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Aviation Technician Education Council

TO: ATEC Members
FROM: Ryan Goertzen, President
RE: ATEC July 2015 Update

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Educators, Industry Members, Colleagues and Friends,

This summer, I find myself reflecting on my first year as ATEC's President. It's hard not to be enthusiastic about all that we've accomplished and excited about the future.

I would have to say the [2015 ATEC Conference](#) was the best yet...or at least close! I am so thankful to our [Conference Committee](#) for all of their hard work and dedication developing a group of speakers that truly represented our unique and critical educational field. It is no easy task to make this happen. I am also grateful for the participation and active engagement of the members who joined us; their enthusiasm was unmistakable. Thank you, all. (We'll see you [next year!](#))

The [introduction of our new Business Office](#) during the conference was exciting to those of us on the Board of Directors who had been working with the team since last August. We had so much to accomplish together and we've done lots of things to improve the council's operations: incorporating ATEC in Virginia, developing new budget processes to ensure revenues are in good hands and thinking strategically about our value to member schools. A key part of enhancing this value was to develop a new Legislative Committee tasked with developing an advocacy agenda for the organization to pursue the AMTS community's goals in Washington.

The Business Office today is not just one person; it is a [group of dedicated individuals](#) with unique specialties they employ to help the council grow and succeed. Crystal, Brett and the entire team at OFMK have transformed us in just eight months.

I am very excited to report that the Board of Directors has [approved new bylaws](#). Prior to the conference, we [communicated about our plans](#) for updating the rules governing our organization. While in Orlando, the board listened to our membership, responded to concerns and made a few updates. After thorough vetting and review, the board approved the new bylaws – a significant step in enhancing the professionalism and high level of service enjoyed by all members.

As a part of these updates we have limited the number of institutional members on the board. Unfortunately, in this effort to streamline board participation we could not renew the positions for Kevin High and Jay Gregson. Both have served the board well over their last term and we are excited about the possibility of bringing them on again in 2016. Thank you to both Kevin and Jay for their service to ATEC. Finally, Raymond Thompson is back on the board as the former President of ATEC. Having the past president on the board will ensure that we maintain continuity within our organization moving forward.

Dedicated to Aviation Maintenance Technician Education

I also wanted to share an important and exciting decision concerning the STEM Education Coalition. Most of you are aware of this group (as you definitely should be). ATEC has been meeting with the coalition's senior leadership to determine ways to formalize a relationship in order to solidify the council's role in the future of STEM education. In April, the board voted to join [the STEM Coalition Leadership Council](#) and look forward to the partnership.

On its own, the council has also contributed a great deal of effort to improving education and workforce policy. In February, we jointly released "[Policy Solutions for a Stronger Technical Workforce](#)" with the Aeronautical Repair Station Association. The report was a part of our continuing effort to define a problem: the desperate need for more qualified, well-trained men and women to funnel into aviation careers. In June, after months of effort, we led a coalition of aviation groups to take the first step towards solving the workforce crisis by helping the government define it through [better Standard Occupational Classifications \(SOC\)](#). Through efforts like this and our ever-expanding universe of allies and partners, our team continues to build strategic relationships to help raise awareness of the incredible programs our schools have and the talented students we send into the aerospace workforce.

Finally, the regulatory committee has been extremely active. As most of you are aware the new [AC 147-3B was published](#) with several areas of conflict with [FISMS](#). We have been working closely with the FAA to get these discrepancies resolved.

The strength of ATEC is its members. Recognizing this, the council's first priority is to enhance the support it provides to the industry and our students. The need for developing a strong workforce has never been so great and it is our mission to lead as an organization and drive change both in Washington and at home on your campuses.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ryan", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Ryan

PS. Take a moment to review for yourself everything ATEC has been up to, visit the council's [Member Alerts](#) page.