

Neal R. Pellis, Ph.D.

Dr. Neal R. Pellis was Senior Scientist in the Space Life Sciences Directorate at NASA Johnson Space Center, working with the directorate chief on strategic planning, alliances, and partnerships necessary to acquire basic and applied science and technology for exploration missions and to manage the risks to crew in space and on planetary missions. Dr. Pellis received his Ph.D. in Microbiology from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio in 1972 and was awarded a postdoctoral fellowship in Microbiology at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. He joined the NASA Johnson Space Center in October 1994, having previously been on the Faculty of Northwestern University Medical School, the University of Texas Medical School, and then the Department of Surgical Oncology Research Laboratory at the University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center. He has had adjunct appointments at the University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, and the Mabee Laboratory of Biochemical and Genetic Engineering, Rice University, Houston, TX, as well as the University of Texas Medical Branch Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Galveston, TX. He led the biotechnology cell science program at NASA from 1994 to 2003. He had 16-month assignment to NASA Headquarters as International Space Station (ISS) Program Scientist from May 2002 through August 2003. Thereafter he was Associate Director of the Biological Sciences and Applications Office working on exploration cell science until January 2005. In 2005 he was appointed Senior Scientist in space Life Sciences. In October of 2010 he joined USRA and will assume the directorship of the Division of Space Life sciences on October 18 of 2010 and retired September 30, 2016. In October of 2010 he joined USRA to assume the directorship of the Division of Space Life sciences on October 18 of 2010 and then retired September 30, 2016.