

December, 2011

To: AAAE Executive Committee
AAAE Board of Directors
AAAE Policy Review Committee

From: Stephen J. Adams, Jr., A.A.E., Chair, Academic Relations Committee

Subject: Academic Relations Committee Report

The Committee last met by teleconference on December 5, 2011.

After much discussion and coordination with the University Aviation Administration (UAA), an article appeared in the winter edition of the UAA Collegiate Aviation News (see attached) regarding AAAE Student Chapters and their benefits in preparing students for the future in aviation management. This was a follow up to a presentation by committee members Daniel Prather and Richmond Nettey at the UAA Conference in September, which highlighted the advantages of AAAE and Student Chapters. UAA has requested that another presentation be made at their conference next year. The Committee is following up with the educators who attended this year's presentation to engender further interest in forming Student Chapters within aviation programs which do not currently have one.

The Sub-Committee charged with generating news articles from member schools is putting renewed emphasis on the regular submittal of articles to appear in Airport Report Today or Airport Magazine.

An e-mail survey was sent to academic members who have attended sessions at recent annual conferences to obtain further feedback to help the Committee determine the focus for student sessions at the Phoenix Conference. It was obvious from most responses that the "Mixer With the Mentors" was well received. The contribution of the Mentors in working with these students is so important to this association and the students. We hope that everyone will consider taking the opportunity to volunteer as a Mentor at the next conference.

Other items being reviewed at this time include the possibility of a student luncheon at the conference which would coincide with the airport members' luncheon on Sunday. The Committee believes that this can be valuable to the relationship between AAAE and our future leaders, as well as forging greater relationships among the members of the various Student Chapters. A discounted student rate for any AAAE webinar is being introduced. An updated careers video is in the discussion phase. The Committee agreed that inviting student members to participate on the Committee would be helpful in gaining the student perspective.

There were also discussions regarding scholarships available and that, based on the economy and rising costs, there may be a greater benefit to increasing the amounts of the individual awards, but granting fewer scholarships. There will be further conversations with the Foundation Committee as a follow up, if need be. In this regard, there was also further discussion as to how members can be made better aware of the scholarship opportunities available.

There was preliminary discussion regarding the student sessions at the 84th Annual AAAE Conference and Exposition in Phoenix. This discussion will continue at the Committee's next teleconference on Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at 3:00pm, EST.