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Students Honored at 2009 Aviation Banquet!



Tara Gonia announces the Sean Paul Gonia Scholarship, which was awarded to Jim Schlup (left photo). Steve Anderson presents the William Carlson Scholarship to Pascal Lawrence (right photo).

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On April 25, the annual Aviation Awards Banquet was attended by 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 guest speaker was Richard Sedgwick, Flight Services Manager for Target.

The social mixer started at 5:00 PM, followed by dinner at 6:00 PM, the speaker at 7:00 PM, and awards 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: Safety Program

by Michael D. Ferguson

Good news! The SCSU Department of Aviation is in the process of implementing our new Aviation Safety Management Program! This is the first time that there has been a safety program of this nature in place in the Department of Aviation. Like all strong and successful safety programs, this program has the support of department and university leadership, and also provides a mechanism for involving students in the development process. The safety program is a work that will remain in progress as updates, revisions, and modifications to improve the program are developed.

The safety program also features a safety committee that is comprised of the following Michael Ferguson (Committee Chair), Steve Anderson (aviation faculty), Brett Teat (Flight student), Nick Metzen (Operations student), Tammy Schwarz (Wright Aero Chief Flight Instructor), Greg Mavenkamp (Wright Aero MTC), and Bill Towle (STC Airport Director). The committee has worked to revise the program, and will also analyze incident reports and events, and make safety recommendations and changes to the program and processes as necessary.

(See Safety Program, page 4)

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) 308-3121 (email: 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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New Certificates & Ratings

Nick Metzen
SE & ME Commercial

Student/Alumni News!

Samantha Link
Intern—NTSB, Summer 2009

Kurt Larson
Pilot—US Navy

Shawn Haugen
US Navy

Jonas Courneya
Helicopter Pilot—US Army

Greg Lesniak
Dispatcher—Mesaba Airlines

Erik Stensland
Crew Scheduler—Mesaba
Airlines

Darren Muenchow
ATC—FAA, LA Center

Puran Khatiwada
Aviation Masters Program—
Arizona State University



Can You Guess the Professor?

This aviation professor developed a very strong work ethic while growing up on a dairy farm in Wisconsin.

Faculty News

Angie Olson and **Jeff Johnson** are working on a research study investigating student involvement in aviation student organizations.

Jeff Johnson was appointed to the school board at St. Cloud Christian School in March.

Jeff Johnson is working in his role as University Aviation Association (UAA) Graduate Education Committee chair to develop a graduate aviation directory.

Jeff Johnson and **Michael Ferguson** spoke on the benefits of corporate aircraft to the economy during a live radio interview at KNSI in February.

Michael Ferguson has again expanded the scope of AVIT 411 - Airline Management. The class is in part being conducted in the form of a hypothetical airline named Odyssey Air, Inc. Each student has been assigned a specific position of leadership in the airline. The airline exercise has also included simulated event meetings and conference calls with members of the airline industry. The class also features an online airline simulation where each student creates and runs their own airline.

Michael Ferguson is again teaching AVIT 496 - The Current State of the Aviation Industry during the 2009 Intersession. There are only a few more seats available in the class; this is the final boarding call for another exciting Intersession of industry tours and highly-interactive learning!

Robert Aceves will be returning from sabbatical in Fall 2009.

Robert Aceves is working on a textbook on *Chicanas and Chicanos in Aviation: Overcoming Barriers*. As a part of this research work, he was awarded the Alfred L. and Constance C. Wolfe Aviation Grant. The Wolfe grant provided funds for research at the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum archives last summer, where he held researcher status and had full access to the Smithsonian's aviation and Conquistador de Cielo project records. He was also awarded a SCSU long-term award to conduct research at the United States Enlisted Heritage Research Center at Maxwell AFB for his project. On a research trip to San Antonio, he interviewed Capt. Raynaldo P. Gallardo, one of only seven surviving WWII Escudron 201 pilots (of the Mexican Expeditionary Air Force). In the interview, Capt. Gallardo detailed his life and his encounters with racism in the U.S. during his experience flying for Mexico in support of US forces in WWII.

Steve Anderson is concluding his term as department Chair. Steve, thank you for your years of service and dedication to the Aviation Department!

Steve Anderson attended the AABI Winter Meeting Feb. 17-20 and began a three-year term as an educator member of the Board of Trustees.

Steve Anderson was selected to serve on the newly-formed AABI Multi-Campus and Hybrid Delivery Task Force. The purpose of this task force will be to develop proposed accreditation criteria and policies and procedures for multi-campus aviation programs and distance/hybrid delivery of aviation programs.

Tara Harl has been elected as the Chair of the Aviation Department. She will begin her new position in Fall 2009.



Awards Banquet *(continued from page 1)*



Steve Anderson (right) presents Brannon Zimmer the Aviation Excellence Award for Operations.



Steve Anderson (right) presents Marshall Koph the Aviation Excellence Award for Management.



Steve Anderson presents Brad Werner the Aviation Excellence Award for Pro Flight.



Steve Anderson presents Nick Metzen with the Robert Ryan Scholarship.



Steve Anderson presents Andrew Schrunk with the Ken Raiber Scholarship.

Other Scholarship and Award Winners:

- Kimberly Ritsche Scholarship: Samantha Link
- Gerald Johnson Scholarship: Jim Schlup
- Aviation Excellence in Maintenance Management: Trevor Klein
- Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame Scholarship: Pascal Lawrence
- Minnesota Business Aviation Association Scholarships: Ryan Koch, Nick Metzen, Jason McNally, Merisa Kendall, Brad Neisham
- Nation Business Aviation Association Scholarship: Merisa Kendall

Congratulations Graduates!



Joshua Hase
BS in Aviation—Management

Brannon Zimmer
BS in Aviation—Operations

Kurt Larson
BS in Aviation—Operations

Andrew Schrunk
BS in Aviation—Pro Flight

Michelle Fischer
BS in Aviation—Operations

Shawn Haugen
BS in Aviation—Operations

Brad Nesheim
BS in Aviation—Operations

Puran Khatiwada
BS in Aviation—Management

Blessings and Best Wishes to all 2009 Graduates! We will miss you! You are cleared for departure from SCSU. You are not forgotten...



Safety Program (Continued from p. 1)

In addition, the safety program features an accident/incident investigation process that is designed to be non-jeopardy in nature. Reported incidents will be investigated to determine causal factors and to develop specific corrective actions.

The safety program also features a reportable incident process that utilizes a form called The Hazard/Reportable Incident Form (HRIF). The HRIF will be used to report all flight and ground events and to also report any potential hazards and areas of risk.

The safety program represents a big step forward for the SCSU Department of Aviation. The safety of students, faculty, staff, contractors, and others must be our highest priority, and the Aviation Safety Management Program will help to ensure that we are doing our best to keep all stakeholders and assets safe.

Training in the use and expectations of the safety program for students, faculty, staff, and others will take place during the fall semester and will also be on-going in the future.

The Safety Program is available at the following web address: <http://www.stcloudstate.edu/aviation/documents/Safety-Management-Program-03-18-2009.pdf>

The HRIF is available at the following web address: <http://www.stcloudstate.edu/aviation/documents/HazradReportForm3-09.pdf>

More to follow in the future!

Thanks, and be safe!!!

Telling Pilots “Where to go”

by Dr. Patrick Mattson, C.M.

Looking for an aviation career opportunity that doesn't require flying? Do you like talking on the radio and telling pilots “where to go?” Then air traffic control might be just the ticket!

The FAA anticipates recruiting over 15,000 new controllers and most of these candidates will come from the Air Traffic Collegiate Training Initiative (AT-CTI) program. The AT-CTI program is the latest effort in the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) attempt to build a college educated controller workforce. At least three collegiate-related programs have been tried over the past 25 years. The ATC Cooperative Education program was the first of these, with selected college sophomores in aviation majors allowed to gain practical hands-on work experience via employment that matched their studies at ATC facilities. Next came the Airway Science (AWS) program, which provided money to equip select university aviation programs with buildings and state-of-the-art simulation equipment. One of the goals was to encourage aviation students with a background in the math and sciences to choose ATC as a career, but the FAA promise of priority hiring for AWS graduates never did materialize. SCSU was a member school of both of these programs, and over the years, many aviation alumni found good careers as air traffic controllers.

Future plans include adding simulation equipment, classes specific to ATC and setting up a web page for program information but for now you can see the document titled [New Air Traffic Collegiate Training Initiative Program](#) for more information on the SCSU home page about this program. If you are interested in the becoming a CTI student plan on majoring in Aviation Operations; if you have specific questions about air traffic control or this career, email Dr. Patrick Mattson, C.M., Professor Emeritus and adjunct instructor at pr mattson@StCloudState.edu

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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 _____

Employer _____ Position/Title _____

Email Address _____ Telephone _____

Please check here if this is a new address ___

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