



NASA Named Best Place to Work in Government

This morning, our Deputy Administrator Lori Garver accepted an award from the Partnership for Public Service, a nonprofit, non-partisan organization, ranking NASA as the best place to work in the federal government. Those of us who work every day to maintain America's leadership in space have always known that NASA is the best place to work – on or off the planet. Under President Obama's leadership, NASA has embarked on a new era of exploration with ambitious missions back around the Moon, to an asteroid and on to Mars. NASA's employees are committed to that vision, and are helping write the next chapter in our nation's space exploration history. I am honored and proud to lead NASA -- where your innovation is building a bright future, and we continue to reach for great heights together on behalf of our nation.

The rankings are based on responses from nearly 700,000 federal workers. The Best Places to Work rankings are based on data from the Office of Personnel Management's annual Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey conducted from April through June 2012 and additional survey data from nine agencies plus the Intelligence Community. I have always felt that the NASA workforce with your "can do" attitude has made this agency one of the best places to work in government. I thank you for sharing your experience with OPM and validating my gut feeling that the NASA Family is the most dedicated and passionate workforce around.

Those of us who work at NASA know what incredible jobs we have. We help our nation retain its world leadership in space exploration, launch cutting-edge science and human exploration missions, and develop the capabilities for tomorrow's advancements. The major changes in our programs and strategic direction the last couple years have not dampened your enthusiasm or the satisfaction you get from your jobs. As NASA employees, we're challenged to carry out missions that benefit all of humanity, and we contribute to the economic vitality of the United States. What job could be better than that?

In addition to our overall ranking, several NASA centers have once again been ranked well in the component part of the survey. Stennis Space Center employees have again put the center at the top of the list. Congratulations to everyone at Stennis, and thank you for showing your NASA pride.

We still have a lot of work to do, and big missions to accomplish. We've just announced our plans to send astronauts to the International Space Station for a full year and a new rover to Mars. We have science missions throughout our solar system, and constantly are working to understand our home planet and improve life here. We need all of you -- whether you're an astrophysicist or an administrative professional -- to accomplish our vision. Every single person here at NASA helps us reach for new heights and reveal the unknown. What you do is important, and NASA is a great place to work -- and we have the world's greatest space program -- because of what you do, each and every day. Thank you!

Charlie B.