Premiere American Women in Aerospace
Consider a Career in
Aerospace
NASA
NETWORK ENGINEER
BARA LOPEZ
MECHANICAL ENGINEER
APRILLE ERICSSON-JACKSON
MICROBIOLOGIST
DENETIA BELL ROBINSON
AVIATION ANTIQUE RESTORATION
JAN JOHNSON
AEROSPACE ENGINEER
NANCY R. HALL
TAHANI MIER
Young Women of NASA Advisory Council and Women of NASA

"Consider a Career in Aerospace"

Things to Do On-Line . . . continued

- Before participating in chats, ask your students to make three lists of what they enjoy doing (1) at school (e.g., mathematics, art, science), (2) at work, and (3) during their leisure time. These lists will reflect each student's talents and interests and should be helpful to them as they develop a plan to meet their educational and career goals and objectives. The biographies at *http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/women/WCIN.html* may help your students identify careers that interest them. They can then select an upcoming chat with a woman of NASA who is working in mathematics, science, engineering, or another exciting aerospace career field. Students could also identify additional potential career fields in which their special skills and talents could be utilized. Your students should develop thoughtful questions related to education and career planning to ask during the chat. Following the chat, ask your students to discuss what they have learned and how it will effect their career planning.

- Another way you might use a chat is to have each student or a group of students research the background of a profiled woman before a scheduled chat. Again, they would prepare appropriate questions to ask and then pose their questions during the chat. The students will also have an opportunity to interact with other students on-line in addition to the featured woman. After participating in the chat, have your students reconvene and summarize the answers they were given by the profiled woman. Were they satisfied with the answers? If not, how could your students have rephrased their questions? Was the chat forum the best means of having their questions answered?

Archived Chats

- There may be times when a real-time chat is inconvenient for you to use with your students. Archived chats are available for your use after they have occurred and have the added benefit of being in a text format. Archived chats allow you to review the topics covered and the questions asked before you discuss them with your students. For example, students could research the woman featured in a chat and prepare a list of appropriate questions. After seeing the archived chat, students could discuss the chat and compare their questions to the actual questions posed.

Site Visits

- Encourage your students to visit the NASA mission patch site at *http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/pao/History/mission_patches.html* to view some mission patches. Students can then research NASA missions—past, current, and future—by reading through "Women of NASA" profiles (*http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/women/intro.html*) and other NASA on-line resources such as *http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/pao/History/humansp.html* to generate ideas about the key elements that are represented on each patch. Ask small groups of students to choose a mission that is of special interest to them and define its objectives. They then should identify a mission team and design a mission patch. Who are the other "behind the scenes" integral team members not shown on the patch? For example, the women shown in the photograph below each worked behind the scenes in Mission Control at Johnson Space Center. How could you engage teachers and students in other classes (e.g., art, mathematics, technology) to develop a finished patch that could be displayed or worn?

Linda Hanna (Flight Director), Ellen Hawley (Assist Communicator), and Susan Still (Capcom)

- Encourage students to read the biographies of Tina Herrera, Jennifer Kwong, and Patricia S. Cowings, Ph.D., at *http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/women/bios* (indexed by the women's initials). Have your students list five life skills each woman uses in her career and/or personal life. Ask your students to identify the life skills these women have in common with one another. Discuss why these life skills are important. Help your students identify their own life skills. Ask them to choose one or two additional life skills that would be important for them to attain. Have them formulate a plan to meet this objective.

- Have your students explore the on-line resources listed for the "Premiere American Women in Aerospace" who are pictured on the perimeter of this poster. They can also find other sources, such as interviews with Eileen Collins, at *http://www.nga.gov/interviews/collins.htm*. Assign, or let each student choose, one or more women to research. See the "20 Questions" activity on page 3.

- Students will probably be interested in reading some of the "Young Women of NASA" biographical profiles at *http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/women/WIAC/*. See the "Future Career" writing activity on page 3.