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WOMEN AT WORK IN NASA



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This brochure, prepared by the Federal Women's Program Office of the NASA Office of Equal Opportunity Programs, illustrates the diverse occupations of women throughout the agency. Women employees, working in all disciplines, have made significant contributions to aeronautical and space accomplishments.

Harriett G. Jenkins

Harriett G. Jenkins
Director
Office of Equal
Opportunity
Programs



NASA
National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

WOMEN AT WORK IN NASA

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Astronaut Candidates . . . These six Mission Specialist/Astronaut candidates are the first women to be named by NASA as astronaut candidates. They are, left to right, Margaret R. (Rhea) Seddon, Anna L. Fisher, Judith A. Resnik, Shannon W. Lucid, Sally K. Ride and Kathryn D. Sullivan.

WOMEN AT WORK IN NASA

Introduction

The potential and capabilities of women are being recognized at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Women hold positions at every level of the federal salary structure in our nation's aeronautics and space programs. The pay ranges from \$6,219 per year to the statutory limit of \$47,500.

The outlook for the future of women in NASA is excellent. They will play a continually increasing role of responsibility in determining the policies under which the United States will carry out future space exploration and aeronautical research and in developing the plans for executing the programs.

This bright future for women has been brought about, in large part, by the Federal Women's Program and the Federal Women's Program Managers at the 11 NASA facilities in the United States.

The Federal Women's Program has created the framework for achieving equal opportunity without regard to sex; for eliminating attitudes, customs and habits which have denied women some occupations and high level positions; and for encouraging qualified women to compete in examinations and participate in training programs which lead to advancement.

The Federal Women's Program at NASA is under the Director for Equal Opportunity Programs, Washington, DC.

A major step is being accomplished through the Upward Mobility Program which offers opportunities to those with limited career potential, including positions to "bridge" the gap between

clerical and professional occupations. It also provides opportunities for women to participate in training courses to prepare for greater responsibilities.

Positions held by NASA employees, without regard to sex, fall into four major categories: Technical Support, Clerical and Nonprofessional Administrative, Professional Administrative, and Professional Scientific and Engineering.

The near future in space also will answer the question stated by many persons for many years: "When will women fly aboard a spacecraft?" The answer: "In the 1980s." NASA has selected six female Mission Specialists among the 35 astronaut candidates to train for Space Shuttle Flight Missions whereby they will conduct scientific and technical experiments in space for up to 30 days. The Space Shuttle will be operational in the 1980s.

Women's role in NASA today is challenging and interesting. The future role will be exciting, inspiring and demanding.

I. Technical Support

Positions include scientific and engineering aids, technicians, drafting, photography, illustrating, salaried shop superintendents, quality assurance specialists, production planning and inspecting positions.

- 1 Ruth M. Bailey, Lithograph Helper, runs a 2650 printing press, works in the bindery in support of printing operations.
- 2 Edith Taylor, an accounting technician in the Resources and Financial Management Office, performs duties associated with the receipt, verification, control and processing of funds allocated to the NASA Center.
- 3 Brenda Willis is a Safety Specialist in the Safety, R&QA & Protective Services Directorate. She works both manned and unmanned launch activities.
- 4 Dorothy Davenport, Senior Computer Operator in the Computer Operations Branch at a NASA Center.

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II. Clerical and Nonprofessional Administrative

Positions include secretarial, specialized and general clerical and administrative specialist positions, which require clerical training and experience or specialized non-professional experience in supply, fiscal, procurement and related activities.

- 1 Secretary Kathleen Patrick works for the Office of General Counsel for Patent Matters. She is also Chairperson of the NASA Secretaries Advisory Committee where she developed a comprehensive package of training programs for secretaries.
- 2 Ruby J. Pelton is a Secretary in the Real Estate Management Branch and is active in the NASA Employees' Club.
- 3 Loretta Hereford is a clerk typist in the Engineering Analysis Division, Structures and Propulsion Lab at a NASA Center.
- 4 Annette H. Vaughn is a procurement clerk in the Shuttle Division, Procurement Office at a NASA Center.
- 5 Jackie Counts is a Secretary in the Community Affairs Branch, Office of External Relations.



III. Professional Administrative

Positions include management positions in research and development administration in such activities as financial management, contracting, personnel, security, administration, law and public affairs for which a college degree or the equivalent and specialized training and experience are required.

- 1 Dr. Carolyn Huntoon is the Deputy for Personnel Development in the Astronaut Office at a NASA Center.
- 2 Contract Specialist Ruth Jones is responsible for handling a variety of complex procurements including architect and engineering and research and development contracts.
- 3 Bettie L. White, Assistant Federal Women's Program Coordinator at a NASA Center, organizes activities for the Federal Women's Program.
- 4 Helen Kupperman is Assistant General Counsel for General Law as well as a member and former Chairperson of the Federal Women's Program Committee.

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- 5 A. Marie Coleman, Administrative Assistant, provides support to the Management Operations Branch of the Program Analysis Division.
- 6 Laura A. Shawnee, Personnel Management Specialist, provides classification, staffing and employee relations services and management advisory assistance at a NASA Center.
- 7 Annie S. Malone is a General Accounting Office Liaison Specialist responsible for advising GAO and NASA personnel on policies and procedures pertaining to GAO audits and related assignments.
- 8 Cheryl Hood, Resource Management Specialist, works with NASA Centers to review institutional resources requirements and establishes budget and operating levels.



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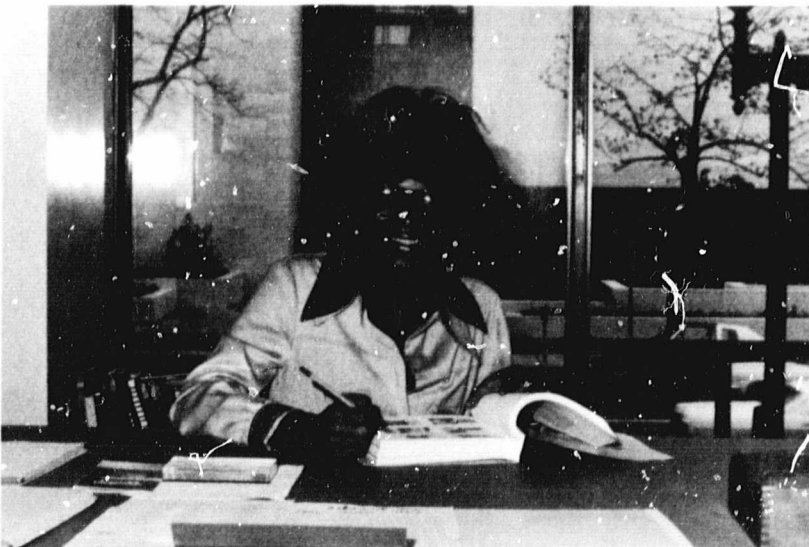


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10 Lillian R. Levy in the Division of Public Affairs, is a well known author, journalist and public speaker who has been honored by NASA as well as by three First Ladies for her achievements in communications.

11 Inellia F. Sullivan is an Administrative Officer in the Administrative Operations Office at a NASA Center.

12 Shirley Price, Handicapped Program Coordinator, provides support services for handicapped summer interns, stay-in-school, as well as recruits handicapped people for employment at her Center.

13 Zelma C. (Leo) Messer, a Financial Program Specialist, working with fund accounting and accounts payable at a NASA Center.

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14 Elma D. Green, Assistant Personnel Exchanges Officer, coordinates visits of foreign nationals to NASA installations and processes overseas travel requests for NASA personnel.

15 DeJure C. Hart, Acting Director Equal Opportunity Office, is responsible for developing, implementing, coordinating and maintaining a viable equal opportunity program



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IV. Professional Scientific and Engineering

Positions include scientists and engineers engaged in aerospace research, development, operations and related work such as development and operation of specialized facilities and equipment to support NASA's programs.

- 1 Aerospace Engineer Helen M. Neumann is Assistant Chief of the Spacecraft Technology Division at a NASA Center.
- 2 Aerospace Engineer Mary W. Jackson conducts experimental investigation of Wind Tunnel Wall Interference at a NASA Center.
- 3 Electronic Engineer Joann H. Morgan works in the Computer Systems Division at a NASA Center.
- 4 Marjorie R. Townsend, Manager, Preliminary Systems Design Group is responsible for planning, formulating, evaluating and correlating the activities of the group at a NASA Center.

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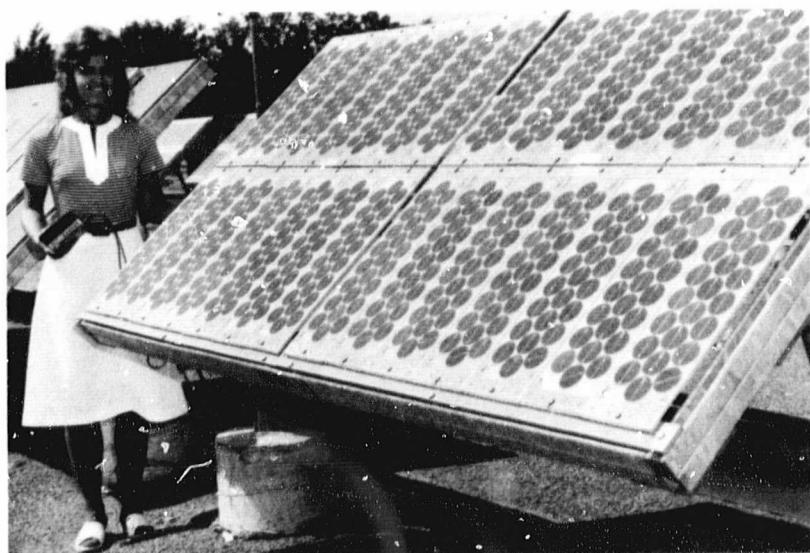
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- 5 Judith Anderson, Systems Engineer, works in the Vehicle Software Section of the Data Processing and Software Systems Division—Shuttle Engineering Directorate.
- 6 Suzanne T. Gooder, a Physicist, is making a visual inspection of an integrally regulated solar array panel. The panel is supplying electrical power to operate a 30 cm mercury ion thruster mounted in an adjacent vacuum chamber.
- 7 Barbara S. Askins, a Chemist at a NASA Center, invented a method of obtaining intensified image from developed photographic films and plates that has application not only for astronomical photographs, but also in the field of medical radiography.
- 8 Dr. Patricia M. O'Donnell is in research and development management in the Terrestrial Photovoltaic Project Office at a NASA Center.



9 Mathematician Josephine Jue, Software Systems Engineer in the Spacecraft Software Division at a NASA Center is responsible for the development and testing of Shuttle orbiter computer software.

10 Dr. Christine M. Darden, Aerospace Engineer, works on analytical methods, experimental programs, and design methods associated with supersonic transport technology.

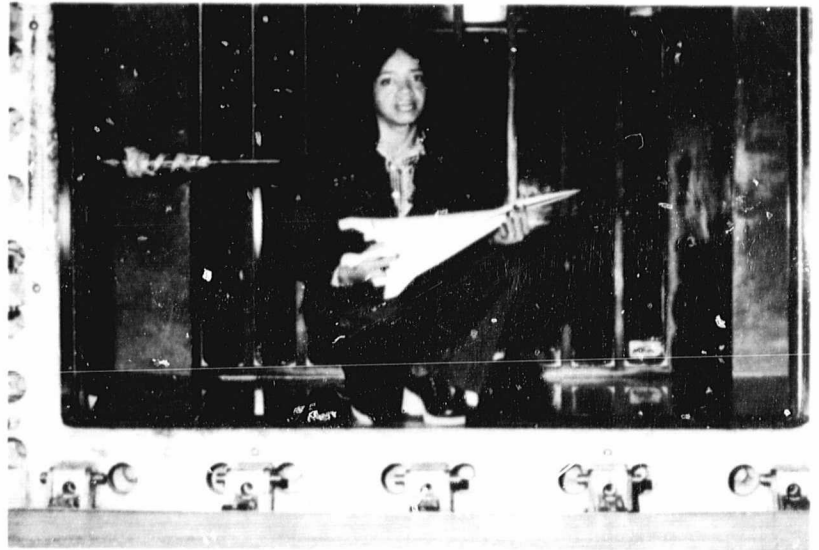
11 Valerie Thomas is a Mathematician in the Image Processing Systems Section at a NASA Center.

12 Rebecca McDonald is a Chemist who conducts research in the utilization of natural systems for water purification. She is actively involved in NASA's Vascular Aquatic Plant Program.

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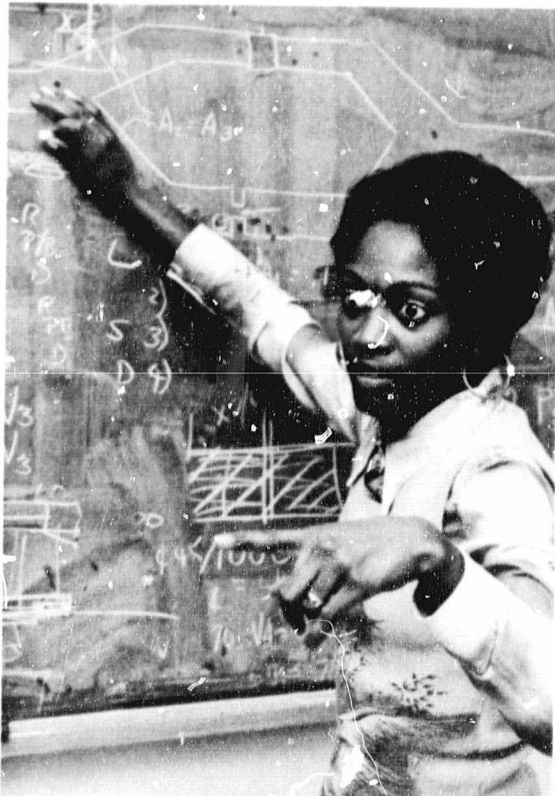


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- 13 Anngina Johnson, Aerospace Engineer, is presently involved in Shuttle Payload Operations at a NASA Center.
- 14 Sheryll A. Powers, Aerospace Engineer, provides support with local aerodynamic experiments at a NASA Center.
- 15 Doris L. Britton, Chemical Engineer in the Electrochemical Technology Section, is conducting separator tests for nickel-zinc batteries.
- 16 Sonia Latorre, Mathematician/Data Analyst. Responsible for developing and refining meaningful requirements for the real-time site acquisition in tracking data programs for the Goddard Space Flight Tracking and Data Network (GSTDN).



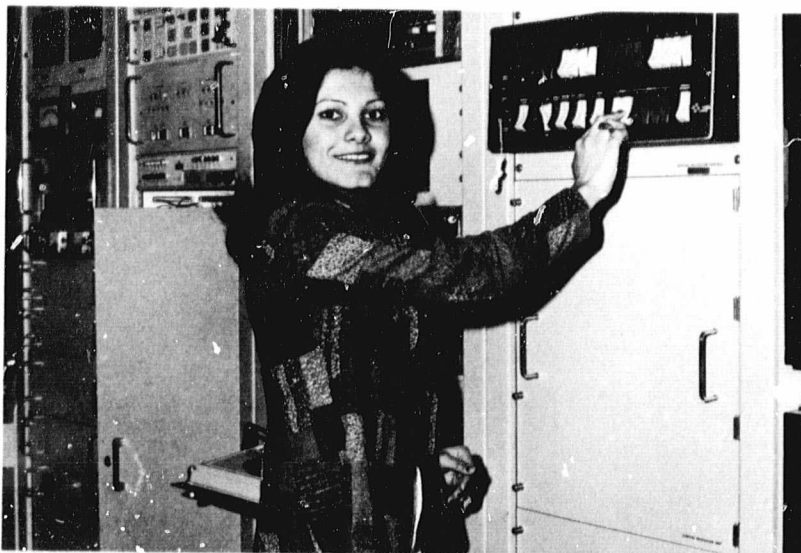
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17 Joan J. Tarr, AST, Electronics Engineer in the Quality Surveillance Office at a NASA Center.

18 Annie Easley, Mathematician, is in the Energy Directorate at a NASA Center where she performs specific mathematical and computer tasks in support of Power System Analyses.

19 Margaret E. Williams, Physical Scientist, at her desk in the Applied Science Directorate at a NASA Center.

20 Electrical Engineer Shirley A. Chevalier is a project manager in the Shuttle program at a NASA Center.

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- 21 Astronomer Winifred S. Cameron, AST Space sciences, is currently working in the National Space Science Data Center at a NASA Center.
- 22 Chemical engineer, JoAnn Charleston is in the Electrochemical Systems Section working on REDOX (Reduction Oxidation) flow cell development.
- 23 Madeline Justiniano, Mathematician Data Analyst. Responsible for all acquisition and tracking data formats for Space Shuttle support.
- 24 Helein D. Bennett, Chemist, in the Micro-chemical Analysis Section of a NASA Center is involved in non-routine analysis by x-ray methods.

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- 25 Dr. Patricia Cowings is a Research Psychologist in the Biomedical Research Division working to develop a method to alleviate motion sickness in space flight.
- 26 Carole C. Flores, an Aerospace Engineer, is a Payload Manager and does performance and analysis work for the Sounding Rocket Program at a NASA Center.
- 27 Jennifer L. Baer, Aerospace Engineer in the Engineering Directorate is responsible for the propulsion systems for the Hi Mat Program.
- 28 Elsie B. McGowan is a Systems Engineer in the Experimental Facilities Engineering Division responsible for assigned data processing systems and simulation systems such as the Jetstar Turbo Prop Program.

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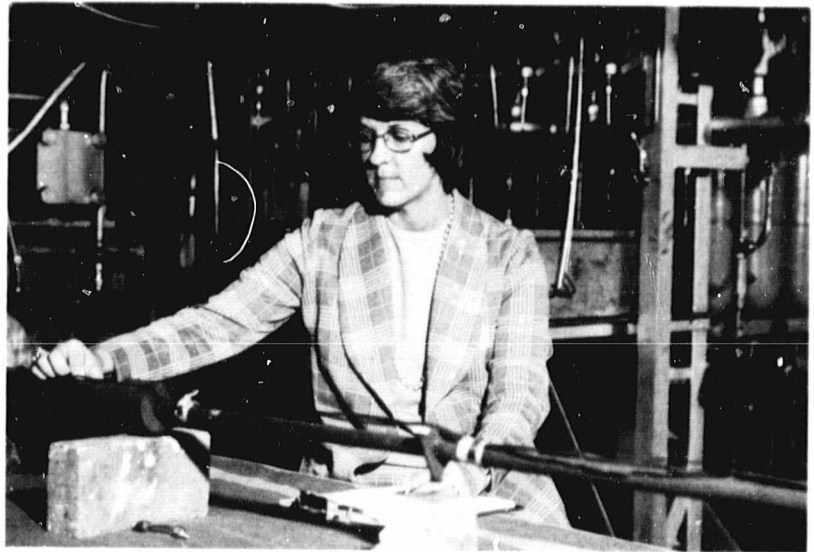


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- 29 Dr. Nancy G. Roman, Discipline Scientist for Astronomy/Relativity Programs studies phenomena occurring outside the boundaries of our solar system.
- 30 Lana M. Couch, Aerospace Engineer, is Assistant Head of the Thermal Structures Branch of the Structures and Dynamics Division at a NASA Center.
- 31 Dr. Adrienne Timothy is the Assistant Associate Administrator for Space Science. In this position she serves as the Chief Scientist for the Office of Space Science.



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Three women scientists (l to r: Mrs. Carolyn Griner, Mrs. Ann F. Whitaker and Dr. Mary Helen Johnston) complete pressure suit checkout at a NASA Center. Checking out in the suits will allow them to work in the bulky garments in the Neutral Buoyancy Simulator, a facility in which they will experience simulated weightlessness under water. From this they will learn more about what can and cannot be done under zero-gravity conditions.