Foreword

A Look Ahead to the Future

The Space Shuttle, the most capable spacecraft ever flown, has accomplished its mission of completing the International Space Station (ISS) and expanding its scientific capabilities. The Shuttle has been retired and the International Space Station is now a national laboratory—opening up opportunities for researchers across the nation to conduct science onboard the ISS. Johnson Space Center is proud of the role we played in these major programs.

We at NASA Johnson Space Center are now poised to take the next bold steps in our nation's journey of human exploration of space. Our talented engineers and scientists are conducting research and developing technologies that will allow humans to explore farther reaches of our universe. New technologies and new scientific understanding remain the foundations for expanding our reach into deep space for exploration of the unknown.

This report highlights Johnson Space Center's scientific and technological research and engineering innovations. I believe this information will spark new ideas, encourage research, and inspire scientific communities from universities, industry, nonprofit organizations, and federal agencies to engage in discussions with us for future collaborations and partnerships. I encourage you to contact Dr. Kamlesh Lulla at *kamlesh.p.lulla@ nasa.gov* for opportunities to collaborate with us.

As we take these bold steps, it is my hope that we will build strong and long-term relationships with diverse research and engineering organizations that will enable us to meet the nation's goals in space exploration. I invite you to join us in our journey to the stars as we look ahead to the future.

Michael L. Coats
Center Director