

Fall 2003

The Editor's Forum

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THE EDITOR'S FORUM

Welcome to the fall 2003 edition of the Editor's Forum in which I will attempt to inspire dialog via the Forum of the Journal of Aviation and Aerospace/ Education and Research (JAAER).

I hope you all had a joyful and productive summer. My summer was fulfilled with work and play and was highlighted by the attendance of the summer meeting of the Council on Aviation Accreditation (CAA) held in Montreal Canada. This summer the CAA conducted the Industry/Educator Forum using two topics, Technology on the Flight Deck and The Importance of Human Skills on the Flight Deck.

A panel of industry experts spoke to us of the future technologies that will grace the flight decks of our current and future aircraft fleet. From electronic flight bags to cameras in the passenger cabins there is a whole new wave of technology approaching our graduates. Perhaps some of our Forum readers have done research on these technologies or have expertise to write about such. We would be happy to publish your writings in the JAAER.

Another panel of experts informed us of the importance of human skills in our graduates, which will be the future employees of the aviation industry. They spoke of the importance of integrity and high moral values. The panel told us of the importance of being assertive and taking a leadership role in the industry. They discussed the invaluable trait of passion for the aviation industry and encouraged the educators to find ways to instill in our graduate said passion. I hope this will inspire our readers to respond with your ideas on "Teaching Passion" or instilling the values of morality and integrity. The JAAER Forum is an excellent venue to get your ideas out to your colleagues.

In this Fall's rendition of the Forum we have two excellent papers. One submitted by graduate student Mr. Ping Lee, "A Safer Sky, An Examination of Factors Affecting Flight Safety in Taiwan" addresses the eastern culture and how it affects flight crew performance. Focusing on Chinese culture, Mr. Lee addresses issues of individualism, social pressure, and authoritarianism. These human skills and issues influence the culture on the flight deck differently that the western world. Mr. Lee observes the effects of CRM training in the Chinese culture as a possible solution to these issues. With aviation being a truly global industry, we all have to strive to address these issues to make aviation safe everywhere.

Professors Jim Lewis and Don Smith supply our second Forum paper, "Desirable Faculty Qualifications as Assessed by Students in the Aeronautical Science Program at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University". This paper surveys students to determine the desired qualifications for teaching aviation related college level courses. I think you will find the survey interesting and enlightening. The information may be useful in determining the hiring and or promotion policies within the university environment.

I hope you enjoy and are enlightened by this Fall's Forum section and again I encourage you all to engage in written dialog with your colleagues through our Forum.

BillKohlross
Editor

