



VOL V, No. 2

WINTER 2005

## JACK OLCOTT HEADS SYMPOSIUM LINEUP

*President Emeritus of NBAA Will Present Keynote Address  
Service Entry of Very Light Jets Theme For 2006 Symposium*

**Jack Olcott, perhaps the world's most recognized advocate on the value of Business Aviation, will present the keynote address at the 2006 Florida Tech Aviation Symposium. The day-long Symposium will be held on Friday, October 13, 2006 on the Florida Tech campus.**

Now in its 22nd year, this is the first time that the Symposium will be conducted under one cohesive theme. Shortly after the February event, the first Very Light Jets are scheduled to be entering the marketplace. These long awaited and much discussed jets represent a paradigm shift in aviation at all levels.

Vern Raburn, CEO of Eclipse Aviation, whose let jet variant is scheduled to be certified in March 2006, told Forbes that the VLJ "will offer all the speed and safety of airline travel at a cost far below that of today's private jets." Adam Aircraft expects initial certification of their A700 VLJ in the fourth quarter of 2006. The two manufacturers currently have over 2,600 aircraft orders on the books.

Jack Olcott led NBAA for more than a decade starting in 1992. Under his leadership, NBAA doubled its membership and tripled its revenue while expanding services and laying claim to hosting the world's largest civil aviation trade show. Olcott now serves as founder and principal of General Aero Consulting and President of the New Jersey Aviation Association. Among his many other activities, he is a regular contributor to AOPA *Pilot* magazine on VLJ developments.

The 2006 Symposium will feature each of the aviation segments impacted by the introduction of the VLJ, including representatives from airports, FBO's, insurance and financial services, FAA and more.

[Check the web at www.fitsa.org](http://www.fitsa.org)  
and stay tuned for more information coming soon!

Save the dates--Feb-23-25, 2006.



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2006 AVIATION SYMPOSIUM

OCTOBER 12-14, 2006

# TRADEWINDS

A PRODUCTION OF THE  
COLLEGE OF AERONAUTICS  
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## EDITORS:

**MILO ZONKA, FITSA**  
(321) 676-0300 office  
(321) 409-8909 home  
[tradewinds@fitsa.org](mailto:tradewinds@fitsa.org)

**ANN BERGONZONI, COA**  
(321) 674-7617  
[abergon@fit.edu](mailto:abergon@fit.edu)

**COLLEGE OF  
AERONAUTICS:**  
<http://coa.fit.edu>

**DR. MICHAEL KARIM, DEAN**  
[mkarim@fit.edu](mailto:mkarim@fit.edu)  
(321) 674-8971

**FITSA ALUMNI NETWORK:**  
<http://www.fitsa.org>



**150 W. University Blvd.  
Melbourne, FL 32901  
(321) 674-8120**

## *Dean's Message.....*

Dr. Michael Karim

The 2004-2005 school year was a busy and productive year for the College of Aeronautics. Several changes occurred within the College and the year was marked by some major accomplishments by our students and faculty.

### Personnel:

We experienced several changes in staffing at the College during the year, all of which have contributed considerably to the quality of our programs. We brought on three faculty members including Dr. Donna Wilt, a former faculty member, who returned to the College as an Associate Professor. Donna filled a vacancy created by Mr. Frank Gallagher who was appointed as Director of F.I.T. Aviation during the summer of 2004. Dr. Korhan Oyman, joined our faculty in late fall as an Assistant Professor in Aviation Management. Dr. Oyman has come to us with several years of university experience from the Anadolli University, Civil Aviation College and Sabiha Goillen International Airport in Istanbul, Turkey. Dr. Oyman also significantly enhances the aviation finance expertise of the faculty. His has a strong background in airport and flight operations with a particular emphasis on the international scope of the industry. Dr. Oyman replaced Mr. Russ Graves who retired at the end of the 2003-2004 school year. Also joining the faculty was Mr. Robert Pokorney. Bob is a flight instructor, former airline pilot and comes to us from the Boeing Company where he was working at Cape Canaveral. Bob is completing his Ph.D. in Aeronautical Engineering.

We were also privileged to have Winston Scott join us on a part-time appointment as Assistant Research Professor. Winston is the Executive Director of the Florida Space Authority and a former Naval Aviator and Astronaut having logged over 24 days and three space walks over two shuttle missions. Winston works in several capacities with the College including talks, lectures, recruiting and flying students in Czech L-39 trainer.

The new faculty appointments have provided an expanded faculty capability to support increased graduate and undergraduate student loads. All the better to support one of the larger entering classes the College has seen in recent years. Including the new faculty appointments, the percentage of faculty members holding terminal degrees is now up to 80%. Two faculty are currently engaged in doctoral studies and another, Dr. Dave Smith, completed his Ed.D. in June.

Two long time members of the administrative support staff also moved on this year. Ms. Sandy Wierzbicki a veteran of 16 years with the College retired to relocate near her daughter and grandchildren in Maryland. Lyn Chilcote, has taken on a new position within the College of Management after 24 years with us in Aeronautics. Joining us this year was Lori Gilbert-White and Ms. Stacia Young. Lori joined us from Human Resources and Stacia is new to the University having just relocated from Massachusetts. They are both actively involved with the many activities of the College and are a welcome addition.

*Continues on Page 7*

## FALCONS FLIGHT TEAM WINS NIFA REGION IX ROBERT SCHUSTER MEMORIAL SAFETY AWARD

At the regional National Intercollegiate Flying Association (NIFA) Safety and Flight Evaluation Conference, Florida Tech's Falcons flight team was awarded the first **Robert Schuster Memorial Safety Award** for NIFA Region 9. The recent event was held in Jacksonville, Fla.

The award was originated this year in honor of **Bob Schuster**, a Florida Tech College of Aeronautics professor for four years, who died in March 2004. Prior to joining Florida Tech, Schuster was an instructor at Broward Community College, also a member of NIFA Region 9.

Schuster was devoted to aviation safety and very active in the NIFA flight competitions. An ad hoc organization, "Friends of Bob Schuster," sponsored the award.

"We hope this will become an annual award in Bob's memory, in recognition of his love of flying and devotion to flight safety," said **Dr. Donna Wilt**, associate professor of aeronautics. Those interested in making a financial contribution to future awards may contact Wilt at (321) 674-8120.

## ... AND TAKE 2ND PLACE AT REGIONALS

Florida Tech's Falcon Flight Team recently took second place in the NIFA Safety and Flight Evaluation Conference that took place earlier in November in Jacksonville.

The team of 16 competing students earned first place in the message drop competition. Their captain was junior **Ryan Plumeau**. **Dr. Donna Forsyth Wilt**, Florida Tech associate professor of aeronautics, is the Falcon's faculty advisor.

## US NEWS CONFIRMS FLORIDA TECH'S STATUS AMONG ELITE SCHOOLS

For the sixteenth consecutive year, U.S. News and World Report has ranked Florida Institute of Technology among the nation's best national doctoral universities. The listing again places Florida Tech among the 180 best colleges and universities.

The 47-year-old Melbourne, Florida-based university is classified by the Carnegie Foundation as a Doctoral Research Intensive university, a classification that separates it from institutions that only offer degrees at the bachelor's or master's level.

Notable in the U.S. News survey was Florida Tech's climb to 56 percent of classes with under 20 students, up from 46 percent in the 2004 guide. Conversely, the number of classes with more than 50 students continued to decrease,

from eight percent in 2004 to three percent today.

Florida Tech's freshman classes continue to be academically strong, with 30 percent of incoming freshmen in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating class. In addition to excellent grades, the 2004 freshman class did well on the SAT, as the 25th-75th percentile in SAT scores continued to climb, from 1040-1270 in the 2004 guide to 1050-1290 in 2005.

Florida Tech President Anthony J. Catanese said the university will continue to emphasize these strengths. "It is our goal to continue to attract the best and brightest students to Florida Tech, and place them in an academic environment in which they can achieve and succeed," said Catanese. "As we build a university noted for both high technology and a human touch, our students will benefit from one of the nation's best environments for learning and student-based research."

## FIT AVIATION UPDATES AIRCRAFT 6 NEW TRAINING COURSES APPROVED

FIT Aviation mechanics added Garmin GNS 430 GPS to the rest of the Piper Seminole fleet over the summer. The program is part of an ongoing effort to maintain and upgrade the existing Piper fleet.

In addition, FIT Aviation has six new FAA-approved training syllabi, including Conventional Gear Aircraft, Advanced Instrument, Advanced Multi Engine Crew Operations, High Performance Operations, Intermediate Aerobatic and International Operations. FIT Aviation has an expansive library of its training programs, FAA publications and aircraft now online at: <http://www.fitaviation.com/library.html>

## AERO ALUMS ELECTED TO FTAA NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Aeronautics alumni **Duane C. Futch** and **Milo Zonka** were elected in November to the Florida Tech Alumni Association National Board of Directors.

## UPCOMING ALUMNI RECEPTIONS

Hear from President Tony Catanese and campus leaders on current events at Florida Tech.

ORLANDO -- January 19, 2006  
WASHINGTON DC -- February 7, 2006

Go to <http://www.fit.edu/alumni> for more information or call Ken Droscher at (321) 674-7191.

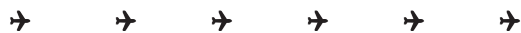
# ALUMNI UPDATES

**Chad Patnode ('04)** I'm a Flight Coordinator for Citation Shares in Greenwich, CT. I'm working with **Paul Keeler ('04)**, the Holmgren twins [**Bryan ('04)** and **Brandon ('04)**] and **Kirk Harris ('05)**.



*-Updated on the web - [www.fitsa.org](http://www.fitsa.org) -*

**Marvin J. Diaz ('83)** Recently celebrated 16 years with American Airlines and 21 years since I graduated from the FIT School of Aeronautics. Boy time flies when you're in the industry you love. FIT was good at planting that seed. I was away from flying since 1987 but now I've bought a 1979 Bellanca Citabria. Hey, 1979 was my freshman year at FIT! I've dusted off the old log book from my FIT Aviation days and started wracking up the hours. My 14-year old son is my co-pilot. Well almost. The Citabria is a tandem seater and he gets to sit in the back far away from the instrument panel. He loves it anyway and we're regulars in the skies above South Florida. Good thing flying is like riding a bicycle. It comes right back to you!



**Meg O'Neil ('96)** I'm an FO at ExpressJet (Continental Express), based in EWR and a few months away in seniority from being able to hold Captain! I'm living in Hoboken, NJ and loving it. My family and friends are nearby... and I just completed my Skydiving License!!



**Tony Kioussis ('75)** was appointed as vice president and new head of Jet Aviation's Aircraft Sales division in the U.S. Jet Aviation's Aircraft Sales Division offers aircraft marketing and acquisition services for both buyers and sellers and performs worldwide aircraft searches, arranges demonstration flights, coordinates pre-purchase inspections and assists with negotiations, financing and insurance. The division has sales offices in Dallas, TX, Palm Beach, FL and Teterboro, NJ.

Jet Aviation was founded in Switzerland in 1967 and is the leading business aviation service company today. More than 3,500 personnel are employed in over 60 facilities and stations worldwide. The company provides maintenance, completions and engineering services, fixed base operations, along with aircraft sales, charter, and management on a global basis. Jet Aviation's US and European aircraft management and charter divisions jointly operate a fleet of more than 160 aircraft and provided close to 60,000 in global flight operations in 2004.



**John Bergt ('96)** is currently living in Phoenix, AZ and is employed with Sabre Airline Solutions, involved with flight operations automation software. "Lots of fun, lots of travel."



*-Updated on the web - [www.fitsa.org](http://www.fitsa.org) -*

**Jonathan O'Hara ('94)** Netjets is a great place to work. The hour minimums are fairly hard for most new grads but alums that are looking for work should definitely consider the fractional jet jobs.



**David Ishihara ('92)** works for the U.S. Transportation Security Administration at Bradley International Airport, Windsor Locks, CT



*-Updated on the web - [www.fitsa.org](http://www.fitsa.org) -*

**Doris Jean Poling ('83)** Currently working in the Quality Assurance dept. at DFW Airport. Still controlling aircraft but doing other duties.



**Steve Miliffe ('99)** writes: I recently flew Mark Consuelos (Kelly Ripa's husband and star of The Young and The Restless) to Toronto. Very nice guy but he was actually more interested in my job and the plane that I fly. This guy is rich and famous and he's jealous of my job! Too weird..."

Effective Jan 31, I will be among the newest members of NetJets. They offered me a position to fly their fastest jet, the Citation X. I start class on Jan. 31 and will be in systems and sim training throughout the entire month of February



*-Updated on the web - [www.fitsa.org](http://www.fitsa.org) -*

**Jeff Fleming ('74)** After working with AVEMCO Insurance Company for 21 years, started branch of Falcon Insurance Agency in 1999. I have only one FIT alumni as a customer - Would love to help others in the West! Many wonderful memories of the old "dorm" in Indialantic and starting the AHP fraternity house. (Still there?) Thought of you during hurricane season - Hope all is well with the campus.



**Charlie Magnum**, manager of the Marana (AZ) Regional Airport, was recently profiled in a Tuscon, AZ area newspaper.

"When all is said and done, I view this as being the Scottsdale airport of the south - not complete with commercial jets, though," Mangum said. "It'll be an airport that will support the community and bring jobs. We really view this as the economic hub for the town of Marana."

'With everything that's happening at the airport, Mangum said there's no typical day on his job, but one thing is a given: He's constantly working with consultants to guide and ensure smart growth around the airport.

'Mangum was recently presented with the President's Award for outstanding service by the Southwest Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives.

'A graduate of the Florida Institute of Technology, Mangum said it was a summer internship in college at a reliever airport outside of Orlando that led him to realize that airport management was the field for him. He later earned his master's degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautics University while working at Mesa's Falcon Field Airport.

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*-Updated on the web - [www.fitsa.org](http://www.fitsa.org) -*

**Seiya Kato ('95)** Now I am father of a son and a daughter. I am working for IBM-Japan as Client Rep for Japanese Airlines.

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**Peter Sik ('04)** I'm now the Scheduling Manager for Wizz Air, Hungary's low-cost airline! I have to manage the scheduling itself, slots and airport services settlements. I must also represent Wizz Air at the two annual slot conferences. I also take part in commercial planning and I have some input in the marketing and direction of the company.

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**Marshal H. Perlman ('95)** recently joined Panasonic Avionics Corporation in Southern California. He is an In-Flight Technology Product Manager and is responsible for the development of next-generation cabin electronics and communication systems for Airbus and Boeing aircraft. Marshal and his fiancée Sharone have both been busy planning for their September wedding and extended honeymoon to Hawaii, Tahiti, and New Zealand. He currently lives in Portola Hills, CA and can be reached by E-mail at [marshal.perlman.bulk@panasonic.aero](mailto:marshal.perlman.bulk@panasonic.aero)

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*-Updated on the web - [www.fitsa.org](http://www.fitsa.org) -*

**Christopher Schubert ('91)** I currently own an FBO and flight school. We are always looking for new flight instructors. I would be willing to place an ad on your job board if one is available. Best contact is via e-mail [arrow9451@aol.com](mailto:arrow9451@aol.com)

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**CPT Dennis Lorenson ('99)** You would think that the military would continue to bring interesting news. I am still serving as an Asst. BN S-3 at Camp Humphreys, South Korea and flying in support of Armistice Operations. I recently surpassed 1500 total hours of accident free flight hours and passed my ATP written. I also spearheaded an international flight training program for our pilots who now conduct frequent training flights to Japan.



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*-Updated on the web - [www.fitsa.org](http://www.fitsa.org) -*

**Gustaf "Goose" Strengell ('95)** I've been flying for LAN Airlines (formerly LanChile) for 9 years, and upgraded to Captain in 2004. I serve as President of our Pilots' Union and became a father to baby Viktoria this past December. I live in Santiago with my wife Karla.

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**Al Courtney ('98)** Started with USA3000 Airlines as an Airbus A320 first officer. US3K is the sister company of Apple Vacations, and flies from domestic US cities to Florida, the Caribbean, Mexico, and Central America.

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*-Updated on the web - [www.fitsa.org](http://www.fitsa.org) -*

**Jean-Charles Rey ('96)** I've been living in Canada for three years now after instructing in Europe for a couple of years. I'm still never tired of flying: I work as a Chief Flight Instructor I fly a corporate Jetstream 31 and I've most recently been involved in demonstrating the SMA diesel engine Cessna 182 in Canada. I miss Florida a lot (specialy in Winter!!!) and I really hope to be able to visit soon. The last three years have also been very difficult for the Canadian aviation industry but the job market seems to recover a little bit since the end of last year.

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## ALUMNI UPDATES

**Aaron Kreps ('00)** Is employed as a first officer for Horizon Airlines on the Bombardier Dash8-Q400 based in Portland, OR. Horizon Air is growing, but very slowly. I enjoy the

flying and wouldn't want to fly anywhere else (except for maybe Hawaii if all the airlines out there weren't in bankruptcy).

As tremulous as the industry has been lately, I am starting my own home-based business as well as investing in more tangible assets such as land and other real estate ventures to supplement my income. I am exceedingly grateful for the quality education FIT provided me in areas OUTSIDE just the flying part of aviation. It is because I left ERAU and settled at FIT that I have exposure to other areas of life wherein I can find niche and make a living other than as a pilot.

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*-Updated on the web - [www.fitsa.org](http://www.fitsa.org) -*

**James David Connor ('93)** Post FIT, I have worked as a flight instructor, a banner pilot, flown sight seeing flights, a Corporate pilot, A&P mechanic, and have been flying with Atlantic Coast Airlines / Independence Air since 1997

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**Dave Greene ('01)** I just started upgrade training in the Embraer 170. I will be based in Chicago. The plane is brand new and comes with all the new quirks you might expect out of a big computer game. It is an amazing opportunity to fly a 70 passenger top of the line aircraft. With this upgrade I will now be flying under the Shuttle America certificate for United Express.

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**Dave Jamieson ('97)**  
Catherine Renee Jamieson was born on May 5 and is smiling up a storm. The next time we are in the area we will be sure to stop by and say hello.



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*-Updated on the web - [www.fitsa.org](http://www.fitsa.org) -*

**Franco T. Diaz, Jr. ('84)** Since 1984 I have accomplished a BS-Marketing and MBA-International Business (Fairleigh Dickinson Univ.) and have worked in 30+ countries worldwide.

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*-Updated on the web - [www.fitsa.org](http://www.fitsa.org) -*

**William P. Allen ('92)** About a year ago I was promoted to Project Manager for all Aviation Noise Programs within DMJM Aviation. I am based out of Philadelphia and live in Marlton, NJ with my wife Carrie (married 12/1/01) and our 2 1/2 year old twins, Kimberly and Christopher (born 12/23/02). Look forward to hearing from any Alumni living in the Philly area!

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**Greg Kinsella ('93)** writes: "I have started working for FlightWorks, a business aircraft management and charter company. Our headquarters is in Atlanta, GA and we have just completed a 30,000 sq ft hangar in Manassas, VA (HEF) plus 12,000 sq ft of attached offices. I will be the Mid-Atlantic Regional Sales Manager with a primary focus on selling our aircraft management services. We currently operate 22 aircraft ranging from the Citation II through to a brand new Gulfstream G450! We are hiring pilots (PICs and SICs) and interested parties should go to our website to apply. Check us out at [www.flightworks.com](http://www.flightworks.com). It is a very cool place to be!

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**Ruth ('97), Brian and Abby Dudley**



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## DEAN'S MESSAGE (CONT)

*Continued from Page 2*

### Name Change:

As you have undoubtedly noticed, the School of Aeronautics was renamed the College of Aeronautics effective January 2<sup>nd</sup>. The name change was part of a larger re-organization within the University. However, the primary importance of the change is the significance of its recognition and role within the University as a whole. It also recognizes where we have come in the scope of the kinds of degrees offered and the growing number of graduate programs.

### Enrollments:

In 2004-2005 we admitted one of the smaller undergraduate classes in several years. There were many reasons for the drop off in new students, but we clearly needed to take a more active roll in the recruiting process.

We restructured the recruiting tasks and appointed Ann Bergonzoni as Recruiting Coordinator for the college. Paul Davis continues his role in the recruiting efforts but with the added support of Ann, several of the alumni, and many of our current students. The result of the reorganized effort is a freshman class that boasts an increase of over 27% compared with last year.

### Infrastructure:

The College continued to enhance the technology integration within Skurla Hall. During this past year we expanded the wireless capabilities to provide faculty with PDF copy, print, and fax capabilities from any location in the building. We configured three classrooms during the year with multimedia classroom capabilities which brings the number of rooms in Skurla Hall to 50% of the classrooms completed. The remaining classrooms and the College of Aero conference room are in progress to be started by the beginning of the fall semester.

In addition, we completed the configuration and implementation of the first "*mobile computing classroom*" within the university. During the planning to upgrade a computer-lab for airport planning and design we decided to replace 12 very old desktop computers with a set of 15 HP widescreen, wireless

laptops configured in a lockable charging cart. The laptops provide us additional seating for three more students in the planning and design classes than we previously could handle with the desktop machines. In addition, this mobile lab also provides an opportunity to use these computers in any classroom in Skurla Hall for any Aeronautics class where a faculty member has a need to use the technology. We will be incorporating new classroom control software which will provide the faculty member the ability to control individual computers, and display the screen from any computer on the classroom's projection system. We are looking forward to exploring some innovative uses for the technology.

### External Programs:

Our cooperative academic efforts with the Universidad Technologica de Panama (UTP) continue to mature and expand. The 2004-2005 academic year saw the first graduates of the maintenance technician program while the first cohort for Aviation Management are on track for graduation during the fall or winter of this year. Steady-state enrollment target is approximately 120 students, which is expected to be reached during the 2005-06 school year. UTP is now advertising the program in conjunction with COPA Airlines and is working to expand the program to other Latin American countries and eventually, Latin America.

This year also showed continued the development and accomplishments of the aviation education program with the Civil Aviation Flying College in Guanhan, China through the program sponsored by Boeing. A class of nine managers from the College attended a recent month-long seminar on Management Techniques and another group of four just completed a month long session on Aviation Safety.

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**THE 48-PAGE FULL COLOR  
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