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# ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

## *Flightlines*



Volume 15, Issue 2  
Spring 2008

### Students Honored at 2008 Awards Banquet!



Tara Gonja (right) presents the Sean Paul Gonja Scholarship to Jason McNally (left photo). Dr. Steve Anderson presents the Kimberly Ritsche Scholarship to Merisa Kendall (right photo).

In late April, the annual Aviation Awards Banquet was attended by almost 65 students, family members, friends, faculty, staff, civic leaders, and other guests. Blackberry Ridge Golf Club did their usual wonderful job with dinner, service, ambiance, and the overall facilities.

The social mixer at Blackberry Ridge Golf Club started at 5:00 PM, followed by dinner at 6:00 PM, the awards program at 7:00 PM, and entertainment commenced at 8:00 PM. The banquet was a success and a good time was had by those in attendance!

Numerous students were awarded scholarships and other awards and recognition during the banquet (see accompanying photographs).

(see Awards Banquet, page 3)

### Safety Focus: Hazardous Attitudes

by Michael D. Ferguson

As is true with many terms in the alphabet soup that is aviation, the word “attitude” has several different definitions. However, the focus of this article will be on attitude as it applies to the realm of human factors in aviation safety.

In general, our attitudes are displayed in our viewpoints, behaviors, reactions, perceptions, and responses to what is going on around us in every situation. Attitude can be a very powerful influential factor that has the ability to ultimately affect our safety and even the safety of others. In addition, attitude is often connected directly or at least indirectly to our judgment and decision-making. If our attitude is wrong, it may even lead to situations that are dangerous.

In recognition of this factors, there are 5 hazardous attitudes that have been identified that can affect safety in aviation. These attitudes are as follows (in no particular order):

- Impulsiveness (Do something, anything, NOW!)
- Anti-authority (No one tells me what to do!)
- Resignation (What’s the use, I can’t do anything about it...)

(See Attitudes, page 4)

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*Flightlines* is published twice a year as an information source for SCSU aviation students, alumni, Advisory Board members, friends of the Aviation Department and the administration and faculty of SCSU. Article submissions, comments, suggestions, and questions are welcome and may be directed to Mr. Michael D. Ferguson, Assistant Professor of Aviation, SCSU Department of Aviation, at (320) 308-2107 (email: [mdferguson@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:mdferguson@stcloudstate.edu)).

**Editor:** Michael D. Ferguson  
Current and back issues of *Flightlines* can be found on the Department of Aviation website:

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## New Certificates & Ratings

**Craig Cance**  
SE & ME Commercial

**David Ostendorf**  
Private, SEL

## Student/Alumni Industry Hirings!

**Bryan Sonnkalb**  
Pilot—Mesaba Airlines

**Steve Osojnicki**  
Pilot—Mesaba Airlines

**Craig Johnson**  
Pilot—Express Jet Airlines

**Jason McNally**  
UAV Pilot—Advanced Ceramics Research

**Kevin Weiss**  
Pilot—Mesaba Airlines

**Craig Cance**  
CFI—Wright Aero

**Nick Metzen**  
Ramp Agent—Mesaba Airlines



## Can You Guess the Professor?

This aviation professor is an avid history buff and participates in Civil War reenactments.

*Who is it?*

## Awards Banquet *(continued from page 1)*



Dr. Steve Anderson (right) presents the Kimberly Ritsche Scholarship to Malisa Yang.



Dr. Steve Anderson (right) presents the William Carlson Scholarship to Lisa Wixom.



Dr. Steve Anderson (left) presents the Ken Raiber Scholarship to Paul Borrell.



Dr. Steve Anderson (right) presents the Aviation Excellence Award for Pro Flight to Garrelt Blok.



Dr. Steve Anderson (right) presents the Gerald Johnson Scholarship to Craig Cance.



Dr. Steve Anderson (right) presents the Aviation Excellence Award for Management to Jonas Courneya.

## Other Awards

**Angeson Abraha** won the Robert Ryan Scholarship.

**David Wickman** won the Aviation Excellence Award in Aviation Maintenance Management.

Angeson and David were unable to attend the banquet.



## Awards Banquet *(continued from page 1)*



Dr. Steve Anderson (right) presents Kevin Weiss with the Aviation Excellence Award for Operations.



Ms. Angie Olson cuts the banquet cake under the watchful eye and supervision of husband Eric. (Our sources tell us that Ms. Olson deliberately took the largest piece for herself). Good work Ms. Olson, you really take the cake!!!

(Man, now that was a bad pun...)

## Jim Hoolihan Retires from Adjunct Position in Aviation

At the close of the Spring 2008 semester, the SCSU Aviation Department said farewell to a familiar face. After 23 years of teaching AVIT 307 (Aviation Law) Judge Jim Hoolihan retired from his adjunct faculty position (see picture below). In his years at SCSU, Jim successfully guided scores of SCSU aviation students through the maze of aviation law.

Thanks Jim, and best of everything, you will be missed!



Judge Jim Hoolihan poses with his recognition award outside of the Aviation Office in Spring 2008.



## Congratulations Graduates!



**Craig Cance**  
BS in Aviation—Management  
Minor—Pro Flight

**Darren Muenchow**  
BS in Aviation—Operations

**Paul Borrell**  
BS in Aviation—Management

**Jason McNally**  
BS in Aviation—Pro Flight  
Minor: Business Mgmt

**Lisa Wixom**  
BS in Aviation—Operations

**Kevin Weiss**  
BS in Aviation—Operations

**Jonas Courneya**  
BS in Aviation—Management

**Travis Athmann**  
BS in Aviation—Management

**Nick Arnfelt**  
BS in Aviation—Pro Flight

**Trista Cooke**  
BS in Aviation—Management

**Brandon Johnson**  
BS in Aviation—Operations

**Tom Kovac**  
BS in Aviation—Pro Flight

**Patrick Thewlis**  
BS in Aviation—Operations

*Blessings and Best Wishes to all 2008 Graduates! We will miss you! You are cleared for departure from SCSU. You are not forgotten...*



## Attitudes (Continued from p. 1)

- Macho (If anyone can do it, it's me!)
- Invulnerability (It won't happen to me!)

Why do these attitudes matter? Because all of us at one time or another display one of more of these behaviors in specific situations. At any given time, a person demonstrating one or more of the hazardous attitudes may be placing themselves or others at risk. This is why it is so important to be aware of the presence of these attitudes within ourselves. The primary point that I am trying to make is this: recognition of these human tendencies/beliefs and avoidance of them is extremely important to safety in aviation, whether in flight or on the ground. This requires that we be honest with ourselves about ourselves, by the process of continual self-assessment.

In conclusion, be aware of the five hazardous attitudes, and do your best to ensure that your are avoiding these types of behaviors. Be honest with yourself.

Be safe!!!

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