



December 10, 2003

TO: Distribution

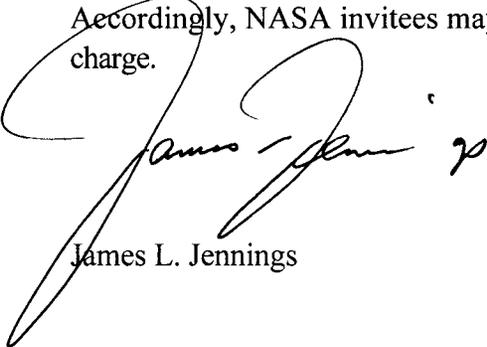
FROM: ADI/Associate Deputy Administrator for Institutions and Asset Management

SUBJECT: Blanket Determination Regarding Attendance at the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Goddard Memorial Dinner in Washington, DC, on March 19, 2004

The National Space Club will hold its 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Goddard Memorial Dinner on March 19, 2004, at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, DC. It has been determined to be in the best interest of the Government for those NASA employees who are invited to this event to attend in their official capacities and as representatives of NASA.

This event will be a widely attended gathering of approximately 1,600 persons, many of whom are involved in NASA projects, and with whom NASA personnel will be involved in the future. The National Space Club is a nontechnical and nonprofit organization composed of representatives of industry, Government, educational institutions, and private individuals. Annually, the National Space Club sponsors the Goddard Memorial Dinner honoring the memory of leading American space pioneer Dr. Robert H. Goddard. The main purpose of the Goddard Dinner is to present, in addition to other awards and fellowships, the Goddard Trophy, which is given "for great achievement in advancing space flight programs contributing to United States leadership in astronautics." In light of NASA's significant interest in the advancement and application of space flight and related technologies, and the role of the National Space Club in that area, I conclude that NASA's interest in its employees attending this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may, or may appear to, improperly influence any NASA personnel in the performance of their official duties. NASA employees may also accept invitations from the National Space Club for accompanying spouses or guests.

Accordingly, NASA invitees may participate in the Goddard Memorial Dinner without charge.

  
James L. Jennings