

## Shashi Varshney



The first time Shashi Varshney heard about NASA was while she still lived in India. It was the story of a man landing on moon in 1969. “If at that time an astrologer had told me that one day I would not only go to the United States, but would work for NASA as well; I would have declared him insane!” states Shashi, a team lead in Marshall’s payroll office. “I come from a business family where a female working for someone as an employee is completely unheard of. Even though I had earned a masters degree in sociology and a B.S.B.A in education and psychology, I never thought, in a million years, that I would work outside of the home”.

She joined her husband in the US in 1969 and admits it took her several years to become adjusted to the western culture. “I was a homemaker and raised two daughters and a son.” When her eldest daughter went off to college and the other two were in school, she thought of pursuing her own career. She enrolled at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) and earned a B.S.B.A degree in accounting in 1989. “Getting an interview and eventually a job offer to work in NASA’s Chief Financial Office (CFO) as an accountant was a ‘dream come true’.”

Shashi was one of the original team members involved in the implementation of NASA’s payroll consolidation process in 1996 when Marshall was selected as the Consolidated Payroll Office (CPO). This successful consolidation required clear definition of requirements, development of plans and well thought out testing of systems for all NASA Centers.

She was selected as team lead for NASA’s Consolidated Payroll Office in 2000. As a Team Lead, she was responsible for the agency payroll of approximately 20,000 employees. In 2004, NASA’s payroll transferred to the Department of Interior (DOI) as a part of the President’s Management Agenda. The Consolidated Payroll Office changed to the Liaison Payroll Office (LPO) where she continues to be the team lead.

During her career, she has been involved in several projects including implementing the new Time and Attendance WebTADS System, Labor Distribution and Workforce System, and the E-Payroll project. She served as a sub-finance team member on the NASA’s Shared Service Team (NSSC) and was responsible for the Liaison Payroll Office’s role in the NSSC business plan. This required close coordination with the e-Payroll office, Web TADS Office, Department of Interior (DOI), and other NASA Centers to ensure that NASA’s goals and requirements were met internally and externally.

During her career, she has earned several outstanding individual awards and group achievement awards.

“I love my job and the management that provides a positive environment to employees which enables them to utilize their full potential. I am grateful that NASA continues to offer opportunities that make a difference in our future and promotes diversity. I am very blessed to be a member of the NASA team.”