BIGELOW SELECTED FOR PENN STATE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR WOMEN

Dr. Catherine A. Bigelow, a research engineer at NASA's Langley Research Center, has been accepted for the Management Program for Women at Pennsylvania State University.

The management program is appropriate for women with recently acquired management responsibilities who must learn to supervise and motivate other professionals. New managers may have been contributing technical skills for many years and recently have chosen to enter management.

In her position in the Fatigue and Fracture Branch, Bigelow manages five employees in the analyzing and testing of composite materials, particularly in areas of computational fracture mechanics and metal matrix composites. In addition, she monitors two research grants and one large research contract in computational fracture mechanics.

Bigelow says that she is very interested in learning more about management skills and techniques. "I feel that the opportunities for women in technical management within
NASA are unlimited and exciting," she explained. "The Penn State program will be an excellent way to gain a basic grounding in a variety of areas of management. The skill that I will learn in a program of this nature will be very beneficial, not only to me personally, but also to my employing organization."

Bigelow has worked in the Materials Division at Langley since January 1979 and has specialized in finite element analysis and metal matrix composites. The author or co-author of 25 technical papers, she has received a NASA Tech Brief Award and a NASA Award of Recognition for her research and testing of composite materials.

A native of Vermont, Bigelow received a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from the University of Vermont in June 1975. She earned master of science and doctorate degrees in civil engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology in June 1977 and December 1984, respectively.

Bigelow lives in Grafton, Va.