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Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI)

Raising the Standards for the Next Generation of Aviation Professionals

ICAO NGAP Symposium

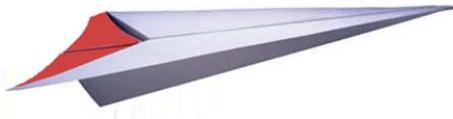## Dr. Thomas Carney, AABI President

Overview

- A review of the organization of AABI

- Concepts of specialized accreditation

- The role and international scope of AABI as a specialized accreditor

- The positive impact of AABI-accredited programs on the recruitment, professional preparation, and career success of the Next Generation of Aviation Professionals

Key Concepts

- Accreditation in an outcomes-based environment produces aviation professionals whose competencies fill the requirements of the industry they serve.

- This process also confers the requisite skills, judgment and knowledge to enhance graduates' professional performance in the aviation system.

- Graduation from an accredited program provides a perspective of societal, leadership, environmental, business, and personal responsibility not acquired by other means.

ACCREDITATION

The granting of approval to an institution of learning by an official review board after the school or program has met specific requirements.

Accreditation

- A system for recognizing educational programs that meet a defined set of standards – granted by private organizations.

APPROVAL

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RAISING THE STANDARDS OF AVIATION.™

AABI Goals

- To stimulate collegiate aviation program excellence and self-improvement.

- To establish uniform minimum educational quality standards.

- To increase the credibility, integrity, and acceptance of collegiate aviation programs within institutions of higher education and aviation communities.

Scope

The scope of AABI is to accredit non-engineering aviation programs at the associate, baccalaureate and graduate levels offered by colleges and universities in the U.S. and throughout the world.

AABI is the only recognized accreditor for aviation programs in the world.

Collegiate Aviation Programs

- Diploma　　　　　Non-degree (outside USA)
- Two-year Associate degree (A.S., A.A.S.)
- Four-year Baccalaureate degree (B.S.)
- Graduate Master's degree (M.S., M.B.A.)
- Graduate Doctoral degree (ED., Ph.D.)

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Curriculum requirements for AABI Accreditation

The curriculum is composed of these elements:

-- General Education

-- Aviation Core

-- Aviation Option (program-specific)

Curriculum

College level math and science appropriate to program objectives

General education content that:

- Complements technical content of the curriculum

- Is consistent with institutional and program objectives

Curriculum

Aviation Core

1. **Professional Issues:** Attributes of an aviation professional, career planning, and certification
2. **Aircraft:** Aircraft design, performance, operating characteristics, and maintenance
3. **Safety:** Aviation safety and human factors
4. **Legal & Labor Issues:** National and international law,regulations, and labor issues
5. **Resource Management:** Airports, airspace, and air traffic control
6. **Environmental:** Meteorology and environmental issues

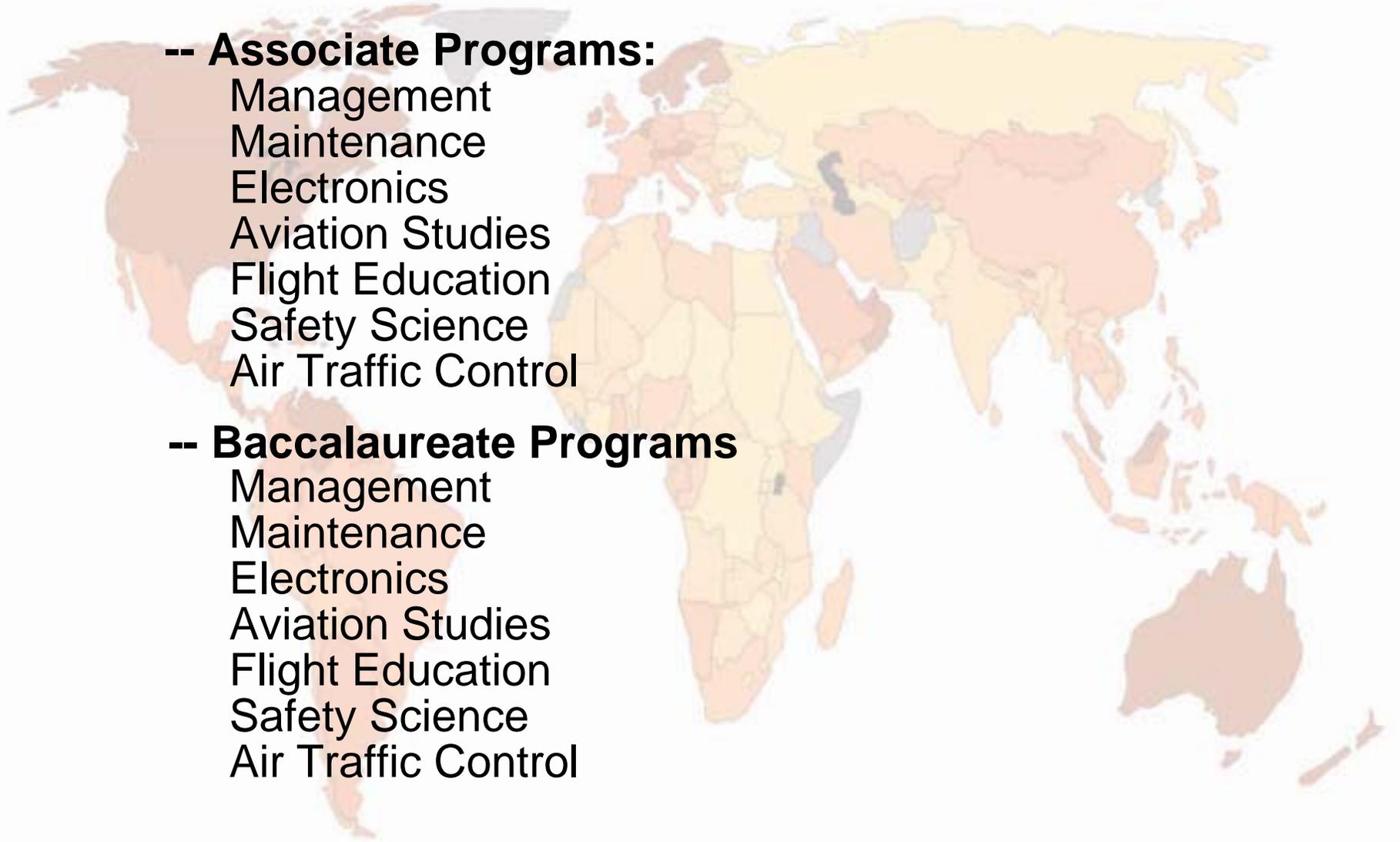**AAB**International

Curriculum

Aviation Options Accredited include:

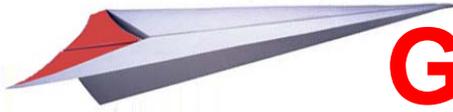**-- Associate Programs:**
Management
Maintenance
Electronics
Aviation Studies
Flight Education
Safety Science
Air Traffic Control

-- Baccalaureate Programs
Management
Maintenance
Electronics
Aviation Studies
Flight Education
Safety Science
Air Traffic Control

General Outcomes

Aviation programs MUST demonstrate that graduates have:

- An ability to apply knowledge of mathematics, science, and applied sciences
- An ability to analyze and interpret data
- An ability to function on multi-disciplinary teams
- An understanding of professional and ethical responsibility
- An ability to communicate effectively, including both written and verbal communication skills
- A recognition of the need for, and an ability to engage in, life-long learning
- A knowledge of contemporary issues
- An ability to use the techniques, skills, and modern technology necessary for professional practice
- An understanding of the national and international aviation environment
- An ability to apply pertinent knowledge in identifying and solving problems
- An understanding of business sustainability in aviation

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Peer-Reviewed Process

- Accreditation process takes 24 months
- Programs are reviewed every five years
- Criteria are established by the Board of Trustees
- Criteria under continuous review
- Outcomes-based Criteria
  -- Evaluate the knowledge and skills from the education experience, not the academic resources and process
  -- Omit all references to required credits

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Institutional Accreditation

AABI FORM 217 – MEMBER INSTITUTION ACCREDITATION STATUS

SUMMARY

	TOTAL	AVIATION MGMT.	AVIATION MAINT.	AVIATION ELEC.	AVIATION STUDIES	FLIGHT EDUCATION	AVIATION SAFETY SCIENCE
Institutions with Accredited Programs	31						
Number of Programs Accredited	89	31	5	4	21	28	0
Institutions with Programs in Candidate Status: Reaffirmation	8						
Number of Programs in Candidate Status: Reaffirmation	23	8	1	1	3	9	1
Institutions with Programs in Candidate Status: New	2						
Number of Programs in Candidate Status: New	8	4	1	1	2	1	0

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Membership

Educator Members (all categories)

Academy of Technical Training (UAE)
Aims Community College
Arizona State University
Auburn University
Daniel Webster College
Delta State University
Dowling College
Eastern Kentucky University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
  (Daytona Beach, FL, and Prescott, AZ)
Everglades University
Florida Institute of Technology
Hampton University
Indiana State University
Inter American University of Puerto Rico
Jacksonville University
Kansas State University - Salina
Kent State University
Korea Aerospace University
LeTourneau University
Lewis University
Louisiana Tech University
Mercer County Community College
Middle Georgia College
Middle Tennessee State University
Minnesota State University, Mankato

North Shore Community College
Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and
  Technology, St. Louis University
Purdue University
Oklahoma State University
Rocky Mountain College
Seneca College of Applied Arts &
  Technology (Canada)
Southeastern Oklahoma State University
 (Durant, Oklahoma City and Tinker Air
  Force Base, OK)
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
St. Cloud State University
Tennessee State University
University of Alaska, Anchorage
University of Central Missouri
University of Dubuque
University of Louisiana at Monroe
University of Maryland - Eastern Shore
University of Nebraska at Omaha
University of North Dakota
University of Oklahoma
Utah State University
Utah Valley University
Western Michigan University
Westminster College

Membership

Corporate Members
Air Line Pilots Association
The Boeing Company
Cape Air/Nantucket Airlines
Cessna Aircraft Company
Cirrus Design Corporation
Coalition of Airline Pilots Associations
Delta Connection Academy
Diamond Aircraft Industries, Inc.
Flight Safety International
Frasca International, Inc.
Jet Blue Airway Corporation
Remos Aircraft

Trade Association Members
Air Transport Association
Aircraft Electronics Association
AOPA Air Safety Foundation
Flight Safety Foundation
General Aviation Manufacturers Association
National Business Aviation Association
Women in Aviation International

Practitioner Members
Airspace Solutions
American Airlines
Aviation Career Enrichment
Basin Electric Power Cooperative
CAPACG, LLC
Chevron Corporation
Emory University School of Law
Farragut International, LLC
Federal Express
JetQuick
Professional Aviation Board of Certification
Peter M. Morton Consulting, Inc.
Sandel Avionics
Talon Systems, LLC
UPS Airlines
Wolf Aviation Fund

Liaisons
International Civil Aviation Organization
(ICAO)
Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
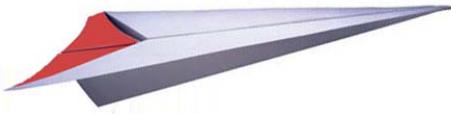Transport Canada

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Industry/Educator Forum

- To help ensure currency and relevance of AABI Criteria

- Industry presents at annual meeting (summer)
  – Topic of concern and interest to employers
  – Competencies and attributes desired of graduates
  – Areas that are of common industry concern

- Educators respond at winter meeting
  – Response to industry input
  – Curriculum and education impact assessment
  – Propose possible changes to accreditation criteria

- Significant results can be incorporated into the Criteria

Emphasis on Educational Outcomes

- Accreditation in an outcomes-based environment produces aviation professionals whose competencies fill the requirements of the industry they serve.
  - Emphasis is on what is learned, not what is taught
  - Close cooperation between educators and industry practitioners
  - The key is the quality of educational preparation, not the quantity of class/lab/flight hours accrued

Life-long professional competence

- This process also confers the requisite skills, judgment and knowledge to enhance graduates' professional performance in the aviation system
  - An excellent academic preparation builds the foundation for excellence throughout the professional career of graduates
  - This adherence to excellence and high standards should help to attract the best and brightest students to our disciplines
  - Interesting and relevant curriculum content helps to motivate and retain students

Accredited Programs Produce Well-rounded Practitioners and Citizens

- Graduation from an accredited program provides a perspective of societal, leadership, environmental, business, and personal responsibility not acquired by other means.
  - Technical competency is only one attribute of the Next Generation of Aviation Professionals
  - The issues and challenges we face as a World community require citizens who can apply their education and knowledge to help find and implement solutions
  - The accreditation process leads to programs that produce leaders, not just practitioners

In Closing…

- We are at an unprecedented inflection point in aviation education, and the attraction of young people to aviation careers

- To meet the need for the Next Generation of Aviation Professionals, we must have high standards of education and training, to attract the best and brightest students

- The focus must be on the Outcomes attained by graduates, and those Outcomes must be current and relevant, and must provide the Industry with the skills it needs for safe and efficient operation

- Specialized accreditation can be key in reaching these goals