



Aviation Technician Education Council

2090 Wexford Court
Harrisburg, PA 17112
Telephone (717) 540-7121
<http://atec-amt.org>

FEBRUARY 2006

RE: UPDATE
TO: ALL ATEC MEMBERS
FROM: CHARLES HAWES, PRESIDENT

FAA, INDUSTRY AND AMT SCHOOLS MEET IN PITTSBURGH

On February 1 and 2, several ATEC Board members met with industry representatives and the FAA to discuss the future of aviation maintenance and AMT training. This Federal Aviation Administration sponsored event, hosted by Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics, focused on the industry's needs for qualified technicians and the training being conducted under Part 147. At the end of the meeting it was agreed that there were many objectives for the group to address and study, but the group chose three goal areas.

The first is the marketing and promotion of the aviation maintenance technician and what we all can do to improve the image and respect of the AMT in the aviation industry. A special committee was formed to address this opportunity.

The second objective is to consult the industry and determine their needs for new technicians coming into the field. This will be accomplished through listening sessions at different aviation association meetings during the year. ATEC plans to hold a listening session at their upcoming annual conference in Las Vegas, April 2-4.

The last was an interest expressed by the FAA that ATEC and the FAA, through the information gathered by the group, work together to review and update Part 147 to bring it up to current industry needs. The FAA also expressed a willingness to look into revising the regulation to make it more fluid and easier to train new technicians.

The group agreed to continue their work and report updates at a meeting to be held at Embry Riddle later this spring. Updates and meeting minutes should be available at FFASafety.gov and ATEC hopes to link to that site in the near future.

ATEC AWARDS

We are pleased to announce the 2006 winners of the ATEC Educator of the Year and Outstanding AMT Student awards.

Blaze Mitanoski from Michigan Institute of Aviation & Technology won the Jim Rardon Student of the Year Award and Jerome Bradley from Des Moines Public Schools won the Ivan Livi Outstanding Educator Award.

Both will receive an all expense paid trip to the April 2004 ATEC Conference in Las Vegas where they will receive their awards at the April 4 banquet luncheon.

The Jim Rardon award is sponsored by Northrop-Rice Foundation and the Livi award is sponsored by ATEC.

NBAA MAINTENANCE SCHOLARSHIPS

Mark Dietrich, Aviation Manager of Chalk Hill Winery in CA, is leading NBAA efforts to promote NBAA Maintenance Scholarships. A promotional DVD is being developed with the help of FlightSafety. The goal is to have promotional materials available to ATEC members in the next 3 months to promote NBAA scholarships as well as to promote careers in corporate aviation. The intent is that these materials will also help recruitment for ATEC members' schools. For additional information about scholarships:

<http://web.nbaa.org/public/education/scholarships/>,

<http://web.nbaa.org/public/education/scholarships/mxtracs/>,

http://web.nbaa.org/public/education/scholarships/mxtracs/mxtracs_scholarship_app.pdf.

Mark will discuss these initiatives at the April 2-4 ATEC Conference (see attached agenda).

ATEC JOURNAL

In November 2005, the first issue of the electronic ATEC Journal was sent out to well over 600 administrators, faculty members and industry partners. This longer, e-version of the Journal, almost twice the length of the hard copy Journal, contained more articles and information than ever before. The ATEC e-Journal can also be viewed on the ATEC website atec-amt.org.

Let us know how you liked it – delivery, format, etc. Contact Journal Editor, Tom Wild, at twwild@tech.purdue.edu with your comments.

If you are not receiving the ATEC Journal electronically but would like to be added to the e-mail list, send an e-mail stating your request to: domenic.proscia@vaughn.edu.

ATEC MEMBERSHIP

Due to the number of AMT program cutbacks, closings and tight budgets, ATEC institutional memberships have declined since 2004.

<u>January 2004</u>	<u>January 2005</u>	<u>January 2006</u>
133 Institutional	123 Institutional	120 Institutional
10 Individual	7 Individual	17 Individual
18 Industry	22 Industry	22 Industry
<u>12 Life</u>	<u>12 Life</u>	<u>12 Life</u>
173 TOTAL	164 TOTAL	171 TOTAL

NCATT

The National Center for Aircraft Technician Training (NCATT) will soon have the certification exam active for the entry level Aircraft Electronic Technician (AET). If all goes as planned, testing will begin in early April and be ready for use in July 2006. NCATT will also begin accrediting programs in the near future.

For more information, contact Floyd Curtis at FLOYD.CURTIS@tccd.edu.

DME TEST PREP

Tarrant County College has developed a computerized database to assist DME's in both planning and delivery of the Oral and Practical exams. The database allows the DME to enter questions and practical projects they desire to possibly be part of the exams. The DME then has a selection process to complete the planning sheet for an exam. Each exam can be saved as a version to be later recalled if needed or desired. Along with the planning sheet (which is printed out) a set of the questions, with answers is printed for the DME to conduct the oral. All core items are printed out with the practical projects selected. The program is now being revised to allow broader use.

For more information, contact Floyd Curtis at FLOYD.CURTIS@tccd.edu.

Presentations regarding NCATT and DME tests will be provided at the Las Vegas ATEC Conference, April 2-4 (see attached agenda).

BOARD AND OFFICER NOMINATIONS

There are four Board member terms and two Officer (President and Vice President) terms up for a vote in 2006.

1. The following nominations were received for Board members: Jerome Bradley, Len Filmer, Nick Herman and Tom Stose.

2. The following nominations were received for Officers: President – Laurie Johns, Vice President – Ray Thompson.

Voting will be held on April 3 at the Stardust Resort (see attached agenda).

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

ATEC is continuing to copy a selection of our videos to the DVD format. We have selected approximately 10 of the more popular videos and several new ones that will be copied to DVD format. Our vendor is converting them and we will then return them to Video Services for duplication and shipping to individual member schools who will be able to order them in the new format.

We plan to use the same numbering system that is already in place and just add a “D” after the number to signify the DVD format. We intend to have the first group of DVDs available for review at the conference and will advertise them on our website as they become available. Additional titles will be added based on interest.

MICHELIN TIRE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Don't miss the Michelin Tire presentation on Sunday, April 2, from 3:00-5:00 PM at the Las Vegas Stardust Resort.

A Level 1 Certification will be presented to all those who successfully complete the two-hour presentation (see attached agenda).

INSTRUCTOR TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS

Be sure to check out the ATEC website for information on the Dale Hurst Scholarship and the Northrop-Rice Foundation Assistance program to help AMT faculty attend education and training sessions. Go to atec-amt.org.

LIGHT SPORT AIRCRAFT (LSA)

The ATEC LSA Committee has met with the FAA and EAA to develop an initial course framework for the LSA 16-hour inspection curriculum. At this time, the regulation is still being revised and we have worked with all parties to assist in the refining of the final rule. The EAA has developed an approved curriculum with the help of industry and several other ATEC schools. As a result, ATEC will have an LSA training session on Sunday at the annual conference.

BYLAWS CHANGE

A copy of the ATEC ByLaws may be found on the website atec-amt.org. In accordance with the ByLaws, ATEC members are receiving notice of proposed changes 30 days or more in advance of the business meeting (April 4) where these proposals will be voted on.

Proposed change – 1. Article III, Section 1 (deletion is crossed out; addition is underlined)

Individual Membership is open to any ~~employee of an institutional member~~ individual interested in furthering and supporting the mission of ATEC.

Rationale: This would allow a larger, more diverse group to join ATEC including retirees and others who want to maintain their connection to ATEC. This is a non-voting category.

Proposed change – 2. End the process of Board nominations from the floor. Change Article IV, Section 3, as follows: (see crossed out deletion)

Member of the Board will be elected at the annual conference. Candidates will be identified by the Nominating Committee (Article VII, Section 2) ~~or nominations may be made from the floor.~~ In the event that vacancies occur between annual conferences, replacements may be made by the President with the approval of the majority of the Board.

Rationale: Since there is sufficient time to be nominated before the conference and to streamline the voting process at the conference, floor nomination process would be deleted.

Proposed change – 3. Allow absentee or proxy ballots for those members not attending the conference so all members have an opportunity to vote. Change Article IV, Section 3, as follows: (see underlined addition)

Members of the Board will be elected at the annual conference. Candidates will be identified by the Nominating Committee (Article VII, Section) . . . Schools not attending the annual conference may request an election ballot no later than 30 days prior to the annual conference. Proxy votes must be received no later than 7 business days prior to the conference. In the event that vacancies occur between annual conferences, replacements may be made by the President with the approval of the majority of the Board.



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APRIL 2006

RE: ATEC UPDATE
TO: ALL MEMBERS
FROM: LAURIE JOHNS, PRESIDENT

ATEC CONFERENCE

Over eighty schools and one-hundred fifty attendees participated in the 2006 ATEC Conference at the Stardust Hotel in Las Vegas. Programs on trends and opportunities in AMT education were well received. The presentations with the highest evaluations were: (#'s 3-7 were tied)

1. NCATT: Promoting Professionalism in Aircraft Maintenance
2. Hiring AMTs: A Human Resource Perspective
3. Southwest Airlines: Creative Solutions to Unique Problems
4. Maintenance of Very Light Jets
5. Business Aviation: The Right Track
6. Care and Service of Aircraft Tires
7. Simulating Airline Level Maintenance in the A&P Program

ATEC 2007 is scheduled for the Orlando, Florida, Holiday Inn Resort on International Drive, April 1-3.

FAA APPROVALS

A major discussion throughout the Conference centered on how to convince the FAA to look at alternate ways of approving AMT programs, the 147 curriculum and the certification of new AMTs.

Industry speakers, ATEC Board members and attendees agreed that in the fast-paced, constantly changing aviation environment, there needs to be a new approach to approvals.

The NCATT model, new accreditations, outsourcing FAA approval processes were all discussed as potential ways to raise the professional image of the AMT and provide program approvals that meet the needs of industry.

ATEC's Government Relations Committee will continue discussions with the FAA on this and other issues. The committee has had four meetings with the FAA since the 2005 Conference.

ATEC AWARDS

The Ivan D. Livi Educator of the Year Award was presented to Jerry Bradley from the Des Moines Public School System.

The Northrop-Rice Foundation Jim Rardon Student of the Year Award was given to Blaze Mitanoski from the Michigan Institute of Aviation and Technology.

Both received an all expense paid trip to Las Vegas with free conference attendance.

ATEC BYLAWS

At the Conference, members approved the following two changes to the ByLaws.

Change 1. Article III, Section 1

Individual membership is open to any individual interested in furthering and supporting the mission of ATEC.

Change 2. Allow absentee or proxy ballots for those members not attending the Conference so all members have an opportunity to vote. Change Article IV, Section 3, as follows:

Members of the Board will be elected at the annual conference. Candidates will be identified by the Nominating Committee (Article VII, Section 2)...Schools not attending the annual conference may request an election ballot no later than 30 days prior to the annual conference. Proxy votes must be received no later than 7 business days prior to the conference. In the event that vacancies occur between annual conferences, replacements may be made by the President with the approval of the majority of the Board.

FAA FORUM

The FAA and the host school Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University will be holding the second forum on the future of AMTs as a career on May 24-26, 2006.

For additional information, e-mail Fred Mirgle mirglef@erau.edu or check the site www.erams.org.

The following were suggestions of critical issues to be addressed during the FAA's Forum:

1. How do we get reliable statistics on A&P technician supply and demand?
2. How do we market AMTs better?
3. How can we get approvals away from the FAA?
4. How do we get the news media to report all the job openings in aviation? They focus only on big airlines and layoffs.

SPECIAL VIDEO OFFER

Due to a double order that was returned, ATEC is able to offer the following individual tapes at half price.

The following video tapes are being sold in a single group for \$200 which includes shipping. Normally, these tapes are sold for \$460.

ATEC 8, 9, 29, 38, 47, 48, 50, 51, 54, 55, 56, 57, 62, 65, 72, 78, 93, 95, 97, 98, 103, 108, 117, 125, 128, 139, 140, 144, 150, 151, 156, 157, 158, 166, 167, 169, 170 and 171.

The first order with payment gets the tapes.

S&K TOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

The winners of the S&K Tool Scholarships were announced at the ATEC Annual Conference Awards Luncheon on April 4, 2006. The three students selected for these awards were:

Simone Newby, Kansas State University, Salina, KS
Colin Snyder, Aviation Institute of Maintenance, Indianapolis, IN
Tracy Rosas, Reedley College, Reedley, CA

Each student will receive a set of S&K tools shipped directly from the S&K Company which are valued at \$1400.00. These students of ATEC member schools applied to the Northrop-Rice Foundation who administers the scholarship program and whose Board serves as the selection committee.

Scholarships will be available again next year and information and applications may be procured from the Northrop-Rice Foundation and ATEC websites. Information and applications are also available from Ivan D. Livi, ivan.livi@verizon.net and Cathy Landry, CathyL@alphabravo.com.

2006-2007 ATEC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The contact information for the ATEC Board is attached.

Newly elected Officers and Board Members are:

Laurie Johns (Columbus State Community College) – President
Ray Thompson (Purdue University) – Vice President
Jerry Bradley (Des Moines Public Schools) – Board Member
Darrell Downing (Indian Hills Community College) – Board Member
Nick Herman (Toledo Public Schools) – Board Member
Tom Stose (Fairmont State College) – Board Member

The ATEC Board will meet via conference call in May and in Washington, DC on September 9-10, 2006.

WEBSITE

A number of new items have been added to the website www.atec-amt.org since September 2005. They include Resources and Special Services, ByLaws, Faculty Scholarships and News Alerts.

The ATEC Journal is now being sent electronically to almost 600 people at institutions and companies worldwide. If you have not received your copy, send an e-mail with your request to domenic.proscia@vaughn.edu.

STUDENT TRANSCRIPT AMICUS BRIEF

Most schools will not issue an official student transcript if a student has outstanding obligations to the school.

That changed in 2004 when the FAA told PART 147 schools that they must issue a transcript despite the fact that students may still have financial obligations to the school.

One institution, Hallmark Institute, issued a transcript but used the grade (I) for incomplete on the document. The FAA disagreed and the issue was put before an administrative judge in 2005. Last year, ATEC filed an amicus brief in support of the school and all ATEC members who withhold grades until all student obligations are met.

Earlier this year, the administrative judge ruled. Although he did not directly address any of the issues in the amicus brief, he did rule that an incomplete (I) could be issued to a student if the school clearly has it listed in the operations manual as approved by the FAA. In the manual it must be stipulated that an (I) is given both for incomplete work as well as incomplete financial obligations by students.



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SEPTEMBER 2006

RE: ATEC UPDATE
TO: ALL MEMBERS
FROM: LAURIE JOHNS, PRESIDENT

ATEC BOARD SETS GOALS

At their September 9-10, 2006 Board meeting, the ATEC Board set the following goals for 2006-2007.

- Working with the FAA and industry, change the way that schools and curriculum are reviewed and approved by the FAA.
- Standardize the approval process for the 147 curriculum.
- Develop a closer match between industry needs and the 147 curriculum that bridges the gap.
- Improve the marketing of the AMT career field.

Board committees are in the process of developing strategic and tactical plans to address these goals.

FAA FUTURE OF AMT

The last FAA Symposium was hosted by Embry Riddle in Daytona Beach, FL on May 24-26, 2006. Continued work was completed as a result of the meeting and was presented by James Mader and LaVern Phillips. We need to review this work and prepare to present it to the Industry Relations Group and finally the FAA prior to the November conference.

Several of our Board members are participating in these conferences on the Education and the Industry Relations Groups.

The next FAA Future of AMT Symposium is scheduled for November 29-December 1, 2006 to be hosted by Aviation Institute of Maintenance in Virginia Beach, VA. Information can be found at www.aviationmaintenance.edu/faa.

The recommendations of the Education Group of the FAA Future of AMT Symposium are as follows:

1. Language be used in PART 147 to create a living document that can be readily modified to keep abreast of upgrades in technology and changing requirements in the workplace;
2. Required subject matter be reduced to an abbreviated list of core competencies, so that specialty technical areas and academic themes can be added by the respective schools to best serve their clientele (both students and industry);
3. Hourly training requirements be removed from the regulation so that AMT learning programs can become outcome based (also known as competency based), affording students the opportunity to learn at a pace that best meets their individual needs;
4. A committee, consisting of representatives from AMT schools, aerospace industry employers, aviation professional organizations, and the FAA, be formed to develop the new regulation in a concise manner.

It was agreed by the ATEC Board that the FAA should continue to provide the criteria and certification oversight but the schools should decide the competencies and training for the needs of students and industry using an outside third party group to provide approvals and guidance for curriculum development and to direct learning methodologies and related practices.

ATEC FINANCES

ATEC currently has cash reserves in the amount of \$20,618.65 in three CD's earning between 2.5% and 3%, and we have \$55,000.00 classified as "reserved" sitting in our checking account earning nothing. This gives us a total reserve of \$75,618.65. As a result, the Finance Committee recommends:

1. Add to each of our three current CD's an amount required to bring them each to \$10,000.00 which is the minimum amount required to get us to the next level of earning. The amount required to accomplish this is \$9,381.35 and would be moved from the \$55,000 reserve currently in the checking account.
2. Create a 4th CD in the amount of \$10,000 and then set all four up to mature at 3 month intervals.
3. Invest at one of the four or five highest yielding financial institutions with a return ranging from 5.6 to 5.68%. All of the institutional options are rated at 4 stars on the 5 star system. Our current institution, Wachovia would only pay us 3.5% on the \$10,000 level CD.
4. A member-nonmember rate should be instituted at the conference.

The net result would be a liquid reserve in the checking account of \$35,618.65 along with the unreserved operating balance of approximately \$10-\$15,000 at any time. The maturity structure would also allow us to have unpenalized access to an additional \$10,000 if needed at every 3 month interval.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

At their September 9 meeting in Washington DC, the ATEC Board made two changes in the dues structure in order to simplify the dues process:

1. In 2007, ATEC dues will change to a flat dues rate of \$210 per year for all institutions regardless of size.
2. The dues period was changed from the May 1-April 30 fiscal year billing cycle to a January 1-December 31 calendar year cycle.

As a result of these changes, during the 2007-08 billing period, and for that billing period only, ATEC will send out its dues invoice in May 2007 for a year and a half period in order to transition to the calendar year billing cycle. This will mean that in May 2007, your institution will receive an ATEC dues invoice for \$315. But it will cover your membership in ATEC until January 2009, a year and a half. Then, just prior to January 2009 you will receive a \$210 invoice to pay for the new 2009-2010 dues.

Please contact us if you have any questions. This will be a discussion item at the April 1-3 ATEC Conference.

AWARDS, DIRECTORY AND CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

The Ivan D. Livi Outstanding AMT Educator Award and Jim Rardon Student of the Year Award applications are enclosed in this Update, placed on the Web and included in the on-line ATEC Journal.

Award application returns will be sent to Awards Committee after the **December 1 deadline**.

The 2007 ATEC Directory material is enclosed in this Update. **The closing date is December 1.**

The Call for Presentations is also included in this mailing and will be placed in the ATEC on-line Journal and on the Web.

147 AC

Revisions to the PMI handbook to reflect the new 147 Advisory Circular are being worked on by the FAA.

The FAA has asked for ATEC's input to the inspector training handbook by mid-October.

Suggestions from schools regarding changed should be sent to Dr. Ray Thompson at ret@purdue.edu by **October 6**.

PROPOSAL ON DISTANCE EDUCATION

Purdue University is completing a proposal for the FAA to review. However due to the interest by several schools and a willingness to consider new methods by the FAA, ATEC will work with several schools willing to test an online 147 course.

FAA MEETING

On September 8, ATEC Board members Ray Thompson, Laurie Johns, LaVern Phillips and Jim Mader met with FAA officials, Ferrin Moore and Ed Hall. In addition to several issues previously mentioned (distance education and the FAA Symposium, they also discussed alternative approval mechanisms for PART 147 schools. These include moving to outcomes based accreditation, credit hours not classroom hours, using outside approval bodies such as NCATT for future approvals.

MEMBER SERVICES

Input received from the membership after the Annual Conference indicated members wanted ATEC to:

1. Provide a list of training facilities and manufacturers sites available to ATEC members.
2. Provide a current data base for vendor and training information.
3. A listing where AMT schools can list equipment they want to dispose of, trade or sell.

In regards to Item 1 and 2, the Committee is attempting to provide the requested listings. Source Books have been required that list Manufacturers, Operators, and companies that provide training on various types of equipment. The majority of the information is in regards to simulator training for flight and maintenance crews, but, the MSC will investigate what opportunities there are for ATEC PART 147 school personnel. Also, the NBAA has been contacted in regards to a listing of training facilities. Although the NBAA does not have a list specifically for this purpose, the NBAA has numerous scholarships and training opportunities for AMT instructor listed on their website which is <http://web.nbaa.org/public/education/>.

Item 3 in regards to a listing of equipment for trade or sell was an item of discussion at a recent meeting of the Northrop Rice Foundation Board. NFP is willing to implement and manage a website for this purpose. This is being explored further.

WING AERO AVIATION BOOK SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ATEC STUDENTS

The Wing Aero Products Company is sponsoring Aviation Book Scholarships for ATEC member school students. Wing Aero will donate ten (10) sets of PART 147 Aviation books to students selected in the same manner as those for the S&K Tool Awards. The Northrop Rice Foundation will administer the scholarships and present a list of winners at the ATEC Annual Conference. Information in regards to these scholarships will be sent to the schools in the near future.

ATEC WEBSITE

The ATEC website continues to be up and running. There were some minor events that caused the site to be inaccessible for very limited times this past summer.

The ATEC Communications Committee is considering the following upgrades to the website:

- making the school profile link interactive
- a speakers bureau listing
- an A&P job advertisement page for faculty and AMTs

ELECTRONIC ATEC JOURNAL

If you or your faculty have not signed up to receive the on-line ATEC Journal, send an e-mail to: domenic.proscia@vaughn.edu and ask to be put on the list. Over 600 people now receive the ATEC Journal on-line.

CONFERENCE – APRIL 1-3, 2007, ORLANDO

The Preliminary Agenda for the Orlando 2007 ATEC Conference is enclosed. Complete information and a final Agenda will be mailed before Thanksgiving.

So mark your calendar now for April 1-3, 2007 at the Orlando Holiday Inn Resort on International Drive.