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# InsideAABI

The Newsletter on Worldwide Aviation Accreditation

Aviation Accreditation Board International

August/September 2010

## AABI HOSTS SUCCESSFUL INDUSTRY/EDUCATOR FORUM

What a success! AABI members and guests truly enjoyed the Annual Meeting in Ohio hosted by Kent State University – the event is getting rave reviews! The theme for this summer’s Industry/Educator Forum was ***Instilling Professionalism and Character in Tomorrow’s Aviation Leaders and Operators***. With representatives from government/regulators, labor organizations, academia and industry, the panels delved into such topics as critical thinking, sound decision making, work ethics and generational challenges, tools of airline safety and risk management and how they might apply in educational programs.



Mr. Greg Riggs, Emory University School of Law and Vice President Legal, Delta Air Lines (retired), moderated the morning panel and introduced the topics of **Legal Responsibility, Aviation Character, and Professionalism** with a spellbinding presentation on managing risks and liabilities.

Capt. Bill Cush, Fleet Manager Cessna 402 Fleet, Cape Air; Mr. Don Skiados, President, Leadership, Communications, & Training; Capt. Alison Donway, Assistant Chief Pilot, Horizon Air; and Capt. John Sluys, Chairman, ALPA Professional Development Group; each spoke on the challenges industry faces regarding work ethics, critical thinking and sound decision making. Common issues stressed in all presentations were reliability, compliance and professional conduct – both on and off duty. Professionalism needs to permeate all levels of the industry, collegiate programs included. Bottom line: Professionalism is more than flying an airplane—career vs. trade—and the key to that is a holistic aviation education.



*New members and first-timers are welcomed during the opening of the Industry/Educator Forum in the state-of-the-art First Energy Auditorium on the Kent State University campus.*

Dr. Mary Niemczyk, Arizona State University, gave those in attendance an insight into the “minds of the Millennials.” Millennials represent the second largest generation next to Baby Boomers. Millennial characteristics include: works to live not lives to work; prefers structure and organization; has strong desire for well-defined career path; wants to be treated as an *equal partner*; and desires a workplace free from job pressures.

The president of AOPA’s Air Safety Foundation, Mr. Bruce Landsberg, concluded the morning panel with a presentation on the consequences of professionalism failure. Danger zones include boredom, complacency, lack of discipline and lack of good judgment; pointing out the Colgan crash, the Pinnacle debacle, and the Northwest Airlines overshoot of Minneapolis, among others.

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# THANK YOU!

## AABI ANNUAL MEETING

Hosted by Kent State University

July 13-16, 2010

The investment member organizations make in the Aviation Accreditation Board International supports the quality of aviation education programs and the improvement of those programs to ensure that ever-changing industry standards are met or exceeded. Now more than ever, our efforts are critical for the future of collegiate aviation education and development of the next generation of aviation professionals. Clearly, AABI's continued growth and accomplishments are evidenced in part by the generosity of our members and sponsors.

On behalf of the AABI Board of Trustees, members and staff, we extend a heart-felt thank you for every ones' commitment to making this an extraordinary event. The sponsors and donors who extended their services and contributions were pivotal for the unqualified success of the conference, and the meeting truly exceeded our expectations! In these difficult economic times, AABI is fortunate to have such crucial partnerships.

Thanks again to all the meeting participants for being part of our global family of dedicated members, curious thinkers and generous givers. We look forward to seeing you at the 2011 Winter Meeting, February 22-25, hosted by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, FL – join us on the beach!

**Air Line Pilots Association, International**  
**Aircraft Electronics Association**  
**Brown Aviation Lease, LLC**  
**Cessna Aircraft Company**  
**Delta Connection Academy**  
**Diamond Aircraft Industries, Inc.**  
**Dowling College**  
**Florida Institute of Technology**  
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**InterAmerican University of Puerto Rico**  
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**National Business Aviation Association**  
**Parker Hannifin Corporation**  
**Seneca College of Applied Arts & Technology**  
**Talon Systems, LLC**  
**The Boeing Company**  
**The University of Oklahoma**  
**United Parcel Service**  
**University of Nebraska at Omaha**  
**University of North Dakota**

AABI is grateful to Kent State University for hosting this event.

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Capt. Paul Railsback, Director of Operations for the Air Transport Association, addressed the luncheon keynote topic of *What Legacy Airlines Expect in Employee Professionalism and Character*.

The afternoon panel, moderated by Capt. Craig Bentley, Managing Director of Operations for Cape Air/Nantucket Airlines, introduced the afternoon's panel charge addressing **Tools of Airline Safety and Risk Management**. Panelists were asked to describe systems and processes used by the airlines, pilots and maintenance; voluntary safety programs; and the role of the regulator.

Dr. Doug Farrow, Voluntary Safety Programs Branch, FAA; Mr. Brian Beach, Director of Safety, CAPA; and Capt. Darrin Greubel, Base Chief Pilot, Atlanta, ASA; addressed Flight Data Monitoring (FDM) & Voluntary Safety Programs: ASAP, AQP & FOQA. Capt. Scott Meacham, President, CAPACG, spoke on Practicing FDM in a Collegiate Environment; Capt. Jim Miner, E190 Flight Instructor, JetBlue Airways, tackled AQP, what it means and the challenge of qualifying; and Mr. Fred Adams, CAM, Chief Pilot, Basin Electric Power Cooperative, spoke to Thinking Safety Always in Flight Operations & Maintenance.

Dr. Gary Layton, FAA AFS – 800 Academic Liaison, ended the very informative day with a presentation and invitation to become part of FAA's renewed vision in how the United States approaches pilot training, development and professionalism.

The Educator Responders Panels, lead by Dr. Mary Niemczyk, will present during the AABI Winter Meeting, February 24, 2011, in Daytona Beach, Florida. Plan now to attend and hear first-hand how collegiate aviation programs respond to the challenges set forth by these esteemed industry panels.



*Keynote speaker Railsback addresses group during the Members Luncheon hosted and sponsored by Kent State University.*

## NEWLY ACCREDITED PROGRAMS

In response to recommendations from the AABI Accreditation Committee, the Board of Trustees accredited the following programs for five years:

**North Shore Community College**  
A.S. Professional Pilot

**The University of Oklahoma**  
B.S. Aviation Management – Air Traffic Management Track  
B.S. Aviation Management – Non-Flying Track  
B.S. Aviation Management – Flying Track  
B.S. Aviation Management – Professional Pilot Track

**University of Dubuque**  
B.S. in Aviation Management  
B.S. in Flight Operations

**AABI was invited to serve on FAA's Aviation Rulemaking Committee (ARC) on First Officer Qualifications as the only representative from higher education. Past President Tim Brady is serving as AABI's primary representative with Executive Director Gary Kiteley as the alternate. The first meeting was held July 19, 2010, in Washington, D.C., with the final meetings the week of August 9. Updates will be posted to the AABI Web site as soon as they become available — check back often!**

**[www.aabi.aero](http://www.aabi.aero)**

# AABI AWARDS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

During the Awards Banquet at the Annual Meeting of the Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI), four special members were recognized for extraordinary contributions to AABI. These individuals have demonstrated continued dedication and commitment surpassing all expectations.

The presentation of these awards honors the late Dr. Paul A. Whelan, and Mr. Richard W. Taylor. Dr. Whelan was appointed chair of the Council on Aviation Accreditation (CAA) in 1988 by then-UAA President Bill Hemphill. Whelan led the organization through the first years overseeing the establishment of the Bylaws and Standards. In 1992, CAA was incorporated and the newly seated Board of Trustees deliberated on the first accreditation actions.

Mr. Richard W. Taylor was the first CAA member from The Boeing Company, elected in March 1992. He was the Boeing leader responsible for supporting a two-person crew for jet transports, and for the qualification and certification of ETOPS as a concept for operation of twin-engine jet transports over water.

The awards honor members who have been highly instrumental in the advancement of AABI, and must be an aviation educator member (Whelan) or an aviation industry member (Taylor). Nominations are sought each year, but the awards are not required to be made each year. Recipients cannot be a member of the Awards or Executive Committees. Nominations are accepted from AABI members of any category.

**Mr. Bill Kohlruss** received the **Paul A. Whelan Educator Award**. Kohlruss has served CAA/AABI for

more than 14 years in a variety of capacities, including associate chair of the Guidance Committee. He authored the original guidance document and is currently taking the lead in rewriting and expanding this form. He also serves as a visiting team chair, and has chaired or participated as a team member in 17 visits. Kohlruss has also served as a participant/presenter for many Visiting Team Training Workshops.

The **Richard W. Taylor Industry Award** was presented to **Mr. Don Skiados**. He joined then-CAA in '88 as the representative from the Air Line Pilots Association. Under his leadership, ALPA provided enormous contributions to the financial and logistical success of CAA. As a legacy of ALPA's participation, support of our Web site continues. Perhaps Skiados' greatest service was his keen insight into issues facing CAA/AABI, active participation in the I/E Forum, and his outspoken willingness to call the organization to task when we performed at less than our best.

Another surprise award was presented to **Dr. Guy Smith**, the **Mach 1 Award**. The Award was presented to Smith in grateful recognition of service "above and beyond" for spearheading the *2010 Pilot Source Study* – "For soaring enthusiasm and vision with wings."

Culminating the Awards Banquet was the presentation of the **President's Award** to **Mr. Gary Kiteley**. The award was presented in grateful recognition of his leadership, dedication, and wise counsel to all of Collegiate Aviation over a long and distinguished career. He has pioneered AABI's role in worldwide aviation education accreditation.

Our heartfelt congratulations to these well-deserving recipients!



*Mr. Bill Kohlruss (center), with Dr. Tom Carney (left) and Mr. Gary Kiteley, accepts the Paul A. Whelan Educator Award.*



*Mr. Don Skiados (center) accepts the Richard W. Taylor Industry Award.*



*Dr. Guy Smith (center), the surprised recipient of the Mach 1 Award.*



*(Left to right) Immediate Past President Peter Morton, President Carney, Executive Director Kiteley, and Vice President Paula Derks as the President's Award is presented and accepted.*

## AABI RECOGNIZES OFFICERS & TRUSTEES

President Tom Carney recognized the outgoing members of the Board: Capt. Ann Singer, American Airlines; and Mr. Jeremy Brown, Frasca International, Inc. Carney conveyed the Board's appreciation and gratitude for the members' years of service and commitment to AABI.

Officers elected to the Board are: President Paula Derks, Aircraft Electronics Association; and Vice President Paul Craig, Middle Tennessee State University. Carney congratulated Mr. Paul Woessner, Delta Connection Academy; Mr. Michael Gomm, Cessna Aircraft Company; Dr. Juan Merkt, Jacksonville University; Dr. Beth Bjerke, University of North Dakota; Mr. Barney King, Kansas State University - Salina; Dr. Alan Stolzer, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University; Mr. Peter Morton, Peter M. Morton Consulting, Inc.; Capt. Pete Wolfe, Professional Aviation Board of Certification; Mr. Greg Riggs, Emory University School of Law; and Mr. Dominic Totino, Seneca College of Applied Arts & Technology, on their re-election to the Board. Newly-elected trustees, Ms. Elizabeth Larson, Chevron Corporation; and Capt. Darrin Greubel, Atlantic Southeast Airlines; were warmly welcomed.



*Capt. Ann Singer, American Airlines (top center), and Mr. Jeremy Brown, Frasca International, Inc. (bottom center), accept Certificates of Distinguished Service in grateful appreciation for their service, leadership and dedication as a member of the AABI Board of Trustees.*



## IMPLEMENTATION OF PILOT SOURCE STUDY PHASE II

Under the capable guidance of Dr. Guy Smith, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and the principal investigator of the *2010 Pilot Source Study*, a special meeting was convened Wednesday evening, July 14<sup>th</sup>, to plot the next steps of the *Pilot Source Study II*.

Based on the research completed earlier this year, it has been hypothesized that a sliding scale for academic credit may be appropriate depending on where and how the applicant for employment received her/his flight education and training. An objective of the *PSS II* is to gather and provide facts and data to illuminate that question so that responses to an NPRM and/or discussions in an expert panel may gain insight into the effectiveness of several kinds of aviation education in preparing pilots for first officer duty in Part 121 operations.

This *Study* is crucial now that President Obama signed into law H.R. 5900 on August 1, 2010. The law does permit the FAA to consider allowing certain academic training that may increase the level of safety to be credited towards the 1,500 hour ATP certificate requirement.

The aggressive timeline set forth at the meeting includes data collection by the end of August, first from existing airline partners (*Phase II*) then from new airlines willing to join this research project (*Phase III*). Data analysis for *Phase II* will include four new outcomes variables with new details on sources of training. *Phase III* of the *Study* will be initiated when the school year is underway. Additional information will be published when it becomes available. For details on the *Study*, contact Smith directly at [ypsilon@earthlink.net](mailto:ypsilon@earthlink.net) or [smithabc@erau.edu](mailto:smithabc@erau.edu).



*Dr. Guy Smith (left, standing), addresses specially convened participants to Phase II of the 2010 Pilot Source Study.*



## Future Meetings



**February 22-25, 2011**

Daytona Beach, FL

Hosted by **Embry-Riddle  
Aeronautical University**



- July 12-15, 2011 Norman, OK  
Hosted by the **University of Oklahoma**
- February 12-18, 2012 Auburn, AL  
Hosted by **Auburn University\***
- July 2012 Montreal, QC  
Joint **AABI/ICAO/NGAP Meeting\***
- February 17-23, 2013 Auburn, AL  
Hosted by **Auburn University\***
- July 2013 Kansas City, MO  
Hosted by AEA and the University of Central Missouri\*

\*Unconfirmed