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Space Shuttle Columbia Tragedy Remembered in Live Online Chat

NASA's Scott Hubbard to Discuss Accident on Anniversary of Crash

De Pere, Wis. – 01/19/05 – On the two-year anniversary of the Space Shuttle Columbia accident, Scott Hubbard, director of NASA Ames Research Center, will answer questions about the tragedy in a live online chat. The event, sponsored by Space Explorers, Inc., is scheduled from 1:00-2:15 p.m. CST on Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2005. Teachers, students, and the general public are encouraged to submit questions prior to or during the designated chat time by visiting <http://www.space-explorers.com/internal/mercurious/index.asp?room=hubbard2005>.

Hubbard is currently the director of NASA Ames Research Center, with management responsibility for a workforce of approximately 4,000 people. In 2003, he served full time as the sole NASA representative on the Columbia Accident Investigation Board (CAIB). He directed impact-testing analysis that established the definitive physical cause of the loss of the Columbia.

Prior to his tenure as Center Director at NASA Ames, Hubbard was deputy director for research. In 2000, he served as the first Mars program director and restructured the entire Mars program. Other key positions include Ames associate director for astrobiology and space research, the first director of NASA's Astrobiology Institute, and NASA's mission manager for Lunar Prospector. He is also credited with conceiving the Mars Pathfinder mission.

Space Explorers, Inc. strives to inspire a new generation of explorers to pursue careers in science, math, and technology through its Internet-based programs and activities. Space Explorers offers standards-based curricula, mission simulations, and experiments that incorporate actual NASA data. More than 4,200 teachers across the United States are currently registered to use Space Explorers programming in their classrooms.

To learn more about this and other upcoming chat events and view archived chats, go to <http://www.space-explorers.com/internal/events/chats.html>. For additional information, please contact Hollie Miller at hollie@space-explorers.com or (920) 339-4600.

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