



## Aviation Technician Education Council

### President's Report: Keeping the Momentum

*By Ryan Goertzen, President, ATEC*

Coming off the conclusion of our 55th annual conference, I'm excited about the level of engagement I saw from members, industry supporters and exhibitors. More than 150 attendees participated, which indicates a slow but steady rise over the last several years. This year's conference focused on three major themes: advancing technologies and certification, workforce development and FAA rulemaking activity. The event provided critical continuing education to our faculty members and networking opportunities for all involved. Even if you weren't able to attend, we hope all members will take time to [review the session presentations](#). Our speakers were gracious enough to make this powerful information available so please put them to good use.

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I wanted to also provide a board update, this being the first year we elected directors through a nominating committee under the new bylaws. Ray Thompson (Western Michigan), Joe McCourt (Tarrant County Community College) and Paul Herrick (University of Alaska) concluded their respective terms. All three of these individuals have done so much to transform ATEC, the membership is indebted to their service. Jay Gregson (Hallmark College), Debbie Wiggins (Aviation Institute of Maintenance) and Amy Kienast (MIAT College) will each serve a four-year term. Amy has stepped down as the vice president, allowing Gary Hoyle (PIA) and Chuck Horning (Embry Riddle) to occupy the vice president and treasurer positions respectively. Amy will continue to service as the chair of the annual conference committee and I am truly thankful for her service.

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Finally, I have been elected to serve one more term as president which I have to say is a true honor. Please reach out to our new board members and executives to congratulate

them on their new and continuing roles with ATEC.

As you may have heard at the annual conference last month, in the coming year ATEC will focus on the following initiatives:

- Participate on the FAA/industry working group tasked with developing processes and standards for mechanic testing.
- Encourage the FAA to issue a competency-based part 147 so that aviation maintenance technician schools may develop curriculum based upon student outcome rather than seat time.
- Develop a mission, values and goals for the organization keeping true to our roots as the voice of aviation technician education.
- Push our legislative priorities in Washington DC and prepare for the first industry-wide fly-in on Capitol Hill.
- Finalize the business office transition to executive director Crystal Maguire.
- Encourage aviation maintenance technician schools to [provide graduate data](#) to aid industry recruitment and student placement efforts.
- Work with industry to bring critical information to schools to enhance their curriculum.

There is no shortage of things that need to be done, and the council's success will be directly tied to the engagement of its volunteers. I encourage you to get involved, [join a committee](#) and get to work. ATEC is your organization and I will do everything I can as your president to ensure that ATEC remains "the voice" of technician education and more.



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## **Member Alerts**

### **Student and Educator of the Year Announced**

Each year, ATEC recognizes excellence in aviation maintenance training by honoring an outstanding educator and an exemplary student. At the annual conference in Atlanta, the council announced this year's award recipients, who represent the very best of the AMTS community. [Read more.](#)

### **UAS Educators Workshop**

As a follow on to [his presentation](#) at the ATEC annual conference, Jonathan Beck will present a "DroneTech Educators Workshop" on Aug. 8-10, 2016 at the Northland Aerospace Campus in Thief River Falls, MN. [Read more.](#)



### NEW!! Member Job Board

Looking for a new career opportunity? Searching for that perfect candidate? Take advantage of ATEC's jobboard, a free service to members. [Read more.](#)

### Annual Conference: It's a Wrap

This year's annual conference was the best yet. If you haven't already, [submit your feedback](#) and mark your calendar for next year's event, unofficially scheduled for April 1-4, 2017 in Seattle. (Stay tuned for the official announcement!) If you weren't able to attend, members can still check out speaker presentations. [Read more.](#)

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