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The Editor's Forum

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THE EDITOR'S FORUM

Welcome to the winter rendition of the Editors Forum in which I will attempt to inspire dialog via the Forum of the Journal of Aviation and Aerospace/ Education and Research (JAAER).

Dr. Seth Young presents a timely article concerning security in the aviation industry. His article “The Role of Educational Institutions for Airport Security” fits well with the topic as it was brought up in our Fall 2002 Edition.

In this forum, Dr. Young questions the difference between training and education in the aviation security industry. He questions the success of the security systems and or how we measure the success of security. He raises many questions about the aviation security systems that are yet to be answered.

Perhaps some of our readers have the answers or are inspired to do the research to find the answers. Dr. Young stresses the value of education in all aspects of aviation as well as security.

In a related Forum article Wendy Helfrich writes about “Improving Airline Cabin Safety”. As the traveling public pontificates traveling by air, the necessity for air carriers to inform the public that it has taken all measures to insure their safety is critical. Helfrich discusses ideas on how the air carriers can improve the security environment of the cabin. From sky marshals to air crew training, structural changes to equipment upgrades, she councils on the necessities that will improve the cabin environment which may regain the trust of the traveling air passenger.

Most recently the aviation industry has focused on screening passengers in the hopes of keeping the undesirables off the aircraft. If the wrong person or persons gets through the screen, there must be a second or next level of dealing with the situation on board the aircraft.

Security in the aviation industry is of high priority these days. I hope that more of our readers have some interesting feedback on this timely subject.

I have received some interest in a Forum article written by Don Smith in our Fall 2002 Edition. I encourage all to write back to the Forum on the issue of “The Demise of Collegiate Aviation Programs With the Best of Intentions”.

Bill Kohlruss
Editor