

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Ames Research Center
Moffett Field, CA 94035-1000



August 10, 2004

Reply to Attn of: DL:200-12

TO: Distribution
FROM: DL/Chief Counsel
SUBJECT: Blanket Determination Regarding Attendance at the 2nd International Planetary Probe Workshop

On August 23-26, 2004, NASA Ames Research Center will host and co-sponsor the 2nd International Planetary Probe Workshop (the "Workshop"). Following the first such workshop held in Lisbon, Portugal in October 2003, the purpose of this Workshop is to continue to unite the community of planetary scientists, spacecraft engineers and mission designers and planners, whose expertise, experience and interests are in the areas of entry probe trajectory and attitude determination, and the aerodynamics/ aerothermodynamics of planetary entry vehicles.

The Workshop is also being sponsored by Langley Research Center, Marshall Space Flight Center, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Lockheed Martin, Applied Research Associates, Inc., Boeing Satellite Systems, Inc., Eloret Corp., University of Idaho, Idaho Space Grant, San Jose State University, the University Affiliated Research Center, Ball Aerospace and the European Space Agency/ESTEC.

Attendance at the Workshop is estimated to be 100 to 125 people, including students. As of July 20, 2004, approximately 90 people are registered to attend. Of the registered attendees, approximately 35 people are identified as NASA personnel, approximately 30 of who are listed as NASA Ames Research Center personnel. Attendees will pay a \$275 registration fee (\$75 for students), which entitles them to attend the Workshop and related activities. The activities include a contractor - sponsored banquet for attendees and their spouses, having an estimated cost of \$50 per person. Attendees also will receive Workshop - related memorabilia (such as event pins and stickers) of nominal value. The Workshop sponsors estimate that the total value that will be received by an attendee and his or her spouse is approximately \$365.

Because the Workshop supports a core NASA objective, attendance by NASA personnel is in the interests of the Government. In accordance with 5 C.F.R. §2635.204(g), and 14 C.F.R. §1207.103, Designation of Responsible Officials, I conclude that attendance at the Workshop by NASA personnel, and attendance at the banquet by NASA personnel and their spouses, is a customary and necessary part of the performance of their duties, and that the interests of NASA in having its employees attend this Workshop outweigh any concern that attendance may, or may appear to, improperly influence those employees in the performance of their official duties. Accordingly, NASA personnel may participate in and attend the Workshop and accept Workshop memorabilia, and NASA personnel and their spouses may attend the banquet.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sally O. Mauldin".
Sally O. Mauldin