



### Congratulations, Dr. Harl!!!



She did it!!! The aviation professor and pilot formerly known as Ms. Harl is now Dr. Harl!!!

Indeed, Dr. Harl has successfully passed the defense of her doctoral dissertation. Her research was titled *What can be learned from the experience of being Black in Business Aviation: An Exploratory Case Study*. The research is considered to be ground breaking, and the first of its kind on the Black experience in civilian aviation. Dr. Harl is to be commended for conducting research in a topic that is innovative and largely unexplored.

In an exclusive interview with Mr. Ferg, Dr. Harl was quoted in no uncertain terms as saying: "I simply cannot wait to begin working on my second doctorate! The experience was so positive that I am eager to subject myself to the same kind of treatment again!" (Just kidding...)

Congratulations, Dr. Harl! The longest checkride of your life is over and you passed!

### Safety Focus: Icing Conditions

*by Mr. Michael D. Ferguson*

The onset of winter weather means the simultaneous arrival of cold temperatures and their accompaniment of corresponding weather conditions. The season of winter can be likened to the proverbial double-edged sword, in that those of us who enjoy the cold and its myriad of outdoor activities have reason to be happy. The rest of us however, may see only the cold, snow, sleet, ice, and bad driving conditions. ARRGGHH!!! True to form, winter also brings some weather of its own that is rather intense at times, and even potentially dangerous to aviation operations.

Although most of us are at least somewhat familiar with the possible dangers that are associated with winter weather, the wise pilot (and person) will recognize the value of refamiliarization with winter aviation operations.

With regard to flight operations in winter weather, the best rule of thumb to follow is this: **Avoid flight into known icing conditions, especially if your aircraft is not rated as such for this type of flight activity.** The primary point that I am trying to make is this: You can always fly another day. With this factor in mind, here are some things to do to help keep you safe during icing conditions or other winter weather, whether you are in the air or on the ground.

*(See Icing, page 2)*

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*Flightlines* is published twice a year as an information source for SCSU aviation students, alumni, Advisory Board members, friends of the Aviation Department and the administration and faculty of SCSU. Article submissions, comments, suggestions, and questions are welcome and may be directed to Mr. Michael D. Ferguson, Assistant Professor of Aviation, SCSU Department of Aviation, at (320) 308-2107 (email: [mdferguson@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:mdferguson@stcloudstate.edu)).

**Editor:** Michael D. Ferguson

Current and back issues of *Flightlines* can be found on the Department of Aviation website:

<http://www.stcloudstate.edu/aviation>

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## Spring 2008 Aviation Classes

There is still time to register for aviation courses! Sign up today!!!

### New Certificates & Ratings

**Bill Bowen**

Multi-engine Private  
Multi-engine commercial

**Kevin Weiss**

Single-engine Commercial  
Multi-engine Commercial

### Recent aviation graduate hiring's!

**Derek Lossing**

Northwest Airlines  
Senior Marketing Analyst

**Bryan Sonnkalb**

Mesaba Airlines  
First Officer CRJ 900

**Steve Osojnicky**

Mesaba Airlines  
First Officer SAAB 340

**Craig Johnson**

Express Jet Airlines  
First Officer ERJ 135/145

**Dylan Melin**

Mesaba Airlines  
First Officer CRJ 200

**Chad Howard**

Mesaba Airlines  
First Officer CRJ 200

**Coleman Schelitzche**

Mesaba Airlines



## Can You Guess the Professor?

- This aviation professor got his first real job and own checking account when he was 11, was a third string quarterback in high school, bought his own car at 16, and once worked in a chicken hatchery as an egg flipper...?!?

*Who could it be? (Not sure I wanna know...)*

## Faculty News

**Tara Harl** successfully passed defense of your doctoral dissertation. Her research was titled *What can be learned from the experience of being Black in Business Aviation: An Exploratory Case Study*. The research was ground breaking first of its kind on the Black experience in civilian aviation. Congratulations, Dr. Harl!!!

**Tara Harl:** The MN Business Aviation has adapted the PFM Foundation Scholarship program initiated by the Michigan Business Aviation Association. This program is an outreach of Dr. Harl's AVIT 413 National Initiative being adopted by the Michigan Business Aviation Association and Western Michigan University's Aviation program .

**Michael Ferguson and Jeff Johnson** wrote a paper titled, *Cost and Perceived Value in Obtaining a Bachelor's Degree in Aviation Professional Flight: Will Collegiate Aviation Price Themselves Out of the Market?* The article was just published in the Fall 2007 edition of the *Journal of Aviation/Aerospace Education & Research!*

**Michael Ferguson** has expanded the project scope of AVIT 429—Airport Planning and Design. This semester, students completed a project on the STC Army National Guard base. However, this semester also featured student groups designing their own FAR Part 139 airport. The project was very successful, and students demonstrated a high degree of creativity and innovation. Great job to the students of AVIT 429!

**Angie Olson and Michael Ferguson** were accepted into the very first doctoral cohort at SCSU in Higher Education Administration. They are currently working on their doctoral degrees.

**Angie Olson** has arranged for Mr. Thomas Petters to come to SCSU as a guest speaker. This is significant because Mr. Petters is the new owner of Sun Country Airlines! Mr. Petters will be at SCSU to give a talk on Wednesday, February 13 from 2:30—3:30. AHP will be sponsoring the event. Details on location will be announced in advance of his speaking engagement.

**Angie Olson** facilitated the first SCSU Department of Aviation Mentoring Program meeting. The meeting was held on Wednesday, December 5, and was attended by approximately 30 Students and a few faculty members.

*(see Faculty News, page 4)*

## Icing *(continued from page 1)*

- Be alert to the weather at all times, especially when preparing to fly
- Learn as much as you can about flight in icing conditions
- Pay close attention to METARS, TAFs, and PIREPS with respect to icing conditions
- Use sound judgment
- Exercise caution in decision-making about flying in adverse weather conditions
- Conduct a thorough pre-flight check of all anti-icing features (if your aircraft is equipped)
- Check pitot tube heat before flight to ensure that it is working
- Dress appropriately to protect yourself from frostbite, hypothermia, and cold exposure

Enjoy the break, and be safe!



## Aviation Students Lend Ms. Olson a Hand!

A number of SCSU aviation student volunteers visited Sauk Rapids/Rice Middle School with Ms. Olson this Fall for a time of aviation activities and information sharing. There were 57 middle school students that had completed an aviation course at the middle school, and these students were very receptive to what our students had to tell them about aviation!

According to Ms. Olson, the SCSU aviation students were extremely knowledgeable in answering the many questions asked by the middle school students. In addition, the aviation students also lent their expertise by helping out with a glider builder competition. Ms. Olson said "I'm not sure who had more fun, the college or the middle school students!"

Afterwards, the aviation students and Ms. Olson took the middle school students out for a tour of the STC airport! The visit and the tour were a wonderful capstone to the middle school aviation course.

Many thanks to the following SCSU aviation students who volunteered their time and knowledge to encourage future aviators: (If we forgot anyone, we're sorry and still appreciate you!)

Lisa Wixom  
Michelle Fischer  
Merisa Kendall  
Andrew Schrunk  
Blake Heimann  
Derek Stoks  
David Wickman  
Matt Andrew  
Ryan Mahoney  
Brannon Zimmer

## Congratulations, Sandy!!!



That's right, the rumors are true! Our very own beautiful and amazing office manager, the incomparable Sandy Osterholt will be celebrating her 30th anniversary of employment with SCSU on January 24, 2008! Please join with the aviation faculty in congratulating Sandy on 30 years of service, and in thanking her for everything that she does for us!

Permit me to wax poetic....

- Sandy, you are the cream & sugar in our coffee, you are the blue in our sky, you are the rain upon our newly-planted fields, you are the glue that holds this department together, you are the channel-lock pliers in the toolbox of our lives...(ok, give me a break, it's early!)

Seriously, WE LOVE YOU!!! Thanks for everything that you do and for the person you are!

**“Quotable Quote”  
about  
Dr. Tara Harl’s  
completion of her  
doctoral degree:**

*“WHEW!!!” (sound of  
massive relief)*

**Congratulations Dr.  
Harl, we are proud of  
you!**



**Congratulations  
Graduates!**



**Ryan Mahoney**  
BS in Aviation—Management

**Kyung Jin Cho (Ruchina)**  
BS in Aviation—Operations

**Ben Barnes**  
BS in Aviation—Pro Flight

**Josh Klaphake**  
BAS in Maintenance Mgmt

**Drew DeLeon**  
BS in Aviation—Operations

**Dylan Melin**  
BS in Aviation-Pro Flight

**Jake Shepard**  
BAS in Maintenance Mgmt

*Blessings and Best Wishes  
to all 2007 Graduates! We  
will miss you greatly!*

*You are cleared for  
departure runway 31, safe  
flight...*



## Faculty News *(continued from page 2)*

**Steve Anderson** represented the SCSU Aviation Department at the Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI) Annual Conference in Seattle, WA in July.

**Steve Anderson** attended the UAA Fall Conference in San Jose, CA in October.

**Jeff Johnson** received his tenure at SCSU last July. Congratulations, Dr. J!

**Jeff Johnson** volunteered to chair a newly created graduate education committee for the University Aviation Association (UAA).

**Jeff Johnson** presented *Gender and Multi-cultural Curriculum Issues for Undergraduate Aviation Students* at the Fall 2007 UAA Conference in San Jose, CA.



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### We Would Like to Hear from YOU!

Graduation? Career change? Promotion? Retirement? Anything else going on in your life? Please take a moment and give us an update. Can we feature YOU in our next newsletter? Yes\_\_\_

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