

NASA Freezes Hiring, Executive Promotions

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (AP)—NASA needs to give hope to inner-city children by hiring more women and minorities in upper-level management jobs, the chief of the space agency said.

NASA Administrator Daniel Goldin said he's frozen all promotions and hiring for the agency's top executives while administrators find ways to bring more women and minorities on board.

But the move drew fire from the head of NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, who said there aren't many women and minorities in NASA management because few have the education and experience for the job.

Speaking to reporters, Goldin said he was "terribly frustrated" to learn that the agency's 320-member Senior Executive Service has only six members who are minorities. Almost all of those six are Equal Employment Opportunity officers charged with recruiting more women and minorities, he said.

The space agency chief said he's frozen promotions and transfers at the senior level "until we get a better feel and understanding among all of us on how we can take action, not in a vindictive sense, not in a numbers sense, but really bringing the best America has to offer into the Senior Executive Service."

Jack Lee, director of the Marshall Space Flight Center, said he disagreed with Goldin's approach.

"He could have done the same thing without the freezes," Lee

said. "I agree he should see what the agency's plan is. We already have plans for it with people in the pipeline."

Lee, who supervises a staff of 57 executives that includes three women and no minorities, said part of the problem was the lack of women and minorities with engineering and technical training. The number of women and minorities in the lower ranks at Marshall is growing, he said.

"It has been only in the last few years that emphases on science and engineering have caught on with females," Lee said. "The majority of people in our SES ranks have been with the agency and Marshall for 20 years or so. Like any corporation, you don't start off 5- and 10-year people as president of the company."

His explanation didn't satisfy Goldin, who said he wants to aggressively recruit women and minorities for NASA executive jobs.

"We can't be world-class if we don't reflect the full diversity of America," Goldin said. "Not to say we're just going to hire any minority in any job... There are brilliant minorities. There are brilliant women. It's time the system understands how robust an organization you can have when you have cultural diversity in it."

Goldin said hiring administrators who aren't white males is important to give hope to "those young children in the inner city."

"If they don't see... peers that are executives at NASA, that are astronauts, role models, they don't have hope," he said.



SOUND BARRIER—"All citizens should enjoy the fruits...provide all citizens with equality" said John W. Winters citing a poem and referring the city council to the book on equity, in hopes of removing the council's insensitivity for not supporting a sound barrier to shield Heritage Park from a planned extension of Western Boulevard. (Pictured) "The Great Wall of Raleigh" or a sound barrier off the Raleigh bottlene/440 near an affluent neighborhood. (Photo by James Giles)

Tennessee Studies Free Tuition Option To Resolve Desegregation

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Tennessee's black students could attend state-funded colleges for free and other students pay no tuition at Tennessee State University under a proposal to resolve a college desegregation case.

Attorneys for the state declined comment until they can study the friend-of-the-court brief filed Tuesday in federal court by Lewis Laska, a Nashville attorney and a TSU professor.

The free tuition option would cost the state about \$26 million, Laska estimated. He said that figure was based on the 1991 tuition and student racial breakdowns.

To defray the cost, the state could "withhold financial support for athletic programs, close white institutions or limit enrollment at white institutions," the brief said.

An alternative to that proposal would be requiring all students at Middle Tennessee State to take 12 credit hours at TSU to get an MTSU degree, he said. This would only apply to Davidson County residents.

The friend-of-the-court brief does not require action by U.S.

District Court Judge Thomas A. Wiseman, Laska said.

Other recommendations in the 108-page brief:

—TSU should have a monopoly on all public college classes offered after 5 p.m. in Davidson County and on all electronically transmitted classes in Middle Tennessee.

—TSU and other public colleges in Middle Tennessee should have identical academic calendars.

—The court should provide a better way to show how state money earmarked for enhancement at TSU works to right the wrongs of the past. Laska said enhancement at TSU is considered routine construction at other colleges.

The desegregation lawsuit began in 1968 when a TSU instructor tried to stop construction of the University of Tennessee at Nashville, saying it would encourage segregation in Nashville's state colleges.

It is required in the Constitution that at least one of the persons each elector (the people who cast the actual votes for president) votes for shall not be an inhabitant of that elector's home state.

Laska contends that the 1979 merger of TSU and the UT-Nashville reduced educational opportunities. He cites the decline in night accounting classes at TSU, from 10 in 1977 at UT-Nashville to two in 1992 at TSU.

The merger has also stunted enrollment growth at TSU, Laska says.

The state Board of Regents projects TSU enrollment of 9,892 by 1995, the brief says. That is less than the 10,950 students predicted in 1979 for TSU.

Laska said he filed the brief because he wants to set the agenda for further action in the desegregation suit.

"As a TSU faculty member, I'm deeply concerned about the agenda of the institution and dismayed that the other institutions have not made proper progress in desegregation," Laska said.

Rep. Dymally Wins Honors In Senegal

Rep. Mervyn M. Dymally (D-Calif.), chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa of the U.S. House of Representatives, has been awarded Senegal's highest honor—the Order of the Lion.

In a ceremony in the Senegalese capital, Dakar, following the annual meeting of the Organization of African Unity, President Abdou Diouf declared, "By the power invested in me, I make you, Congressman Mervyn M. Dymally, a commander of the National Order of the Lion of the Republic of Senegal."

Dymally, who was first elected to Congress in 1980, is retiring in December at the end of the current session, bringing to a close a 30-year career in public service. Before coming to Congress he was a major figure in California politics where he served in the state Senate and rose to become one of only three African-Americans to be elected lieutenant governor of a state.

In the House of Representatives, he has been the leading spokesman for an enlightened American foreign policy toward Africa. Africans have hailed him as their most effective American champion.

The Senegalese honor follows similar decorations bestowed on him by the heads of state of the Central African Republic and the Ivory Coast.

Navy Fireman On Exercises In San Diego

Navy Fireman Apprentice William R. Smith, son of William R. and Geraldine M. Smith of 2301 Firerun Court, Raleigh, is currently participating in two major maritime exercises aboard the aircraft carrier USS Kitty Hawk, homeported in San Diego.

Smith is involved in a series of joint task force exercises which include more than 60 ships and submarines, 400 aircraft and more than 40,000 personnel.

The 1986 graduate of Garner High School, Garner, joined the Navy in February in 1981.

"Tap Dance Kid" To Open

Charles Blackwell's The Tap Dance Kid will be the opening production for the North Carolina Central University Dept. of Dramatic Art, with shows scheduled October 28 to November 1 and November 4-6.

Curtain times are 8:15 p.m. Monday thru Saturday and at 3:15 p.m. Sunday at the University Theatre in NCCU's Farrison-Newton Communications Building. Auditions are scheduled at 7 p.m. August 31 and September 1 at the University

Theatre.

The department will host a high school drama competition sponsored by the North Carolina Theatre Conference November 21 and 22.

Femi Euba's The Gulf will be presented February 24-28. George Wolfe's The Colored Museum will be performed March 31-April 4. Auditions for the two second semester productions are January 13 and 14.



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