

AVIATION FACULTY MENTORING AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AFMAP) OF THE UNIVERSITY AVIATION ASSOCIATION (UAA)

Preamble and Program Need

As a practitioner based academic discipline, aviation programs at universities often have faculty who join the professoriate after several years of work in industry with limited knowledge of the essentials for professional success as university professors.

In addition, several aviation programs at universities have limited numbers of professors within the college units in which the aviation programs are housed who are in a position to assist with the development of aviation faculty into tenured professors.

Recent regulatory changes coupled with a significant increase in the minimum number of years of service commitment required by the military, have resulted in university aviation programs becoming the main pipeline for the supply of aviation professionals.

With increased reliance on university aviation programs as the main source of aviation workers with specialized knowledge, such as pilots or maintenance and operations management personnel, it is critical to establish a system that will help develop aviation faculty.

Program Description and Implementation

With the approval of the UAA Board of Trustees, the proposed Aviation Faculty Mentoring and Assistance Program (AFMAP) has been launched with an e-mail poll to UAA's membership to solicit:

- (i) Senior Aviation Faculty who are tenured and hold the rank of associate or full professor and wish to serve as mentors, on a *pro bono* basis, to other aviation faculty when needed. Participants will receive a UAA Certificate of Appreciation.**
- (ii) Junior Aviation Faculty comprising tenure-track and non-tenure-track aviation faculty at the ranks of assistant professor, instructor, lecturer, etc., who wish to work with mentors. Participants will receive a UAA Certificate of Participation.**

Results from the poll will be continually used to develop a compendium of aviation faculty who wish to serve as potential mentors and those who wish to work with mentors as mentees. The poll determines the sort of mentorship needed by the junior faculty members in the areas of teaching effectiveness, publishing in peer reviewed journals as well as citizenship and professional service in preparation for tenure or promotion.

Participating faculty members are paired by using several possible parameters including: (i) public or private universities; (ii) geographic proximity of institutions; (iii) prevailing institutional or college RTP standards, (the Boyer Model or the Research, Teaching and Service Model, etc.); (iv) research intensive or teaching intensive institutions (v) type of aviation programs offered: ATC, Aviation Management, Flight Technology, Safety, etc.; and (vi.) associate, baccalaureate, and/or graduate degree granting programs.

Please furnish the necessary information in the blank spaces below to participate in AFMAP. Thank you.

Name:

Institution:

Academic Rank:

Areas of Expertise:

Contact Information:

Miscellaneous Information:

Please contact Dr. I. Richmond Nettey at inettev@kent.edu for any needed information.