AIM Houston Holds On-Campus Hiring Events

By: Sherita Sutton, AMA

During the month of February, AIM Houston hosted two hiring events. On Tuesday, February 23rd, United Airlines spoke to our students about the field of aviation and their open positions for summer ramp agents, with the possibility of becoming permanent. 49 students attended this event and so far 4 students have been hired by United. Wilson Air Center visited AMH on Wednesday, February 24th. Wilson was hiring line service technicians and conducted preliminary interviews on the campus. Students then proceeded with follow up interviews with the General Manager at their facility. 37 students attended this hiring event and they are very excited for the opportunity to become successful and gain valuable experience in aviation. AMH is committed to assisting students become successful graduates by providing opportunities for growth and knowledge. United Airlines and Wilson Air assisted us by offering those opportunities for our students.

Students from Local High School Tour AIM Atlanta

By: Jody Isom, AMH

On Friday, February 12th, AIM Atlanta hosted a group of 18 Juniors and Seniors from Shiloh High School. It was the first scheduled field trip hosted at the campus with a public school. The students had the opportunity to work directly with AIM’s instructors, participating in hands-on projects ranging from safety wiring, electrical trouble shooting and engine runs, to airplane taxiing. The event was a great success, with many of the students eager to participate in future campus events and possibly pursue a career in the aviation maintenance field. Prior to being engaged by our Community Outreach Representative during a presentation at their school, many of the students were unaware of the existence of our campus and the training that we provide. Those presentations are opening the minds of many young adults in our community and increasing the knowledge of who the Aviation Institute of Maintenance is.

AIM Manassas Gets Visit from Vietnam Embassy

By

It’s a long way to AIM Manassas from Vietnam, but well worth the travel; so said the delegation from the Vietnamese Embassy as they explored the campus of AIM Manassas back in February. Their purpose was simple; to find an appropriate facility to train their countrymen/women in fixing aircraft safely and effectively. John Allbright (Director of Education) and Jan Schoonmaker (Campus Executive Director) were the perfect hosts as they accompanied the guests around the campus pointing out the extensive hands-on equipment used in teaching students. Let us not forget the faculty, most of whom have over 20 years of field experience while also holding an A&P License.

Near the lobby, next to the glowing AIM sign, the tour ended. The officials of Vietnam seemed pleased with the expertise and professionalism of the staff, faculty and curriculum taught. As the months go by our campus seems to become a magnet of diversity, brimming with chances to learn new cultures. This makes AIM Manassas a great place to study a vocation built on safely maintaining the globalization of travel as we know it today.
HAECO Americas Visits Atlanta Campus for Lunch & Learn Series

By Michelle Figari, AMA

On Thursday, January 28th, AIM Atlanta had the pleasure of hosting HAECO Americas for our Lunch and Learn event on campus. HAECO Americas, formerly known as Timco, provides airframe maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO), line services and engine repair. They also produce aerospace manufactured products to several commercial, government and military customers. The Lunch & Learn series is tailored to all students and graduates. During their lunch hour students may attend the information session to learn more about different companies, what they have to offer and what skills may be needed of them once they graduate and receive their A&P Licenses. Graduates are invited to interview with the company for open positions after the session is completed. This event was well attended and students stated that they learned quite a lot about the company and various types of opportunities available within the aviation realm. Several graduates applied for and interviewed with HAECO for their open positions. AIM Atlanta is excited to continue a successful relationship with the company and is looking forward to many more visits in the near future.

Spring into Action at AIM Manassas

By Marion J. Dobbins

 Aren’t we glad winter is over? As spring buds with glimpses of pink and white flower heads, warm weather also blooms opportunities for our aviation graduates and students. It must be said, record cold temperatures, followed by snowfalls of blizzard proportions never deterred AIM Manassas from presenting quality career opportunities for current and former pupils. For example, flying from New York in winter weather was Jet Blue, headed by Andrew Kozak, Manager of College Technical Operations. Alongside him were the Director of Maintenance and several recruiters. Once again Jet Blue heartened the graduates into acquiring their Airframe and Powerplant license, making them eligible for a Jet Blue one-year apprenticeship program. This opportunity features excellent, entry-level pay and benefits. Not to be outdone, Transstates weathered the Missouri wind and sleet to participate in another AIM Career Fair. On-the-spot interviews, conducted by Gene Savard, the Transstates representative, brought sunshine to an otherwise dreary day. Through a “Lunch and Learn,” Gene spoke to students of the airlines willingness to hire entry level aviation mechanics. Let us not forget Piedmont Airlines and its representative Kevin Dallaire, who braved the elements to present our students with career choices in the Maryland and Virginia area. All in all, old man winter caused havoc on the roads but could do nothing to impede the successful pathway of Manassas-AIM students.

AIM Kansas City Students Visit Lees Summit

By Stephen Britt, AMK

The Powerplant One class at Kansas City’s Aviation Institute of Maintenance (AMK) spent a very interesting and educational evening at Lees’ Summit Airport (LXT). The local Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) chapter gave the students access to the chapter’s hangars at LXT. The students toured three of the EAA hangars and examined a wide range of certified and experimental aircraft, engines, and propellers. In addition, the Fixed Base Operator (FBO) at the airport, American Aviation, graciously gave the students a detailed explanation of the maintenance, repairs, and inspections underway on the aircraft in their hangar. Two of the aircraft were in for Annual Inspections and three were having engine repairs or changes done. The students enjoyed interacting with the Aviation Maintenance Technicians (AMTs) at American Aviation and had all their questions answered and learned a great deal about the general aviation side of our industry.
Vegas Campus Awarded Jet Engine at WAI Conference

By Debbie Wiggins, Corporate Director of Aviation

Lou Taylor and his two students, Melanie Donnelly and Heather Goldberg accepting the engine at the Annual WAI Banquet held in Nashville, TN.

March 10-12, Regional Director of Operations, Pat Thomas, Corporate Director of Aviation, Debbie Wiggins, AMP’s Evening Education Coordinator, Belinda Jean Williams, AIML’s evening Education Coordinator Louis Taylor and 2 AIM Las Vegas students, Melanie Donnelly and Heather Goldberg, attended the Women in Aviation International Conference in Nashville, TX. The conference featured phenomenal keynote speakers that included Jessica Cox, the world’s first certificated armless pilot when she earned her pilot certificate in an unmodified Ercoupe 415-C in 2008 and is now a motivational speaker; Tracey Curtis-Taylor who recreated Lady Mary Heath’s flight from Cape Town, South Africa, to Goodwood, United Kingdom, in 2013, and is currently planning to fly from the UK to Australia in honor of Amy Johnson’s 1930 flight; and Doreen Welsh, the flight attendant on U.S. Airways Flight 1549, the Miracle on the Hudson. There were many other speakers who were also excellent and inspiring. The WAI exceeded the $10 million milestone as the amount of scholarships that have been awarded in the last 15 years when they started awarding scholarships to deserving aviation students both male and female. Every AIM campus should be encouraged to submit students for these scholarships each year. Our AIML instructor and evening coordinator, Lou Taylor, submitted a letter to Fed Ex to compete for the Pratt and Whitney JT8-D engine that Fed Ex was donating to the winner of this competition. The AIM-Las Vegas campus was selected as the winner and recipient of this engine! Lou’s letter was brilliant! He succinctly described the AIML campus and how they would best utilize the JT-8D turbine engine. AIML was selected based on the number of students due to a growing program, the large number of female students exceeding the percentage of females in the industry and the best match of the engine for real use synergy with their local airline. Winning this engine will give the AIM Las Vegas students the real world application and experience they will need to have an edge over other A & P applicants/ mechanics. Lou Taylor and his 2 students, Melanie Donnelly and Heather Goldberg, as shown in the attached picture, were able to accept the engine on stage at the Annual WAI Banquet held in Nashville, TN. The other good news is Melanie graduates at the end of this mod and already has a job lined up with a company in New Mexico and Heather has one mod left to graduate after this one ends and she also already has a job with Fed Ex and will be able to be promoted to an A & P mechanic most likely relocating to California once she graduates.

From Jet Tech Summer Camp Participants to AIM Orlando Grads Working in the Field!

By Joe Vaught, AMO

When Michael Gutierrez and Agustin Rodriguez attended one of Orlando’s summer camps just after their high school graduation in 2013, they didn’t realize the amazing career path they were showing interest in. Michael and Agustin finished the Jet Tech Summer Camp program with a strong desire to join the AMT program in Orlando, so, they started at AMO at the end of July, 2 months after they graduated high school and a month after they completed the Jet Tech Summer Camp. Throughout their time in school, they both maintained high academics and good attendance, and graduated together from their AMT training at AMO in 2015. Very soon after Michael and Agustin graduated, they started the process of FAA testing so they could earn their Airframe and Powerplant mechanic certification. Agustin then took a job with Delta Airlines at their Minneapolis, MN location. Michael chose to stay in Central Florida and started his A&P mechanic work with SkyWay Enterprises in nearby Kissimmee, FL, where he now works on several different types of large body aircraft. Both Michael and Agustin couldn’t be happier with the path they chose, which all started with them attending the Jet Tech Summer Camp at AIM Orlando and then enrolling in the AMT program just months after graduating high school. We wish them both continued success as they climb the aviation career ladder to whatever height they wish to soar. Way to go to our graduates who are accomplishing what they set out to do: be professional mechanics!
AIM Orlando 2015

Student of the Year

By Joe Vaught, AMO

The entire AMO faculty, staff, students and alumni proudly congratulate Mr. Trevor Leckie, AIM Orlando AMTE Graduate and the Student of the Year 2015! Trevor was a model student during his entire 2 years at AMO. He was here for 2 years because he took every course our campus offered for aviation, which was his AMTE training. Trevor graduated in January 2016. He completed all FAA testing, including his Oral & Practical within 2 weeks of graduating. He already had acquired his FCC license while in the Avionics portion of his training. Trevor has gotten a job offer for every job he applied for. Trevor has chosen Envoy Air, owned by American Airlines, to begin his aviation maintenance career. He’s moving away from Central Florida, but we couldn’t be more proud of the legacy he has left at AIM Orlando. He was always courteous, kind, cooperative, helpful, asked questions if something was boggling him and kept a positive demeanor in all classroom and lab exercises, making him a most sought after group partner when he and fellow classmates were in the hangar. It’s with excitement and honor that we share our 2015 Student of the Year with the entire AIM community. Congratulations Trevor; keep AIMing high!

AIM Indy Visited by Trans State Airlines

By Justin Panico, AMI

The recruitment team from Trans States Airlines in St. Louis visited AIM in Indianapolis to meet some of our students and grads, see the facility and discuss some career opportunities with potential prospects. Trans State Airlines served nearly 3 million passengers in 2015 and now flies on behalf of United Airlines (as United Express) and American Airlines (as American Eagle), providing service to over 70 cities in North America with approximately 237 daily flights. They have crew bases in Chicago (ORD), Denver (DEN), Washington D.C. (IAD), Raleigh-Durham (RDU) and St. Louis (STL) also serving as their Corporate Headquarters.

Grad from AIM Indy Returns to Speak with Current Students

By Justin Panico, AMI

AIM Indianapolis students were eager for the return of graduate Nick Ziegler to campus as a representative of GE Aviation to discuss the exciting work culture and growth plan of the new jet engine assembly plant in Lafayette, IN. This facility was announced in 2014 and opened just this past year. The arrival of this new facility represents a major investment in the community involving 200 high-skilled jobs that will be filled between 2016 and 2018 with 75% of more than 200 applicants coming from Indiana. It is the vision of GE and Lafayette community representatives to encourage interested applicants to work toward achieving their aviation education and certifications as this facility moves forward in its construction phases. GE Aviation wants to have qualified candidates trained when they get ready to set the machinery and bring in the equipment. It is because of this ambitious goal of GE Aviation that they seek a successful partnership with AIM to acquire the promising talent of our AMT graduates to bring new vitality and economic promise to the surrounding communities of Central Indiana.

AIM Houston Celebrates Student Appreciation Day

By Stephanie Nieto, AMH

Food, games, and fun! These were the words that describe the Houston campus “Student Appreciation Day.” This event which is held quarterly, showed our students just how much they are appreciated by faculty and staff for all of their hard work and dedication. AIM-Houston made sure that all our students were aware of how special they truly are! Both day and night shift students enjoyed succulent hamburgers that were grilled by our fantastic staff members, along with an array of drinks and chips to finish off their meal. Games ranging from darts to putt-putt entertained the students as well as some faculty and staff who also challenged the students and joined in on all the fun! AIM-Houston rounded out the festivities with a raffle drawing at the end of each shift that included a new Craftsman tool set and other AIM memorabilia. With a day full of fun and excitement, we can’t wait till our next Student Appreciation Day!

Right: AMI graduate, Nick Ziegler, who now works with GE Aviation, returned to his roots and spoke with current students at the Indianapolis campus. Top: AIM students gathered around the hangar to listen to AMI graduate Nick Ziegler speak about his new role with GE Aviation.
AIM Orlando Welcomes First International Student

By A. Ivan Rodriguez, AMO

The student body at AIM Orlando is diversified and multicultural and now the first International student has joined the student body on an International Student Visa. After a lengthy process securing the student visa to come to United States, Thaddeus Chukwueke, took the long flight from his native Nigeria to Orlando, Florida. Upon arrival, Thaddeus started adapting to the American culture and the active student body at AIM Orlando. The school administration, faculty and student body provided an environment that is welcoming and supportive for Thaddeus to fulfill his dream to become a professional Aviation Maintenance Technician. Following is the testimonial of Mr. Thaddeus Chukwueke and his experience with AIM Orlando: I am Thaddeus Chukwueke, an International student from Nigeria. I am 28 years old. I have a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Federal University of Technology, Owerri (FUTO), Nigeria. I worked as an auto-technician, a customer service executive, and then a business manager in Germaine Auto Centre, an indigenous automobile company in Lagos, Nigeria, before proceeding to the United States in pursuit of a career in aviation. Coming to the US, I was well received by the meet and greet team, as well as the Campus Director, Jerry Moore, who made me feel very welcomed at school. The hospitality was amazing, and I was well assisted by Ivan Rodriguez, the Student Services Coordinator, with an accommodation close to the school, and with finding my way around campus and town. My experiences at the school exceeded my expectations. I was opportune to attend the school orientation day, where I attended interesting presentations by the School Director and staff about building a good career in aviation through the AIM, and was marvelled as various aviation companies visited the school to recruit fresh Airframe and Powerplant (A&P) graduates. This revealed to me the countless possibilities and opportunities with excelling at the institution. Beginning classes, I was impressed by the state of the school’s lecture rooms, learning aids, laboratories, and general learning environment. The ambience about the school was great. The lecturers used visual aids in the classrooms, as well as hands-on experience on a variety of aircraft at the hangar, which made their lessons very easy to understand. The instructors were also very helpful and caring, willing and ready to assist in any difficulty. I had wonderful learning experiences which reflect evidently in my high academic performance. I have also enjoyed good relations and worked with my friendly and competitive classmates, notably Braxton Butts and Jean Paul Jurolien. My stay so far has been fulfilling. Coming to AIM as a fundamental step in my aviation career has been one of the best decisions I have ever made. The aviation industry is growing rapidly all over the world, and I am glad to be a part of it. I look forward to finishing tops of the class, joining a reputable aviation company, and owning my own hangar in the future, where a variety of aircraft can be fixed and fabricated, particularly rotary wing aircraft. AIM offers me a conducive environment to fulfill my dreams. I advise anyone interested in learning about aviation maintenance to consider coming to the AIM.
At AIM Chesapeake we had an awesome St. Patrick’s Day celebration on March 17th, 2016!! Students had a chance to participate in activities and games to test their luck in winning some prizes during their lunch breaks! Students were welcomed in the Student lounge with everyone showing their pride in green! We had Shamrock shakes, ice cream floats, homemade goodies, cupcakes, green Rice Krispy’s squares, green Jell-O & whip cream, a variety of fruit and a rainbow fruit tray with gold candy at the end! It was great to see everyone together laughing and enjoying themselves during their lunch time. What a great way to start the weekend! Thank you to everyone who came out!

AIM Las Vegas Spring Break Jet Camp

By Lisa Nordman, AML

The Las Vegas campus welcomed high school seniors from the valley and surrounding areas to attend Jet Camp Days, March 23rd through March 25th. Rancho High School, Sunrise High School, Chaparral High School, Boulder High School, Durango High School, Del Sol High School, Las Vegas High School and Western High School sent senior students to participate in three days of exploration of the aviation industry. They were in the hangar under the guidance and supervision of our AMT instructors turning over engines, building sheet metal planes, making hydraulics lines and learning electricity protocol on the benches. This JET CAMP event is focused on senior students who have been enrolled in their high school programs that focus on aviation careers. Many of the students are also school representatives with the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) program initiatives at their respective high schools. The JET CAMP is scheduled in conjunction with Clark County School District’s spring break so it is important to note that these participating students are spending their spring break time on-campus with AIM – Las Vegas and taking advantage of continuing education opportunity in learning hands-on skills that A&P mechanics possess as they think about taking the next step after graduating from high school.

Placements

- ABRAMS, Percy
- ADIOODHA, Simon B
- AGUSTIN, Joseph B
- AKI, Alexander J
- ALBA, Noel
- ALVARADO, Jesus
- ALVARADO, John
- ALVAREZ, Bryan
- ALVAREZ, Emmanuel J
- AMOAH, Felix
- ANDERSON, Kyle C
- ARMAS, Edel
- ARNOLD, William A
- ARROYO, Balzacaar
- AVERY, Caleb
- BAKER, Matthew
- BATT, Ishah
- BELSLEY, Robert
- BERMUDEZ, Carlos
- BERRY, Jordan C
- BLASCO, James
- BLUM, Maxim

The Select Family of Staffing Companies
Airborne Career Academy
LBC Express
URS
Allied Aviation
L-3 Communication
Envy (AV)
Advantage Resourcing
Allgof Group
Aero Repair Corporation
General Atomics Aeronautical Systems
Express Jet
Triumph Group
Allgof Group
Aerotek Aviation
Cherokee Nation Redwing
ExpressJet Airlines
Swissport
Crown Consulting, Inc.

BOGERT, Jonathan P
BOLDEN, Duane
BOUVIAIRE, William S
BOWLES, Aaron
BRADSHAW, Christopher M
BRAHM, Richard
BROWN, Cedric L
BROWN, Bedrick S
BROWN, Terrell J
BUCKLEY, Casey
BUTTEN, Kenneth
CAINTIC, Bernardino
CALMES, Joseph
CARTER, Cody A
CHARLTON, Kimberly J
CHAVEZ, Jorge
CHENOWETH, Chris
CHINGO, Joshua D
CRONE, Paul M
CLARA ROSARIO, Pedro T
COLE, Roder
COLON-DURAN, Roberto
COMPTON, Robert
CORTES, Matthew A
CROWLEY, William
CRUZ, Edgar

Bogert Aviation, Inc.
Aviation Technical Services (ATS-MRO)
Western Global Airlines
AAA Aircraft Services
Swissport
Mesa Air Group INC
Aecom/URS
Chipton Ross/Boeing
ExpressJet Airlines
Keystone Aviation
L-3 Communication
URS
Southwest Airlines (Hobby)
G E Oil & Gas (J-Port)
Airplanes Inc
Mesa Airlines
Serenity Helicopters
Just Jets Services, Inc.
Universal Studios
Advantage Resourcing
US Airways
TBI U.S. Operations, Inc.
US Airways
Advantage Resourcing
L-3 Communication
ASIG (Aircraft Service International Group

Events - Placements
The Aviation Institute of Maintenance in Irving, TX on February 10, 2016 was proud to announce the grand opening of its Veteran Resource Center. To highlight the grand opening, David Meierotto, Executive Director of AMD, was presented with a plaque in honor of the ribbon-cutting celebration by Rodney Anderson, member of the Texas House of Representatives. The City of Irving was also represented by civic leaders and the chamber of commerce leadership and members. Josh Schmidt, Veteran Affairs Officer, will manage the Veteran Resource Center. Before joining AMD in July 2015, Mr. Schmidt worked at a local nonprofit company for six years in marketing management. He is an important member of the AMD staff and as a veteran from the Iraq War, he understands the needs and frustrations the students face daily with life outside of the service. The goals of the Veteran Resource Center will be to give the students a place where they can go for advice, help them fill out forms for school and government benefits, and learn what resources are available to them in various areas. Also, a monthly speaker will come to the school to give them information on organizations and other events that will help them move forward. The Aviation Institute of Maintenance is excited to have another avenue to help reach their students.

International Visitors tour AIM Orlando

By A. Ivan Rodriguez, AMO

The Orlando area is a must visit place in United States; the weather is good, the entertainment is world class, and it’s home to one of the busiest airports in the world. Orlando is the home of the Aviation Institute of Maintenance. Normally, more of the 40 million visitors to the area year come to visit one of the many resorts and amusement parks. This year the place to visit has added Aviation Institute of Maintenance as the destination for visitors from Indonesia and Bahamas. A group of entrepreneurs and representatives from Indonesia made a stop at AIM Orlando on January 29, 2016 to visit the Aviation Institute of Maintenance facilities. The visitors were part of the Team of Human Resources and Development Training Agency (HRDTA) under the Indonesia Ministry of Transportation, and the Director of Civil Aviation Training Institute of Curug-Jakarta. The group visited the manufacturing facilities of Piper in Vero Beach and then drove to the facilities of AIM. When the Indonesia team of visitors arrived on campus on January 29, 2016 they were met by the CED, Mr. Jerry Moore, Day Program Coordinator and Mr. Douglas Bailey. The visitors attended a presentation in the computer lab, here the CED explained the history and philosophy of the Institute and were introduced to the regulations of FAA training for aviation mechanics. The group were highly interested and engaged in clarifying questions to help them understand better the FAA certification of ABP mechanics. At the end of the presentation, the Campus Executive Director and The Program Facilitator conducted a campus tour to the library, classrooms and the hangar. The visitors expressed their admiration for the organization and the inviting environment of AIM Orlando. They commented on the beauty of a well maintained building and classrooms and a very organized hangar. The visitors took pictures and “selfies” in the different areas of training at the hangar. Most admired was the eye wash station. It was like they found gold in the middle of the hangar. They were truly amazed with the school atmosphere and the design of the academic classroom and buildings. The Director of Civil Aviation Training Institute of Curug-Jakarta, expressed that they were inspired by the advanced technology and equipment they saw in the school, and felt inspired for future development of the Indonesia program. At the end of the tour, the team expressed their interest in learning more about the school, and were appreciative of the hospitality that they experienced while visiting AIM Orlando. Doris Johnson Senior High School, based in Prince Charles Dr, Nassau, Bahamas opened its doors in September 2002 with a student population of 634, 52 teachers and five administrators headed by Geoffrey McPhee as principal. Today, approximately 1,000 students are enrolled at the school. The school has a faculty of 73 teachers and an administrative team of seven persons, in addition to clerical and other support staff. The current principal is Mrs. Linda M. Major. Students of the school have also been recognized for many achievements including being recipients of distinctions in BGCSE examinations, recipients of the College of The Bahamas Prestigious President Scholarship Awards and being members of Carifta teams. - http://www.bahamasnational.com/?q=node/447- Ms. Valerie Lighthouse, Counselor at the Doris Johnson Senior High School, learned that some of the students showed interest in careers in the field of aviation. She researched and made arrangements to take the students to tour a school in United States for the students to get exposure to the training in the field of aviation mechanics. Upon arrival at the AIM Orlando campus on February 24, 2016, the students were met by the CED, Mr. Moore, and Admissions Representative, Ms. Frounder. The students attended an informational meeting, received a bag of goodies, and were presented with audiovisual information of the field of becoming an aviator. During their visit, the students were introduced to the academic facilities, had an informational meeting, received a bag of goodies, and were presented with audiovisual information of the field of becoming an aviator. During their visit, the students were introduced to the academic facilities, had a tour of the hangar, where the students took pictures, climbed in the cockpit of the 727, and their face brightened with smiles of admiration and surprise to see the engines and the equipment and fleet of airplanes. At the beginning of this visit, the young visitors were nervous and shy, like any teenager in an unfamiliar environment, but by the end, the students showed interest in coming back to be part of the active student body at AIM Orlando. The best kept secret in the metro Orlando area is becoming international and welcoming of international students.