

The Dual Career Ladder Concept and its Application at NASA Glenn

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Based on the premise that there are 2 Scientific & Engineering (S&E) high level career paths to consider:

1. High level supervisory/managerial work

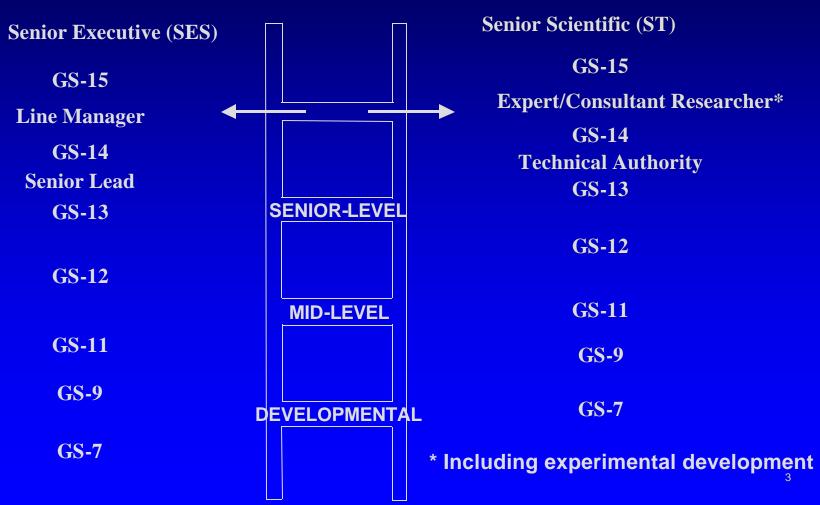
2. High level of nonsupervisory professional recognition and contribution (personal impact) work



SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS DUAL CAREER LINES OF PROGRESSION

NONSUPERVISORY

SUPERVISORY



DUAL CAREER LADDER CONCEPT

Background:

In past years, noncompetitive Dual Career Ladder (DCL) promotions to GS-14 and GS-15 involved three types of work situations:

- **1. Personal Impact**
- **2. Technical Competence**
- **3. Project Management**

OPM PERSPECTIVE ON THE DUAL CAREER LADDER PROCESS

Research and Experimental Development Work

- Purpose of research and development is to extend human knowledge and understanding...
- Creativity and originality are inherently of central importance in a research situation
- Incumbent's personal qualifications have a profound impact on the dimensions of the resulting job



- Establishes procedures and criteria for DCL promotions to grades GS-14, GS-15, and ST
- Defines three promotion situations
 - 1. Personal Impact (S&E's)
 - 2. Technical Competence
 - **3. Project Management**
- Sets policy for processing the three types of promotions



Situation 1 - Personal Impact (S&E Positions only) This situation recognizes grade value of performance that involves:

- A very high degree of technical independence
- A high degree of originality and
- A high degree of professional recognition and contribution



DUAL CAREER LADDER PROMOTION POLICY

Situation 1 - Personal Impact Promotion (S&E only)

- Based on achievements and rank of the person
- Classified using the Research Grade Evaluation Guide (RGEG) or the Equipment Development Grade Evaluation Guide (EDGEG), Part III, Experimental Development
- Processed in accordance with procedures described in Personnel Policy Statement OHR-8 and enclosures



Situation 2 - Technical Competence

This situation recognizes that personal qualities and/or performance have an impact upon the position which results in:

- The assignment and inclusion of additional duties and responsibilities over and above those that might normally be included in the job
- The additional duties and responsibilities are included as part of the position description
- Duties are evaluated and classified along with other duties and responsibilities



DUAL CAREER LADDER PROMOTION POLICY

Situation 2 - Technical Competence

- Based on work assigned to the position
- Classified using appropriate OPM classification standards or grading guides
- Announced and filled using Competitive Placement Plan (CPP) procedures



Situation 3 - Project Management

This situation recognizes that:

- Many of our GRC "project managers" meet the definition for project management engineering as described in OPM's Equipment Development Grade Evaluation Guide (EDGEG), Part II
- Growth in a project can also change the position to the extent the position warrants a higher grade
- Project management engineer positions are handled in a manner similar to Situation 2



DUAL CAREER LADDER PROMOTION POLICY

Situation 3 - Project Management (S&E only)

- Based on work assigned to the position
- Classified using the EDGEG, Part II, Project Management Engineering, GS-800
- Announced and filled using CPP procedures



PERSONAL IMPACT -DUAL CAREER LADDER PROMOTIONS

Rationale:

The OPM grading criteria found in both the RGEG and the EDGEG, Part III, Experimental Development, covers four major factors:

- I. The Research Situation, or Assignment
- **II. Supervision Received**
- **III.** Guidelines and Originality
- **IV. Qualifications and Scientific Contributions**



Factor IV - Qualifications and Scientific Contributions

- Addresses the "Personal Impact" of the incumbent
- Focuses on total qualifications, professional standing, and recognition and scientific contributions of the researcher

• Strongest factor in terms of evaluation of personal impact



PROMOTION PROCESS FOR PERSONAL IMPACT DUAL CAREER LADDER PROMOTIONS

- 1. Centerwide call for nominations from Center Director
- 2. Candidate promotion packages are prepared, received, and reviewed by Branch Chiefs (within 30 days of call letter)
- **3. Directorates schedule and conduct candidate evaluation sessions**
- 4. Directorates select top group of candidates to send to GRC Chief Scientist (within 60 days of call letter)



- 5. GRC Chief Scientist refers all candidates for assessment and ranking by a Candidate Evaluation Panel (CEP)
- 6. CEP evaluates, ranks, and provides to Center Director prioritized list of most highly recommended candidates
- 7. Center Director makes final selection of candidates to be promoted
- 8. OHR is informed of selections and proceeds to process promotions



For additional information on:

- Personal Impact DCL Promotion Evaluation Criteria, Contact: Dr. Marvin Goldstein, 3-5825
- Dual Career Ladder Promotions Personnel Policy OHR-8* Contact: H. Fran Pierce, Jr., 3-8841
 - * Available on the OHR Homepage at http://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/OHR/Ohr-policy.htm