

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Fred S. Wojtalik  
Manager  
Observatory Projects Office  
George C. Marshall Space Flight Center  
Huntsville, Alabama 35812

Fred S. Wojtalik is manager of the Observatory Projects Office. He was appointed to this position in February 1988 after serving almost two years as the deputy manager. He manages and coordinates project planning, budgeting, scheduling, engineering design and development, testing and evaluation, and operations planning and development of the Advanced X-ray Astrophysics Facility (AXAF) program and systems, including support equipment and facilities.

Born in Hamtramck, Mich., June 20, 1930, Wojtalik graduated from Hamtramck High School in 1948. He was awarded a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Michigan State University in East Lansing in 1952 and obtained a master of science degree in management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge in 1969.

In July 1960, Wojtalik transferred from the U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Agency to the Marshall's Space Flight Center's Guidance and Control Division of the former Astrionics Lab. At the Marshall Center, Wojtalik has held a number of positions with increasing responsibility including chief, Systems Division of the former Astrionics Lab; manager, Applications Engineering and User Information Office; and deputy director of the Electronics and Control Lab. In January 1975, he was named chief engineer for the High Energy Astronomy Observatory (HEAO) program series of three observatories. In June 1980, he was appointed associate director for engineering in the Science and Engineering Directorate. He was selected as director, Information and Electronic Systems Lab when it was created in February 1992. He was assigned to the Hubble Space Telescope (HST) Project Office as deputy manager for Systems Engineering and Integration in April 1983. In April 1986, he became deputy manager of the office and held that position until assuming his current position, at which time he was still managing the HST program. From February 1988 until August 1991, he served as project manager for both programs (HST and AXAF).

In October 1971, Wojtalik received the NASA Exceptional Service Medal for his contributions toward the development of the Lunar Rover Vehicle. In April 1980, Wojtalik was awarded the NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal for his exemplary leadership in the technical management of the HEAO project. He was awarded the NASA Distinguished Service Medal in March 1991, for his work on Hubble. In February 1992, he was among NASA's 1991 Presidential Rank Recipients receiving the Meritorious Executive recognition award. In October 1994, Wojtalik was awarded the National Space Club Engineer of the Year Award. Wojtalik was also a 1994 recipient of NASA's Distinguished Executive Presidential Rank award; only one percent of federal executives nationwide are so honored. As a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Wojtalik has presented a number of technical papers which were published in professional literature.

He and his wife, the former Joanna Oshab of Hamtramck, live in Huntsville. The couple has three children: Mark, David, and Jan.

The Marshall Space Flight Center has a leading role in the nation's space program. During the sixties and early seventies, the Center was best known for developing the Saturn rockets and lunar roving vehicles for the Apollo program, and for Skylab, America's first space station. Marshall-developed satellites such as the Hubble Space Telescope have returned a wealth of information in astronomy, astrophysics, and other scientific disciplines.

Currently, the Marshall Center is responsible for a wide variety of NASA projects, ranging from production of propulsion elements for the Space Shuttle to management of Spacelab science research missions and other Space Shuttle payloads. Marshall is NASA's Center of Excellence for Propulsion, and it provides NASA with a wealth of technical expertise in the design of space hardware. The Center's research laboratories and test facilities are among the finest in the world.

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