

The Center Awards and Recognition Program has a new look . . .

During the past year, the Executive Resources, Awards and Recognition Council (ERARC) and Center Leadership Council (CLC) reviewed Langley's Awards Program to determine whether the program could be more clearly linked to not only the Center's mission and goals but to the Agency award program as well. Also, they wanted to reduce duplicative awards and defer to Agency awards whenever possible. The large number of award categories seemed to have caused some confusion among employees with duplicative recognition of their contributions using both Center and Agency awards.

This effort to streamline the Center's recognition and awards program and align it with the Agency's awards program resulted in a few awards being discontinued and other awards being changed. For example, it was found that employees' group contributions were being recognized via both Center Team Awards and Agency Group Achievement Awards. It made more sense to only use the Agency group awards to recognize our employees for their outstanding group contributions. The same is true for the Team Excellence Award. It was duplicative and no longer being used at the Center. In addition, the Center has been using the Agency public service honor awards (i.e., Distinguished Public Service Award and Exceptional Public Service Award) rather than the LaRC Public Service Award to recognize non-NASA individuals. Also, because there are Agency awards that recognize technology transfer efforts, such as the NASA Space Act Awards and the Agency technology honor award, the decision was made to eliminate the Center's Richard T. Whitcomb and Paul F. Holloway Technology Transfer Awards.

There are several Center awards (i.e., H.J.E. Reid Award, the Technician and Administrative Professional of the Year Awards, the quarterly safety and environmental awards, and LaRC Diversity Achievement Award) that were changed from monetary to non-monetary awards. This change better aligns the Center awards with similar Agency awards that are non-monetary.

A new honorary award, the Center Technical Excellence Recognition Award, was also established by the ERARC to recognize the outstanding achievement of an individual or group for an endeavor that has set technical standards of excellence at NASA. The ERARC selects the individuals for this award and recipients will receive a framed certificate at the Center's annual honor awards ceremony. Technical Excellence is defined to be across all mission support, project, and line organizations at the center.

These Center award changes will take effect October 1, 2011. The list below provides the current list of Agency awards and the revised Center awards. The Office of Human Capital Management (OHCM) has updated its web site to include all of the Agency and Center awards. Links are available for each award which will provide a quick description and overview. Please go to <http://ohcm.larc.nasa.gov/benefits/awards/> for more detailed award information.

Agency Awards

NASA Quality Safety Achievement Recognition

Award (QASAR) (Monetary)

NASA Acquisition Improvement Awards (Monetary)

NASA Financial Management Awards (Monetary)

NASA Small Business Advocates Awards (Monetary)

NASA Space Act Awards (Monetary)

--Patents/Software Release/Technical Briefs

--Invention of the Year

--Software of the Year

NASA Agency Honor Awards (Non-monetary):

- Distinguished Service Medal
- Distinguished Public Service Medal

- Outstanding Leadership Medal
- Exceptional Achievement Medal
- Exceptional Service Medal
- Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal
- Exceptional Engineering Achievement Medal
- Equal Employment Opportunity Medal
- Exceptional Technology Achievement Medal
- Exceptional Administrative Achievement Medal
- Exceptional Bravery Medal
- Exceptional Public Service Medal
- Group Achievement Award
- Public Service Group Achievement Award
- Certificate of Appreciation

NASA ARMD Associate Administrator Awards (Non-monetary)

NASA Blue Marble Awards (Non-monetary)

NASA George M. Low Award (Non-monetary)

NASA Chief Information Officer IT Summit Awards (Non-monetary)

NASA Space Flight Awareness Awards (Snoopy Award) (Non-monetary)

NASA Systems Engineering Technical Excellence Award (Non-monetary)

LaRC Awards

Annual Performance Award (Monetary)

On-The –Spot (Monetary)

Quality Step Increase (Monetary)

Superior Accomplishment Award (Monetary)

Time-Off Award

Letter/Certificate of Appreciation (Non-monetary)

Administrative Professional of the Year (Non-monetary)

Center Technical Excellence Recognition Award (Non-monetary)

Director’s Award (Non-monetary)

Director’s Honorary Recognition Award (Non-monetary)

Employee Suggestion Program (Monetary)

H.J.E. Reid Award (Non-monetary)

LaRC Diversity Achievement Award (Non-monetary)

LaRC Peer Award (Non-monetary)

LaRC Length of Service Awards (Non-monetary)

Retirement Plaques (Non-monetary)

Outstanding Volunteer Award (Non-monetary)

Qtr Facility Coordinator Award (Non-monetary)

Qtr Facility Safety Head Award (Non-monetary)

Qtr Environmental Stewardship Award (Non-monetary)

Technician of the Year Award (Non-monetary)