

February 4, 2011, SPM-Student Activities Report

First, I would like to report on the Future of Flight Student Exchange Program



Pictured above are the three 2010 US/UK exchange students and their composite advisor.

AESS has allocated \$5000.00 for the 2011 US/UK Exchange Program and Boeing has matched that. I plan to visit the Future of flight Museum in the 2011 Spring timeframe to assist with selection of the AESS exchange student. Please recall that we have a video by one of the students from the 2010 UK trip on our website.

The most active student branch chapter currently is the University of Missouri at Columbia (Known as MIZZOU). The team is organized as follows:

Joe Ondrus	President
Daniel Nabelek	Vice-President
Joe Morris	Chief Production Manager
Matt Evans	Chief Design Engineer
Jake Jenkins	Asst CDE
Justin Rychlewski	Treasurer and Power Distribution
Michael Rose	Autopilot and Sensors

Ryan Dickherber Architecture and Ground Control
Eric Lefevre RPV
Austin Bernskoetter Fundraising

The team has procured an RPV and are in the process of converting it to an UAV. They have contacted Dr. Larry Chasteen to give a lecture on March 16 as part of an SPAC they are hosting. I will plan to attend.

The students at Missouri University of Science and Technology (MS&T) did step forward this semester and plan to restart the excellent program run by Dave Erdos and his 2007-2009 team. Dr. Steve Watkins is their advisor and will provide an update status report. The technical article that Dave and Dr Watkins wrote has been submitted AESS editor Dr. Shirley Cheng.

I did make a trip to Colorado Springs to meet with students and faculty from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (UCCS). Also some faculty from the US Air Force Academy were present:

Enclosed are UCCs USAFA contacts

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Jim Stevens	Chair, Dept of ME and AERO	jstevens@eas.uccs.edu

I have had recent comm with Ryan with regard to IEEE/AESS providing funding for their UAV project. I plan a trip to UCCS/USAFA this spring.

The team at Kansas University have been involved in an UAV Program with an NSF funded project entitles: The Center For Remote Sensing of Ice Sheets (CReSIS). Their UAV known as the Meridian UAS has completed 46 autonomous flights using two different COTS autopilot systems (Piccolo and wePilot) installed on a 1/3 scale Yak-54 and 4 autonomous flights using a COTS autopilot (wePilot) system installed on the Meridian itself. I have a handout.

In November 2010, George Dean convened the first UAV Panel meeting in Wichita. It was there that Dr. Mark S. Ewing from KU described the KU student UAV program. George Dean will report on the UAV Panel Meeting.

Another student competition is being sponsored by the Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS). I have advised Erv Gangle:

The USA Competition will be held on Saturday 2 April at The University of Dayton, Ohio.

The poster for this Event will be ready by the end of this week, posted on Merlin's website, and sent to all interested parties. I have enclosed a copy

This is the first year that Merlin will be holding IT FLIES in the USA. The UK competition has been running successfully for ten years.

We find that our Competition is an effective way of introducing the students to the real world - industry -. These are our aircraft designers of the future, we feel it is important to see if their university designs fly, and to explore the role of the test pilot. After all you don't just design and aircraft and paper and bingo it flies!!!

We have been lucky enough to be supported by three extremely good test pilots in our UK version, John Farley, ex Harrier Chief Test Pilot, Dave Southwood from ETPS, and Dave Mackay, Chief Test Pilot from Virgin Galactic

For the USA version, two test pilots are being chosen from the Great Lakes section of the SETP.

It is encouraging that two UK universities are keen to send a team/individual over to Dayton in April, and I sincerely hope that perhaps Dayton may reciprocate this and send some students over to the UK in June.

Full details and past winners with their designs are on Merlin's website www.merlinsim.com.

Marlin Flight Simulation Group's
**AIRCRAFT DESIGN AND
HANDLING COMPETITION**



**TO BE HELD CONCURRENTLY WITH THE
AIAA REGION III REGIONAL STUDENT CONFERENCE
ON SATURDAY 2 APRIL 2011, AT 0800 HOURS
AT THE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING, UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON**

FIRST PRIZE \$1,000

Flying Judges will be members of
The Society of Experimental Test Pilots.
All entries will be flown and assessed on the
MP521 Engineering Flight Simulator at The University of Dayton.

TO ENTER PLEASE CONTACT:

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