

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**Headquarters**

Washington, DC 20546-0001



April 15, 2014

**General Law Practice Group**

Reply to Attn of:

**TO:** Distribution

**FROM:** Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

**SUBJECT:** Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at a Science Lecture and Reception Sponsored by the Carnegie Institution for Science on April 22, 2014

On April 22, 2014, the Carnegie Institution for Science, a not-for-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code, will host a science lecture and reception. The event will be held in the Carnegies Institution's historic headquarters building, at 1530 P Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., at 6:45 PM. The speaker for this event will be Dr. Maria T. Zuber, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences.

Approximately 200 people were invited to attend. Attendees will include Scientists, Congressmen and staff, state and local officials, academia, industry representatives, NASA personnel and personnel from other Federal Agencies, members of the public, media and contractors. The estimated cost of the reception, including all food and beverages, is around \$50.00 per person. I find that the event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(2). I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event because it will further Agency programs or operations. Attendance at the event will allow NASA attendees to exchange information on NASA's programs and policies. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the sponsor, including NASA employees in non-career positions who are required to sign the ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490, may accept an invitation for themselves and an invited guest for free attendance to the event.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the event sponsor, 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam F. Greenstone".

Adam F. Greenstone