

UAA CONNECT

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE UNIVERSITY AVIATION ASSOCIATION OCTOBER 2024

ANOTHER GREAT COLLEGIATE AVIATION EDUCATION CONFERENCE IN THE BAG



– and what a great success it was. The conference was held at the Hilton in Memphis, Tennessee. Despite Hurricane Helene bearing down on the southern states, 300 collegiate aviation faculty, staff, industry supporters, and regulatory specialists filled the rooms to capacity to share their expertise.

Before the conference officially began, the UAA Board of Trustees held their annual in-person meeting, confirming the election results for the 2025 Officers and Trustees (see pages 12-14) A review of the financial management and growth of the association included UAA's increase managed scholarships for other aviation associations, doubling the research poster award monies, and increasing monetary support for faculty to attend our Aviation Policy Seminar in Washington, D.C.

The expanded three days of keynote speakers did not disappoint. Grant Colby, Director, Ground Safety at Piedmont Airlines, opened the first day. Corey Stephens, FAA – Office of Accident Investigation and Prevention followed. Thursday brought in Rick Leach, President & CEO of GoJet, who spent the entire day interacting with educators and students alike. And Friday's powerhouse speaker was Shanetta Griffin, Associate Administrator of Airports for the FAA. The speakers set the tone for an excellent and informative conference.

Collegiate aviation educators continued the Wednesday event with tough choices of filling the meeting rooms to participate with world-class speakers for UAA Safety Infoshare and other workshops, or load the bus for this year's often-requested EduTour. Memphis is the home to three aviation high schools. The bus, filled to capacity and with cars in tow, drove across town to three distinctly different education models for aviation

programs; Collierville High School, Christian Brothers High School, and East High. Educators toured three facilities' flight, maintenance, and drone programs. It was an impressive amount of energy, money and support provided to these youths that are the future of aviation.



Research presentations, and participation in leadership sessions and workshops were well received. Each presenter offered valuable and unique perspectives on aviation education. More than 40 education sessions gave thorough and captivating talks on issues concerning mental health, diversity and equity, aviation maintenance, and training performance. Two sessions of professional paper presentations and a research roundtable, a plethora of UAA committees met throughout the conference to address a broad range of issues and concerns affecting collegiate aviation.



Networking events were peppered throughout the conference to aide attendees in making every minute of the conference productive. The three days were non-stop from a casual Students Lunch with Professionals to the glam Awards of Excellence. See you next year the 78th Annual Collegiate Aviation Education Conference & Expo in sunny Costa Mesa/ Orange County, California.

KEYNOTES AND CONVERSATIONS: Shaping the Future of Aviation Safety and Education



The 2024 UAA Collegiate Aviation Conference welcomed an outstanding lineup of keynote speakers who captivated attendees with their expertise, vision, and deep commitment to aviation safety.

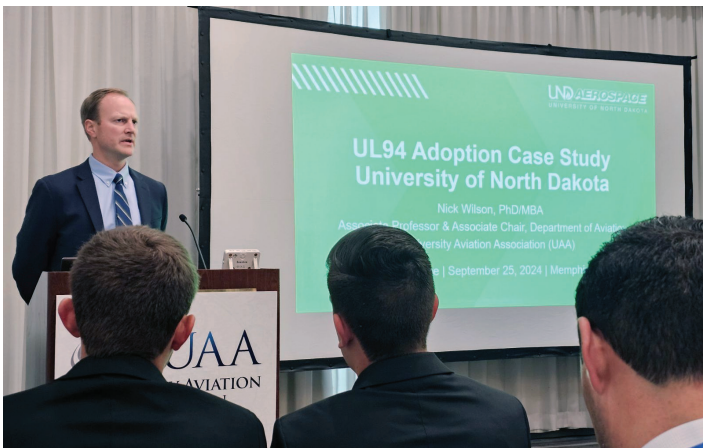
Grant Colby, Director, Ground Safety at Piedmont Airlines, opened the first day with an overview of how an effective safety culture must be established for any aerospace related entity. He discussed a step-by-step process of identifying the critical factors in a safety culture and how to ensure the robust engagement of all stakeholders within a company. In addition to Grant, we also had an opportunity to hear from Corey Stephens, FAA – Office of Accident Investigation and Prevention, updating us on General Aviation safety initiatives and the state of the industry from a safety perspective. We also had an opportunity to hear from Dr. Nick Wilson, University of North Dakota Associate Chair, on their experience with using UL95.

Rick Leach, CEO of GoJet Airlines, engaged in a dynamic talkback session with UAA President Chaminda Prelis, where they explored the future of commercial aviation. In this organic discussion, Leach and Prelis delved into the evolving challenges and opportunities facing the industry, focusing

on how collegiate aviation programs can best prepare students for the demands of the future. Their conversation provided invaluable insights into the skills and knowledge future aviation professionals will need, offering attendees actionable strategies to ensure their programs remain at the forefront of industry developments.

Shannetta Griffin, FAA Associate Administrator for Airports, closed the keynote series with her presentation, Flight Path: Navigating the Future of Airports. Griffin’s address focused on the critical role airports will play in shaping the future of aviation safety. She explored topics such as infrastructure modernization, sustainability, and operational efficiency, providing attendees with a forward-looking view on how airports must evolve to meet future demands. Her insightful presentation tied the keynote series together, offering a comprehensive approach to ensuring safety remains a priority across the entire aviation industry.

Chaminda Prelis, Ph.D.
 President, University Aviation Association

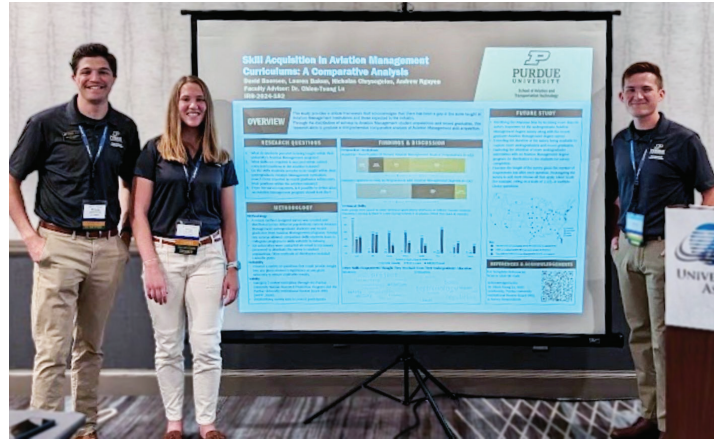














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STUDENT RESEARCH POSTER WINNERS



The research poster competition provided a valuable opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to present their research findings to a wider audience at the conference. Abstracts had to be concise, limited to 250 words or less, to effectively convey the key points of each study. Attendees were encouraged to vote for their favorite posters throughout the event, and the winners were announced at the closing reception of the 2024 UAA Collegiate Aviation Education Conference and Expo held at the Hilton Memphis in Memphis, Tennessee. The competition served as a platform for students to receive feedback on their work, network with peers and professionals in the field, and potentially gain recognition for their contributions to aviation research.

GRADUATE RESEARCH CATEGORY

Predicting Wildlife Strike Patterns for Urban Air Mobility
Authors: Taeyun Kim & Auguste Starkute - Master's Students & Researchers
Faculty Advisor: Flavio A. C. Mendonca, Ph.D., MSc., MBA

Abstract: Wildlife strikes pose a significant threat to the safety of urban air mobility (UAM) vehicles. This study aims to predict wildlife strike patterns in an urban environment using a combination of machine learning and meteorological data. The research involves collecting and analyzing data from various sources, including wildlife sighting reports, weather data, and flight logs. The goal is to identify key factors that influence wildlife strike patterns and develop predictive models to enhance the safety of UAM operations.

Introduction: Wildlife strikes are a major concern for the aviation industry, particularly in the context of UAM. Understanding the patterns and factors that lead to these incidents is crucial for developing effective mitigation strategies. This study focuses on the urban environment, where the density of wildlife and the proximity of flight paths create a high risk of collisions.

Methodology: The research methodology involves data collection, preprocessing, and analysis. Machine learning algorithms are used to identify patterns in the data, while meteorological data is used to understand the environmental conditions that contribute to wildlife strikes.

Results: The study identifies several key factors that influence wildlife strike patterns, including time of day, weather conditions, and flight altitude. Predictive models are developed and validated, showing a high degree of accuracy in identifying high-risk areas and times.

Conclusion: The findings of this study provide valuable insights into wildlife strike patterns in urban environments. The predictive models developed can be used to inform the design and operation of UAM vehicles, helping to reduce the risk of wildlife strikes and improve overall safety.

Health-Promoting Lifestyles of Part 141 Collegiate Aviation Pilots: An Assessment Using the HPLP II
Author: Bill Deng Pan - Graduate Student
Faculty Advisor: Flavio A.C. Mendonca - Ph.D., MSc., MBA
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, College of Aviation

Abstract: This study assesses the health-promoting lifestyles of Part 141 Collegiate Aviation Pilots using the Health-Promoting Lifestyle Profile II (HPLP II). The research aims to identify factors that influence health-promoting behaviors and provide recommendations for improving pilot health and well-being. The study involves a survey of pilots and an analysis of their responses to various lifestyle factors.

Introduction: Aviation pilots face unique challenges that can impact their health and well-being. Understanding their health-promoting lifestyles is essential for developing targeted interventions and support programs. This study uses the HPLP II to evaluate the health-promoting behaviors of Part 141 Collegiate Aviation Pilots.

Methodology: The research methodology includes a survey of pilots and an analysis of their responses to the HPLP II. The survey covers various lifestyle factors, including diet, exercise, stress management, and social support.

Results: The study identifies several key factors that influence health-promoting behaviors, including age, flight hours, and access to resources. Recommendations are provided for improving pilot health and well-being, such as promoting regular exercise and stress management techniques.

Conclusion: The findings of this study provide valuable insights into the health-promoting lifestyles of Part 141 Collegiate Aviation Pilots. The recommendations developed can be used to support pilots in adopting healthier lifestyles and improving their overall health and well-being.

How Does Climate Change Impact the Aviation Industry?
Authors: Mohammed Rahik Ahmed & Algendra Dharamdatt
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Billy Metallinos

Abstract: This study explores the impact of climate change on the aviation industry, focusing on operational challenges, safety concerns, and environmental sustainability. The research involves a review of literature and an analysis of industry trends. The goal is to identify the key areas where climate change is having the most significant impact and to propose strategies for addressing these challenges.

Introduction: Climate change is having a profound impact on the aviation industry, from increased fuel costs to operational disruptions. Understanding the extent and nature of these impacts is crucial for the industry to adapt and thrive in a changing climate. This study examines the various ways in which climate change is affecting the aviation industry.

Methodology: The research methodology includes a literature review and an analysis of industry data. The study focuses on the operational, safety, and environmental impacts of climate change on aviation.

Results: The study identifies several key areas where climate change is having a significant impact, including increased fuel costs, operational disruptions, and safety concerns. Recommendations are provided for addressing these challenges, such as investing in sustainable aviation technologies and implementing operational changes.

Conclusion: The findings of this study provide valuable insights into the impact of climate change on the aviation industry. The recommendations developed can be used to help the industry adapt to a changing climate and ensure its long-term sustainability.

First place - \$1,000

Predicting Wildlife Strike Patterns for Urban Air Mobility

Authors:

Taeyun Kim & Auguste Starkute

Faculty Advisor:

Dr. Flavio Mendonca

Second place - \$500

Health-Promoting Lifestyles of Part 141 Collegiate Aviation Pilots: An Assessment Using the HPLP II

Authors:

Bill Deng Pan

Faculty Advisor:

Dr. Flavio Mendonca

Third place - \$250

How Does Climate Change Impact the Aviation Industry

Authors:

Mohammed Rahik Ahmed & Algendra Dharamdatt

Faculty Advisor:

Dr. Billy Metallinos

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CATEGORY

High Altitudes, Healthy Attitudes: A Study on Wellbeing in Student Pilots
Authors: Willany N. Vazquez, Bryan Martinez & Ali Abdullah
Faculty Advisor: April Millaway-Axton & Caroline Ocasio

Abstract: This study explores the impact of high altitudes on the wellbeing of student pilots, focusing on physical, mental, and emotional health. The research involves a survey of student pilots and an analysis of their responses to various wellbeing factors. The goal is to identify the key areas where high altitudes are having the most significant impact and to propose strategies for addressing these challenges.

Introduction: High altitudes can have a significant impact on the wellbeing of student pilots, from increased fatigue to decreased cognitive function. Understanding the extent and nature of these impacts is crucial for the aviation industry to ensure the safety and health of its pilots. This study examines the various ways in which high altitudes are affecting the wellbeing of student pilots.

Methodology: The research methodology includes a survey of student pilots and an analysis of their responses to the wellbeing factors. The survey covers physical, mental, and emotional health, as well as coping strategies.

Results: The study identifies several key areas where high altitudes are having a significant impact, including increased fatigue, decreased cognitive function, and emotional stress. Recommendations are provided for addressing these challenges, such as promoting regular rest and stress management techniques.

Conclusion: The findings of this study provide valuable insights into the impact of high altitudes on the wellbeing of student pilots. The recommendations developed can be used to help student pilots maintain their wellbeing and ensure their safety during flights.

ACRP University Design Competition for Addressing Airport Needs
A Microalgae Photobioreactor for Improving Air Quality Around Airports

Our Photobioreactor: Five air lift columns photobioreactors that purify the air while also serving as a transit shelter for arriving and departing passengers located near the pick-up and drop-off areas of the airport terminal. This design can absorb approximately 1 kg of carbon dioxide per day, whereas a tree can only absorb about 2 g of carbon dioxide per day (Brenzel, 2023).

Role of Microalgae: Microalgae have a CO2 fixation efficiency that is 10-50 times better than that of terrestrial plants and an ability to effectively utilize the nitrogen and sulfur contaminants that threaten human health (Zhou et al., 2017).

Sustainability of Microalgae Cultivation: Microalgae biomass can be used in the production of food, animal and aquaculture feed products, cosmetics, nutraceuticals, pharmaceuticals, fertilizers, bioactive substances, and biofuels (Zhou et al., 2017).

Airport Air Pollution: The transportation sector generates the largest share of greenhouse gas emissions at 26% in 2021 (EPA, 2024).

Impact on Human Health: Global aviation emissions contribute to approximately 14,000 premature deaths every year (Yin et al., 2015).

Authors: Cassidy Farnsworth, Madeline Goussios, & Reilly Ferrie
Faculty Advisor: Dr. I. Richmond Netthey

A.I.'s Influence in the Airline Industry
Authors: Emiliano M. Tortolero, Sanchita Paul, & Dessa A. Weekes
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Billy Metallinos

Abstract: This study explores the influence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on the airline industry, focusing on operational efficiency, customer service, and safety. The research involves a review of literature and an analysis of industry trends. The goal is to identify the key areas where AI is having the most significant impact and to propose strategies for leveraging AI to improve the airline industry.

Introduction: Artificial Intelligence (AI) is revolutionizing the airline industry, from route optimization to personalized customer service. Understanding the extent and nature of AI's influence is crucial for the industry to stay competitive and improve its operations. This study examines the various ways in which AI is impacting the airline industry.

Methodology: The research methodology includes a literature review and an analysis of industry data. The study focuses on the operational, customer service, and safety impacts of AI on the airline industry.

Results: The study identifies several key areas where AI is having a significant impact, including route optimization, personalized customer service, and improved safety. Recommendations are provided for leveraging AI to improve the airline industry, such as investing in AI technologies and training pilots and staff.

Conclusion: The findings of this study provide valuable insights into the influence of AI on the airline industry. The recommendations developed can be used to help the industry leverage AI to improve its operations and ensure its long-term success.

First place - \$1,000

High Altitudes, Healthy Attitudes: A Study on Wellbeing in Student Pilots

Authors:

Willany N. Vazquez, Bryan Martinez & Ali Abdullah

Faculty Advisor:

April Millaway-Axton & Caroline Ocasio

Second place - \$500

A Microalgae Photobioreactor for Improving Air Quality Around Airports

Authors:

Cassidy Farnsworth, Madeline Goussios & Reilly Ferrie

Faculty Advisor:

Dr. I. Richmond Netthey

Third place - \$250

A.I.'s Influence in the Airline Industry

Authors:

Emiliano M. Tortolero, Sanchita Paul, & Dessa A. Weekes

Faculty Advisor:

Dr. Billy Metallinos

Awards of Excellence Recipients

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Dr. Flavio Mendonca

Frank E. Sorenson Award



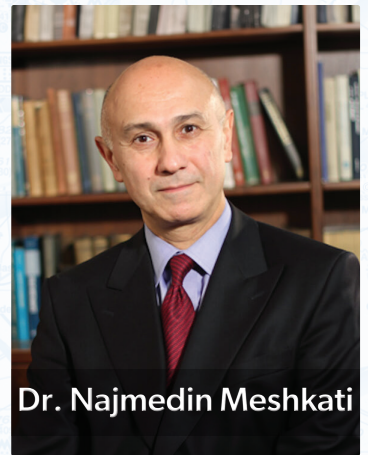
Greg Robbins

W.W. Estridge Award



Dr. Scott Firsing

Champion of Aviation Education Award



Dr. Najmedin Meshkati

John K. Lauber Safety Award



Laura Laster

V.L. Laursen Award



Dr. Jon Loffi

William A. Wheatley Award



Tina Wu

UAA President's Award

Scholarship Awards Recipients

**Eugene S. Kropf
Scholarships - \$500 each**



Grace Kahon

**University of
Dubuque**



Adam Walker

**Pittsburgh Institute
of Aeronautics**

**Devore Freedom of Flight
Scholarship - \$1,000**



Jack Ollenbittle

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College**

**Joseph Frasca Excellence in
Aviation Scholarship - \$2,000**



Lana Huetsen

**University of Nebraska
Omaha**

**Paul A. Whelan
Scholarship - \$2,000**



Justin Scott

**Lone Star College /
US Aviation Academy**

**Piedmont Airlines Non-Flight
Education Scholarship - \$5,000**



Amelia Vaith

**Embry-Riddle
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**Piedmont Airlines Ambassador
Flight Scholarship - \$5,000**



Michael Mickey

**University of
North Dakota**

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Election Results - Welcome 2025 Newest Board Members

Thank you in advance for taking time to think about the leadership opportunities for the future of University Aviation Association. New trustees will join the Board of Trustees January 1, 2025. CONGRATULATIONS to the newly Elected Board Members!

President



Ryan Leick, PhD - Utah Valley University

Dr. Ryan Leick is an Assistant Professor specializing in air transport strategy, marketing and operations at Utah Valley University in Provo, Utah, USA. He is a graduate of the Air Transport Management PhD program at Cranfield University in the United Kingdom and alumni of the School of Business at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach Campus. Dr. Leick draws upon industry experience in airline marketing, distribution and information technology acquired from working for entrepreneurial start-up and long-haul, low-cost carrier MAXjet Airways; legacy carrier United Airlines and privately held, niche carrier Aloha Airlines.

Vice President



Ryan Wallace, EdD - Embry Riddle Aeronautical University

Dr. Ryan Wallace is an Associate Professor at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. He holds an Ed.D. in Applied Education Studies (Aviation option), a M.S. in Aviation, and a B.S. in Aeronautics. His research focuses on UAS safety, security, human factors, and public policy. Dr. Wallace serves as the PI for federal grants valued at more than \$2.1 million. He has facilitated professional training seminars for multiple federal agencies in the areas of UAS safety, operations, and counter-UAS topics. He further serves as a representative on the FAA's Drone Safety Team (DST). Dr. Wallace previously chaired the University Aviation Association's UAS Committee, where he led a collaborative effort to publish the UAS Pilot's Code, a compendium of procedures and best practices to improve UAS operational safety.

Member at Large



Patrice Stanley - CAE USA

At CAE, Patrice advocates for federal legislation and policies to improve training and readiness of military and commercial pilots, air traffic controllers and other members of the commercial aviation workforce. Patrice's portfolio also includes state and local strategic engagements to support the company's business development goals and academic partnerships and initiatives. Prior to joining CAE, Patrice worked for a bipartisan government relations firm in Washington, D.C., serving as Vice President in her final years with the company. Prior to entering the private sector, Patrice worked in state and federal government where she managed the procurement and Minority Business Enterprise programs for an independent state agency in Maryland and held U.S. Executive Branch appointments at the Federal Highway Administration/U.S. Department of Transportation, the U.S. Commission on

Civil Rights, and the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs.

Industry Trustee



Michael Hales - United Aviate Academy

Michael A. Hales is the Chief Executive Officer at the United Airlines' Aviate Academy. He leads an experienced and dedicated staff of instructors and supporting personnel who are all about training the next generation of United Airlines pilots. Prior to becoming CEO, Michael spent the last eight years as Chair/Director of Delaware State University's Aviation Program, where he tripled in size the student body and more than doubled the aircraft fleet. He is a former member of the State of Delaware Aviation Advisory Council, founder of the HBCU Aviation Director's Summit and a former UAA Board member. Michael possesses a Bachelor of Arts degree from Excelsior College, and a Master of Arts degree in Procurement and Acquisition Management from Webster University.

Welcome 2025 Newest Board Members

Thank you in advance for taking time to think about the leadership opportunities for the future of University Aviation Association. New trustees will join the Board of Trustees January 1, 2025. CONGRATULATIONS to the newly Elected Board Members!

Educator Trustees



Tony Foster, PhD - University of Dubuque

Tony Foster, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of Aviation and the Head of Academics in the Aviation Department at the University of Dubuque, Iowa. He earned his Doctor of Philosophy in Aerospace Sciences from the University of North Dakota and his Master of Aeronautical Science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Additionally, he holds a Bachelor of Science in Flight Operations and Aviation Management from the University of Dubuque, where he has been employed since 2011. Dr. Foster is an experienced pilot with several pilot and instructor certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration. His work has been published in peer-reviewed journals, including The Collegiate Aviation Review International and the International Journal of Aviation, Aeronautics, and Aerospace.



Scott Vlasek - University of Nebraska at Omaha

Scott Vlasek is the Director of the Aviation Institute at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He holds a Master of Public Administration degree with an Aviation Administration concentration and a Bachelor's degree in Aviation Studies, both from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Mr. Vlasek's journey with the Aviation Institute is a testament to his dedication and passion for aviation education. He began his career as a Student Assistant in 1995, progressed to a Graduate Assistant position in 1996, and became a full-time employee in 1998. Throughout his tenure, he has held various roles, including Academic Program Coordinator and Manager of Technology. In 2007, he transitioned to a faculty member, where he continues to inspire and educate future aviation professionals with his enthusiasm and energy.



Andreas 'Baron' Wesemann - Utah State University

Professor Baron, as he is known to his students, is the Associate Department Head of Aviation Technology at Utah State University. After graduating from the United States Air Force Academy, he served 27-years in the Air Force as a Combat Rescue Pilot, becoming an instructor pilot in 5 different aircraft. Lieutenant Colonel Wesemann stood up the new T-6A Undergraduate Pilot Training aircraft in 2000, creating the new syllabi and instructions which all other pilot training bases modeled their respective programs. Since his retirement in 2014, Professor Baron has passionately led the Professional Pilot Program at USU, quadrupling the size of the program, and adding a new small Unmanned Aerial Systems and a new Master of Aviation Science degree.



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The CASC is distributed directly to colleges, instructors, collegiate aviation professionals, and college students.

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Contact Geoff Ware to reserve your space. (901)563-0505 or gware@uaa.aero

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Marla Faison
Elizabeth City State University

Shantanu Gupta
Bowling Green State University

Stephen Pantalone
Delaware State University

Casey Phinney
Metropolitan State University of Denver

Fernando Cifuentes Sanchez
Middle Tennessee State University

STUDENTS

Qayla Bailey
Winter Haven High School

Athina Holmes
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Matthew Mazzoni
Maryood University

Connor McCauley
Oklahoma State University

Grace Miller
Maryood University

Stella Nawyn
Miami Dade College

Addison Ridings
High School Student

2025 UAA

AVIATION POLICY SEMINAR

January 6-8 Washington, D.C.



REGISTRATION:

- **Open for everyone: October 1, 2024**
- Registration deadline for International Students: Friday, December 13, 2024
- Registration deadline for all others: Monday, December 16, 2024 (closes promptly at noon CST)

FEES:

- **Registration Fee: \$275**
- Scholarships available for students and faculty (details below)

ACCOMMODATIONS:

- Hotel: Hilton Washington DC National Mall The Wharf
- Dates: Check-in Sunday, January 5, 2024 - Check-out Thursday, January 9, 2024
- Rate: \$149 per night (not including DC tax of 14.95%)
- Book online: [UAA Booking Link Here](#)

MEALS:

- Not included in registration fee
- Fast-food options available nearby

DRESS CODE:

- Smart casual
- Shirt and tie
- No jeans

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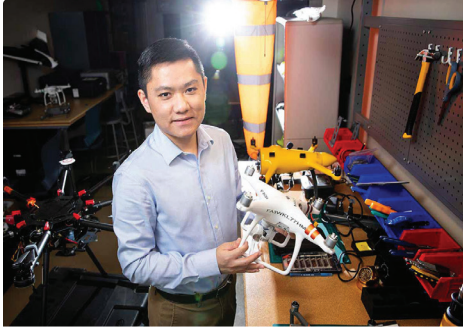
courtesy of American Airlines and Piedmont Airlines



FOR INQUIRIES:

Contact UAA at: (901)563-0505 or hello@uaa.aero

Dear Speakers of the 2024 Collegiate Aviation Education Conference & Expo



I hope this message finds you well. After another successful annual event last week, I'd like to invite you to publish your presentation in Collegiate Aviation Review International (CARI) Issue 42-2 as part of the Conference Proceedings.

To do so, simply convert your presentation into a concise academic article (up to 10 pages, including references) following CARI's formatting guidelines [<https://ojs.library.okstate.edu/osu/index.php/CARI/about/submissions#authorGuidelines>].

Please submit your manuscript under the "Proceedings" section on CARI's website by October 30, 2024. Proceedings, including your work, will be published alongside CARI Issue 42-2 by year-end.

This invitation excludes speakers from the Professional Papers Sessions whose work has appeared in CARI 42-1 or 42-2.

Your contribution to our academic community is invaluable, and we hope to feature your research in CARI. For any queries, feel free to contact the Editor of CARI, Dr. Victor Huang (chenyuhuang@unomaha.edu).

Chenyu "Victor" Huang, Ph.D., AAAE C.M.

Editor - Collegiate Aviation Review International

Chair - University Aviation Association - Publications Committee



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A Glimpse into the Skies: The Student Program at UAA's Collegiate Aviation Conference

The Student Program held on Friday, September 27th, at the UAA Collegiate Aviation Conference was an unforgettable experience for high school and early college students aspiring to soar into the world of aviation. The program offered a captivating and informative introduction to the diverse career paths available within the aviation sector.



Each sponsoring organization contributed invaluable insights into specific areas of the aviation industry. Through engaging presentations, students were provided with a comprehensive overview of the various roles and responsibilities

involved in these fields. Following the presentations, interactive Q&A sessions allowed students to delve deeper into topics of interest, asking thoughtful questions and gaining valuable clarification from industry experts.



A highlight of the event was the student lunch, where attendees had the unique opportunity to connect with seasoned aviation professionals in an informal setting. Over lunch, students were

able to engage in personal conversations, hearing firsthand stories of what it's like to work in the aviation industry. These interactions provided invaluable guidance and inspiration for the students as they explored their career options.

After lunch, students were invited to explore the bustling expo hall, where they had the chance to interact with industry professionals and college representatives. The expo offered a wealth of information on aviation education programs, career opportunities, and the latest advancements in the field. Additionally, students were able to participate in hands-on simulator experiences, bringing the day's lessons to life in a thrilling and practical way. The immersive experience left attendees inspired and better equipped to make informed decisions about their futures in the aviation industry.





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TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF AVIATORS


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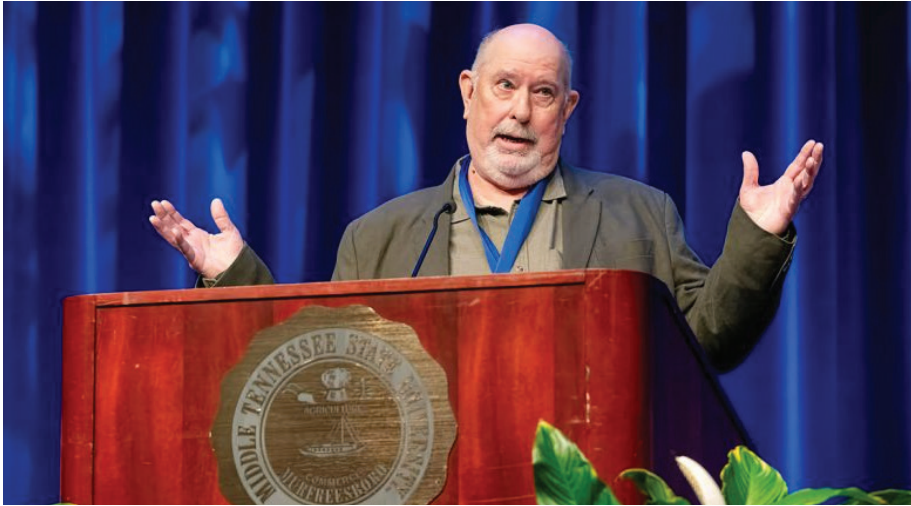
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From Freshman to Faculty: MTSU Professor Honored for Lifetime Achievement



Paul Craig, a seasoned professor in the Department of Aerospace at Middle Tennessee State University, has reached a remarkable milestone in his aviation career. Beginning his academic journey at MTSU as a humble freshman, Craig has soared to new heights, earning the prestigious Career Achievement Award for 2024.

Presented by MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee and Brian F. Kidd, president of the MTSU Foundation, the award recognizes Craig’s exceptional contributions to the field of aviation over the past four decades. His journey began in 1975 when he first joined the MTSU community, where he later earned a master’s degree in aerospace education. In 1993, Craig returned to MTSU as the inaugural flight instructor, further solidifying his connection to the university. He subsequently completed his doctorate in education and has served as the coordinator of the Master of Science in Aeronautical Sciences degree program since 2016.

Beyond his academic pursuits, Craig has made significant contributions to the aviation industry. His work with NASA has been particularly noteworthy, earning him the Turning Goals into Reality Award for his innovative approach to scenario-based flight training projects. As he celebrates his 49th year in aviation, Craig’s dedication and accomplishments continue to inspire students and colleagues alike.

A highlight of his longstanding career comes when he boards an airplane to find one of his former students at the controls. “I congratulate them and say how proud I am of them,” Craig said.

These moments spur him to continue his career in aviation education. And he encouraged his fellow faculty members to continue positively impacting in the lives of students. “Be the difference maker. ... Go inspire your students.”

GoJet Inspiring the Next Generation



GoJet was honored to bring our aircraft and President & CEO, Rick Leach, to the Lt. Col. Luke Weathers Jr. Flight Academy.

The opportunity to interact with the talented students and future aviators was truly inspiring. Lt. Col. Weathers Jr., a pioneering figure in aviation, paved the way for countless others as the first African American air traffic controller at Memphis International Airport. His legacy, including being the first African American to receive the key to the City of Memphis, is a testament to his groundbreaking achievements.

The academy, established to honor his contributions, offers life-changing training and mentoring programs for aspiring aviators. Supporting and encouraging the next generation of pilots is a commitment we take seriously. We believe that fostering a diverse and inclusive aviation community is essential to the future of the industry.

We extend our sincere gratitude to everyone at the academy for the warm welcome and the opportunity to connect with such inspiring individuals. We look forward to continuing to support the academy’s mission and the future of aviation.



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PILOT PAY CALCULATOR

Filling the Aviation Sustainability Gap



The aviation industry faces a sustainability crisis. Its carbon footprint fuels climate change concerns, and its future is uncertain. To address this, the University of Waterloo's Waterloo Institute for Sustainable Aeronautics (WISA) has launched the International Aviation Sustainability Certification

(IASC). This online program offers three courses on global aviation, industry sustainability, and climate change.

Industry Endorsement

Starr Consulting Services, a leading aviation insurer, has endorsed the IASC. They recognize the industry's need to address sustainability regulations and have secured seats for their clients in the program.

Driving Force Behind the IASC

Dr. Suzanne Kearns, WISA's founder, is a former pilot and aviation professor. She saw a gap in aviation education regarding sustainability and climate change. Kearns believes that sustainability is crucial for the industry's future but requires significant upskilling.

Industry Goals

The aviation industry aims to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. This involves reducing emissions and offsetting them through measures like reforestation. Sustainability also encompasses social and economic factors, such as workforce shortages.

WISA's Role

WISA's IASC program provides essential knowledge for aviation professionals. The courses cover topics like international aviation fundamentals, sustainability practices, and climate change impacts. The Canadian government has invested in WISA's projects, recognizing their importance.

Positive Feedback

Participants in the IASC program have praised its interactive nature, real-world case studies, and valuable insights. Jeremy Wang, co-founder of Ribbit, a self-flying aircraft company, found the courses helpful in understanding sustainability beyond aircraft design. Evan Stamoulis, an Airworthiness Engineer with GainJet Aviation, appreciated the program's comprehensive coverage of sustainability topics. Pramoth Varsan Madhavan, the first person to complete the IASC, highlighted its transformative impact on his knowledge and advocacy for sustainable aviation.

Summarized article

Suzanne Kearns, PhD "Filling the Aviation Sustainability Gap" Waterloo Institute for Sustainable Aeronautics



APPLICATION WINDOW OPEN YEAR ROUND

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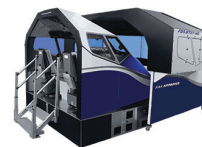


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SUU Southern Utah University
 Hosts Annual Aircraft Rescue
 and Firefighting Training



Cedar City residents may have noticed an unusual amount of commercial aircraft activity in the skies. These flights were part of an annual training exercise conducted by the Cedar City Fire Department, along with firefighters from St. George, Vernal, and Moab.

The training, mandated by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), is designed to prepare fire departments to respond to emergencies involving commercial aircraft. Cedar City Regional Airport was chosen to host this year’s week-long event due to its busy commercial operations.

During the training, local firefighters had the opportunity to learn from industry experts and gain hands-on experience by practicing on donated aircraft, including a CRJ200 from SkyWest and a helicopter from Erickson Inc. The training included live fire drills to simulate real-world scenarios.

Cedar City officials expressed their gratitude to Southern Utah University’s Aviation program and SkyWest Airlines for their support and participation in this essential training.

As the third-busiest commercial airport in Utah, Cedar City is committed to ensuring the safety of its residents and visitors through ongoing training and education for airport staff and first responders.

The training exercise was a valuable opportunity for local firefighters to enhance their skills and preparedness for potential aircraft emergencies.

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FAA Aviation Research Grants Program

Department of Education

Agency Name:

DOT - FAA Aviation Research Grants

Deadline:

9/7/2027

Description:

The FAA hereby announces its continuing interest in receiving applications for aviation research grants and cooperative agreements to pursue the long-term growth and short-term technical needs of civil aviation, under this funding opportunity. Eligibility of applicants for the award of an aviation research grant varies depending on the nature of the proposer's organization, as well as the character of the research being proposed. In general, colleges, universities, and other non-profit research institutions under Section 501(c)(3) of Title 26 of United States Code, are eligible to apply for an aviation research grant.

The FAA Aviation Research Grants Program encourages and supports innovative, advanced research of potential benefit to the long-term growth of civil aviation and commercial space transportation. The pursuit of basic and applied research in scientific and engineering disciplines that have the potential to further knowledge and understanding on a broad front of emerging technologies is crucial to the realization of this goal. The intent is to encourage applied research and development to enhance technology assimilation, transfer, and development in the FAA. The FAA Aviation Research Grants Program does not require the immediate application to Research and Development (R&D) programs, although this may occur in some cases. The FAA encourages the submission of proposals that embrace the entire spectrum of physical, chemical, biological, medical, psychological, mathematical, and engineering sciences.

The following list illustrates topics of interest to those who may consider applying for a grant under this funding opportunity:

1. Capacity and Air Traffic Control Technology
2. Communications, Navigation, and Surveillance
3. Aviation Weather
4. Airports
5. Aircraft Safety Technology
6. Human Factors and Aviation Medicine
7. Systems Science/Operations Research

For more information:

Please carefully review FAA Notice of Funding Opportunity 20-01, and any supporting attachments.

If you have difficulty accessing the full announcement electronically, please contact:

Alicia Joynes
 Aviation Research Grants Program
 Grants Management Division
 NextGen Organization

Link to Additional Information:

<https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/328902>



The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) welcomes your interest in the Samya Rose Stumo National Air Grant Fellowship (NAGF) program. The program offers an opportunity for graduate students to gain experience in how aviation legislation and policy are developed in Congress.

ELIGIBILITY

Each Fellow will spend a year with a Congressional office that has jurisdiction over the FAA. A fellow may serve as an expert liaison and researcher for a Congressional committee and may participate in FAA program activities to further develop their knowledge and skills. The program is designed to offer graduate students a hands-on experience at navigating public policy issues related to their field of expertise. FAA seeks participants in fields related to aerospace, including but not limited to, the following:

- Aerospace engineering
- Aerospace physiology
- Aeronautical engineering
- Airworthiness engineering
- Electrical engineering
- Human factors
- Software engineering
- Systems engineering

To apply, you must be a U.S. citizen, have an undergraduate degree and be pursuing an M.A. or PhD degree in a related field as listed or be within a year of completion of the post-graduate degree. You must also meet position-specific qualifications.

The annual application schedule takes place every winter. For eligibility and application instructions, visit the NAGF website at www.faa.gov/nagf

FELLOWSHIP AWARD INFORMATION

The Samya Rose Stumo National Air Grant Fellowship program anticipates supporting multiple fellowships each calendar year.

- The application period for the 2025 cohort is December 1, 2024 through January 31, 2025.
- Length: 12-month, non-renewable fellowship assignment
- Start date: Late June/July of 2025



www.faa.gov/nagf



Federal Aviation Administration

FAA Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) Intern Program

The MSI Internship Program is open to all eligible undergraduate and graduate college students attending an accredited college or university. An important focus of the program is providing opportunities to eligible students from groups that have been underrepresented in Aviation, Aeronautics and STEM.

We are now accepting applications for the FAA's Minority Serving Institutions internship! Go to <https://bit.ly/FAAMSI> to learn more about the program and how to apply. The MSI application period will be open from January 16 to February 2.

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Discover your journey through Piedmont's Cadet Program, the most flexible program in the industry. Build time where you want, when you want - no partner school required. Not to mention a contractual flow program that guarantees Piedmont Pilots a job at American Airlines - with no further interview required.



Join us today and let your future take flight!



Piedmont-Airlines.com



Boeing Career Enhancement Scholarship

Scholarship Sponsor
 Boeing Company and Women in Aviation International

Contact
www.nj99.org

Usual Deadline
 October

Amount(s) Awarded
 Scholarship Awards Vary

Description
 Scholarship is available for a woman who wishes to advance her career in aerospace industry in the fields of engineering, technology development or management. The award is to be used for educational purposes only and may not be applied toward flight hours. Applicants may be full-time or part-time employees currently in the aerospace industry or related field. Students pursuing aviation related degrees that are at the junior level with a 2.5 GPA or higher.

RACCA/UPS Flight Path Scholarships

Scholarship Sponsor
 The Regional Air Cargo Carriers Association (RACCA)

Contact
www.raccaonline.org

Usual Deadline
 October

Amount(s) Awarded
 (4) \$2,500 RACCA Aviation Scholarships

Description
 Applications are now open for the \$20,000 in funding available through the Regional Air Cargo Carriers Association and UPS Flight Path scholarships designed to help aspiring pilots, aircraft maintenance technicians (AMT) and airline managers to pursue their careers.

Scholarship Criteria
 To qualify for the scholarships, applicants must be: A college student currently enrolled in an accredited aviation program; A resident of the United States.

RACCA Scholarship

Scholarship Sponsor
 The Regional Air Cargo Carriers Association (RACCA)

Contact
www.raccaonline.org

Usual Deadline
 October

Amount(s) Awarded
 Eight (8) Scholarships Awarded, valued at \$2,500 each will be made to students pursuing a career in aviation as a Pilot or FAA aircraft Mechanic with Airframe and/or Powerplant.

Description
 The RACCA Aviation Scholarship is established for the purpose of promoting and assisting aviation as a career choice and to make students aware of the opportunities in the Air Cargo Industry.

Aim High Flight Academy (AHFA) Scholarship

Scholarship Sponsor
 Aim High Flight Academy (AHFA)

Contact
www.aimhighflightacademy.com

Usual Deadline
 October

The Aim High Flight Academy (AHFA) is an aviation scholarship for a three-week introductory flight program at various universities across the world.

The mission of the AHFA is to inform, influence, and inspire the next generation of aviators and leaders. After completion of the AHFA, students will understand the pathways to become an Air Force officer, aviator, and earn up to 15 flight hours.

AHFA pairs high school students, USAFA, and AFROTC cadets with current Air Force members who provide mentorship about the various aviation professions and career fields.

If the applicant is having difficulty applying, navigating the application software, or has questions please send AHFA an email at: Afrs.ahfa.studentapplications@us.af.mil

Apply to the
AIM HIGH FLIGHT ACADEMY
 curious about flying?

WHAT IS IT?
 The Aim High Flight Academy (AHFA) is an aviation scholarship for a three-week introductory flight program at various universities across the world. The program is designed to inspire young adults to explore aviation. Students receive one-on-one training from Air Force and Certified Flight Instructors in a classroom and in the sky.

- Earn up to 15 flight hours.
- All expenses paid, including training, rooms, meals and travel.
- No experience needed to apply. We'll teach you everything you need to know!

APPLY HERE:
<https://www.recruiting.af.mil/Aim-High-Flight-Academy/>

Or scan the QR Code



Applications are open to high school students that:
 • Are 16 by June 1st 2025
 • Graduate in 2025 or 2026



Delta Air Lines Aviation Management Scholarship

Scholarship Sponsor
 Aircraft Electronics Association (AEA)

Contact
dwallace@wai.org **Usual Deadline**
 November

Amount(s) Awarded
 One (1) Scholarships Awarded, valued at \$5,000

Description
 Through Women in Aviation International (WAI), the Delta Air Lines Aviation Management Scholarship is granted for \$5,000 annually to a deserving student enrolled in an Associate's or Bachelor's Degree program for aviation management.

Scholarship Criteria
 Candidates must be full-time college students, have at least two semesters remaining, carry a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, have U.S. Citizenship or permanent residency, and write a 1,000-word career goals essay. Recipients also receive an expenses-paid trip to the Annual WIA Conference.

Pratt & Whitney Engine Maintenance Scholarship

Scholarship Sponsor
 Association for Women in Aviation Maintenance (AWAM)

Contact
www.awam.org **Usual Deadline**
 November

Amount(s) Awarded
 Six (6) Scholarships Awarded, valued at \$5,500

Description
 The DanMeisinger Memorial Learn to Fly Scholarship was established in the honor and memory of Dan L. Meisinger Sr., whose career in aviation spanned 63 years. He was founder of Executive Beechcraft, headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, and was twice named Beech Aircraft's Man of the Year. This fund's purpose is to provide an annual flight training scholarship to a qualified individual.

Pioneers of Flight Scholarship

Scholarship Sponsor
 National Air Transportation Foundation (NATA)

Contact
www.nata.aero **Usual Deadline**
 November

Amount(s) Awarded
 Two (2) Scholarships Awarded, valued at \$1,000

Scholarship Criteria
 College students, sophomore or junior year; Enrolled in a full-time aviation degree program at an accredited four-year college or university; GPA of 3.0 + on a 4.0 scale; Able to demonstrate an interest in pursuing a career in general aviation.

Susan Liebeler Female Student Pilot Scholarship

Scholarship Sponsor
 Ninety-Nines, Ventura County Chapter

Contact
scholarships@vc99s.org **Usual Deadline**
 November

Amount(s) Awarded
 Up to \$3,000

Description
 Up to \$3,000 could be yours towards your flight training costs!

Scholarship Criteria
 A female over the age of 17. Living/working in Ventura County or training at a Ventura County airport (CMA, OXR, SZP or NTD). A minimum of 5 flight hours within 90 days preceding the award application deadline. Two hours may be in an Advanced Aviation.

Zonta Amelia Earhart Fellowship Awards

Scholarship Sponsor
 Zonta International Foundation (ZIF)

Contact
www.zonta.org **Usual Deadline**
 November

Amount(s) Awarded
 One (1) Scholarships Awarded, valued at \$10,000

Description
 Women of any nationality pursuing a Ph.D./doctoral degree, who demonstrate a superior academic record conducting research applied to aerospace engineering or space sciences are eligible. It is imperative that students be registered in a full-time Ph.D./doctoral program and have completed at least one year of that program, or have received a master's degree in an aerospace-applied field.

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FOR ADDITIONAL COLLEGIATE AVIATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Metropolitan State University of Denver
Tenure Track Faculty Position

MSU Denver enrolls over 16,000 students, where nearly 60% are first generation and over 55% are students of color. Located in downtown Denver, we are a designated [Hispanic Serving Institution \(HSI\)](#) and the only [Seal of Excelencia certified institution in Colorado](#). As the third largest institution of higher education in Colorado and the only institution with an open access mission, MSU Denver is a model university for today's college students. The University serves the most diverse undergraduate student population in the state, as well as the most first-generation students & Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals students. MSU Denver is particularly interested in applicants who have experience working with students from diverse backgrounds and a demonstrated commitment to improving access to higher education for under-represented and historically minoritized groups.

About the Department of Aviation and Aerospace Science

MSU Denver's Aviation and Aerospace Science Department has reimagined possibilities by evolving into one of the largest and most sophisticated programs in the country. Our students have access to unrivaled resources no other university in Colorado can offer; such as the most innovative flight simulation training laboratories in the world, an on-campus satellite engineering lab and partnerships with the industry that grants students access to the same advanced technology and software used at NASA. For more information on the department, please visit: <https://www.msudenver.edu/aviation-aerospace/>.

Position Summary

MSU Denver invites applications for a tenure track faculty position in the Department of Aviation and Aerospace Science at the rank of Assistant Professor. This a nine-month appointment with a preferred start date in January 2025 for the spring semester; otherwise, the position would start in August 2025 for fall semester. The successful applicant will (a) instruct 12 credit hours of aviation-oriented coursework per academic semester (fall & spring) and (b) maintain 5 scheduled office hours per week to include advising and consultation with students. This position also requires various responsibilities related to professional development and service. MSU Denver has a robust mentoring program for tenure-track faculty. The candidate will be enrolled in the Roadrunner Faculty Academy during their first year. This is a year-long course designed to support new faculty navigate faculty life and thrive in teaching, scholarly activity and service.

Responsibilities will include:

- Instructing 12 credit hours of aviation-oriented coursework per fall and spring semesters. Candidates will be expected to teach courses such as, but not limited to, the following: Crew Resource Management, Advanced Navigation, Professional Flight Standards, Aircraft Systems and Propulsion, Aerodynamics, Human Factors and Physiology of Flight, and FAA 141 Pilot Ground Courses.

- Maintaining office hours, advising/consulting with students, and engaging in student-centered activities.
- Additional responsibilities in professional development, scholarly activities, and service to the Department, College, University, and community.

Required Qualifications

- A master's degree or doctoral degree in Aviation and Aerospace Technology/Science or related field
- Four years or more of aviation-related work experience.

Preferred Qualifications

- FAA certifications and ratings to include: (a) Commercial Pilot, (b) Instrument Airplane, (c) Certified Flight Instructor Single and Multi-Engine Airplane, (d) Certified Flight Instructor – Instrument Airplane
- Teaching experience to include: (a) four or more semesters of documented teaching at a U.S. nationally accredited collegiate institution in classes related to aviation or aerospace science and (b) experience instructing collegiate classes online via Web-based
- FAA Part 121 or 135 Experience and FAA Type Rating in Regional Jet, Large Air Transport Category Aircraft, or Corporate Jet

Salary for Announcement

The salary range for this position is \$80,000 - \$90,000 at Assistant Professor rank. The salary of the finalist selected for this role will be set based upon a variety of factors, including but not limited to, internal equity, education, experience, specialty and training.

Instructions to Apply

Interested applicants must apply online at MSU Denver's career site, <https://msudenver.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/MSUDenver> and search for JR103022. Click on Apply to submit the following required materials:

1. Curriculum vitae
 2. Cover letter
 3. Teaching philosophy
 4. Peer/student evaluations, if available
 5. Copies of relevant licenses or certifications, if available (front and back images)
 6. A list of three professional references and their contact information
 7. Unofficial copies of graduate transcripts. Official transcripts will be required of the candidate selected for hire.
- Please email Tanya Rogowsky within the Office of Human Resources at trogowsk@msudenver.edu for assistance uploading all required documents.

Deadline

Applications accepted until position filled; priority given to applications received by November 10, 2024.

Posted to UAA on 10/02/24

Airlines for America

Airline Traffic Management Coordinator

The Airline Traffic Management Coordinator, working at the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Air Traffic Control (ATC) System Command Center (ATCSCC) in Warrenton, Virginia, is the primary advocate for all Airlines for America (A4A) member airlines working collaboratively to ensure implementation of appropriate solutions to operational problems while maintaining the safety and integrity of the National Airspace System (NAS).

Duties & responsibilities:

- Facilitate seamless communication between A4A member carriers and FAA ATCSCC on all pertinent traffic management initiatives.
- Review tactical and strategic system efficiency constraints and collaborate with member carriers to heighten situational awareness.
- Facilitate the A4A daily conference call with A4A member carriers to develop a daily strategic plan of operation for member airline’s situational awareness.
- Participate in daily FAA ATCSCC Telcons, Event Reviews and National System Reviews (NSR).
- Represent A4A as required in various air traffic forums.
- Participate in A4A Council meetings and activities as directed.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor’s degree in a related aviation/safety field or equivalent experience.\
- Strong knowledge of airline operations control and air traffic management system operations required.
- FAA Flight Dispatch Certification and/or FAA ATC experience preferred.
- Three years of experience at FAA FAR 121 carrier preferred.
- Must be able to effectively facilitate written & verbal communication and advocate positions on behalf of A4A member carriers in a positive, even-tempered and non-confrontational manner.
- Must be a U.S. citizen to obtain the required security clearance.

Work environment:

All A4A employees must be fully vaccinated against Covid-19.

Competitive benefits:

Choice of medical plans, plus free life, dental and vision coverage. 401(k) with matching and discretionary contributions, airline travel privileges.

How to apply:

Interested applicants should send a cover letter, resume and salary requirements to hr@airlines.org to the attention of JOA# 24-13.



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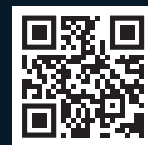
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Delta Air Lines

Megan Sollender

Republic Airways

Douglas Williams, PhD

Community College of Baltimore County

UAA 78 COLLEGIATE AVIATION EDUCATION CONFERENCE

PASSENGER TICKET



Taking Off: The Education of an Aviator

DATE:
October 1-3, 2025

SEAT:
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2025



10-1-3 2025
ORANGE COUNTY

BOARDING PASS

UAA 78th Collegiate Aviation Education Conference



Learn, Network, Connect!

The annual collegiate aviation conference is your go-to platform for staying informed about the latest trends, best practices, and advancements in aviation education. Discover insights from government agencies, university professionals, researchers, safety experts, and industry leaders.

Don't miss this opportunity to:

- Gain valuable knowledge and skills
- Build relationships with peers and industry professionals
- Explore career opportunities

About the Conference

Join us for the 2025 Collegiate Aviation Education Conference & Expo in Costa Mesa, California. This premier event, hosted by the University Aviation Association, will take place October 1-3, 2025 at the Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa.

Key Highlights:

Networking Opportunities:

Connect with over 400 attendees, 70+ colleges and universities, and 10+ airlines.

Educational Insights:

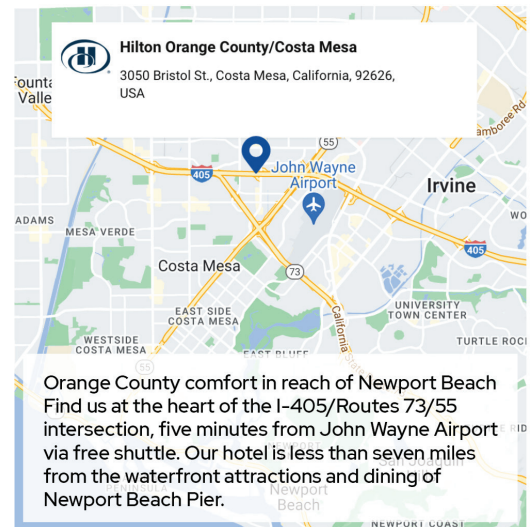
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Industry Showcase:

Explore the latest innovations from 50+ exhibitors.

Collaborative Discussions:

Participate in committee meetings focused on shaping industry policies and practices.



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