



#### IN THIS EDITION

## JOIN US IN MONTREAL!

ICAO NEXT GENERATION OF AVIATION  
PROFESSIONALS (NGAP) GLOBAL SUMMIT  
MONTREAL, CANADA (27-28 NOVEMBER 2017)

**T**he ICAO NGAP Global Summit will be convened in Montreal, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

This two-day event offers a unique opportunity for the aviation and education sectors to come together and share strategies and actions to attract, educate and retain the next generation of aviation professionals.

The Summit will also offer activities specifically targeted

to high school and university students, including a Model ICAO Forum, giving them the opportunity to deliberate and present innovative initiatives on current issues critical to the operations of ICAO and the international civil aviation community.

Further information about the Summit and the student activities can be found at: [www.icao.int/Meetings/ngapgs-montreal/pages/default.aspx](http://www.icao.int/Meetings/ngapgs-montreal/pages/default.aspx).

- ▶ Join Us In Montreal! ICAO Next Generation of Aviation Professionals (NGAP) Global Summit
- ▶ Five lessons we learned from Shaesta Waiz, Dreams Soar founder
- ▶ ASCA launches new training facilities for the promotion of aviation
- ▶ Official Handing Over RJ85 Aircraft Airframe
- ▶ Model of Aviation Outreach
- ▶ Student Education and Careers in Aviation (SECA) Event

# FIVE LESSONS WE LEARNED FROM SHAESTA WAIZ, DREAMS SOAR FOUNDER

BY MR DEEPAK WARRIER, INTERN, CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE



Soaring high in a small, single-engine plane and flying solo around the world, Afghan-American pilot Shaesta Waiz is aiming to inspire other women to follow their aviation dreams. As the first certified civilian female pilot from Afghanistan, this inspiring aviator is driven by a burning desire to challenge conventions and help others like her soar high.

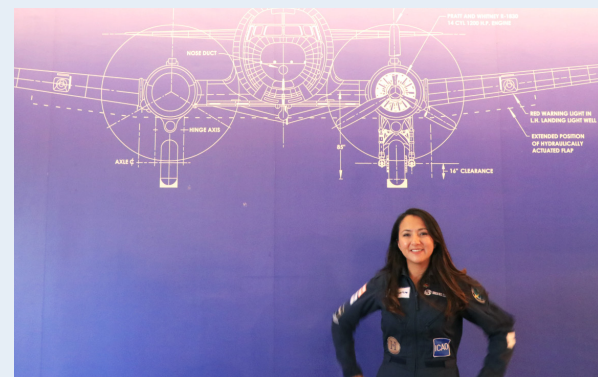
We recently caught up with Shaesta during her stop in Singapore, as part of her solo flight around the world. Over 90 young girls and ladies were mesmerised by this trailblazer and took away some valuable insights on what it takes to reach for your aviation aspirations.

**Here are the top five lessons we learned from Shaesta Waiz:**

## 1 Your circumstances do not dictate your flight path

Before she even boarded her Beechcraft Bonanza A36, Shaesta had to overcome nearly impossible odds. She was born in a refugee camp in 1987, after which her family fled to the US to escape the Soviet-Afghan war. They then settled in an underprivileged area in Richmond, California. Shaesta recalls attending schools where sharing textbooks with classmates and watching friends drop out was the norm. “I believed my future consisted of getting married at a young age and starting a big family,” she said. “It wasn’t until I found aviation that I started thinking about having a career and going to college,” the aviator added.

While Shaesta admits that she initially dreaded flying growing up, she eventually embraced her fears and boarded a plane. That’s when she found her calling and realized that “your biggest fear in life can be your biggest passion.” Through the years, she dedicated herself to overcoming obstacles and reaching her goals, earning bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and also becoming the first certified civilian female pilot from Afghanistan.



## 2 Aim high, and then just go for it

Being the first in her family to earn bachelor’s and master’s degrees, Shaesta had her struggles. “When I decided to become a pilot, I didn’t know much about the industry. I didn’t have family members or friends who were in aviation. I had to take it upon myself to learn about aviation and become a professional pilot on my own,” she said. Fortunately, with her dedication and the support of her loved ones, Waiz was able to realize her dream. Echoing the words of the late Amelia Earhart, she said “the best way to do it, is to do it! Get started. There will be many things you will not know or be sure about. Understand that the greatest pilots in the world once walked in your shoes. It is because they kept walking that they became the greatest.”





3

### Take each obstacle as a learning opportunity

According to Shaesta, this industry will challenge you in many different ways, which is why you should expect to be pushed out of your comfort zone. However, she believes that every daunting task is a chance to grow and learn. “Take everything you learn about aviation and apply it to how you can better your pilot skills. Look at each obstacle as an opportunity.”

4

### Be the change you want to see in the world

Only about 6% of pilots worldwide are women. Shaesta is out to change that statistic. Seeking to inspire others like her to strive for their dreams, she is on a path that lets her be the change that she wants to see in the world. “When I was working towards my private pilot license, I decided to reach out to the Afghan government and request a list of female pilots from my country,” she recalls. After a couple of months, she finally received a letter stating that there were no licensed female pilots on record in Afghanistan; upon receiving her private pilot license, she would be recognized as the country’s first civilian female pilot.

5

### Each of us has the capacity to soar

According to Shaesta, every time she opens the door to an aircraft she finds herself asking “How did a girl with my background become so lucky?” And this fuels her passion and her drive to accomplish the main objective of Dreams Soar: Inspiring women to join STEM. “The truth is, anyone can be me,” she said. You just have to “believe in yourself and allow your dreams to soar.”



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*This is all I needed to hear to continue my training. I felt a sense of duty to help pave the way for the future of women in my country,” she said. After her momentous achievement, Shaesta then made it her mission to continue inspiring others like her around the world, which is why she took off on her historic solo flight.*

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## ASCA LAUNCHES NEW TRAINING FACILITIES FOR THE PROMOTION OF AVIATION

As part of its commitment to the development of civil aviation in the Dominican Republic, the Academia Superior de Ciencias Aeronauticas (ASCA) opened new facilities to provide training in different aeronautical areas of specialization and to increase the promotion of aviation.

These new facilities are part of the expansion project of the Dominican Aeronautical Complex, led by the Director General of the Dominican Institute of Civil Aviation (IDAC), Dr. Alejandro Herrera Rodriguez. Dr. Herrera Rodriguez has positively contributed to the development of the Dominican aeronautical

sector, which plays an important role in enabling the economic growth of the country.

ASCA's expansion includes a comprehensive range of facilities which create a suitable environment for training, such as an Aerodrome Control Simulator and a Surveillance Simulator to meet the immediate and long-term national and international training requirements of air navigation programmes. ASCA has also acquired a DC 9 and an L410 aircraft, with all equipment on board of both aircraft, for exhibition and training purposes. The training facilities also include new classrooms and computer rooms equipped with modern teaching equipment and ergonomic furniture.

"We are proud to contribute to the development of aviation in the Dominican Republic, and in the Region, with our most recent and modern training facilities,



which will serve to satisfy the training needs of the present and future generations of aviation professionals", said Mr. Juan Cesar Thomas Burgos, Director of ASCA, during the inauguration of the new facilities.

ASCA's initiatives are focused on outreach activities in order to inspire students of all ages to consider a career in the aviation industry, and to ensure that enough qualified and competent aviation professionals are available to operate, manage and maintain the future international air transport system.

## OFFICIAL HANDING OVER

### RJ85 AIRCRAFT AIRFRAME

A great milestone for young people dedicated to the empowerment of youth, women and girls, in aviation and aerospace, as well as STEM education awareness, was witnessed earlier this month with the donation of a BAe RJ85 aircraft airframe to Captain Kgomotso Phatsima, the President of Dare to Dream.

This aircraft airframe will be refurbished and serve multiple aviation related activities. It will be used as an aviation clinic, an

aviation classroom, a meeting place for young people, or for any other exiting activity that promotes aviation and aerospace awareness, as well as tourism in Botswana!

"Our greatest appreciation goes to Mr. Mark Byrne and Ansett Aircraft Spares and Services, for bestowing such a gracious gift. We look forward to utilising it to inspire the next generation of aviation professionals" said Captain Kgomotso Phatsima.

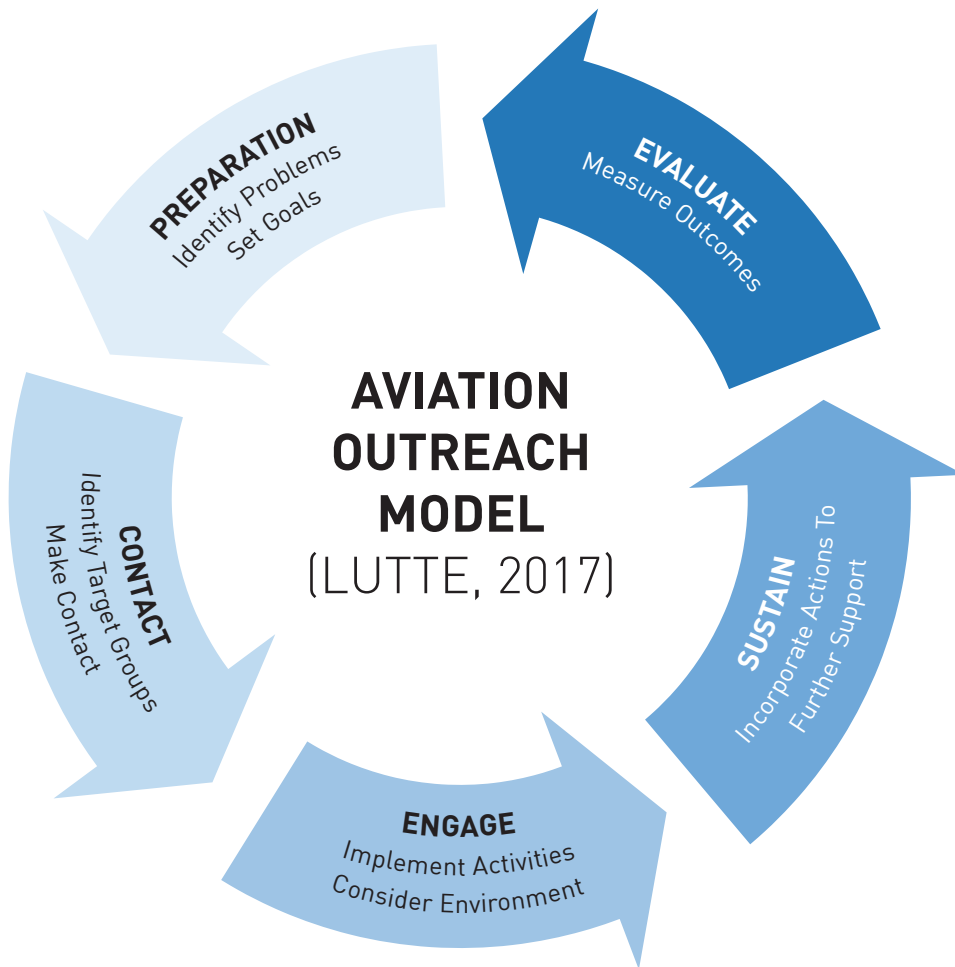


# MODEL OF AVIATION OUTREACH

BECKY LUTTE

Previous research on the shortage of qualified aviation personnel has identified the importance of outreach programmes for filling the pipeline in the aviation workforce. One researcher at the University of Nebraska at Omaha Aviation

Institute focused her work on the role of aviation non-profits in outreach. The work by Dr. Becky Lutte has resulted in a model for aviation outreach programmes, which includes five major elements.



A gap analysis tool has also been developed to analyse all elements in the model, in order to determine which outreach programmes are doing well and where improvements can be made. Current research using this model is underway with an exploration of three large non-profit outreach programmes.



## Preparation:

Agreeing on the problem to be addressed, identifying goals, establishing timeline and budget

## Contact:

Identifying target groups, consider strategies for identifying underrepresented groups, make contact

## Engage:

Implement activities that align with goals, consider environment and threats to safety

## Sustain:

Provide information or support for next steps to continue the momentum

## Evaluate:

Identify and measure outcomes and compare results to original goals



# STUDENT EDUCATION AND CAREERS IN AVIATION

## (SECA) EVENT

**W**ith an industry-wide pilot shortage looming, and a need for rapid expansion of training and simulation capacity, we need to do everything possible to get the next generation interested in a career in aviation. Plenty of conferences and industry get-togethers talk about the problem, but too few are actively trying to fix it. Student Education and Careers in Aviation, or SECA, is a part of the World Airline Training Summit (WATS) and brings together high school, college and flight school students along with airline representatives in an effort to promote the airline industry to the next generation.

The SECA programme is designed to bring in experts from the entire industry. Representatives from various airlines and industry experts are invited to speak to students about jobs in the future. Flight schools and colleges will have the opportunity to speak to airlines about their current students while also having the opportunity to speak with college, middle and high school students about their future. This programme effectively brings in representatives from all aspects of the aviation training industry.

Participants in SECA gain more than just the ability to speak with experts in pilot recruitment

and airline simulation, they also have the chance to learn about opportunities in other aspects of the airline industry, such as being a part of the cabin or maintenance crew or creating software for simulators or simulation-based training games. Educators are encouraged to bring students to learn about current and future career possibilities in this exciting and critical global industry.

SECA is part of the WATS conference, the world's largest gathering of aviation training professionals serving airlines, regulators, training providers and the overall training industry. More than 1,200 participants from over 50 countries and over 100 airlines gather in Orlando to focus on the latest in airline training and education. Attendees are encouraged to sit in on presentations which include tracks for pilots, maintenance, cabin crew and regional airlines. They also have access to the exhibition hall where attendees can speak one-on-one with representatives from all the major simulation companies, trainers, equipment manufacturers and airlines. WATS occurs annually every Spring in Orlando, Florida, and is scheduled for April 15-17 in 2018.

There are real questions concerning the future of the airline industry. SECA's goal is to bring

the next generation of airline workers face to face with the ones who can help get them there. For more information on SECA, or if you would like to participate in this momentous event, visit [www.wats-event.com/conferences/seca](http://www.wats-event.com/conferences/seca).

