

Fall 1997

# Flightlines, Vol. 6, No. 1

Jeffrey A. Johnson

St. Cloud State University, [jajohnson@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:jajohnson@stcloudstate.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: [https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/avia\\_news](https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/avia_news)



Part of the [Other Aerospace Engineering Commons](#)

---

## Recommended Citation

Johnson, Jeffrey A., "Flightlines, Vol. 6, No. 1" (1997). *Flightlines Newsletter*. 11.  
[https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/avia\\_news/11](https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/avia_news/11)

This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Department of Aviation at theRepository at St. Cloud State. It has been accepted for inclusion in Flightlines Newsletter by an authorized administrator of theRepository at St. Cloud State. For more information, please contact [rswexelbaum@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:rswexelbaum@stcloudstate.edu).

# SCSU FLIGHTLINES

Vol 6, Issue 1 St. Cloud State University Aviation Department HH 216 720 S 4th Ave. St. Cloud, MN 56301-4498 <http://www.stcloud.msus.edu/aviation> Fall/Winter

## FALL 1997 ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

The Aviation Department's Industry Advisory Board met Thursday, October 9, 1997, in the conference room, St. Cloud Airport Terminal Building with Chair Al Lange presiding. Rich Lawrence, Director, Flight Operations, Mesaba Airlines, reported that Mesaba is now the sole Northwest Airlines Airlink at Minneapolis/St. Paul. The airline has replaced its Metro fleet with Dash 8 and Saab aircraft and is flying six Avro RJ85 jets with six more expected in April, 1998. Mesaba continues to average fifteen new pilot hires each month. Mechanics and other ground personnel also are being hired. WINGS, Inc. will be moving to a new location on St. Paul Downtown Airport, according to Brian Addis, President. The flight school is replacing its BE76 airplanes with Travel Airs for multiengine training. Instructors average sixteen months of employment at WINGS, Inc. before moving on to regional airlines. Sixty percent of new flight training students are career-oriented. Jan Orr, Principle Operations Inspector, FAA Minneapolis FSDO, reported that FAA is undergoing massive hiring, both locally and nationwide. FAA operations employee qualifications include 1500 hours of flight time, CFIA&I, MEI and 15 years of aviation industry experience. Check airman experience is desirable. Orr added that Champion Air, a new charter air carrier, is hiring. Construction at MSP and reliever airports continues, according to Jeff Hamiel, Executive Director, Metropolitan Airports Commission. At MSP, Runway 4-22 is being lengthened to 12,000'. Additional gates are being added on the Green concourse and parking is being expanded. The FAA-certified precision GPS approaches to MSP should be operational by November, 1997. All airport improvements at MSP and relievers will be financed by user fees. Hamiel announced that the MAC again will sponsor a summer internship program. He expects entry level management positions opening in 1998. Ray Rought, Director, MN DOT Office of Aeronautics, reported that the state will take delivery of a used Cessna Citation aircraft in December, 1997 and needs an experienced pilot to fly it. Two current MN DOT pilots will be trained in the Citation. The National Association of State Aviation Officials is offering low interest \$1,000 student loans. The Office of Aeronautics' summer internship program will continue in 1998. Al Lange, Vice President, Aircraft Finance - Green Tree Financial Corporation, announced a shortage of airplanes to sell. Many openings exist in the industry, including four at Green Tree. Dave Weeres, pilot, USAirways and SCSU adjunct faculty member, reported that the aviation job market is the best it has been in ten years.

Brian Ryks, newly appointed Manager of St. Cloud

Brian Ryks, newly appointed Manager of St. Cloud Airport, Janice Teeter, Technician, FSDO, and Jerry Seaton, NWA Pilot (Ret.) were welcomed by the Advisory Board. Jerry Seaton announced the Karen E. Seaton scholarship which is being given by his daughter, an SCSU graduate. This scholarship will be awarded to a female Aviation student for pursuit of the Multi Engine Instrument rating at SCSU.

The Aviation students organizations were represented by their Presidents: Ambassadors-Steve Wright; Alpha Eta Rho-Carolyn Sack; Aero Club-Bob Steiner; American Association of Airport Executives-Jen Chard.

## AVIATION AMBASSADORS AT OSHKOSH

The Aviation Ambassadors shared the SCSU Aviation story with many thousands of aviation fans of all ages attending the Experimental Aircraft Association's (EAA) week long annual convention in August. This fall the Ambassadors helped the SCSU Admissions office at the National College Fair for high school students at the Minneapolis Convention Center. 1998 events include the Minnesota Sport Aviation Conference, the annual St. Cloud Airport Day and the EAA convention in Oshkosh. The Ambassadors give tours of St. Cloud Airport to community groups, elementary and high school students and also visit high schools and career fairs.

## ALPHA ETA RHO

The national fraternity for male and female Aviation students welcomed ten pledges this fall. The purpose of the organization is to encourage people to become involved on campus and in the community through social activities, volunteer work and fundraising. Alpha Eta Rho members camped at Lindbergh State Park near Little Falls and are planning the annual ski trip to Lutsen. The fraternity participates in Adopt-A-Family and Adopt-A-Block. Post game cleaning of SCSU's National Hockey Center is the major fundraiser.

## AAAE

Last spring several members of the SCSU student chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives attended the Academic Conference hosted by the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND, and the AAAE National Conference held in Minneapolis. Members are looking forward to attending both conferences again this spring. AAAE participates in Adopt-A-Highway in the fall and spring and in Adopt-A-Family during the Christmas season. A major fundraiser for the organization is selling food at Airport Days in May.

## AERO CLUB

During Aviation Week last spring the club cleaned all of its

### AERO CLUB

During Aviation Week last spring the club cleaned all of its airplanes and then flew to dinner in Redwood Falls. Members stayed active during the summer by flying to several fly-in breakfasts. Fall quarter and good weather has increased airport activity and all eight planes are flying regularly. Three committees have been appointed to look into club safety and the purchase of aircraft. The Aero Club is considering placing decals on its aircraft to represent SCSU and club spirit.

### NIFA

The Flying Saints, SCSU's flight team, competed in the 1997 National NIFA SAFECON hosted by Western Michigan State University in Battle Creek, MI, last April. Derek Severn placed 7th in Aircraft Recognition and the team finished in the middle of the 29 team, weather-plagued meet. The Region V SAFECON (Safety and Flight Evaluation Conference) was hosted by Dubuque University October 23 - 25, in Dubuque Iowa. Returning Saints are Bob Steiner, Mike Doherty, Derek Severn, Derek Heidelberg and Alex Henry. New members are Hans Meyer, Chris McDaniel and Cory Pederson. Faculty Advisor is Steve Anderson. The National Intercollegiate Flying Association provides opportunities for college flight and ground events.

### 1997 NATCO SCHOLARSHIP

Steve Unzen, winner of the 1997 Initial Crew Training scholarship, has completed his Boeing 757 ground and simulator training at the Northwest Aerospace Training Corporation (NATCO), Eagan, MN. The Initial Crew Training scholarship is awarded each spring to a SCSU Professional Flight or Operations (flight) student who is planning on a flying career. The scholarship winner may choose training in the Airbus 320, B757 or the B747-400.

Steve Unzen also received one of two 1997 flight training scholarships awarded by the Carlton County Pilots' Association. He used this scholarship to earn his Certified Flight Instructor rating. Unzen is employed as a CFI at Crystal Shamrock, Inc., Crystal Airport.

### AWARDS

Bob Steiner and Kevin Buechler received the Robert Stieler award and Shane Sitts the Roland Anderson award from the Aero Club at the 1997 Spring Aviation Banquet. Aviation Department Leadership awards were given to graduating seniors Kerry Leaders (Management emphasis), Annie Zidar (Operations emphasis) and Eric Whyte (Professional Flight emphasis). Amber Bader was given a Special Department Award.

The 1997 Kimberly Ritsche scholarship was awarded to Jennifer DeMers, Jennifer Rice and Melissa Volkl. This scholarship for women students in Aviation was established in the memory of Kimberly Ann Ritsche, a SCSU graduate, by her parents.

### INTERNSHIPS

Five SCSU Aviation students were selected for 1997 Summer internships at the Metropolitan Airports Commission. Molly Abelson, Jennifer Chard, Brad Kiffmeyer, Jennifer Rice and Shane Vandervort were based at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. Other Summer interns were: Janine Otte--Northwest Airlines Systems Operations Control; Tom Wettig--Northwest Airlines Flight Operations; Justin Zoss and Amber Bader--Express Airlines I; Charles Stern, Mesaba Airlines, St. Cloud; Shane Sitts--Mesaba Airlines Flight Operations; Kevin Buechler--United Airlines, Denver; Kerry Leaders--Elliott Aviation, Flying Cloud Airport. New internships were those at Mesaba Airlines Flight Operations, United Airlines and Elliott Aviation.

Fall 1997 interns are Luan Dien--Metropolitan Airports Commission; Tim Neuman and Julie Vanart--Northwest Airlines Systems Operations Control; Shane Sitts--United Airlines, Denver.

### BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE

The Aviation Department has developed a Bachelor of Applied Science program in Aviation Maintenance Management. The program will enable students who have earned an aviation maintenance or avionics certificate or diploma at a regionally accredited technical college to complete a bachelor's degree in their career field. Forty semester credits will be accepted in transfer for the technical course work plus credits for any general education courses which have been completed. The program currently is in the review process and, if approved by SCSU and MNSCU, will be implemented in Fall, 1998.

### AIRPORT NEWS

The remodeling of the Wright Aero/SCSU flight training facility was completed in early summer and features a dispatch area, classroom, student/instructor spaces and a complete pilot shop. SCSU graduates Stephan O'Link and Lisa Peasley, are the new flight department manager and chief flight instructor respectively.

Brian Ryks, a 1988 SCSU graduate, began work as St. Cloud's first full time airport manager October 6, 1997. He previously worked in airport management at Minneapolis/St. Paul, Denver and most recently at Aberdeen, SD. Ryks will be an asset to both the airport and the community.

### NASA GRANT

Aviation faculty Patrick Mattson and Dr. Jim Rankin, Chair, Electrical Engineering, recently completed grant activities funded by NASA Langley Research Center which tested a new plane taxi system. Much of the summer was spent at Atlanta Hartsfield International airport working on the project with NASA and FAA. Demonstrations for industry were conducted August 25-29, 1997. "T-NASA" is an acronym for Taxiway Navigation and Situation Awareness System. SCSU developed the computer workstation that sent datalinked messages to the test aircraft, a Boeing 757, configured with several test and recording devices. All test flights were conducted in real time, often during busy push

periods at the airport. Flights also were conducted at night to test performance in reduced visibility conditions. Three NASA pilots and four from the airline industry flew the aircraft.

T-NASA is designed to act as an electronic road map for pilots, helping them navigate through bad weather, taxi at unfamiliar airports and isolate potential danger zones. Pilots using the program receive a "heads-up" display on a glass visor on the flight deck windscreen. A "head-down" electronic map of the airport shows the plane's position as well as the location of other aircraft. Researchers believe T-NASA can help pilots taxi more efficiently, saving passengers time. The system uses global positioning satellites, datalink messages and an electronic airport layout to display a virtual map for the pilot. The research team is awaiting final word on a two year, \$400,000 continuation of the grant.

#### FACULTY NOTES

Jim Goke, is the newest member of the Aviation Department faculty, but with 25 years at SCSU, the oldest member in terms of tenure. Goke earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees at Winona State University. Additional graduate study at Texas A & M and Bemidji State University included work in industrial safety and hygiene and electronics. He taught at Winona State for one year and spent five years in the printing industry. Goke received certification in "Workplace Safety" this past spring from the Minnesota Safety Council. He is also the certification examiner for the National Association of Radio and Television Engineers for the State of Minnesota. Goke is teaching Electronics, Occupational Safety and Air Transportation.

The Goke household is filled with Jim's remarkable collection of antique toys and wife Patti's award-winning Norwegian Rosemalling. The Goke's traveled to Norway this past summer to view Patti's work on display at the National Folk Museum in Oslo. Additional family members are two "attack" (really toy) poodles.

Patrick Mattson has begun working on a Ph.D. in Organization and Management at The Graduate School of America, Minneapolis. He will concentrate his studies in training and development with research interests in computer-based-instruction and hopes to complete the degree in two years.

Ken Raiber attended the Fall Professional meeting of the University Aviation Association October 24-28 in Dallas, TX. The focus of the meeting was on management education for the aviation industry. Topics included situational awareness training, CRM, FAR 61/141, cooperative education programs, gender issues, internship opportunities and aviation department risk management.

Hope Thornberg attended the Summer meeting of the Council on Aviation Accreditation hosted by the Boeing Company July 16-18 in Seattle, WA. The meeting included considerable discussion of additional CAA Standards related

to the affective domain of learning, e.g., values, ethics, attitudes and methods by which these might be evaluated.

#### RECENT GRADUATES

1997

- Kyle Scapple, Post-Graduate Intern, MAC
- Brendan Larson, Elliott Flying Service, FCM
- Amber Bader, Ramp, Mesaba Aviation, MSP
- Charles Beuning MAC, MSP
- Kerry Leaders, Account Exec., NationAir Insurance
- Sarah Boothby, Air Wisconsin, Aspen, CO.
- Steve Unzen, CFI, Crystal Shamrock, MIC
- Eric Whyte, EAA, Oshkosh, WI
- Kelly Archer, Continental Express, Houston, TX
- Scot Wilcox, American International, MI
- Tonya Wruck, Ramp, Mesaba-MSP
- Annie Zidar, ATC, Beaver Co. Comm College-PA

#### Changes

- Ryan Monson, Captain, Jetways, STP
- Shannon Gibbs, Pilot, Mesaba Airlines
- Dennis Schneider, Captain, Aberdeen Flying Service
- Cory LaVigne, Pilot, Mesaba Airlines
- John Haider, Mesa Airlines, Farmington, NM
- Chris Tewalt, Mesaba Aviation
- Faredy Guyot, CFI, Wisconsin Aviation, Juneau, WI

Flightlines is Published twice each year as an information source for SCSU aviation students, alumni, and friends of the Aviation Department. You can find this publication at <http://www.stcloud.msus.edu/aviation>

Flightlines is written by Dr. Hope Thornberg with assistance and contributions from the Aviation Department Faculty and Aviation student organizations.

SCSU Aviation Department  
HH216 720 4th Ave. South  
St. Cloud, MN 56301-4498

SCSU is an equal opportunity educator and employer.