

Fall 2011

Fall Newsletter

Liberty University

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Improvements



Liberty University's School of Aeronautics is growing in both size and scope. Its leadership is constantly working to enhance the state of the art equipment and instructor expertise. This is all being done while keeping student costs to an industry minimum.

Students returning from summer break have seen quite a few changes. Starting this fall semester, all aviation classes and flight blocks are located at the Liberty University Aviation Campus. The new 24,000 square foot building is a huge step in the program's growth. The second floor houses the academic offices, two electronic classrooms, as well as

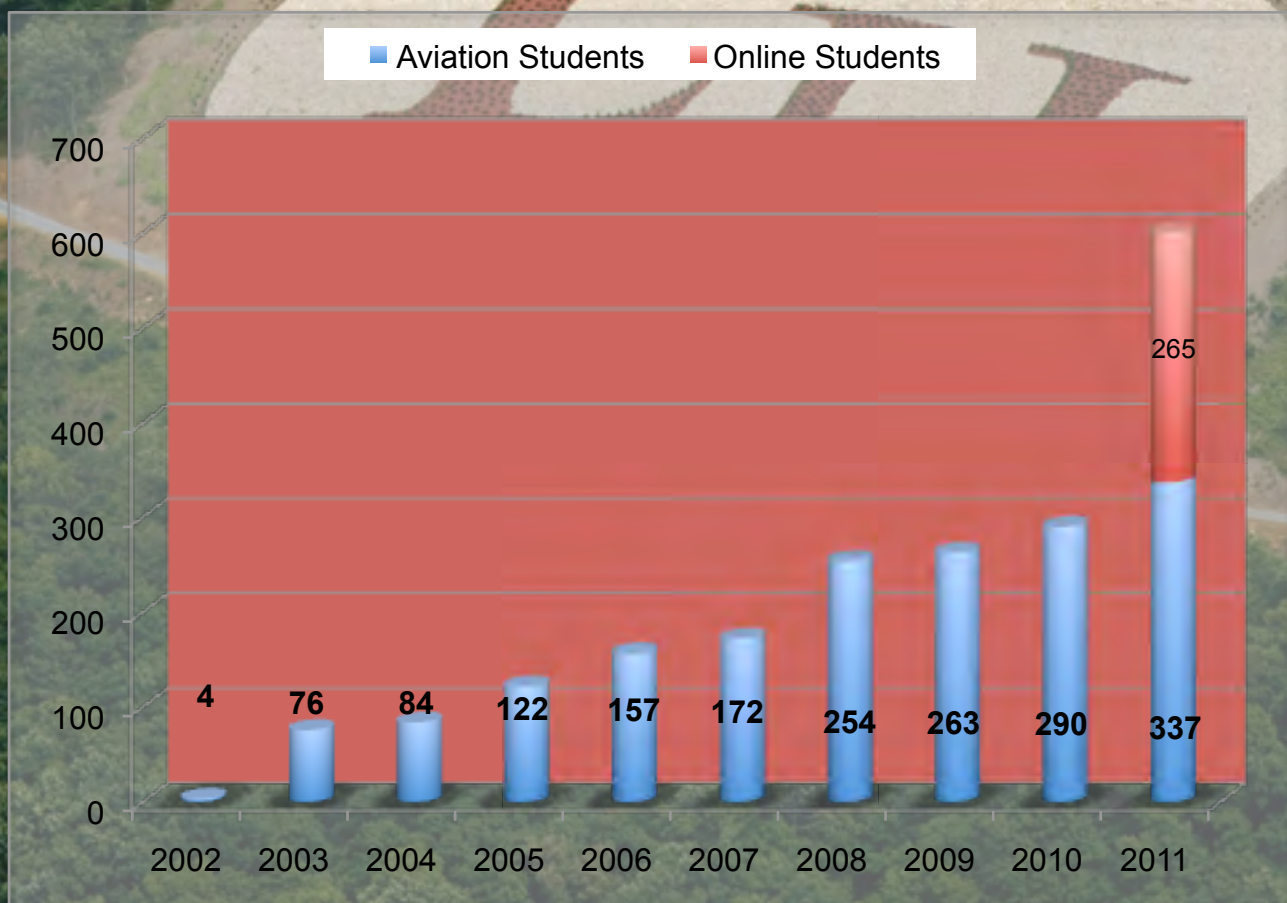
most of the flight simulation equipment. The first floor houses a facility for the rapidly growing AMTS program. This, along with multiple student lounges, will allow students to spend more time at the airport and foster a closer aviation community which, in turn, enhances the learning process.

A bus system has been implemented to help with transportation to the airport campus. We are in the midst of upgrading its commercial aircraft training fleet with the addition of a late model Piper Arrow and the refurbishment of the two Piper Seminoles.

Growth

Dean Young opened the School of Aeronautics annual 141 flight instructor training by promising to once again have the best year ever. Anyone who has been around for a few years has heard this each year and miraculously, it has always been true. The flight school has been blessed and seen the Lord's hand at work on a continual basis. The aviation program began in 2002 with four (4) students. Dramatic

growth has occurred over the last decade and now we are blessed to provide an exceptional aeronautical education to over 600 students. Liberty's flight program is growing along side the demand for new pilots in the aviation industry. This is encouraging news to not only our current students but also our prospective students who are concerned about employment following graduation.



Simulators

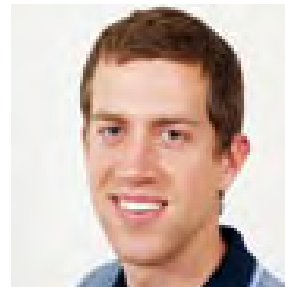
At Liberty, we are committed to provide a mix of classroom, simulator and flight training experience at the minimum cost possible. Our goal is for our graduates to succeed in the "Real World" of aviation because they are the most highly trained and the best prepared in their chosen career field. One of the ways we do this is by incorporating high quality simulators, like our Redbird FMX motion simulator, into each phase of our Private, Instrument, Commercial and Multi-Engine training. We also have multiple

Precision Flight Controls desktop simulators, which are available to our students at no cost. A significant amount of training time is accomplished using these simulators which minimize the time the student must spend in the aircraft at a greater cost per hour. We have just added nine (9) additional desktop simulators and continue to explore other possibilities to expand and enhance our simulator fleet.

Smoketown Conference

The School of Aeronautics took part in Mission Aviation Fair held at the Smoketown Airport outside of Lancaster, PA from August 20-21. This annual event is sponsored by Missions Fest Lancaster with the purpose of informing and bringing together people interested in advancing the Gospel of Jesus Christ through aviation. Along with the Liberty University School of Aeronautics, there were approximately 20 other exhibitors.

Associate Director Bruce Barnhart and flight instructor John Bingham flew to Smoketown in LUSOA's Piper Super Cub that had been donated by Gracia Burnham. This aircraft had served with New Tribes Missions in the Philippines and had been flown by Gracia's husband Martin. Peter Spahr, who oversees our Missionary Aviation program, was invited to be a speaker, and he shared about his experiences as a missionary pilot serving with Mission Aviation Fellowship in Indonesia. Approximately 2,500 people visited this year's event which is an excellent opportunity for our team to represent our program to the missionary aviation world.



Women's Air Race Classic



This past summer, Sarah Morris, Liberty's newest flight instructor, had the unique opportunity of competing in the annual Women's Air Race Classic. The Air Race Classic is a transcontinental air race that traces its roots back to the 1929 Powder Puff Air Derby of Amelia Earhart. The race started in Iowa City, Iowa and ended in Mobile, Alabama with stops throughout the Midwest, including a low pass over Mount Rushmore. Representing her alma mater, Jacksonville University, Sarah's goal

was to come home with the Collegiate Challenge Trophy, an award given to the top scoring collegiate team. Competing against ten other collegiate teams, and fifty teams overall, she not only garnered the Collegiate Challenge Trophy, but she actually walked away with the Air Race Championship Trophy itself! Sarah is looking forward to coaching a team from Liberty University to compete in the 2012 Air Race Classic.