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### SCSU Aviation is awarded CTI status by the FAA!!!



Great news! St. Cloud State University is among the eight additional colleges or universities selected by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to participate in the Air Traffic Collegiate Training Initiative (CTI) program! Approved participants prepare and train students interested in a career as an air traffic controller.

Selection to the CTI program means fundamentals of air traffic control will likely become part of the curriculum of Aviation Operations, one of the major's three emphases. After the curriculum is in place, graduates of the program are likely to be favored for admission to the FAA's air traffic controller training program. The FAA plans to recruit and hire more than 17,000 new air traffic controllers over the next 10 years. Over the last three years, the agency has hired 5,000 new controllers and plans to hire more than 2,000 in fiscal year 2009.

*(see CTI, pg. 4)*

### A Ph.D. in Aviation, Its Relationship to Dr. J—The Father of Aeronology? Huh?

*by Dr. Jeffrey Johnson*

Most aviation students probably realize they can go on and get a master's degree in aviation at another university. However, did you know that Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Daytona Beach) is starting the nation's first Ph.D. in Aviation this upcoming spring? It's true! It has been recently reported that Dowling College in New York will be starting a Ph.D. in Aviation Management program in fall 2010. Outside of the US, it was reported that Cranfield University (England) has an Aviation/Aerospace related Ph.D. program.

Now that you are up to speed with Ph.D. programs in aviation, you may not know the history of how these programs were developed. In 1993, our very own Dr. Jeff Johnson (who was a graduate student at Embry-Riddle) defended his master's thesis titled, *The Feasibility of Developing a Professionally Accredited Non-Engineering Aeronautical/Aerospace Science Doctoral Degree Program in U.S. Universities*. There was enough interest in Dr. J's research that the president of Embry-Riddle came to his thesis defense. In 1997, Dr. J continued his research and his doctoral dissertation titled, *An Analysis of Curriculum Design in Developing a Doctor of Philosophy Program in Aeronology* was published in 1997.

*(see Aeronology, 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:

<http://www.stcloudstate.edu/aviation>

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## Spring 2009 Aviation Classes

There is still time to register for aviation courses! Sign up today!!!

### *New Certificates & Ratings*

**Jeff Hafferkamp**  
CFI

**James Kovac**  
Commercial

### *Recent aviation graduate hirings!*

**Darren Muenchow**  
FAA  
Air Traffic Controller

**Kevin Weiss**  
Mesaba Airlines  
First Officer SAAB 340

**Bryan Sonnkalb**  
Mesaba Airlines  
First Officer CRJ 900

**Barbara Winne**  
Mesaba Airlines  
First Officer CRJ 200

**Travis Athmann**  
Operations Specialist  
South Bend Regional Airport

**Jason McNally**  
Advanced Ceramics  
UAV Pilot

**Bill Brama**  
Aerosim Technologies  
Aviation Courseware  
Developer

**Derek Stoks**  
Mesaba Airlines  
First Officer

**Jonas Courneya**  
Warrant Officer - US Army  
Helicopter Pilot

## Can You Guess the Professor?

- This aviation professor was an all-star baseball player (in his younger years, obviously!) who had a nice curve ball and changeup, and was a great hitter and base-stealer.

## Faculty News

**Tara Harl** presented a program on the collegiate pipeline she has developed via her AVIT 413 Corporate Management course to the ORBAA and Ohio Collegiate aviations in Dayton, Ohio in June.

**Tara Harl** facilitated a training session for ORBAA and Ohio Collegiate Aviation leaders in Columbus, Ohio in August. The meeting was hosted by Ohio State and brought in leaders of all Ohio collegiate aviation programs to build a bridge between industry and academia in implementing a stronger Business Aviation curriculum in their programs.

**Tara Harl** was asked to chair the Professional Development Subcommittee of the NBAA's CAMC committee at the NBAA annual convention in Orlando in October.

**Jeff Johnson, Steve Anderson, and Tara Harl** had a manuscript titled *Implications of Current Federal Aviation Regulatory Policies Governing Low Time Commercial Pilots Who Transition to Single Pilot/IFR Environments* accepted for publication in the Journal of Aviation Education/Aerospace Education & Research.

**Jeff Johnson** was elected as *Communications Officer* to the Minnesota Business Aviation Association (MBAA) executive board in November.

**Jeff Johnson** was appointed as the chair for the University Aviation Association's (UAA) newly created Graduate Aviation Education Committee and facilitated a panel on aviation graduate education issues at the UAA fall conference in Denver last October.

**Michael Ferguson** has been appointed as a member of the SCSU College of Education Doctoral Program Advisory Committee.

**Angie Olson and Michael Ferguson** have passed their doctoral comprehensive written exams, and have officially transitioned from doctoral students to doctoral candidates! They are starting the initial work on their doctoral dissertations.

**Angie Olson** published a forum article titled *Challenges and Opportunities in Recruiting Middle School Students into Aviation Careers*. It was published in the Fall 2008 Journal of Aviation Education/Aerospace Education & Research.



Delta 777-200 during landing rollout, Atlanta, GA (ATL)



## SCSU students once again lend Ms. Olson a hand!

As in previous years, a number of SCSU aviation student volunteers visited Sauk Rapids/Rice Middle School with Ms. Olson this Fall for a time of aviation activities and information sharing. There were over 50 middle school students that had completed an aviation course at the middle school, and these students were very receptive to what our students had to tell them about aviation!

According to Ms. Olson, the SCSU aviation students were extremely knowledgeable in answering the many questions asked by the middle school students. In addition, the aviation students also lent their expertise by helping out with a glider builder competition. Ms. Olson indicated that all of the students (including our own!) really had a great time.

Many thanks to the SCSU aviation students who volunteered their time and knowledge to encourage the future aviators at Sauk Rapids Middle School!

## SCSU Aviation welcomes back Dr. Pat Mattson!!!

Indeed, the rumors are true! SCSU Emeritus faculty member Dr. Pat Mattson will once again be teaching a class in the SCSU Department of Aviation beginning in Spring 2009!

Dr. Mattson will be teaching AVIT 415—Advanced Air Traffic Control. The course will be offered online, and thus far the response has been extremely positive as is evidenced by the fact that the class is very close to being full!

Dr. Mattson retired in May 2006 after 18 years of serving as a professor of Aviation at SCSU. During his time here, he was warmly regarded by students and faculty alike! Dr. Mattson was also a former chair of the Aviation Department. He brings a wealth of academic and real-world experience with him to AVIT 415 which will be very beneficial to the students.

Pat, welcome back, it will be good to have you in the fold again, even if from a distance!

- “Papa Mike, you are cleared to land at SCSU via the AVIT 415 approach. Contact SCSU ground at 308.2107 upon arrival, good day!”



Dr. Pat Mattson (Papa Mike)

## Student Scholarships Winners!

**Joe Frasca Scholarship**  
Merisa Kendall

**MNBAA Scholarship**  
Jason McNally  
Ryan Koch  
Merisa Kendall  
Nick Metzen  
Brad Neisham

## Congratulations Graduates!



**Erik Stensland**  
BS in Aviation—Management

**Merisa Kendall**  
BS in Aviation—Management

**Jeff Hafferkamp**  
BS in Aviation—Pro Flight

**Anthony Dudas**  
BS in Aviation—Pro Flight

**Brad Steinhagen**  
BS in Aviation—Operations

**Angeson Abraha**  
BS in Aviation—Management

**John “Mike” Hillmer**  
BS in Aviation—Management

*Blessings and Best Wishes to all Fall 2008 Graduates! We will miss you greatly!*

*- You are cleared for departure from SCSU, safe flight...”*



## **Aeronology** *(cont. from pg. 1)*

What is “Aeronology” you ask? The study of the non-engineering aspects of aviation, aeronautics, and aerospace science and technologies. Unfortunately, the term aeronology really hasn’t caught on although the father of aeronology (Dr. J) believes he (like the world famous painter Vincent VanGogh) will be world famous after he dies! Time will tell!

## **CTI** *(cont. from pg. 1)*

In the past five years, CTI schools have graduated more than 4,000 students from their aviation programs. Three thousand of those graduates were hired by the FAA.

"These schools are an excellent jump start for a job in air traffic control," said Robert A. Sturgell, the FAA's acting administrator. These institutions will give thousands of future controllers an inside track on a great career."

The addition of new schools in the program increases the number of CTI schools from 23 to 31. The schools are accredited and offer a non-engineering aviation degree.

Special thanks to Dr. Steve Anderson for all of his hard work and effort in making the CTI approval a reality. Thanks Steve!



“If I honk the horn real loud, do you think he’ll jump!?!”

## Students experience “high altitude” chamber!

Recently, 15 SCSU aviation students had a very educational experience in the high altitude chamber in Grand Forks, ND. They received four hours of classroom instruction on the physiological effects of high altitude flight. The classroom instruction was followed by a ‘ride’ in the altitude chamber where the students experienced the effects of hypoxia. Many of the students considered the experience ‘awesome’ and ‘amazing’.

Upcoming events: Women in Aviation conference in Atlanta Georgia, February 26-28. The theme this year is “A new approach to your tomorrow”. Please consider attending (female or male). Past students have found the conference to be educational and a great opportunity to develop a network of contacts.

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### We Would Like to Hear from YOU!

Graduation? Career change? Promotion? Retirement? Anything else going on in your life? Please take a moment and give us an update. Can we feature YOU in our next newsletter? Yes \_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year Graduated \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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