



R NASA S TELLAR AWARD N OMINEES - E ARLY



Stellar award nominations are solicited from NASA, the military, and industry leaders in human and unmanned spaceflight programs for individual and team achievements. The Early Career category is for individuals up to age 33. Winners are ranked based on which accomplishments hold the greatest promise for furthering future activities in space.

Captain Michele R. Beswick of the United States Air Force (USAF) - Leadership of the launch site integration effort on the Microsatellite Technology Experiment mission, and formulation of new mission assurance processes for the infant 45th Launch Support Squadron, which resulted in her selection as the training lead for all spacecraft programs.

Mr. Shatel S. Bhakta of The Boeing Company - Exceptional level of professional dedication, technical expertise, and leadership as the Quick Disconnect Issue Resolution Team Chair in the operation and anomaly resolution of the quick disconnects for the internal and external active thermal control system of the *International Space Station (ISS)*.

Mr. Lyndon Bridgwater of NASA Johnson Space Center (JSC) - Innovative and exemplary efforts to design and develop new robotic archetypes, enabling more effective human-robotic teams and providing viable options for complex exploration missions.

Lt Jacob L. Chisolm IV of the USAF - Outstanding leadership and exceptional dedication as the Delta II Flight Mission Lead supporting NRO operations, with a direct impact to war fighting operations and the success against the Global War on Terror.

Capt Brian M. Clifford of the USAF - Exceptional contributions as the Flight Commander for the first two Vandenberg AFB Delta IV Missions, successfully placing National Reconnaissance Office and Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP) payloads in orbit in direct support of the Global War on Terror.

Mr. Darby Cooper of The Boeing Company - Outstanding contributions to the Space Shuttle program through leadership during the development of debris analysis tools and processes to ensure safety of flight.

Mr. Robert Crouch of Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne - Dedication and leadership in supporting safe flight of the Space Shuttle.

Mr. Joel R. Henry of ARES Corporation - Significant contributions to the development of the *ISS* probabilistic risk assessment with a high level of competency and dedication.

Mr. Joshua B. Hopkins of Lockheed Martin Space Systems Co. - Development of safe trajectories enabling Atlas V to carry commercial passengers, and authoring the *International Reference Guide to Space Launch Systems*, which has become the industry standard reference on launch vehicles.

Mr. Keith Illg of Science Applications International Corporation

- Exceptional problem solving associated with the orbiter mechanical systems to ensure the safety of flight crews on STS-121 and STS-115.

Mr. Jeremy B. Jacobs of NASA JSC - Significant contributions to human spaceflight as the NASA subsystem engineer for materials and processes for the Space Shuttle orbiter.

1st Lt. Stacey N. Marzheuser of the USAF - Exceptional contributions to the launch of the first two Delta IV missions from Vandenberg AFB, successfully placing NRO and DMSP satellites into orbit in direct support of the Global War on Terror.

Mr. Peter L. McCloud of The Boeing Company - Outstanding contributions to preflight environmental control and life support system mission verification analysis, particularly in the area of improving thermal analysis techniques.

Mr. Christopher Mickey McElroy of Hamilton Sundstrand - Outstanding performance and leadership as both the lead for the EVA Logistics Group and as an EVA hardware integrator.

Mr. Michael McLennan of ATK Launch Systems - Significant contributions to the safety, quality, and reliability of the T-97 Solid Propellant Horizontal Test Facility utilized for the Space Shuttle Reusable Solid Rocket Motor full-scale full duration static test program.

Mr. Munir A. Merchant of Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne

- Performance at a level equivalent to engineers with many more years of experience, a high level of accomplishments to date, and a positive attitude.

Ms. Julie Nicaud of The Boeing Company - Outstanding leadership in the development of critical thermal protection system damage models used for orbiter flight support.

Mr. Paul Nielsen of ARES Corporation - Exceptional professional dedication and technical expertise in continuing efforts to improve the flight safety of payloads.

Mr. Christopher D. Norman of Lockheed Martin Space Systems Co.

- Development of genetic algorithms for autonomous navigation, and testing of a reactor to develop oxygen from microwaving lunar regolith for in-situ resource utilization.

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Mr. Randall R. Patterson of Lockheed Martin Space Systems Co. - Development of an innovative beacon system for lunar rover navigation that uses a dual mode of radio frequencies and strobing flashes to solve the localization problem.

Mr. Matthew P. Scudder of The Boeing Company - Significant knowledge and expertise resulting in recognition by the *ISS* program as the *ISS* expert in numerous program areas, including plasma contactor units, remote power control modules, electrical power system orbital replaceable unit firmware, and NASA's Java mission evaluation workstation system data gathering and display software.

Mr. Nacer B. Thomas of Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne

- Outstanding contributions to the process improvements that enabled the RS-68 rocket engine to be consistently delivered with only one hot-fire acceptance test.

Dr. Winston B. Wang of The Boeing Company - Outstanding efforts in tools and methodology for analyzing debris trajectories and corresponding damage probabilities during shuttle ascent.

Ms. Dana J. Weigel of NASA JSC - A history of strong technical ability and leadership resulting in her selection as a flight director in 2005, where she immediately began leading Mission Control in critical activities.

Mr. David T. Westheimer of NASA JSC - Exceptional level of technical achievements and leadership in developing and advancing technologies for active thermal control systems for exploration missions.

Mr. David R. York of The Boeing Company - Outstanding contributions in resolving critical technical issues as a result of his expertise in the area of large flexible body structural dynamics, and specifically for developing a tool currently used to calculate dynamic transient loads to help ensure the safety of the *ISS* crew.

1st Lt. Brent D. Ziarnick of the USAF - Innovative leadership, intellectual rigor, operations excellence, and tactical innovation as a key leader in the United States space program. ☒

*Perot Systems and our new associates from QSS congratulate
2007 National Space Trophy Award winner
Eugene F. "Gene" Kranz
and all 2007 Stellar Award winners for
their contributions to space exploration.*

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