- Improved www.nasa.gov “portal” and expanded use
- Increased number of websites in compliance (Section 508, etc.)
- Decreased redundancy of websites and information
- Increased web traffic
- Improved ranking of NASA content in search results



How Kubernetes is Moving JPL's Applications to a Modern Universe

By Emily Sylvester, Communications Specialist, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology

When container technology revolutionized application development by enabling efficient software deployment and operations at an unparalleled scale, the question of how to manage a multitude of containers soon emerged. Container orchestration became the answer and JPL IT has continued to find new ways to apply its benefits toward improving JPL's computing environment.

JPL IT originally integrated the Kubernetes container orchestration platform within its internal development for applications related to search, such as indexing. The development team quickly saw the platform's potential to not only optimize what JPL IT is able to offer the lab-wide community, but to improve the overall IT process for JPL missions and projects.

Similar to shipping containers packed with goods, software containers are packed with an application's components – such as operating system libraries, configuration files, application binaries, and other parts of its technology stack. This allows the application to run inde-

pendently from the underlying IT infrastructure and software can perform consistently across different operating systems, networks, servers, security infrastructures, and more. Kubernetes simplifies the orchestration process by automating the scaling, scheduling, and monitoring of containers, freeing up valuable time and resources for JPL's diverse projects and missions.

"Kubernetes helps developers as they focus on moving through their product's entire lifecycle, including continuous development, integration, deployment, and ongoing operations," explained Bill Seixas, Section Manager, Application Consulting, Development and Engineering. Seixas led the team responsible for implementing Kubernetes within JPL's computing environment. "That's one of the benefits of automated container orchestration - it makes it much easier to introduce updates on a more frequent basis."

As Kubernetes became the standard for container orchestration, industry began introducing related tools to automate what was once

customized. In March 2020, JPL IT applied an enterprise solution which supplements its existing Kubernetes service, significantly cutting operating costs for the end user, while simplifying maintenance, increasing security, and providing integrated tools for running containerized workloads on multiple venues, including the cloud and on-premises.

"Kubernetes supports the continued evolution of application development. It helps enable numerous leading-edge development practices, including container systems within a cloud native architecture," said Rudy Gutierrez, Group Supervisor, Infrastructure & Business IT Systems Operations. Gutierrez recently oversaw the Kubernetes service updates and venue expansion at JPL. "This technology will allow our missions and projects to build and run scalable applications in modern, dynamic environments such as public, private, and hybrid clouds."

For more information about JPL's Kubernetes service, contact k8s-support@jpl.nasa.gov.



NASA Data Governance Board Created

By John Sprague, Deputy Associate CIO for the Technology and Data Division, NASA Headquarters

A new board has come to town. The Data Governance Board (DGB) was approved by the Chief Information Officer Leadership Team on January 28, 2020. It will focus on interoperability and data standards, strategic direction of data and information, data products, and providing leadership for standardizing analytical capabilities within NASA. The DGB will facilitate making data available to decision makers to enable them

to make informed decisions using advanced analytics, artificial intelligence, machine learning, and other emerging technologies. The goal of IT data governance is to provide an efficient and cost-effective way to implement enterprise data technology throughout the Agency. This is done by aligning IT resources with Agency missions and requirements while strengthening the Agency's costs, performance, and security.

Data governance: the process of establishing and enforcing policies, processes, and procedures for managing data in alignment with the Agency's priorities to support our mission. This is accomplished by establishing a data-governance structure with sufficient authority over the management of and access to key data

(Continued on page 8)

NASA Centers Undertake Daunting Electronic Records Challenge

By Patti Stockman, NASA Records Manager, Johnson Space Center

With other executive branch agencies, NASA is pressing to become an all-digital Agency. For years, we have implemented more enterprise-wide systems to support NASA business processes.

The Agency now operates digitally almost exclusively. We're producing electronic records that document our work: financial reports; contracts; health records; imagery; design drawings and models; project plans and milestone reviews; and, yes, e-mail.

But over the decades, the Agency has generated massive volumes of hard-copy records, including those on microfilm and microfiche. NASA has a whopping 91,000 cubic feet of records stored in Federal Records Centers (FRCs) and another nearly 30,000 cubic feet of records in onsite storage areas spread across all NASA Centers except Ames, Goddard, and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL).

Records stored in the FRCs, where they wait out their retention period until they are de-

stroyed or transferred to the National Archives, are not an issue. The 30,000 cubic feet of analog records stored onsite at Centers, however, are an immense challenge for the Agency. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum M-19-21, Transition to Electronic Records, mandates that agencies eliminate all analog records by 2023 by digitizing or moving them to FRCs or commercial records centers.

Centers have established quarterly milestones for the disposition of analog records from their onsite storage areas and will largely either be destroying the records or transferring them to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Most Centers expect to disposition nearly all permanent records by 2023; only a few anticipate accomplishing the same with temporary records—such as those that will ultimately be destroyed, but have not met their retention requirement by 2023—or records that truly need to be maintained locally.

It's possible that some records—e.g., legacy health and environmental records,

facilities drawings, and related records—will need to be held close for rapid retrieval. Owners might choose to digitize select special collections if the need justifies the additional Agency expenditure.

Nevertheless, an immense challenge for Centers still lies ahead as Center Records Managers work with the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) to analyze the over 11,000 cubic feet of analog records that they anticipate remaining by 2023. They will determine when the Agency could eliminate them, assess the legitimacy of retaining them on NASA premises, and conduct cost-benefit analyses of storing them locally versus transferring them to an FRC.

The OCIO will complete its analysis within the next few months and develop a NASA plan to eliminate all analog records. Before the year is out, we plan to submit the plan to NARA with a request for an exception for those unique records.

(Data Governance Board, Continued from page 7)

assets, including roles for developing, overseeing, and coordinating data-management policy and resource allocation.

NASA's charter from 1958 says: "...provide for the widest practicable and appropriate dissemination of information concerning its activities and the results thereof." NASA does this through numerous sites like data.nasa.gov below.



One of the ways to get NASA data. Credit: NASA

The DGB fulfills the requirements for governance bodies outlined in Office of Manage-

ment and Budget (OMB) Memoranda M-19-17 (Enabling Mission Delivery through Improved Identity, Credential, and Access Management) and M-19-23 (Phase 1 Implementation of the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018: Learning Agendas, Personnel, and Planning Guidance).

Members of the DGB include a distinguished group of data experts, starting with NASA's first Chief Data Officer, Ron Thompson. Thompson commented, "NASA is a data-rich culture since its inception in 1958, and this is a new opportunity to expand upon the great work of so many dedicated mission scientists, researchers, employees, and university partners. We plan on tackling the hard challenges facing NASA, which, more than ever, involve data—volume, velocity, and variety—in an enterprise fashion focusing on digital transformation. We will be leveraging FAIR Data Principles as a set of guiding principles in order to make data Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and

Reusable. These principles provide guidance for scientific data management and stewardship and are relevant to all stakeholders in the current digital ecosystem."

Other stakeholder experts include the Deputy Associate Administrators of the Aeronautics, Human Exploration and Operations, Science, Space Technology, and Mission Support Mission Directorates; the NASA Evaluation Officer/Performance Improvement Officer; the NASA Statistical Official; the Program Executive of Information Management Program; the Chief of Advanced Super Computing Division; the Chief Acquisition Officer; the Chief Financial Officer; the Chief Freedom of Information Act Officer; the Senior Agency Information Security Officer; the General Counsel; the NASA Records Officer/NASA Privacy Act Officer; a representative from the Center Leadership Team (rotates yearly between Centers); and representatives from the Office of Communications and the Office of the Chief Technologist.

Jet Propulsion Laboratory Is Named a 2020 CIO 100 Award Winner

By Whitney Haggins, IT Communication Strategist, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology

The Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) has been named by IDG as a recipient of the 2020 CIO 100 Award. The 32nd annual award program recognizes the top 100 organizations around the world that exemplify the highest level of operational and strategic excellence in information technology (IT).

The award process consists of three parts, beginning with the submission of an extensive online application detailing the nominee's innovative IT and business initiatives; it is

followed by a review conducted by a team of external judges; and the final step is a review by *CIO* magazine editors to select the final 100. This is JPL's ninth consecutive selection to the CIO 100. The complete list of winners is available at <https://www.cio100.com/awards/>.

Leaders from the winning companies will be recognized at the CIO 100 Symposium and Awards Ceremony to be held August 19 in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA.



Communications Program Concludes 2019 by Connecting, Enabling, and Transforming How NASA Performs Its Missions

By Sylvester Placid, Communications Program Communications Strategist, Marshall Space Flight Center

The Communications Program (CP) achieved significant milestones across nearly all of our enterprise services over the last year. Highlights of our busy 2019 include:

- Debuted new logo and branding to complete our transition from the Communications Service Office (CSO) to a fully established program office known as the Communications Program (CP).
- Implemented wireless external partner networks for Boeing at Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF) and the Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB) at Kennedy Space Center (KSC) to help power construction of the Space Launch System (SLS) launch vehicle.
- Hosted CP Center Communications Subject Matter Experts, stakeholders, and customers at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens for briefs on the planned evolution of the program over the coming years and how CP can address and enable Center priorities, challenges, and missions.
- Hosted mission customers at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) for the annual Mission Communications Working Group (MCWG) to respond to customer requests and capture feedback for improvements to mission service quality. CP's mission services team traveled to customers at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Penn State University, as well as customer sites in Colorado, Alaska, Norway, and Germany.

- Provided video feeds from the launch pad at the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan for the successful Soyuz launch of International Space Station (ISS) Expedition 61-62. CP provides connectivity and highly specialized IT solutions in Russia for astronaut/cosmonaut training and launch complex services.
- Implemented Network Access Control (NAC) clients to enterprise-managed Windows, macOS, and Linux users across the Agency and the new enterprise NASA-Connect wireless profile for guests/visitors, setting the stage for NAC enforcement to begin this year as part of the NASA Strategy to Improve Network Security (NSINS).
- Supported the White House communications and advance teams' network connectivity and security needs for Vice President Mike Pence's visit to Ames Research Center. CP aided key lunar exploration missions at Ames, including the Volatiles Investigating Polar Exploration Rover (VIPER) hosted by the Ames Multi-Mission Operations Center (MMOC).
- Received a record six Agency honors from the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) with outstanding leadership, exceptional achievement, and group achievement awards.
- Launched the Customer Assistance and Relationship Enhancement (CARE) Team

to more effectively and efficiently deliver CP services to mission customers by providing targeted team workshops and developing customer service best practices based on comprehensive evaluation of customer feedback for service delivery.

- Created a highly scalable, agile, secure, and cost-effective solution for NASA research partner network connectivity with LabNet, which builds on the success of the Space Network Research Federation (SNRF) while providing a next-generation, enterprise-grade service that is fully compliant with NSINS security demands. The Lunar Gateway team at Johnson Space Center (JSC) is already using LabNet, and CP is finalizing details for LabNet with the Lunar Gateway Habitation and Logistics Outpost (HALO) team.
- CP remote collaboration services, including the enterprise virtual private network (VPN) and Webex, received capacity and user enhancement upgrades over the last year to further prepare the NASA workforce for telework events, such as inclement weather and Center closures resulting from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.





NASA CIO Renee Wynn Set to Retire!

By Eldora Valentine, OCIO Communications Manager, Headquarters; Photos Credit: (NASA/Michael Porterfield)

NASA Chief Information Officer Renee Wynn is retiring on April 30, 2020, after 30 years in Federal service. She is one of the longest-serving departmental CIOs at NASA and in the Federal Government. Before coming to NASA, Wynn spent 25 years at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), where she served in several executive roles, including as acting CIO and deputy CIO.

During her NASA tenure, Wynn said she had her work cut out for her. She was instrumental in improving the Agency's external reputation regarding cybersecurity and how information technology was managed at NASA.

"As an Agency, when I arrived, we did not fully understand the true threats—through IT hardware and software—that this Agency

faced. There were definite needs for significant improvement on how we utilized modern tools to protect NASA. I am very proud of how my team worked in trying to change the culture here at NASA to embed cybersecurity in the way we do business," said Wynn.

Besides helping to improve the Agency's cybersecurity posture, she helped raise Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) scores up from an F to a C+ and successfully regained control over IT spending, helping to reduce redundancies and unnecessary costs.

Wynn said she's proud of her accomplishments, but it's time to move on to the next chapter in her life. She says she doesn't have any immediate plans. Her priority will be a little

rest and relaxation with her family—then, maybe later, doing something in the private sector. Wynn said there are a couple of things she will miss about her job.

"I wish I could be here to see many of our initiatives, such as MAP [Mission Support Future Architecture Program] for IT, come to fruition. And, of course, I definitely would have loved to have had a front-row seat to the Mars 2020 Rover launch this summer or the Artemis 2 Moon mission test that is coming soon. I'm going to miss knowing about it firsthand," said Wynn.

Wynn is originally from the Washington, DC, area and plans to remain here in her retirement years. We wish her safe travels as she embarks on this new adventure in her life!



Goddard Welcomes New Chief Information Officer

By Robert W. Mitchell, Communications Specialist, NASA Headquarters

Armed with a wealth of Government information and technology experience that spans more than three decades, Rob Leahy recently took over the IT reins at Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) as its newly appointed Chief Information Officer.

Leahy succeeds Dennis VanderTuig, a 30-year NASA veteran who has spent most of his tenure in space communications and holding various management roles at GSFC.

Prior to coming to NASA, Leahy served as the Deputy Chief Information Officer for Operations at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), where he oversaw a massive IT operating environment comprising more than 600 systems and legions of end-user devices and equipment that support the work of more than 80,000 Government employees.

Leahy also developed an IT workforce strategy at the IRS, a measure aimed at attracting the next generation of professional talent and critical skills needed by future employees and employers.

Prior to his leadership roles at the IRS, Leahy served as the Deputy Chief Information Officer at the Office of Personnel Management.

Leahy started his career in Federal service as a computer specialist in the IT department at IRS headquarters in 1991. Throughout his tenure, he has held IT positions in several areas, including Criminal Investigation and the Commissioner's Office; he also served as Deputy Commissioner for Services and Enforcement.

Leahy is a graduate of Georgetown University. He holds two Master Certificates in Project Management from George Washington University and CIO Competencies from the National Defense University.



Photo caption: Goddard Space Flight Center New Chief Information Officer Rob Leahy

IT Talk

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Office of the Chief Information Officer

300 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20546

www.nasa.gov

