Scholarship Program Expands To McGill University in Canada

IAWA’s Scholarship Program has expanded to McGill University of Montreal Canada. The program has been endorsed by Prof. Dr. Paul Stephen Dempsey, the school’s Tomlinson Professor of Law and Director of the Institute of Air & Space Law at the school.

With the addition of McGill, the program is operating at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University of Daytona Beach, Florida, and Southern Methodist University of Dallas Texas.

Students at McGill were notified of the scholarship opportunity in an e-mail from Prof. Dempsey that included the scholarship application form.

The scholarship program was started by IAWA to support the professional development of women. Scholarships are awarded to women students majoring in Aviation Law, Management, Business or Finance. Each year the IAWA Board works with designated schools to identify candidates for a scholarship. McGill now is one of those schools.

Since 2004, IAWA has awarded scholarships to five students, three from the United States and one from Ghana who were attending Embry-Riddle, and a young woman from Hong Kong, a student from Southern Methodist University.

Further information about the scholarship program is available from Debra Fowler, IAWA President-Elect, at debra.fowler@usdoj.gov, Cecile Hatfield at cecilehatf@aol.com, or Katherine Staton at kstaton@jw.com.

Affirmative Action Programme At ICAO

By Diana Wall

ICAO Focal Point for Women

It is anticipated that the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) will be represented for the first time at the upcoming meeting of IAWA in New York. ICAO is a specialized agency of the United Nations.

With its Headquarters situated in the vibrant and cosmopolitan city of Montreal, Canada, ICAO also has seven Regional Offices located in Bangkok, Cairo, Dakar, Lima, Mexico City, Nairobi and Paris. The official working languages of the Organization are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.
Conference Attracts Top Speakers

In addition to an outstanding program of panels and panelists, IAWA’s 18th Annual Conference in New York City Oct. 22-24 has attracted some of the most senior women in the private sector and government as speakers.

In addition to FAA Administrator Marion Blakey, senior women in aviation who will address the conference are: Laura Wright, CFO, Southwest Airlines, Sylvie Loisel-LaBaste, Flight Test Engineer, Airbus, Nicole Piasecki, Vice President Business Strategy and Marketing, Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Penelope Turnbow, Chairman, Victory Airlines.

Also speaking are Mary Ellen Jones, Senior Vice President, Marketing and Sales, the Engine Alliance; Celia Sherbeck, Vice President Maintenance and Engineering, Horizon Air, Madam Xue Li, Vice President, China Aerospace Science & Industry Corp, and Gretchen Jahn, Chief Executive, Mooney Aircraft.

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When ICAO first came into being on 4 April 1947, following the signing of the Chicago Convention on 7 December 1944, most of the professional staff of ICAO were men. This fact reflected the aviation industry in general during that era.

Over the years and, in particular, in recent times, efforts have been made to try to increase the number of professional women throughout the Organization. This is also in line with the directives of the United Nations, that there be equal representation of women and men.

An Affirmative Action Plan for the recruitment and status of women is under way at ICAO and we are particularly striving to recruit qualified women for senior positions. These include posts of Director and Deputy Director of Bureaux at Headquarters, Regional Director and Deputy Regional Director in the Regional Offices.

Positions at ICAO require staff with a variety of different backgrounds. These include not only administrative positions, but there are also opportunities for those with experience in law, aviation security, economics and statistics, air traffic management, accident investigation and prevention, operations/airworthiness, flight safety, the transportation of dangerous goods, the environment, and many other disciplines.

While applications from all qualified candidates are welcome, those from suitable female applicants are especially encouraged. For further information, the ICAO website can be consulted at www.icao.int. As the ICAO Focal Point for Women, I should also be most pleased to hear from any who may wish to have further information.

Diana Wall may be reached by telephone at 514-954-8219 or e-mail at DWall@icao.int

New Members

IAWA is pleased to welcome Tracey Campbell, Donna Noel and Sharon Pinkerton to the growing ranks of women of achievement in aviation and aerospace who value IAWA’s global networking opportunities and its mission to promote the advancement of women in the industry.

Tracey Campbell is Assistant Vice President, Airline Claims, for Global Aerospace of Short Hills, New Jersey.

She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism/Broadcast News from the University of South Florida, a law degree from Seton Hall University School of Law conferred in 1988, and has attended Notre Dame Law School’s National Institute for Trial Advocacy.

Prior to joining Global Aerospace she was Director, Seminar Department for the Institute for Continuing Legal Education and a partner in O’Meara, Hight, Emmi and Campbell, P.C. She also has served as a Judicial Law Clerk for the Superior Court of New Jersey in Hudson County.

Donna Noel is a Senior Manager, Supply Chain Logistics, for FedEx Express. She has worked her way up the ranks of the Memphis, Tennessee-based company, starting 25 years ago as a Handler/Checker Sorter responsible for checking loads on outbound flights and ensuring proper package handling.

Today, Noel oversees aircraft parts for the Air Operations Division, with six managers and 145 employees reporting to her and responsibility for a $15 million budget.

Sharon Pinkerton works for the Air Transport Association as its Vice President, Government Affairs, responsible for all aviation-related issues before federal, state and local governments.

She has 20 years experience in aviation that includes serving as Assistant Administrator, Aviation Policy, Planning and Environment for the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, Transportation Counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives Aviation Subcommittee and in numerous other capacities on Capitol Hill.

Pinkerton is a native of Florida. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Cedarville College, Ohio, and a Law Degree from the University of Florida. She also is a Certified Public Accountant.

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Cristina Vitelli, Lawyer at the Air Force
Ana Garasino, Trade Commissioner, Canadian Embassy
Felisa Gambert, Partner, Ventura & Gambert
Alicia Scarone, Manager, FedEx