



2023 ATEC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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AM

AVIATION INSTITUTE OF MAINTENANCE



ATEC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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Fellow Conference Attendees:

Welcome to Chicago! I am proud to represent Aviation Institute of Maintenance (AIM) as your host sponsor and to serve as your Annual Conference Chair. We are thrilled to have you in Chicago, at our newest and largest AIM campus.

This year's program is full of invaluable content, provided by your peers, all committed to closing workforce gaps, increasing diversity and equity in the aviation industry, and ensuring safe air travel for years to come. Please take some time to enjoy the sights and food Chicago has to offer while you're here.

A special thanks goes out to our sponsors; in particular United Airlines, for serving as this year's main sponsor and tour host. Personally, I would also like to thank our team at AIM for providing local support, and Crystal and Tarra – without their hard work behind the scenes – we could not have pulled this off.

We hope you enjoy the conference and your time in the Windy City,

Nicole Gleaton

Aviation Institute of Maintenance Director of Communications
& ATEC Annual Conference Chair

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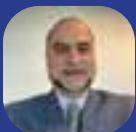
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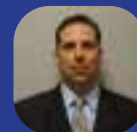
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Committee Chair



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Director

CONFERENCE AGENDA

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023

- 11:00am – 2:00pm **Board Meeting—Hyatt**
Lunch sponsored by
 **American Airlines**
- 1:00pm – 4:00pm **Exhibitor Setup—AIM**
- 2:00pm – 4:30pm **Registration—Hyatt**
- 2:30pm – 3:30pm **Committee Meetings—Hyatt**
- 5:00pm – 7:00pm **Welcome Reception—Gino's East**
Sponsored by


MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2023

- 7:30am **Bus Departs Hyatt for AIM**
- 8:00am – 4:00pm **Registration**
- 8:00am – 4:00pm **Exhibit Hall**
- 8:00am – 8:30am **Breakfast**
Sponsored by

- 8:30am – 9:30am **Welcoming Remarks and Exhibitor Spotlight**
Get a round-the-room introduction of exhibitors.
- 9:30am – 10:00am **Networking Break**
Sponsored by


IMPORTANT ADDRESSES

Aviation Institute of Maintenance (AIM)

3711 S Ashland Ave

Gino's East

162 E Superior St

Hyatt Centric

633 N Saint Clair St
Third Floor

Marz Brewing

3630 S Iron St



MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2023

10:00am – 10:30am

Keynote

Rodney Luetzen, Vice President, Line Maintenance, United Airlines

10:30am – 11:30am

What Have We Done for You Lately

Hear about the latest association initiatives and what the council is doing through and for its members.

James Hall, ATEC President & Dean, Aviation and Manufacturing National Center for Aviation Training, WSU Tech

Jared Britt, ATEC Treasurer and Legislative Committee Chair & Director of Global Aviation Maintenance Training, Southern Utah University

Sean Gallagan, ATEC Regulatory Committee Chair & CEO, Aviation Workforce Solutions

James Smith, ATEC Membership Committee Chair & Director of Aviation Maintenance, Marshall University

Nicole Gleaton, ATEC Meeting Planning Committee Chair & Director of Communications, Aviation Institute of Maintenance

Ryan Goertzen, Choose Aerospace President & Vice President Maintenance Workforce Development, AAR Corp

Karen Johnson, ATEC Vice President and Journal Editor & Associate Professor, Southern Illinois University

Crystal Maguire, Executive Director, ATEC

11:30am – 1:00pm

Awards Luncheon

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Choose Aerospace recognizes scholarship awardees and the Northrop Rice Foundation and JSfirm.com present the ATEC 2023 Student and Educator of the Year.

1:00pm – 2:15pm

Supply and Demand of Aviation Technical Personnel

Just as the dramatic downturn in traffic during the pandemic affected near-term staffing needs for companies that employ A&Ps, the rapid recovery is having similarly far-reaching ramifications. The primary factor preventing growth is a lack of qualified skilled labor—including maintenance personnel. Get an overview of the numbers from various industry perspectives.

Livia Hayes, Director, Oliver Wyman CAVOK

Paul LaPorte, Economist, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Jennifer Radtke, Chief Mechanic, Boeing

Moderator: Justin Madden, Managing Director, Engineering & Maintenance, Airlines for America

CONFERENCE AGENDA

2:15pm – 2:45pm

Networking Break

Sponsored by



2:45pm – 4:00pm

Plane Talk

Employers are hiring. What are they looking for? Have a candid discussion with recruitment personnel about hiring criteria, candidate shortfalls, and workforce need projections.

Simone Drakes, Managing Director of Calibrate, United Airlines

Brennen Horton, Manager, Maintenance and Ground Ops Recruitment, Republic Airways

Chris Toppin, Vice President, Human Resources, AAR

Moderator: Suzanne Markle, President and Chief Executive Officer, Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics

4:30pm – 6:30pm

Evening Reception—Marz Brewing

Take a walk to the neighborhood brewery for food, drink, and fellowship.

Sponsored by



6:30 pm

Bus departs Marz Brewing for Hyatt

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2023

7:30am

Bus departs Hyatt for AIM

8:00am – 4:00pm

Exhibitor Hall

8:00am – 8:45am

Breakfast

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8:45am – 9:15am

Keynote Address

John Holmes, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Office, AAR

9:30pm – 3:30pm

BREAKOUTS (see full descriptions on page 6)

CLASSROOM 137	MAIN STAGE	CLASSROOM 165	CLASSROOM 138
9:30am – 10:30am			
1 Hangar of the Future	2 FAA Policy Update	3 Embracing DEI	4 Maintaining Academic Continuity
10:45am – 11:45am			
5 Building an A&P Plus Program	6 Choose Aerospace	7 FAA Inspector Surveillance	8 Product Showcase: Ekanos
11:45am – 1:15pm			
Food Truck Lunch and Roundtable Discussions			Sponsored by 
<p>Table A: Research Sharing</p> <p>Join ATEC Journal editors and peers over lunch to share ideas and collaborate on research.</p> <p>Facilitator: Daniel Siao, Assistant Professor, Middle Tennessee State University</p>		<p>Table B: Choose Aerospace Collaboration</p> <p>Schools currently utilizing the Choose Aerospace curriculum and those interested in adopting its share information and ideas.</p> <p>Facilitator: Ryan Goertzen, President, Choose Aerospace</p>	
1:15pm – 2:15pm			
9 Virtual Reality in the Classroom	10 South Chicago Case Study	11 FAA Airman Testing Update	12 Part 147 Best Practices
2:30pm – 3:30pm			
13 Electronic Propulsion	14 FAA Workforce Initiatives	15 FAA O&P Test Changes	16 Teacher Training

3:45pm – 4:30pm

Closing Remarks & Exhibitor Door Prizes

4:30pm – 6:30pm

Employer Link: Educator-Employer Networking Reception

6:30pm

Bus departs AIM for Hyatt

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2023

8:00am – 12:00pm

United Airlines Tours

Bus departs Hyatt at 8:00am, drops at ORD terminal and Hyatt directly after tours.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2023

8:00am – 5:00pm

FAA Designated Mechanic Examiner Renewal—AIM

Required recurrent training presented by the FAA, advanced and separate registration is required.

BREAKOUT DESCRIPTIONS

1. The Hangar of the Future

Innovative application of state-of-the-art technologies and methods are increasing operational efficiency for aviation maintenance and manufacturing worldwide. Learn about advances in hand tool identification and safety and usage certification and how those concepts can be incorporated in educational programs.

John Gamble, Education Partnerships Manager, Snap-on Industrial

Scott Steward, Asset Solutions Manager, Snap-on Industrial

2. FAA Safety Standards: A Policy Update

The new part 147 has been in effect for six months. What lessons have we learned? What went well and what do we still need to work on? Get the regulators' perspective on the new regulation and have your questions answered.

Tanya A. Glines, Aviation Safety Inspector, Aircraft Maintenance Division, FAA

Kevin Morgan, Airmen Section Manager, Aircraft Maintenance Division, FAA

3. Embracing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Diversity in the aviation workforce has never been higher; however, there is still significant work that needs to be done. Hear from a panel of industry experts who will share best practices on how to cultivate a diverse workforce.

Kozetta Chapman, Senior Manager Tech Ops Recruiting & Development, American Airlines

Dana Rapoport, Chief of Diversity & Inclusion, TechForce Foundation

Marissa Roberson, Sr Manager, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Programs & Integration, United Airlines

Stacey Rudser, President, Association for Women in Aviation Maintenance

Moderator: Ben Clark, Director of Outreach and Development, Aviation Institute of Maintenance

4. Learning from COVID-19: Adapting to Maintain Academic Continuity During Disruptions

Education in aviation fields relies heavily on kinesthetic learning; the COVID-19 crisis caused significant disruption to students' learning. Panelists share evidence-based suggestions to handle future disruptions, based on interviews and surveys of aviation maintenance program representatives.

Damon Lercel, Assistant Professor, Purdue University

Sheryl Oxley, Aviation Program Coordinator, Tulsa Technology Center

Michael Sasso, Program Director, Cape Cod Community College

Dr. Katie Shakour, Research Associate, Clemson University Center for Workforce Development

5. Emerging Technologies: Focusing on the Delta, Building an A&P Plus Program

Innovators will always move faster than regulators, and aviation technical education will often be caught in the middle. How can we prepare students to serve industry needs while also satisfying regulatory mandates required to produce certificated mechanics? Council leaders solicit the community's feedback to develop recommendations and a plan of action.

Stephen Ley, Associate Professor, Utah Valley University

Zackary Nicklin, UAS Program Manager, Northland Community and Technical College

6. Choose Aerospace: High School Partner Pipelines

ATEC's sister organization developed aviation maintenance curriculum to increase awareness and feed more students into part 147 programs. As the non-profit wraps up its first full year of implementation, hear from A&P schools that are using the content to create new pathways through matriculation agreements and/or credit for previous instruction.

Ryan Goertzen, Vice President of Workforce Development, AAR

Dr. Karen Jo Johnson, Associate Professor, Southern Illinois University

Crystal Maguire, Executive Director, Aviation Technician Education Council

Michael Sasso, Program Director, Cape Cod Community College

James Smith, Director of Aviation Maintenance, Marshall University

7. FAA Safety Standards: Inspector Surveillance

Know what to expect from inspectors during an audit and get an overview of applicable inspector guidance including Order 8900.1 Flight Standards Information Systems, Safety Assurance Oversight System Data Collection Tools, and Job Task Analysis.

Tanya A. Glines, Aviation Safety Inspector, Aircraft Maintenance Division, FAA

Kevin Morgan, Manager, Aircraft Maintenance Division, FAA

8. Product Showcase: Interactive eBooks for A&P Programs

Ekanos is an interactive eBook solution that makes aviation technician education easy and effective. The content aligns with new FAA mechanic airman certification standards and allows students to see theory concepts in action through animation and virtual practices. Panelists will showcase the tool and highlight updates made since its summer 2022 launch.

Duncan Bender, Consultant, Hudson Valley Community College

Martin Cook, Instructor, United Aviate Academy

Natalie LaFlam, Marketing & Account Coordinator, Aviation Resources & Consulting Services, LLC

Fazil Punnassery, Head of Business Development, Ekanos

Christopher Spencer, Consultant, Hudson Valley Community College

9. Emerging Technologies: Virtual Reality Simulation in the Classroom

In partnership with Transfr, Southern Illinois University secured a grant to design, develop, and implement virtual reality simulations of A&P labs. Hear how the program

partnered with the local workforce development board and secondary education and get a peek at the final product.

Brian Hartz, Business Owner, Virtual Training Facility, TRANSFR, Inc.

Dr. Karen Jo Johnson, Associate Professor, Southern Illinois University

Terrence Purvis, Workforce Manager, TRANSFR, Inc.

10. An Unusual and Creative Partnership: A Pathway for Careers in South Chicago

During a period of increased Chicago violence, a collaboration between industry, educational partners, and social programs engaged the aerospace workforce pipeline and provided clear and immediate educational pathways to students. Hear about a program ushering students from high school, to career school, to community college, to university—with opportunities for employment throughout the process.

Tyreq Brandy, Student, Aviation Institute of Maintenance

Cheryl Freeman, Dean, Career & Continuing Education, Olive-Harvey College

Ryan Goertzen, Vice President of Workforce Development, AAR

Tamera Holmes, President, AeroStar Avion Institute

Josie Figueroa-Duran, High School Student, AeroStar Avion Institute

Moderator: Dr. Joel A. English, Executive Vice President, Aviation Institute of Maintenance

11. FAA Airman Testing: A Policy Update

In August, new mechanic airman certification standards will officially drive mechanic training and testing. Get an overview on how the new standard will drive changes to the written, oral, and practical tests, the timeline for publication of revised guidance, what new data will be available to part 147 schools to drive training improvements, and how stakeholder engagement will influence ongoing improvements to the testing standard.

Jackie Spanitz, General Manager, Aviation Supplies & Academics, Inc.

Christopher Thomas, Manager, Airman Testing Standards, FAA

12. The New Part 147: Best Practices

The new rule provides certificated programs with the opportunity to rethink the traditional approach to education. What are stakeholders doing differently that they weren't doing before? How are new innovations impacting enrollments, training, and certification rates? Hear from peers and share your own best practices.

Jared Britt, Director of Global Aviation Maintenance Training, Southern Utah University

James Hall, Dean, Aviation and Manufacturing National Center for Aviation Training, WSU Tech

Mark Holloway, Director of Aviation, Aviation Institute of Maintenance

13. Emerging Technologies: Electric Propulsion in Part 147 Curriculum

Electric propulsion is quickly becoming more pervasive in the airspace, but the technology often goes unaddressed in part 147 programs. Hear about industry-driven consensus standards that can be the backbone to any offering and how best to incorporate electric propulsion into an A&P program.

Dr. Mary E. Johnson, Professor, Assoc Head for Grad Studies and Research, Purdue University

Dr. Tracy L. Yother, Assistant Professor, Aeronautical Engineering Technology, Purdue University

14. FAA Workforce Development Initiatives

Get an overview of FAA workforce initiatives implemented through the FAA Workforce Development Grant program and outreach conducted through the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Aviation and Space Education Program (STEM AVSED) to inspire youth from diverse backgrounds to pursue careers in the aerospace industry.

Miranda Haywood, AWD Grants Division Manager, FAA

Sean Torpey, Executive Director, National Engagement and Regional Administration, FAA

15. FAA Airman Testing: Change is Coming

The ACS will soon be the new standard for testing mechanic applicants, and with that new standard comes structural changes to the mechanic oral and practical tests. Hear about the new mechanic test generator and changes to expect in testing administration.

Jackie Spanitz, General Manager, Aviation Supplies & Academics, Inc.

Stephanie Williams, Aviation Safety Inspector, Regulatory Support Division, FAA

16. Instructor Best Practices and Practical Tips for the Classroom

New instructors quickly discover that being able to teach is not the same as being able to do that thing. Educators need additional skills and knowledge to bridge the gap between experienced performer and effective instructor. Author of AVOTEK's Aviation Mechanic Instructor's Handbook walks through scenarios and educational theories specific to mechanic schools and instructors.

David Jones, Senior Writer/Editor, AVOTEK

ATEC ANNUAL CONFERENCE EMPLOYER LINK



CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



TYREQ BRANDY

Student, Aviation Institute of Maintenance

Brandy was the first student enrolled in the Olive-Harvey/AIM dual enrollment program in 2021. He started the program within the sheet metal course at Olive-Harvey, sponsored by AAR Corp, and he quickly developed an interest to pursue his full A&P certification. He began technical courses at AIM with the first class of students in September 2021, and he will be among the first AIM Chicago graduates in May 2023. Brandy will graduate with his A&P certification in hand and complete his associate's degree at Olive-Harvey. His credits will be eligible for transfer to a bachelor's degree at Southern Illinois University and Embrey-Riddle Aeronautical University.



JARED BRITT

Director of Global Aviation Maintenance Training, Southern Utah University

As the chairman of the ATEC Legislative Committee, Britt is driving change for technician schools around the country. In his capacity at SUU, Britt's responsibilities include overseeing the part 147 program and its interface with SUU's part 141 flight school and its part 145 repair station, writing maintenance policies and procedures and developing the safety processes used every day to ensure technicians' work is always correct and safe. Prior to joining SUU, Britt worked as a technician for Boeing's Apache production team. He holds an FAA mechanic certificate and mechanic examiner designation. He received his technical training at Chandler-Gilbert Community College and recently earned his master's of public administration from SUU.



KOZETTA CHAPMAN

Senior Manager, Tech Ops Recruiting and Development, American Airlines

Chapman champions the initiative to increase diversity within the technical operations space through recruitment, talent pipeline development, and community outreach events at American Airlines. She is also responsible for developing and implementing the team's long-term strategy to ensure the organization attracts and retains top talent. Prior to American Airlines, Chapman was the training director for an international legal services company and a professor at the University of Oklahoma, teaching courses on minority and ethnic relations, women

around the world, and social problems. She earned a bachelor's in sociology and a master's in human relations from the University of Oklahoma. She is a lifelong learner, professional speaker and published author who continuously seeks opportunities to enhance the lives of those within her span of care. Kozetta loves to travel, read, volunteer in the community, and spend time with family and friends.



BEN CLARK

Director of Outreach and Development, Aviation Institute of Maintenance

Offering 16 years of higher education experience, Clark has worked in nearly every department at AIM, including serving as a school director. As a native of Virginia Beach, where he still resides, Clark works out of the organization's home office where he leads community and workforce development for twenty campuses; his favorite part of the job is hosting summer camps for underserved communities. Clark received his bachelor's in history from James Madison University and his master's in higher education administration from the University of Louisville. He is a licensed drone operator and is currently working toward his PhD in higher education management at Hampton University. He is a recipient of the School of Excellence Award from Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges and was recently named "Top 40 Under 40" by Aviation Maintenance Technology magazine. When he's not knee deep in higher education regulations and schoolwork, he enjoys spending time outside with his wife, daughter, and two mini dachshunds.



SIMONE DRAKES

Managing Director of Calibrate, United Airlines

Drakes grew up in Barbados and is the daughter of an air traffic controller. She dreamed of becoming a pilot, so she moved all on her own to the US when she was just 14 years old. At 16, Drakes enrolled at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and excelled in avionics engineering. She graduated with honors at the top of her class and as the only female. The tragedy of 9/11 limited her job prospects, but also provided an opportunity to work as a quality engineer in an automotive plastics manufacturing plant, Florida Production Engineering. Drakes honed in on her avionics engineering and civil aviation regulatory compliance at EMTEQ Engineering and thereafter held roles at Avionica and GE Aviation as the vice president of engineering before transitioning to United in 2020. Through her work on the Calibrate apprenticeship program, she is transforming a traditionally male-dominated industry by bringing in more women and diversity into the field of Tech Ops.



DR. JOEL ENGLISH
Executive Vice President,
Aviation Institute of Maintenance

Dr. English supervises all operations over the 18 campuses of Centura College across the United States. He previously served as a commissioner for the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC), including as chairman of the board. In previous positions, Dr. English served as the CEO for the Ohio, Illinois, Colorado, and Miami Media Schools, a family of institutions dedicated to technical education in radio, television, and internet media broadcasting. He oversaw distance learning and school operations at several campuses as a regional director and executive director at Centura College, and he was formerly an assistant professor of english and distance learning at Old Dominion University. Dr. English is the author of *Plugged In: Succeeding as an Online Learner* and holds a PhD in rhetoric and composition from Ball State University, an MA in technical and expository writing, and a BA in english from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.



JOSIE FIGUEROA-DURAN
Student, AeroStar Avion Institute

Figueroa-Dunn is a high school student within the enrollment program between AeroStar Avion Institute, Olive-Harvey College, and Aviation Institute of Maintenance. She developed her interest in aviation when she flew back and forth to Mexico as a child. When she graduates high school, she plans to sit for her general exam and enroll in the Olive-Harvey/AIM program to pursue her A&P certification.



CHERYL FREEMAN-SMITH
Dean, Career and Continuing Education,
Olive-Harvey College

Freeman-Smith has served at City Colleges of Chicago for more than ten years; she is currently the dean at Olive-Harvey College, overseeing all career-focused programs. Freeman-Smith has more than twenty years of workforce development experience. She started her career as an engineer with Abbott Laboratories and later joined Avon Inc. as a distribution analyst. She also worked as a workforce coordinator overseeing the redevelopment of the Cabrini Green-Chicago Housing Authority in Chicago, assisting residents to find sustainable training

and employment opportunities. She oversaw two departments, workforce development and workforce diversity, simultaneously at the Chicago Urban League. She holds an undergraduate degree in industrial engineering and management sciences from Northwestern University and an MBA in leadership from Argosy University. She and her family reside in Chicago.



DR. SEAN GALLAGAN
Chief Executive Officer,
Aviation Workforce Solutions

Dr. Gallagan provides aviation professions, aviation companies, and educational and non-governmental organizations services to grow their business through workforce acquisition and retention, training development and implementation, company promotion and branding, and strategic planning and cost saving implementations. Prior to becoming a consultant, he served as the associate dean overseeing transportation programs at Broward College. These programs included aviation, marine, automotive, and industrial technology. Dr. Gallagan was also the principal/director of George T. Baker Aviation Technical College, the largest FAA part 147 public training institute in the southeast United States. He received his PhD from Barry University, master's from Nova Southeastern, and his bachelor's from FIU. He currently serves on numerous boards and committees including the South Florida Aviation Maintenance Council, Greater Miami Aviation Association, Florida Memorial University Aviation Advisory Committee, Broward College Aviation Advisory Committee, Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Aviation Committee, the Beacon Council Aviation Committee, and ATEC.



JOHN GAMBLE
Education Partnerships Manager,
Snap-on Tools

Gamble is a business and education partnerships manager for Snap-on. In his current position, he focuses on cultivating relationships with industry and educational institutions in an effort to end the skills gap.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



NICOLE GLEATON
Director of Communications,
Aviation Institute of Maintenance

Gleaton began her higher education career more than ten years ago as a compliance officer. Her background in regulatory compliance compliments her current role, which includes community/political outreach and public relations. She also oversees enrollment document management and companywide travel and meeting logistics. She regularly interfaces with industry organizations. Gleaton places a high priority on both student success and effective interdepartmental communication and works hard to fuse both objectives into her day-to-day work.



TANYA GLINES
Aviation Safety Inspector,
Aircraft Maintenance Division,
Federal Aviation Association

Glines is an airworthiness aviation safety inspector for the FAA's Safety Standards, Aircraft Maintenance Division, Airman Section (AFS-320). Previously, Glines served as a principal maintenance inspector in the Salt Lake City FSDO with responsibility for 145, 147, 135, 133, and 137 certificates. Prior to joining the FAA, Glines worked for a part 121 air carrier, multiple part 135 helicopter operators, and 145 repair stations. She served in various capacities including as an A&P mechanic with an inspection authorization, lead mechanic, and aircraft maintenance systems trainer.



RYAN GOERTZEN
Vice President of Maintenance Workforce
Development, AAR Corp

Goertzen oversees AAR's various workforce-based initiatives and was responsible for the development of the EAGLE Career Pathway Program. Goertzen is also the president of Choose Aerospace, whose purpose is to unite the aerospace industry to implement solutions for the workforce shortage. Goertzen previously worked at Spartan College of Aeronautics, holding the positions of vice president of education, president of Spartan's Tulsa campuses and corporate officer. Before that, Goertzen spent three years at AAR Corp managing the training and ASAP programs in Oklahoma City. He began his career as a pilot instructor for Air Wisconsin Airlines Corporation where he was responsible for Air Wisconsin's first learning management system and

e-learning content used in recurrent pilot training. In 2005 Goertzen transitioned to the maintenance side of the airline as Air Wisconsin's manager of maintenance training and ASAP manager. Goertzen was ATEC president from 2014-2018. He holds a BS in aviation and a masters of public administration from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Goertzen is married to the love of his life Jenny and has three sons Jacob, Joshua, and Jack.



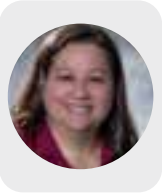
JAMES HALL
Dean, Aviation & Manufacturing National
Center for Aviation Training, WSU Tech

Hall began his aviation career as a sheet metal mechanic at Cessna. He worked his way through the ranks into management, serving along the way as production foreman, value stream leader, transition specialist, and finally program manager for King Air production at Hawker Beechcraft. While working full-time, Hall earned multiple associate degrees, including a bachelor's of business administration, a master's of business administration, and his FAA mechanic certificate. His experiences as a non-traditional student sparked his passion for adult education. In 2012, Hall joined the faculty at WSU Tech, quickly progressing to lead faculty of Aviation Manufacturing. In his current role, Jim oversees several different aviation programs including AMT and sheet metal assembly. Hall has served on the ATEC board of directors since 2017 and has held every council executive leadership position including his current roll as president.



BRIAN G. HARTZ
Business Owner, Virtual Training Facility,
Transfr, Inc.

Hartz brings nearly 20 years of experience in workforce development and SaaS software to his current position as the business owner of Transfr's Virtual Training Facility. He is responsible for ensuring that Transfr's virtual reality training content is aligned with market needs and industry standards. Hartz previously helped Transfr build relationships with national nonprofits, including Goodwill and Boys & Girls Clubs of America, to further the company's mission of providing everyone with access to productive and rewarding career paths through VR technology.



LIVIA HAYES
Director, Oliver Wyman

Hayes leads the market intelligence team at Oliver Wyman developing and maintaining the short and long-term forecast outlooks for the global aircraft fleet as well as the annual MRO spend attributable to those aircraft. The team provides analyses and forecasts for other aviation and aerospace issues including labor, cargo, and emissions that are used for a variety of client engagements as well as industry publications. Hayes leads the development of these forecasts and associated commentaries in addition to supporting client and project teams and provides subject matter expertise to the entire aviation, aerospace, and defense practice.



MIRANDA HAYWOOD
Grants Division Manager,
Federal Aviation Administration

Haywood supports the NextGen mission to establish and administer a portfolio of contract vehicles and provide grant management administration to secure services and financial assistance opportunities for the FAA and the general public. She leads a cross-functional team of contract, grants, and engineering professionals and is responsible for awarding approximately \$400 million in grants and administering over \$7 billion in technical and support service contracts. Haywood joined the agency in 2000 and serves as the chief warranted grant officer for the Office of NextGen Aviation Research, Centers of Excellence, Environmental Sustainability, and Aviation Workforce Development Grant Programs. She earned a bachelor's from Howard University and a master's degree with a concentration in public administration from Bowie State University. She is a certified project management institute project manager and a graduate of the distinguished Federal Executive Institute.



MARK D. HOLLOWAY
Director of Aviation Education,
Aviation Institute of Maintenance

Holloway started his aviation career in 1987 as a member of the United States Air Force. He worked as a KC135-A crew chief for three years on the flight line and one year on the Phase Inspection Docks. After active duty, he earned his FAA mechanic certificate and was hired to work the

C5 Galaxy as an air reserve technician in San Antonio. Here he returned to school and in 1998, completed his bachelor's degree in career and technology education from Southwest Texas State University. Holloway completed his student teaching at St Phillips College and worked there part-time as an adjunct faculty member until 1999 when he accepted a position with American Trans Air in Indianapolis. While an instructor with ATA, Holloway earned an inspection authorization and began working as a designated mechanic examiner. He was promoted to a supervisory position and was the director of education for ATA when AIM purchased ATA in 2004. At AIM, Holloway has held positions as instructor, director of education, campus executive director, and corporate director of aviation education. During his time with AIM, he was also able to complete a master's degree in technical education from Ball State University.



JOHN M. HOLMES
Chairman, President, and Chief Executive
Officer, AAR Corp

Under Holmes' leadership, AAR Corp is a leading aviation services provider to commercial and government customers worldwide. Holmes joined AAR in 2001 as director of mergers and acquisitions. In 2003, he became general manager of AAR's parts trading business and progressively assumed responsibility for the other businesses that comprise Aviation Services, which include Integrated Solutions, OEM Solutions, and MRO Services and focus on achieving growth and operational efficiencies. Holmes was appointed president and chief operating officer in 2017. In 2018 he was named president and chief executive officer of AAR, and in 2023 he became chairman of the Board of Directors. Holmes serves on the boards of Economic Club of Chicago, Executives Club of Chicago, World Business Chicago, Columbia College Chicago, Shedd Aquarium, Lincoln Park Zoo, and the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago Foundation. He has a bachelor's in finance from the University of Illinois and an MBA from the University of Chicago.



TAMMERA L. HOLMES
Founder and Chief Executive Officer,
AeroStar Consulting Corporation

Holmes has been the president and CEO of AeroStar Consulting Corporation in Chicago since 2008, and in 2016, she launched her non-profit, The AeroStar Avion Institute, to begin opening doors for youth in a career field that for most is still very foreign. Her focus is to get more youth, African Americans, females, and other underserved and under-represented populations interested in STEM careers, particularly in

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

the Aerospace industry. AeroStar Avion Institute is the only K-Career Aviation and Aerospace and education training organization in the nation. Its programs are now expanding into other states, such as Indiana. Holmes was the visionary behind Chicago Public School's new \$750,000 flight simulator lab at Air Force Academy High School. For transforming aviation education and all her efforts, AeroStar and Holmes were inducted into the Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame. She has done a TED Talk, been featured in FORBES, received congressional recognition for her work in STEM education, and has been invited by the Pentagon to provide aviation education expertise. She has a BS in aviation management and a BA in Spanish from Southern Illinois University. She also holds training certificates from NASA, STEM, and Teacher Air Camp.



BRENNEN HORTON
Manager, Maintenance & Ground
Operations Recruitment,
Republic Airways

Horton is responsible for managing and overseeing the day-to-day recruitment activities and strategy for Republic Airways' technical operations division. This includes all maintenance and engineering skill sets, along with the ones located within Republic's systems operations control. In addition to his current responsibilities, Horton is also responsible for managing maintenance recruitment activities and strategy for Leadership in Flight Training (LIFT) Academies located in Indiana and Myrtle Beach. Horton has spent nearly four years with Republic in various roles including pilot recruitment, maintenance recruitment, and accounting. Prior to joining Republic Airways, Horton developed his skills at a nationally recognized staffing and recruitment agency. There he specialized in recruitment activities for automotive engineering and manufacturing skill sets for multiple OEM, Tier 1, and Tier 2 suppliers and clients. Horton's hobbies include playing golf, cheering for the Indiana Hoosiers, and utilizing Republic Airways' travel benefits to explore new cities, states, and countries.



DR. KAREN JOHNSON
Associate Professor, Southern Illinois
University Carbondale

Dr. Johnson began her career in aviation maintenance as a base mechanic with Air Evac Lifeteam. In 2005, she joined the department of aviation technologies at Southern Illinois University Carbondale teaching in both the part 147 and helicopter specialization programs and most recently, the aviation maintenance management degree program. While at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Johnson earned a master's of education in curriculum and instruction and a

doctorate of education in learning systems design and technologies. Johnson also independently consults with educational institutions toward their online delivery goals.



DR. MARY E. JOHNSON
Professor and Associate Head for
Graduate Education and Research,
Purdue University - School of Aviation
and Transportation Technology

Dr. Johnson is a site director at Purdue University in the FAA Center of Excellence for general aviation research known as Partnership to Enhance General Aviation Safety, Accessibility, and Sustainability (PEGASAS). Her research areas focus on aviation sustainability, engine emissions analysis, and general aviation data analysis and automation. She is a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt specializing in statistical data analysis, designing experiments, statistical process control, discrete event stochastic simulation, and technology development and integration. Her background includes aerospace industry and automation research for 30 years prior to joining academia. Her BS, MS, and PhD are from the University of Texas at Arlington in industrial engineering.



DAVID JONES
Senior Writer/Editor, Avotek

Jones is active in all aspects of the publishing business at Avotek. He is a graduate of the aviation engineering technology program at Western Michigan University and holds FAA flight and mechanic certifications. He has extensive experience in aviation education as an instructor, administrator, curriculum developer and technical writer. Jones served on the ARAC workgroup for part 147 revision and currently serves on the FAA airman certification standards working group, which is focused on updating training and testing for all FAA airman certificates and ratings.



NATALIE LAFLAM
Marketing and Account Coordinator,
ARCS Aviation

ARCS Aviation is the sole provider of the Ekanos AMT interactive eBook. Before joining the ARCS team, LaFlam began her career at Ad Age A-List Advertising Agency as a project coordinator. She graduated

from the University of South Carolina with a bachelor's in advertising & communications with minors in business and graphic design. LaFlam currently serves in the Tennessee National Guard. While attending the University of South Carolina, she obtained her pilot's license and developed a passion for the industry. She loves working at ARCS as it has allowed her to combine her passions of business and aviation and she is thrilled about the technological advances that are happening every day there.



PAUL LAPORTE
Economist, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

LaPorte serves at the Midwest Regional Office in Chicago for the BLS, an agency of the U.S. Department of Labor that collects, analyzes, and disseminates statistical data on the conditions of the overall economy. He holds a BA in economics from the University of Illinois, Chicago. He has more than three decades of experience working in the broad field of labor economics and statistics. And in his current role at BLS, he oversees the BLS Economic Analysis and Information division in Chicago, where he helps disseminate BLS data through reports, presentations, and the BLS website.



DAMON LERCEL
Assistant Professor, Purdue University

Dr. Lercel has over 30 years of aviation experience managing a breadth of disciplines, which include manned and unmanned aviation, flight test, avionics, maintenance, quality and safety, education, and research. He has held leadership positions with UAaviation, Saint Louis University, General Dynamics, Jet Aviation, Midcoast Aviation and Saberliner Corporation. As Program Director of Saint Louis University's federally funded Center for Aviation Research he was responsible for overseeing a cross-disciplinary research team with a budget in excess of \$4.0 million. Dr. Lercel has provided consulting and training for numerous organizations regarding the adoption and implementation of UAS technologies. His research activities include FAA- and Department of Transportation-sponsored research in the areas of safety, human factors, certification standards and regulatory policy. He holds an FAA Remote Pilot Certificate, Aircraft Mechanic Certificate Private Pilot Certificate, and Federal Radio Communications Commission's General Radiotelephone Operators License. He sits on the leadership council for the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International, the Indiana FBI/Department of Homeland Security Drone Working Group, NASA's Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Ecosystem and Crosscutting

Working Groups, and FlightSafety International's Unmanned Systems Customer Advisory Board.



STEPHEN C. LEY
Associate Professor,
Utah Valley University

Ley is currently serving in the role of Associate Professor for the School of Aviation Sciences at Utah Valley University. Special projects include the deployment of a new Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace Technology Management, the development of a new Part 147 Aircraft Maintenance Technician School, and research and projects involving workforce and infrastructure development for Advanced Air Mobility Aircraft including e-Aircraft. Industry participation includes Utah Advanced Aviation Maintenance Planning, the National Business Aviation Association Emerging Technologies Committee, Aviation Technician Education Council Regulatory Committee and Emerging Technologies sub-committee, National Center of Autonomous Technologies, ASTM International, and the National Electric Vehicle Consortium.



RODNEY LUETZEN
Vice President, Line Maintenance,
United Airlines

Luetzen is responsible for more than 6,500 employees and 46 manned stations across the globe, as well as technical operations maintenance control, and third-party line maintenance providers worldwide. Prior to this position, Luetzen served for one year as managing director of line maintenance and before that was managing director of line maintenance's central region for four years. Before his role at IAH, Luetzen was the managing director of continuing analysis and surveillance system. Luetzen is driven to capitalize on opportunities that continuously improve operations relying on experiences gained while working in the base, line maintenance, and engineering organizations over his 35-year aviation career. Most recently, Luetzen led the initiative to implement a federally recognized apprenticeship program, Calibrate, offering non-certificated mechanics a path toward receiving their FAA mechanic certification. Luetzen's passions include representing his faith daily, tinkering in the garage, dabbling in home brew, and grilling on the Kamado Joe.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



JUSTIN MADDEN

Managing Director, Engineering and Maintenance, Airlines for America

Madden is the managing director, engineering & maintenance for Airlines for America (A4A), a trade association that represents the leading U.S. airlines. He brings over two decades of airline and government affairs experience to his role, where he directs and manages the technical activities at A4A in the areas of engineering and maintenance. He also collaborates with aviation industry stakeholders to advance A4A's mission. Madden has served as a member of the FAA Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee by appointment of the U.S. Secretary of Transportation and participated on several subordinate working groups. He has also served as a member of the Transportation Security Administration Aviation Security Advisory Committee, having been appointed by the TSA Administrator to multiple terms. Madden holds a bachelor's degree in aviation science from Eastern New Mexico University and is pursuing a master of business administration from West Chester University of Pennsylvania. He is a proud veteran of the Marine Corps.



CRYSTAL MAGUIRE

Executive Director, Aviation Technician Education Council

In addition to overseeing day-to-day operations for ATEC, Maguire serves as Executive Director of Choose Aerospace, a charitable organization created and funded by ATEC members that promotes careers in aviation maintenance. Maguire also manages the Aerospace Maintenance Council and oversees its flagship event, the annual Aerospace Maintenance Competition. She serves as Of Counsel for Denver-based firm, Davis Graham & Stubbs LLP, where she advises aviation companies in commercial transactions and general corporate matters. She is former vice president of operations for the Aeronautical Repair Station Association and previous contributor to Aviation Week's InsideMRO safety and regulatory column and AMT Magazine. Maguire graduated with a B.A. in management from the University of Tulsa, received her J.D. from American University, Washington College of Law and is a member of the Virginia and Oklahoma State Bars. She is the recipient of AMT Magazine's Next Gen 40 Under 40 Award and ARSA's Leo Weston Award for Excellence in Government Service.



SUZANNE MARKLE

President and Chief Executive Officer, Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics

Markle is an education leader who specializes in strategies that bring together people, processes, and opportunities to grow and support a skilled workforce. Markle is the president and CEO of Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics, an institution for aviation maintenance technology with campuses in PA, MD, OH, and SC. During her 23-year tenure with PIA, she has served in numerous functional areas including instruction, curriculum development, career services, and admissions. She was also the director of education and executive vice president/COO of the institution before her 2017 appointment as CEO. Markle serves on the board of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Career Schools, ATEC, and the Pennsylvania Board of Private Licensed Schools. From 2020-2022, she was an active contributor on the FAA Women in Aviation Advisory Board (WIABB). Markle holds an MBA from Seton Hill University, BS in education from California University of PA, and a certificate in diversity and inclusion from Cornell University. She is a member of the nomination committee for the National Aviation Hall of Fame and volunteers with various other organizations which support the aviation industry and our nation's skilled workforce.



KEVIN MORGAN

Airmen Section Manager, Aircraft Maintenance Division, Federal Aviation Administration

Morgan oversees the development of regulations and national policies governing the certification of airmen (mechanics, Inspection Authorization, repairmen, parachute riggers), aviation maintenance technician schools, and the performance standards and practices for the airworthiness of civil aircraft. He also represents the U.S. at the International Civil Aviation Organization on committees such as the Airworthiness Panel, Competency Based Training for aviation maintenance technicians, and the Personnel Training and Licensing Panel. Morgan previously served as General Aviation Branch Manager, responsible for developing, implementing and evaluating the regulatory requirements of 14 CFR parts 43, 65, 91, 105, 133, 137, 147, 183 and their associated policies and guidance. Prior to joining the FAA, Morgan served as an aviation maintenance technician and a quality assurance inspector. Most notably, he worked in the research and development conducting tests on aircraft such as the V-22 Osprey, and later the United States Presidential Helicopter Program at Patuxent River Naval Air Station. Morgan holds a Bachelor of Science in Professional Aeronautics from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, and he is a military veteran with 10 years of active duty service in the US Army.



ZACK NICKLIN
UAS Program Manager,
Northland Community College

Nicklin joined the US Army in 2003 and began his career as an intelligence and electronic warfare maintainer/integrator. He moved into the UAS space in 2005. His career has involved fielding and maintaining state-of-the-art intelligence collection and dissemination systems, both airborne and ground based. Nicklin is currently the primary UAS instructor across Northland Community and Technical College's UAS programs. He also serves as co-principal investigator and director of UAS for the National Center for Autonomous Technologies. He holds numerous industry-recognized certifications along with three associate's degrees, a bachelor's in applied engineering, and a master's in unmanned systems. Nicklin co-wrote the FAA ASSURE A.5 UAS Maintenance, Modification, Repair, Inspection, Training, and Certification Considerations Recommendations, contributes to ASTM standards regarding UAS maintenance and UAS technician qualifications and acts as a Drone Pro for the FAA Safety Team.



SHERYL OXLEY
Aviation Program Coordinator,
Tulsa Technology Center

Oxley joined the team at Tulsa Tech in 2004 as an aviation maintenance technology instructor, she became the aviation programs coordinator in 2015. She has served 27 years in the United States Air Force as an aircraft maintenance technician and phase dock chief on F-16 and A-10 aircraft and has been deployed to multiple combat regions. In addition to her military experience, she has worked with Delta Airlines, Atlantic Southeast Airlines, and Bombardier Aerospace in both hangar heavy maintenance and line maintenance. Oxley has coordinated and led students volunteering at EAA AirVenture and KidVenture since 2010, served as a PAMA Olympic and AMC Coach, and been a designated mechanic examiner since 2008. Oxley has led Tulsa Tech's AMT Program realignment under the new part 147 and serves on ATEC's board of directors; she holds a bachelor of science in career and technical education from Oklahoma State University. Oxley enjoys hiking, mountain biking, home improvement projects, working on various vehicles at the house, and playing with her dogs.



FAZIL PUNNESSERY
Head of Business Development,
ARCS Aviation

Punnessery is an accomplished expert in aviation training technology and software solutions, with over 14 years of experience in the industry. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Technology, an MBA in Finance Management, and an MSC in Air Transport Management. He is passionate about aviation training and the latest technologies, including simulation, extended reality techs (AR and VR), and training software applications. As a panelist at the upcoming ATEC conference, Fazil will showcase the latest generation eBook platform for aircraft maintenance training, the Ekanos, along with his ARCS Aviation teammates. Attendees can expect to gain valuable insights into this innovative eBook platform and its benefits for the aviation training industry.



TERRENCE PURVIS
Workforce Manager, Transfr, Inc

Purvis has over twenty years' experience in sales, training and marketing and execution of corporate and independently developed training programs. He has been with TRANSFER Inc. since February 2022, previously servicing as account manager for the Crisis Prevention Institute and Territory Manager for Sealy.



JENNIFER RADTKE
Chief Mechanic, The Boeing Company

Radtke is the first woman to serve as a chief mechanic for Boeing Commercial Airplanes. She applies her own experience as a mechanic to help engineers design products that prioritize mechanics' safety, work environment, and workload. Jennifer has 28 years of experience in the aviation industry, previously leading the Seattle Commercial Military Derivatives, KC-46, VC-25, E-7 & P-8 as the Sr. Program Manager for Maintenance Engineering. Prior to this role, Radtke led the 777X Maintenance Engineering team as a deputy program manager and served as maintenance programs engineering lead for 737, 747, 767, KC-46 Tanker and 777X. Radtke worked at multiple major airlines for 15 years prior to joining Boeing in 2011. She has a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology and Aeronautics with concentrations in aircraft

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safety, an Associates in Aircraft Maintenance from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, a technical degree in Aircraft Maintenance Technology from Michigan Institute of Aviation and Technology and a certification in Model Based Systems Engineering from MIT.



DANA RAPOPORT

Chief of Diversity and Inclusion,
TechForce Foundation

A lifelong car enthusiast, Rapoport combines a 30-year career in management consulting with her passion for all things transportation at TechForce Foundation. Working toward the TechForce mission, “to champion all students to and through their technical education and into careers as professional technicians,” Rapoport is connecting diverse populations to create awareness, demonstrate what’s possible, and educate the industry on how to welcome and unite all populations. Through initiatives such as Women Techs Rock, the TechForce DEI Advisory Council, research papers and other outreach, Dana is impacting the workforce shortage and increasing the number of women and other diverse populations in technician careers.



MARISSA ROBERSON

Senior Manager, Diversity, Equity,
& Inclusion Programs & Integration,
United Airlines

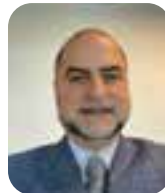
Roberson helps create equitable pathways into United Airlines through early career programs, skills-first hiring, and more. She champions DEI initiatives by owning United’s relationship with OneTen and Year Up; developing a long-term strategy to bring the next generation of diverse people into United. Roberson started her airline career as a human resources partner for corporate commercial teams at United. She demonstrated her passion for DEI by serving on the Black/African American affairs of the UNITE multicultural BRG, leading a team focused on the next generation of business resources groups. She joined the first leadership team of BEACON, United’s Black BRG, as the internal talent chair. In that role, she developed several programs for both internal and external talent. She is a proud alum of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where she obtained both a bachelor’s in business administration and master’s in human resources & industrial relations. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and in her free time, you can catch her watching TV, shopping, being a foodie, or mostly enjoying Orangetheory Fitness.



STACEY RUDSER

President, Association for Women in
Aviation Maintenance

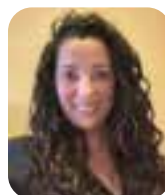
Rudser is a field maintenance vendor representative for Frontier Airlines in Orlando. She specializes in Airbus A320 family maintenance. She was the first woman to graduate from the Aviation Institute of Maintenance in Orlando and earned her FAA mechanic certificate in 2009. Passionate about diversity in aviation, Rudser serves on the national Board of Directors for the Association for Women in Aviation Maintenance (AWAM), chairs the national scholarship program, and is the founder of Central Florida AWAM chapter #23. She works closely with many industry organizations like ATEC and the Aeronautical Repair Station Association to ensure women are represented at all levels of the aviation maintenance industry. Rudser was inspired to become an advocate after receiving a career changing scholarship through AWAM for UPS Airlines 767 maintenance training. In 2018 she was selected as a recipient of the AMT Magazine Next Gen 40 under 40 award and her greatest honor is the opportunity to serve on the FAA Women in Aviation Advisory Board.



MICHAEL SASSO

Program Director,
Cape Cod Community College

Sasso is a second-generation aviation maintenance technician who is an experienced leader with more than 40 years of diverse aviation maintenance, operations, and technical education experience. He has successfully managed aviation and avionics training programs while leading the next generation of maintenance technicians using new and cutting-edge technology. Sasso’s goals are to keep his students focused on technician certification and helping to fill the needs of the aviation and aerospace industry.



DR. KATIE SHAKOUR

Research Associate, Clemson University
Center for Workforce Development

Dr. Shakour’s research has focused on community resilience during and after disasters as well as tools for improving academic continuity and disaster heritage. She recently published peer-reviewed articles about responses to the pandemic in educational settings and researcher and stakeholder interactions, which discusses balancing research and community needs.



DANIEL SIAO
Assistant Professor,
Middle Tennessee State University

Siao teaches in the maintenance management concentration and serves as the part 147 coordinator. He has also served on faculty at the University of Central Missouri. In addition to teaching aviation maintenance courses, he has taught professional pilot and online graduate courses. Siao earned his PhD in aviation from Saint Louis University. He is also a graduate of MTSU, where he earned an MS in aviation administration, aviation safety and security management and a BS in aerospace maintenance management. His research interests include aviation insider threats, safety reporting systems, and aviation maintenance education. He has been published in Harvard Law School's National Security Journal. He holds an FAA mechanic certificate, commercial pilot certificate with instrument rating, and an advanced ground instructor certificate. He lives in Nashville with his family and are active serving in their church.



JAMES SMITH
Director of Aviation Maintenance,
Marshall University

Smith was the former director of RCBI aerospace at the Robert C Byrd Institute, part of the Marshall University Research Corporation, and was the lead in developing the Marshall part 147 program, writing all the FAA materials, overseeing certification, construction, staffing, and grant development. Smith has a professional background in aviation planning, regulatory compliance, and airport management and operations. Before coming to Marshall University, Smith served as the deputy director of Huntington Tristate Airport, airport operations specialist at Lexington Bluegrass airport, and as an airport planner for the aviation engineering division AECOM. He holds a bachelor's degree in aviation business management from Utah Valley University, multiple industry certifications in operations and SMS, and is currently in the aviation safety master's program at the University of Central Missouri.



JACKIE SPANITZ
General Manager,
Aviation Supplies & Academics, Inc.

Spanitz oversees maintenance and development of the nearly 1,000 titles in the Aviation Supplies & Academics product line and the integration of these products into new and existing curricula. These materials are used in all aspects of the aviation training environment, including fourteen CFR Part 61, 107, 121, 135, 141, 142 and 147 curricula, ranging from textbooks and flight computers to software products and digital and mobile solutions. She has worked with the training and testing associated with airman certification for nearly 30 years and has participated in a number of FAA/Industry Aviation Rulemaking and Advisory Committees (ARC and ARAC), including the Airman Certification Standards Working Group. Spanitz holds a Bachelor of Science in Aviation Technology from Western Michigan University, a Master's in Aeronautics Science from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, and Instructor and Commercial Pilot certificates. She is the author of Guide to the Flight Review, the technical editor for ASA's Test Prep and FAR/AIM series and has written for numerous aviation publications.



SCOTT B. STEWARD
Asset Solutions Manager, Snap-on Tools

Steward has been providing solutions to the leading aviation OEM/MRO companies in North America for 34 years. Snap-on Industrial is a leading manufacturer of tools, storage, power tools, and asset management solutions to the aerospace industry. Steward enjoys helping companies increase productivity/profit, enhance safety, eliminate FOD, and meet governmental compliance.



CHRISTOPHER THOMAS
Aviation Safety Manager,
Airman Testing Standards,
Federal Aviation Administration

Thomas has a background in civil helicopter operations and previously served as an aviation safety inspector in the FAA general aviation safety assurance office in southern California and a front line manager in several branches of the Regulatory Support Division (AFS-600). He has served as manager for the Airman Testing Standards Branch (AFS-630) since January 1, 2023.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



CHRIS TOPPIN

Group Vice President,
Human Resources, AAR Corp

Toppin leads human resources for AAR's repair and engineering services division. He is responsible for driving talent engagement, retention, acquisition, and performance programs with a 35-member HR team across 10 sites in North America and Europe equaling 3,600 employees. Prior to working at AAR, Toppin worked as associate director for Collins Aerospace supporting sites domestically and internationally. He has over 15 years of experience in human resources and over 10 years of experience working in the aviation industry. Chris has served on advisory boards and is an advocate for youth sports programs. He graduated from East Carolina University and is a native of North Carolina.



SEAN S. TORPEY

Executive Director, National Engagement
and Regional Administration, Federal
Aviation Association

Torpey leads a nationwide organization through a headquarters office in Washington, D.C. and nine regional offices across the country. He also oversees the ARA Executive Leadership Team made up of nine regional administrators throughout the country. As the eyes and ears for the Administrator, the ARA and their staff conduct outreach to groups such as congressional officials, military bases, the aviation industry, federal government, law enforcement and educational institutions. Torpey served as the FAA's acting deputy assistant administrator and chief information officer in the Office of Finance and Management for Information and Technology Services. He also served as executive director of information and technology and deputy CIO and assisted the CIO in overseeing and managing the FAA IT services. Torpey was the director of Infrastructure and Operations in the Office of Finance and Management for AIT. As the director for Infrastructure and Operations, Torpey oversaw the Mission Support IT Infrastructure for the FAA to include networks, data centers, and device management for the 62,000+ FAA employees and contractors.



STEPHANIE WILLIAMS

Aviation Safety Inspector,
Regulatory Support Division,
Federal Aviation Administration

Williams has been with the FAA for 19 years. She was in a Flight Standards District Office as a principal maintenance inspector for 13 years and then worked for a Designee Standardization Branch for four years. She has been with the Airman Testing Standards Branch for the last two years and holds FAA mechanic and parachute rigger certificates and inspection authorization.



DR. TRACY YOTHER

Assistant Professor,
Aeronautical Engineering Technology,
Purdue University

Dr. Yother currently teaches an undergraduate AET course in powerplant systems and a graduate course in process improvement. She possesses a B.S. and M.S. in Aviation Technology. Her doctorate is in Curriculum Studies in Education. She also holds an airframe and powerplant certificate. Dr. Yother has over 18 years' experience in the aerospace and defense industry working for companies such as Boeing, McDonnell Douglas, and Pratt and Whitney. She has held positions in product support, program management, and new business development. Dr. Yother's research interests include consensus standards in aviation maintenance curriculum, challenges and credentials of aviation maintenance faculty, and the use of APIs and natural language processing in aviation maintenance records. She has received a cooperative agreement from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) for Standards Curricula Development Program to develop curriculum on electric propulsion standards in aviation.



Ace Avionics Training

www.aceavionicstraining.com

Ace Avionics Training provides online avionics training materials for aviation programs. We offer online content to prepare students for the NCATT Aircraft Electronics Technician (AET), the Foreign Object Elimination (FOE), Radio Communication Systems (RCS), and Dependent Navigation Systems (DNS) certifications. ACE Avionics Training is 100% online, self-paced and includes lesson plans, quizzes, and tests to support any avionics program.

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AIRBUS

Airbus Americas, Inc.

www.airbus.com

Airbus is a global pioneer in the aerospace industry, operating in the commercial aircraft, helicopters, defense and space sectors. The Company is a leader in designing, manufacturing and delivering aerospace products, services and solutions to customers on a worldwide scale.

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Aircraft Technical Book Company, LLC

www.actechbooks.com

ATB serves maintenance training organizations in the US and worldwide with textbooks and supporting titles in paper and ebook formats. ATB offers full service to bookstores as well as customized retail service for students. New in 2023 are multiple continuing training products including GenFams, Human Factors and other advanced certifications offered both for self study and as instructor led electives.

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ARCS Aviation

www.arcsaviation.com

ARCS Aviation develops digital e-books with interactive elements to train and prepare pilots, ground personnel, aircraft mechanics, cabin crew, and dispatchers. They have released Ekanos, an interactive eBook solution that aligns with FAA mechanic airman certification standards to support modernization of the A&P curriculum. ATEC and ARCS Aviation have partnered to provide members 20% off standard user fees.

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Association for Women in Aviation Maintenance

www.awam.org

The Association for Women in Aviation Maintenance (AWAM) is a nonprofit organization championing women's professional growth and enrichment in aviation maintenance by providing opportunities for networking, education, mentoring, fostering a sense of community and increasing public awareness of women in the industry. AWAM offers annual scholarships in excess of \$180,000 through our partnerships with industry that are available to students and to certificated A&Ps of any gender.

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Aviation Supplies & Academics, Inc.

www.asa2fly.com

Aviation Supplies & Academics, Inc. has been providing trusted aviation training products for more than 80 years to students, pilots, flight instructors, aviation mechanics, air traffic controllers, career aviators, remote pilots, and drone operators. ASA's pilot supplies, software, and publications are supported with integrity, consistency, AND superior customer service.

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Aviation Training Foundation

www.aviationtrainingfoundation.com

Aviation Training Foundation builds general aviation flight simulators, desktop simulators, simulated instrument panels, part 147 training boards and written training materials for part 147 schools.

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AVOTEK

www.avotek.com

AVOTEK delivers state-of-the-art aviation maintenance training technology to educational institutions, instructors and students. The company publishes textbooks, creates multimedia materials and manufactures training simulators—all focused on providing the best possible training experience for customers.

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Breeze Airways

www.flybreeze.com

Breeze Airways is a team of aviation, hospitality and technology enthusiasts who believe flying is the greatest privilege and opportunity in the world. And, we believe it should be an accessible and genuinely nice experience for everyone. Breeze provides nonstop service between underserved routes across the U.S. at affordable fares. With seamless booking, no change or cancellation fees and customized flight features delivered via a sleek and simple app, Breeze makes it easy to buy and easy to fly.

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CertTEC

www.certtec.com

CertTEC® provides performance-based certifications that validate critical technical skills for effective workforce applications. Developed from aerospace work in related specialties, CertTEC® provides technician certifications in the core capabilities most employers want, such as basic electricity and electronics, aviation mechanical assembly, aviation structures, basic composites, and more.

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CES Trainers

www.azimuthaero.com

CES Trainers is a leading manufacturer of training equipment for the electronics and aerospace industries. Its electronics trainers have been used in classrooms worldwide for more than 50 years. The company continues to design new training equipment to meet the everchanging needs of the industry and keep pace with technological advances. CES Trainers is now a division of Azimuth Aerospace.

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Choose Aerospace, Inc.

www.chooseaerospace.org

The Choose Aerospace aviation maintenance curriculum is a resource for A&P schools to build student pipelines in their communities. The computer-based content covers the general subject areas in the mechanic airman certification standards and is intended to support dual enrollment and credit-bearing opportunities for high school students matriculating into a post-secondary part 147 program.

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Envoy Air

www.envoyair.org

Envoy Air Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of American Airlines Group, operating more than 160 aircraft on 800 daily flights to over 160 destinations. The company's more than 18,000 employees provide regional flight service to American Airlines under the American Eagle brand and livery and ground handling services for many American flights. Envoy is headquartered in Irving, Texas with large operations in American's hubs, including Dallas/Fort Worth, Chicago and Miami.

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GS5 Corporation

<https://gs5global.com?g>

GS5 provides Global Workforce Solutions in Aviation and Aerospace. Using Industry 4.0 Technology, we provide ab Initio Training for Aircraft Maintenance Technician, Avionics Technicians and Structures Technicians. Our training is designed for "in-the-flow" of work, providing Airlines, Manufacturers and MROs, a solution to the global shortage of skilled technicians in Aviation and Aerospace.

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Heatcon Composite Systems

www.heatcon.com

For over 35 years, HEATCON Composite Systems has committed time and product development to improve composite repair processes. As a leading manufacturer and supplier of aerospace composite repair equipment, we deliver a full range of hot bonders, accessories, technical services, and materials, such as prepregs, certified dry fabrics, and consumables, for the repair of composite structures.

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Nida Corporation

www.nida.com

Nida Corporation provides courseware, hardware and management software to support outcomes-based training for traditional classrooms and distance learning programs. Nida is a recognized NCATT provider and its learning content supports SpaceTEC, CertTEC, ETA-I, GROL, and EASA-B2 certifications.

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Piedmont Airlines

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Snap-on Tools

www.snapon.com

Snap-on Incorporated is a leading global innovator, manufacturer and marketer of tools, equipment, diagnostics, repair information and systems solutions for professional users performing critical tasks. Products and services include hand and power tools, tool storage, diagnostics software, information and management systems, shop equipment and other solutions for aviation and aerospace and technical education.

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SONIC is a market leader in the design and manufacture of premium hand tools and toolbox solutions. The SONIC Aviation A + P Kit was inspired by the aviation industry's demand for efficiency and accountability. Faster pace of work, increased efficiency, the best value – that's what we're all about. SONIC is a Dutch-based company with facilities in the Netherlands, Germany and the United States.

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TestEquity LLC - Techni-Tool

www.testequity.com

TestEquity, including Jensen Tools and Techni-Tool, is the industry's largest authorized distributor of test and measurement solutions and production supplies. We also offer meticulously crafted professional tool kitting solutions ensuring each one is accurately routed for best fit, form, and function with sturdy innovative case design. TestEquity offers the most test solutions, tools, toolkits, and supplies to help design and manufacture electronics supporting the aerospace, defense, automotive, electronics, education, and medical industries. Serving electronic design and test engineers as well as maintenance technicians, industrial manufacturing assembly, and the telecommunication repair community, the distributor features products from over 1,000 manufacturer brands.

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www.transfrvr.com

Transfr is creating classroom-to-career pathways to train the next generation of workers for well-paying jobs in every industry via immersive hands-on simulated training programs that develop critical skills for employment in well-paying, in-demand jobs.

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United Airlines

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Our 80,000+ hero characters are on a mission at United to do good in the air and on the ground, as we strive to become the best airline in aviation history. United is committed to providing more opportunities to groups underrepresented in technician roles and plans to train more than 1,000 people to become United technicians through Calibrate by 2026, with a goal of at least 50% being women or people of color.

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Wing Aero Products, Inc.

www.wingaero.com

Wing Aero Products is a distributor of aviation and maintenance training material and supplies to schools and businesses. With no minimum orders, free returns, same day shipping and a guarantee that your call will always be answered by a real person (and by the second ring), Wing Aero is continually living up to its commitment to love its customers and be "easy to buy from."

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Xennial

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Xennial is a Virtual Reality/Augmented Reality company focused on building training solutions for business and academic institutions, with a special focus on the aviation industry. Xennial's new VR Intro to Aviation Program is ideal for programs looking for a turnkey solution to add VR to their technician training courses. Xennial also collaborates with organizations to develop custom VR/AR simulators focused on skills development, maintenance scenarios and certification programs.

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AWARD RECIPIENTS

IVAN D. LIVI

Instructor of the Year

PRESENTED BY



Richard Johnson

Liberty University

JAMES RARDON

Student of the Year

PRESENTED BY



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Alabama Aviation College



ATEC's sister-foundation, **Choose Aerospace**, had its fourth year of scholarships awarded to aviation maintenance students, schools and instructors. Over \$40,000 of cash awards, books, tool sets, and testing vouchers were awarded to deserving recipients thanks to our generous donors.

SCHOOL AWARDS

SCHOLARSHIP	VALUE	SCHOOL
Choose Aerospace Curriculum Scholarship	\$2,000	Moore High School — Moore, OK
	\$2,000	Westmoore High School — Moore, OK
	\$2,000	Southmoore High School — Moore, OK
	\$2,000	Polaris Career Center — Middleburg Heights, OH
Nida Training System	\$13,385	Liberty University — Lynchburg, VA

INSTRUCTOR AWARD

Avotek Dale Hurst Memorial Scholarship	\$1,500	Keith Boot	Des Moines Public Schools
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AMT STUDENT AWARDS

ARCS Aviation Scholarship	\$1,000	Alberto Martinez	Spartan College of Aeronautics
ARSA Scholarship	\$1,000	Joel Mink	Cincinnati State Technical and Community College
ASA Scholarship	\$1,000	Cielo Lubaton	Kansas State University
	\$1,000	Devin Farren	Cape Cod Community College

AMT STUDENT AWARDS

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Aviation Workforce Solutions Scholarship	\$1,000	Isaac Reck	Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics - Pittsburgh
Sonic Tools Intermediate Aviation Tool Set	\$6,665	Philip Krzyszton	Northland Community and Technical College
Avotek AMT Series Textbooks	\$585	Kyle Lander	Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics - Pittsburgh
	\$585	Nicholas Vezensky	Rock Valley College
	\$585	Nick Powell	Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics - Hagerstown
	\$585	Gabriel Calderon	Central New Mexico Community College
	\$585	Clayton Dressler	Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics - Hagerstown
Aircraft Technical Book Company GenFam Course & Certification	\$500	Calvin Ing	Spartan College of Aeronautics
	\$500	Ethan Sprague	Northland Community and Technical College
	\$500	Carlos Gonzalez	California Aeronautical University
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	\$500	Grayson Hubble	Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics - Hagerstown
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	\$500	Nicholas Durig	Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics - Youngstown
	\$500	Alexander Carpenter	Western Michigan University
	\$500	Emma Glancy	Butler Tech
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CertTEC Aviation Structures Certification Exam	\$400	Solomon Vang	Greenville Technical College
NRF FAA Test Fees Grant	\$350	Ryan Collins	Aviation Institute of Maintenance - Norfolk
	\$350	Daniel Ruiz Jimenez	Epic Aviation
Avotek Avionics Textbook Set	\$345	Julia Rose Cagasan	Liberty University
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	\$345	Noah Brown	School of Missionary Aviation Technology
	\$345	Tyler Hoffman	Idaho State University
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ASTM/NCATT AET Certification Exam	\$310	Cory Weaver	Western Michigan University

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