



Teresa Bowman Vanhooser
BSIE Tennessee Tech
MS (Administrative Science/Project
Management) University of Alabama-
Huntsville

Teresa Vanhooser, from Johnson City, Tennessee, enrolled in industrial engineering at Tennessee Tech at a time when few women majored in engineering. After graduation, she accepted a grounds operations engineer position with NASA in Huntsville, Alabama, where she developed requirements to test out space lab missions. Teresa completed her first stint as mission manager for the Second Atmospheric Laboratory for Applications and Science Mission (ATLAS-2) in 1993. She was not only the first woman ever to serve in that position but was also the youngest. In 1997 she served as mission manager for the first Microgravity Science Laboratory on the Columbia shuttle mission and was responsible for the integration and operation of all the experiments on board the shuttle. Following this she received the NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal for exceptional achievement and leadership in the design, development, integration and successful operation of the mission.

She has also received numerous other honors and awards including the Silver Snoopy Award, NASA Certificates of Appreciation, Outstanding Performance Awards, NASA Group Achievement Awards, and Special Service Awards. Currently, Teresa serves as supervisor of the Multi-Use Payloads Group.