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Editor's Forum

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EDITOR'S FORUM

As we wrap up another academic year, we are pleased to provide the JAAER to complete our publication cycle for 2011-2012. We have had a very successful year with good manuscripts and interesting forum articles. This spring we have a forum that is interesting and informative.

Dr. Margaret Klemm of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University has presented us with her ideas and observations from developing a “Hybrid” course to perhaps more effectively teach the generation of students that grew up in a world inundated with digital technology. Her review of the history of aviation training leads us to the current “generation” of learners whom perhaps will excel in this new learning environment. I think you will find her presentation is certainly worth consideration when you develop or modify your current teaching curriculum. Please let our educator colleagues hear your ideas through the forum of the JAAER.

In our refereed manuscript area we have four interesting papers worth your perusal. In “The digital to analog risk: Should we teach new dogs old tricks?” authors Geoffrey Whitehurst and William Rantz present the ramifications of the reverse of technology in that pilots train on Digital Equipment (glass cockpits) and then due to equipment change or availability have to fly IFR on round dial. The authors raise the question should we train the “new” pilots on the old equipment for safety reasons? Enjoy their manuscript and form your own opinions.

Our next paper, “Mixed Methods Study of Demand Determinants of Airline Coach and Saddle Seats” from author Kelly Whealan George, is a study in whether airline passengers will ride in a saddle for a short haul flight or demand a traditional airline seat. The prior would cost much less and would allow more passengers onboard in the smaller space required for the seat. Are passengers stuck in the paradigm of reclining seats with more leg room? Enjoy the reading.

Our third and fourth inputs come from two separate authors engaged in the same topic “The Wright Brothers’ Patent Lawsuits.” The two authors take differing views on the issue to determine the right or wrong, or winner vs. loser in the early days of aviation. I am confident you will find the conflicting views rewarding.

I hope you enjoy the forums in the JAAER this spring and will respond by using the information in your daily performance of your job. Please feel free to write and submit your interpretations and experiences so we can continue the dialog in the forum section of the JAAER.

Have a wonderful summer. We hope to see you back during the next academic year. We anticipate continued interesting and educational writings in the next edition of the JAAER.

Fly Safe!

Bill Kohlruss