

Aviation/Avionic Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

10/27/22

10am-12:00pm

Attendees: Dan Parent, FedEx MX; Christopher Oriyano, American Airlines; Felix Bautista, FedEx Express; Jenna Romano, Community Member; Korey Archibald, LAX Station Manager CAS; Kenneth Wilkerson, Faculty San Bernardino Valley College ; Darcy Driscoll, Michael Bunting, Boeing; Monica Rincon, American Airline; Rick Roussin, Southwest Airline Manager Line Maintenance; Samantha Moreno Hiring Manager Airborne Express Airlines; Sid Mandal, SIA Engineering USA (Singapore Airlines), John Kaszynski, Alaska Airline; Dr. Limbaugh, President; Dr. Dones, Dean; Rudy Triviso, Dept Chair, WLAC; Ed Guzman Co Chair , FT Faculty, WLAC; Martin Nee, Adjunct Faculty, WLAC.

- ❑ **President Limbaugh** welcomed the advisory board members and participants and provided an update on the state of the college and the college's interest in offering a second bachelor's degree program in Avionics and the college is in full support.
- ❑ **Aircraft Pilot Program** – Mr. Kaszynski kicked off the meeting with a presentation on a potential Aircraft Pilot Program. He identified high demand for pilots nationwide and the need for additional programs. The questions asked were mostly about the cost to students for the program. JK stated that programs are currently charging approx. \$85k but the community college program would be at a reduced cost to students. There was interest from the advisory board in looking into the potential program further.
- ❑ **AMT program** – Prof: Triviso and Guzman gave a report on the Enrollment, completions, employment outcomes. Because the students are able to get jobs with the certificates, many do not go on to pursue their AS degree. However, the interest survey for the bachelor's program revealed that many students would pursue the AS to get into the bachelor's program. Members from the advisory board mentioned they are hiring students as soon as they graduate. To accommodate the industry, it was reported that an additional cohort was established, and they now have seven cohorts running at a time. They also reported on the success of the apprenticeship partnership with SIA Engineering USA. Sid mentioned he is looking to expand the apprenticeship program by bringing on additional students.
- ❑ Ed Guzman reported on the new FAA Part 147 report and changes submitted and accepted by the FAA. He informed the board that the program is no longer based on hours but instead is based on competency. Changes to the program curriculum will be coming to reduce the hours/ unit requirements for the program to meet the required Airman Certification Standards.
- ❑ **Presentation on Avionics Bachelor's Degree program:** Ed Guzman, Michael Bunting, and Jenna Romano presented on the **proposed Bachelor of Science in Aviation Maintenance: Avionics**. They showed a program map of courses to illustrate what the program would consist of: 40 units on top of the existing Aviation Maintenance

Technician AS Degree program. They also showed results from a student interest survey showing a high interest, an employer survey showing a high interest, and LMI data showing a demand for Aviation technicians. Much discussion was had on the need for the Avionic bachelor's degree, so Michael Bunting presented a PPT showing the importance of the job skills and the significant cost to the airlines when an aircraft is down for an extended time for troubleshooting. Following the presentation, the advisory board concurred that the degree is needed. A vote was taken on whether to pursue an Avionics bachelor's degree program and the results revealed: 85% (11 of 13) participants agreed that the degree should be pursued, 15% (2 of 13) were unsure, and none of the participants voted not to pursue the bachelor's degree. The vote was unanimous to pursue the degree. We informed the board members that the application for the program will be submitted by January 2023.

- Avionics/Electrical Equipment:** see list provided.
- Facility:** See map of facility provided

Meeting adjourned at 12:30pm.



The Boeing Company
2201 Seal Beach Boulevard
Mail Stop: 110-SA46
Seal Beach, CA 90760-1515

June 3, 2022

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Ave.
SW Washington, DC 20591

Attn: NextGen Grants Management Branch (ANG-A19) NextGen Management Services (ANG-A)

Re: Funding Opportunity Number 22-FAA-AWD-AM

To Whom It May Concern:

I write in strong support of West Los Angeles College's (WLAC) application for the FAA's Aviation Workforce Development Grant Program.

Over the 12- month period, WLAC will build a Bachelor of Science in Aviation Maintenance program, specializing in avionics (includes aircraft systems troubleshooting and proactive maintenance). Boeing strongly supports the development of a Los Angeles based aviation maintenance program. The Los Angeles aviation industry strongly needs such a program that will support education on new tools and methods to help improve safety and reliability. Located near LAX, WLAC is perfectly suited as a training provider for many different airlines and can serve as a diverse, talent pipeline for the local industry.

Boeing looks forward to supporting WLAC with its baccalaureate program.

I urge you to give serious consideration to this important application.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sergio Bustamante', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Sergio Bustamante
Senior Director
Customer Support Engineering
Commercial Airplanes



6/3/2022

Re: Letter of Support for West Los Angeles College's Avionics bachelor's degree program proposal

To Whom it May Concern:

I write this letter in great support of West Los Angeles College's proposal for a bachelor's degree program in Avionics. As an Aviation employer, I can attest to the critical need for a talent pipeline that is skilled in Avionics. I believe A&P graduates who pursue a higher degree in Avionics will be more valuable to my company and the workforce.

Sling Pilot Academy is the largest flight school in the Los Angeles area and provides flight training and aircraft maintenance services to the community.

With the limited number of Avionics programs in Los Angeles, West Los Angeles College is well positioned to supply the demand of quality avionics technicians in the workforce, and I look forward to continuing to collaborate with West LA College's Aviation Technology program and hiring graduates from both the A and P and Avionics program. If a need arises, I may also send current employees of company to upskill in the West LA College Avionics program.

I urge you to strongly consider this proposal.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Liknaitzky". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

Matt Liknaitzky
Co-CEO



Letter of Support

Supernal
June 29th, 2022

Re: Letter of Support for West Los Angeles College's Avionics bachelor's degree program proposal

To Whom it May Concern:

I write this letter in great support of West Los Angeles College's proposal for a bachelor's degree program in Avionics. As an Aviation employer, I can attest to the critical need for a talent pipeline that is skilled in Avionics. I believe A and P graduates who pursue a higher degree in Avionics will be more valuable to my company and the workforce.

At Supernal, part of Hyundai Motor Group, we stand at the forefront of a transportation revolution – to democratize flight and enable a more sustainable future. Supernal is developing a family of electric air vehicles to connect more people to more places. Through a network of connected ground hubs called vertiports, passengers will board eVTOLs (electric vertical takeoff and landing vehicles) and be flown to their next destination. Leveraging the scale of Hyundai Motor Group's technology and manufacturing capabilities, we expect entry into service in 2028. Occupations in avionics represent a critical need in the burgeoning electric aircraft industry, and we anticipate high demand for the associated skills in the near, medium, and long-term, both in our own company and throughout industry.

With the limited number of Avionics programs in Los Angeles, West Los Angeles College is well positioned to supply the demand of quality avionics technicians in the workforce, and I look forward to continuing to collaborate with West LA College's Aviation Technology program and hiring graduates from both the A and P and Avionics program.

I urge you to strongly consider this proposal.

Sincerely,

Adam Slepian
Global Head of Partnerships and Business Development
Supernal
<https://supernal.aero/>



www.sbwb.org

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JAN VOGEL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR