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## Editor's Forum

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**Editor's Forum**

Welcome to another year of the "*Journal of Aviation and Aerospace Education and Research*."

First, a quick review of the Council on Aviation Accreditation (CAA) summer meeting in London Ontario. This summer the Industry/Educator (I/E) Forum was focused on Air Traffic Control and Management. As our government explores the possibilities of relinquishing control over Air Traffic Controller training, several universities have stepped forward through the Collegiate Training Initiative (CTI) to develop Air Traffic Management programs to prepare students for a future role in the Air Traffic Control environment. The idea being that someday all Air Traffic Controllers and Managers will come straight from the collegiate programs and be able to step in as professional controllers and then advance to management positions. The CAA I/E forum provided an opportunity for the ATC industry to inform the educators as to the state of the ATC industry and present the needs for future Air Traffic Systems and controllers. The educators had an opportunity to ask questions and will respond to the ATC specialists at the winter meeting of the CAA in Auburn Alabama.

In the Fall edition of the *JAAER* we have two interesting articles that respond to and reflect on former forum articles concerning the respectability of collegiate flight education programs.

In the first article Jeff Johnson writes about the respectability of collegiate aviation and asks the question "have we arrived yet?" Jeff addresses the perception of the general public and the aviation industry as to what is the collegiate aviation experience. Jeff does a great job of detailing all that goes in to the collegiate aviation experience and expresses the concern over the slow acceptance and understanding by the industry of the quality of such education.

The second forum, submitted by Ed Wischmeyer, discusses the difference between educating the general aviation pilot and the professional pilot. Ed points out that professional pilot training begins as general aviation training by general aviation instructors. Ed also expresses the concern over the mix of flight training with traditional collegiate education that combines to make "flight education". Ed details his ideas on how to make this mix work the best.

In both articles there is obviously concerns over the present flight education arena and how the future perceptions could be changed and therefore a true recognition of collegiate flight education as a true academic discipline. I hope we, the aviation educators, will continue to explore how to make the future of our profession even brighter.

Remember that the non-refereed Forum section of the *Journal of Aviation and Aerospace Education and Research* is your venue for expressing your opinions, presenting your research, and providing our industry with your expertise on issues concerning the state of today's aviation industry and the future of aviation and aerospace. We strive to provide our colleagues with a place for professional dialog through writing.

Fly safe.

William A. Kohlruss  
Editor

