

# AVIATION SAFETY NEWSLETTER

Fall 2015 (Issue 02)



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## Fall 2015 Semester Update:

Welcome back! This is sure to be an exciting year as the University of Dubuque Aviation program welcomes new and returning students and introduces three new Piper Arrows, along with two new Piper Seminole. The Arrows will take the place of the Trinidads and the new Piper Seminole are replacing the old models. The Piper Arrow offers a 200 HP Lycoming engine, and both the Arrows and the Seminole feature the G1000 glass cockpit.

The Brown Aviation Leasing Company has partnered with the University of Dubuque, working towards the goal to provide the UD pilots the opportunity to fly new and more technologically advanced aircraft. On April 21, 2015, Brown Aviation Leasing Company officially announced its partnership with the University of Dubuque. The University of Dubuque received the new Cessna 172s in October 2014 and will receive Piper Arrows and Seminole starting in August 2015. The new aircraft will be great recruiting tools for UD and give students state-of-the-art training for the Multi-engine and Complex ratings.

### A Message from UD Flight Operations as We Start the New Semester:

As students return or come to UD for the first time, it is important to review a few safety rules, and listen to input from maintenance and flight instructors regarding improvements that can be made this year. To achieve this, Mr. James Jenkins, Director of Aviation Maintenance, Ms. Tiffany Brame Aviation Maintenance Assistant, and Tony Foster, Assistant Chief Flight Instructor and Adjunct Faculty, agreed to participate in a question and answer session.



From left: UD Aviation Faculty members Mr. James Jenkins, Ms. Tiffany Brame, and Mr. Tony Foster

### Q: What is some advice or something of importance that you would like first year students coming in to know?

Mr. Jenkins offers a three step approach to success. Step one, "Safety, Safety, Safety." Make this a priority. Step two, "Keep your head on a swivel, practice situational awareness, and recognize that ground safety is just as important as safety in the air." Step three, "If there is ANY doubt, ask someone. That is why you are here. You are here to learn, and we are here to help you in the process."

Ms. Brame says, "College is more than a degree and flight training is more than a certificate. Don't learn information just to pass a test, seek to apply it to every area of your life."

Mr. Foster responds, "Instituting a favorable safety culture is key in a training institution like UD's flight program. We really want to emphasize "just" and "reporting" cultures. A "just" culture is one in which individuals understand that by

following procedures they are some ways protected. This implies that as long as they are operating within the parameters of the Student Manual, Safety Manual, and other UD documents, they will not be penalized for incidents. Additionally, we want to encourage a “reporting” culture. This is one in which our students are actively involved with bringing awareness to safety issues in our program by filing Safety Reports when necessary. We don’t want safety concerns to be neglected and ignored. “Just” and “reporting” cultures work together to encourage safety throughout our system at UD. If students are following the rules and bringing attention to hazards, we will continue to have a safe operation at UD.”

**Q: What are some things that you would like to bring attention to as we start off the school year?**

Mr. Jenkins says, *“Whether it is hot or cold, fashion is okay, but do not worry about it so much on the ramp side of the hangar. Loose clothing and long hair can be hazardous. Be comfortable, but be safe. Along those lines, when weather gets cold, the fashion is hats and gloves, even if they do not match your outfit. (I do not care if you are from Alaska). I could write a couple of different papers on this question, but this jumps to mind for new and old students.”*

Ms. Brame says, *“Give yourself time so you won't need to be in a hurry. Show up to your flight block a few minutes early so you don't need to rush your preflight and risk missing something. Don't be in such a time pressure to leave that you neglect your post flight checklist.”*

Mr. Foster says, *“I would like to emphasize the idea that we do have a non-punitive reporting system. This question is a nice segue from the previous question. If students follow the rules and even self-report for incidents, there will not be punitive action taken. However, if students violate UD policies and procedures while failing to report safety issues, then that is where punitive action may take place. That is why we would like to emphasize the importance of following the rules and being an active participant in our safety program.*

*There may also be a reluctance to file reports against friends or superiors for fear that they will get in trouble or the person being accused will be upset. This is part of the reason why we offer the option to submit safety reports anonymously. Gathering safety data is key to a successful safety program and we need to have students involved. By offering the option to submit these reports anonymously, we hope that students are more willing to contribute important safety information for system improvements.”*

**Q. What is something you enjoy about your job, the university, staff, program or students? Or in other words what stands out to you from your position?**

Mr. Jenkins says, *“The University of Dubuque is always trying to stay on the cutting edge and moving forward. I enjoy that every day is something new. To have the ever-changing diverse student population, along with the fact that everyone learns differently, challenges me on multiple levels.”*

Mr. Foster says, *“I do believe that we have a solid safety program here at UD. There are certainly areas for improvement and we will be experiencing several changes with our transition into a formal Safety Management System (SMS). We already have several components in place and this shows that we take safety seriously. SMS programs have been proven to be effective within aviation and several other industries. Our diligence to pursue implementation without our flight training program without regulatory requirement shows that our institution values safety and wants follow the best practices within our industry.”*

# New Horizons at UD Flight Operations Dispatch:

By Michael Phillips, Director of Operations



*Flight Dispatch Team: Mike & Yaya*

During my tenure managing a flying club I implemented many of the University of Dubuque's Flight Operations procedures, specifically those related to safety.

What I soon discovered was if people all levels of that system do not participate the system is broken. Frequently I would see a club member at the grocery store and the conversation would go something like this, "I meant to tell you that the audio panel in aircraft XYZ was giving me problems when I flew it a couple of weeks ago." No squawk had been recorded in the aircraft's binder.

Most of us are aware of James T. Reason's theory (the Swiss Cheese Model) in which lapses and weaknesses in one defense do not allow a risk to materialize, since other defenses also exist, to prevent a single point of weakness.

At the University's Flight Operations this model is used. The different layers being you (the pilot), flight

instructors, maintenance, and dispatch all working together to be vigilant of safety issues and reporting them.

A Safety Report was recently filed concerning an aircraft that was dispatched twice with an open squawk. There are about three or four levels of redundant checks, which we are part of, that should have caught the squawk but there was a breakdown in that process.

- Flight instructors are responsible for teaching students how to properly record a squawk.
- As a pilot you are responsible for recording any issues with the aircraft on the squawk sheet and bringing it to the attention of the dispatch desk.
- Dispatch checks for squawks when an aircraft is recovered and prior to dispatching an aircraft. When an aircraft is squawked it is immediately grounded and its binder sent to maintenance.
- Maintenance accesses the squawk and determines what is needed to resolve it. After the squawk is resolved the aircraft is put back into service.

It gets busy, people become impatient or in a hurry, however, if one rushes through the process it can result in compromising safety.

As a student pilot if you ever have any questions about whether something should be squawked or how to record a squawk, ask. The system is only as good as we make it.

## Student Involvement Information:

The University of Dubuque offers four independent Aviation groups and organizations on campus. These groups are Alpha Eta Rho Upsilon Delta Chapter, a chapter of Women in Aviation, the University of Dubuque Flight Team, and a chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE). All four of these organizations offer networking and career building experiences both inside and outside of Dubuque.

### American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE)



*AAAE Members Spring 2015: Courtesy of Anderson Ott*

The American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) is a national organization that fosters airport executives and acts as a prevailing voice in Washington for US airports. The organization works to teach and educate present and future professionals to further understand what it takes to run an airport in the U.S., and how to develop and become a leader in the airport industry.

AAAE has student chapters across the country, and UD has the unique opportunity to be the home of one of these chapters. Students are encouraged to become members of AAAE on many different levels and platforms for a large array of reasons. AAAE promotes leadership among young professionals, and it is a prestigious organization to be associated within the aviation industry. Becoming a member of AAAE allows an individual to become a Certified Member and eventually even an Accredited Airport Executive. AAAE also offers seminars, webinars, and conferences year round pertinent to the greatest ideals affecting airports today. It also gives members access to the member directory, a vital form of networking information. Members can also apply for various scholarships offered by AAAE throughout the year. Even more so, members have access to the AAAE career page, where airports and private companies are constantly posing open positions. Becoming a member also subscribes one to the AAAE magazine. The benefits and opportunities of joining AAAE are unending.

For more information, visit [aaae.org](http://aaae.org) or contact the President of our chapter, Curtney Moore, at [cmoore@dbq.edu](mailto:cmoore@dbq.edu).

### Alpha Eta Rho Upsilon Delta Chapter (AHP-UD)

Alpha Eta Rho is a professional aviation fraternity. It is a non-profit organization and operates on an international level. To be a part of this fraternity is much different than other fraternities or sororities. As members of Alpha Eta Rho, students participate in service projects, especially those that have to do with aviation, and work to further the cause of the aviation industry.

As active members of the Alpha Eta Rho, students have the opportunity to attend the national conference. The 2015 conference was held in San Diego, California. This conference provides the opportunity to network with potential employers, as well as fellow aviation students who will be



*Alpha Eta Rho Members Spring 2015: Courtesy of Haley Pankratz*

future coworkers. This is a great setting to compare and gather information, helpful tips or hints, compare routes on how to get through school and into the industry, exchange contacts, compare stories, and enjoy fellowship with a great group of people with the same interests and goals. The 2016 National Annual Conference will be held in Atlanta. This should be another eventful and exciting conference as students have the opportunity to be in the world's busiest airport.

Alpha Eta Rho shares a close bond with those in the fraternity, and is always looking for new dedicated and energetic, male and female members. For more information regarding how to become a part of Alpha Eta Rho, please feel free to contact the President, Johnathan Easley at [jeasley@dbq.edu](mailto:jeasley@dbq.edu) with any questions.

## The University of Dubuque Flight Team



*Flight Team Members Spring 2015: Courtesy of Jack Lindsay*

The University of Dubuque Flight Team is a great way to connect with your fellow flight students on campus. Flight team competes at two competitions. Regionals will take place in Madison, Wisconsin in the fall of 2015. Upon success at the regional level, Flight Team would be invited to the national competition in the spring. The Flight Team competes in various events including power off and short field landings, aircraft recognition, message drop, navigation, SCAN, Ground Trainer (simulator), and E6B computer accuracy competitions.

In addition to competitions, the Flight Team also focuses on community outreach. One way this is done is through the annual pancake fly-in breakfast. This year the Flight Team hosted the 25<sup>th</sup> annual breakfast in the Iowa hangar. The breakfasts are almost always very successful events that university and community members seem to enjoy. In addition to attendants from the Dubuque community, visitors have come from all across Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois and even Canada. The visiting aircraft are parked and displayed on the UD ramp, and a UD C172 is exhibited inside the hangar. Young kids, aspiring future aviators, along with anyone who is interested, are free to walk around ask questions, and take pictures. This is a fun event for the UD Flight Team to share what they are passionate about, and also for community members to get an inside look at what is flying over their house. The Flight Team enjoys the breakfasts and looks to keep the tradition going for years to come

The UD Flight Team is always looking for enthusiastic and dedicated teammates, and would like to take this opportunity to invite all of those interested in trying out. For more information, contact Flight Team President Anna Yackshaw at [ayackshaw@dbq.edu](mailto:ayackshaw@dbq.edu) or Vice-President Brodie Rethamel at [brethamel@dbq.edu](mailto:brethamel@dbq.edu).

## Women in Aviation, International (WAI)



*Women in Aviation Members Spring 2015: Courtesy of Shawna Schmidt*

The University of Dubuque Chapter of Women in Aviation, International is an organization that focuses primarily on networking, career advancements, and community outreach and service. Women in aviation is open to both men and women. The 2014-2015 UD chapter consisted of 2 male and 4 female aviators. The students and the Chapter Advisor Professor Polly Kadolph attend the International Women in Aviation Conference each year. Students are required to make business cards and have an updated resume to attend the conference with the chapter. These tools serve to be very useful throughout the event, as students have the opportunity to meet with many different vendors and

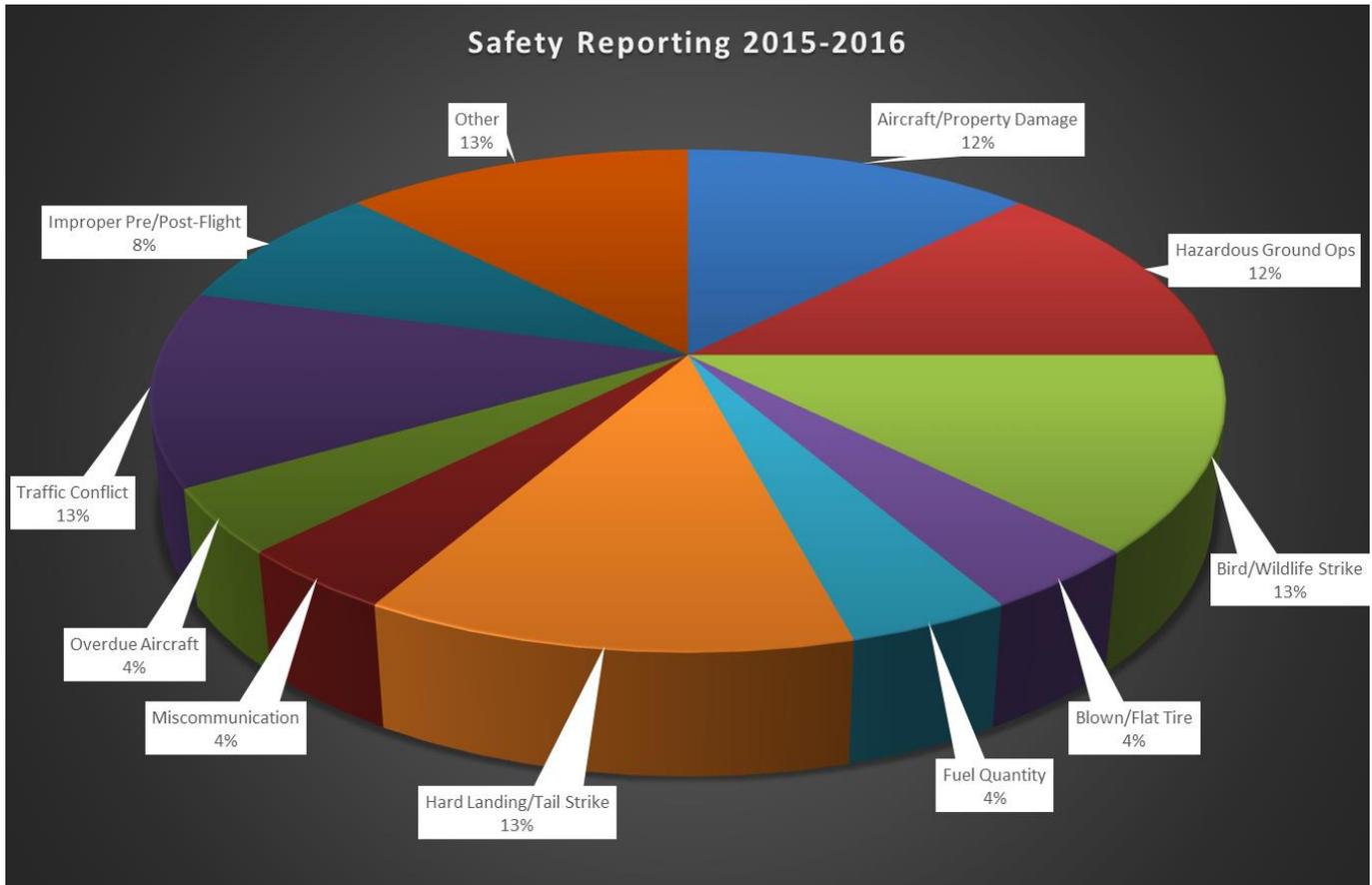
companies including Airbus, United Airlines, American Airlines, Southwest Airlines, Lufthansa, military branches, and other universities, among others. This past year, UD students were able to attain a class credit for their work in preparation to attend the conference in Dallas. The 2016 conference will be held in Nashville.

This organization does not only work towards career advancements, but also has a high focus on community outreach. Members are asked to log community service hours and as a group are often involved in nonprofit or fundraising events. One event that Women in Aviation took part in was the Melting Gender Roles Event that was held on campus in April. The organization partnered with the flight team and put together a booth that represented female pilots and male flight attendants. The event was successful, and an enjoyable experience for the students involved.

One of the advantages of being a member of Women in Aviation is that it does not end after graduation. The members of this organization are so diverse, and this is something that makes WAI so special. With the many different backgrounds and positions, the opportunity to learn from those in the profession and their experiences is networking at its finest. Not only are members able to offer each other advice, but rather are able to teach and learn from each other, and work together to better the industry and encourage and inspire future aviators. For those interested in becoming a member of the UD chapter of Women in Aviation, please feel free to contact Jenny Greenwood at [jgreenwood@dbq.edu](mailto:jgreenwood@dbq.edu) or Anna Yackshaw at [ayackshaw@dbq.edu](mailto:ayackshaw@dbq.edu).

## Safety Notes:

Mr. Tony Foster, Assistant Chief Flight Instructor for UD, provided the following safety data



Type of Report	2014-2015	2015-2016
		August – October 2015
<b>Aircraft/Property Damage</b>	5	3
<b>Hazardous Ground Ops</b>	14	3
<b>Bird/Wildlife Strike</b>	2	3
<b>Blown/Flat Tire</b>	5	1
<b>Fuel Quantity</b>		1
<b>Hard Landing/Tail Strike</b>	10	3
<b>Lost/Disoriented</b>		
<b>Miscommunication</b>	2	1
<b>Overdue Aircraft</b>	1	1
<b>Traffic Conflict</b>	13	3
<b>Improper Pre/Post-Flight</b>	7	2
<b>Other</b>	9	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>24</b>