

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



October 25, 2016

Reply to Attn of: General Law Practice Group

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance at Events Related to the Compact for Faculty Diversity Institute on Teaching and Mentoring Conference Events, October 27-30, 2016

Representatives from NASA have been invited to attend an event in conjunction with the Compact for Faculty Diversity Institute on Teaching and Mentoring Conference being held at the Marriott Tampa Waterside Hotel in Tampa, Florida.

NASA employees have been invited to attend the Welcome Reception on October 27, 2016. The Southern Regional Education Board, a nonprofit organization under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and the University of South Florida, are holding a reception at 7:00 p.m. Approximately 1,000 people have been invited, including U.S. Government agencies, state and local government officials, industry representatives, academia, and the public. The approximate cost per person is \$35.00.

I find that this event meets the requirements of a widely attended gathering as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g). I find that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event to which an invitation has been extended because it will further Agency programs or operations. Attendance at the events will allow NASA attendees to exchange information on NASA's education programs with interested representatives of significant communities.

Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the sponsors, including NASA employees in a non-career position who are required to sign the ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490, may accept an invitation for free attendance for themselves to attend the Compact for Faculty Diversity Institute on Teaching and Mentoring Conference. However, NASA employees, whose duties may substantially affect the Southern Regional Education Board or the University of South Florida, 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 their local ethics counselor.

Kathleen T. Spear

for Adam F. Greenstone