It has been confirmed by James J. Miller, Senior GPS Technologist at NASA Headquarters, Space Operations Mission Directorate that NASA will continue to sponsor the PNT Advisory Board throughout 2009 to ensure a robust “hand-off” to the new PNT Executive Committee.

The Formal Board dates are 14th and 15th May and 5th and 6th November with the same Thursday and Friday combination for the formal meeting, and one preparatory day the Wednesday before. There has been much good work conducted by the Board over the last two years, and Dr. AJ Oria is finalizing the PNT Board Report from the 1st charter period 2007-2008.

During the coming year, there is likely to be an opportunity to add some new members to make up for some of those who have moved on to new assignments or retirement. It is also important to note that during this 2009 transition period, NASA shall strive to initiate a smooth “hand-off” to another civil agency to ensure the PNT Board work continues. To this end, the US Department of Commerce has indicated an earlier interest in sponsoring the PNT Board, and so representatives will be kept informed as these transition activities progress.

The good news is of course that the PNT Policy remains the executive guidance for all governmental entities, and the PNT Board will be an important voice for the new Deputy Administrators to hear as any proposed policy changes are considered. For example, there is now increased discussions regarding how many satellites to maintain in the core GPS constellation versus looking towards using
emerging foreign systems such as Galileo. These are just the types of issues that new government representatives will want to hear about from PNT Board subject matter experts. Finally, below are the Panels that were created during the 1st charter period, as well as some personnel changes. It is understood that some Board members and even the sponsoring agency, may change in the coming one to two years.

**Leadership Panel:**
Dr. Parkinson (Chair), Mr. Faga (Co-Chair), Mr. Hall, Gen. Lord, and Mr. Murphy

**Strategic Engagement and Communication Panel:**
Ms. Neilan (Chair), Mr. Logsdon (Co-Chair), Dr. Beutler, Mr. Huber, Mr. Kibe, Mr. McGurn, and Capt. Smith

**Future Challenges Panel:**
Mr. Trimble (Chair), Dr. Herman (Co-Chair), Capt. Burns, Ms. Ciganer, Mr. Dimmen, Prof. Enge, Gen. McCarthy, and Mr. Nishiguchi.

Our thanks are due to James Miller for kindly bringing us up to date with this news.