

WINTER 2013 | JOHN D. ODEGARD
SCHOOL OF AEROSPACE SCIENCES

AEROCOM

AERO.UND.EDU





A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

All the best to each of you in 2013!

I write to you on behalf of UND Aerospace and Dean Bruce Smith, who is on a research leave this semester writing a follow-up book to the “Flight of the Odegard”. We look forward to his return this summer and to another book about this “gem of a school” at the University of North Dakota.

As we begin 2013, there is much to be excited about at the John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences. First, we are proud to announce the admission of two graduate students to our new PhD program in Aerospace Sciences. This new graduate program allows students in both our Space Studies and Aviation departments to earn doctoral degrees. The new Aerospace Sciences PhD program fulfills one of the Odegard School’s strategic goals of offering doctoral degrees in all five of our academic departments—Atmospheric Sciences, Aviation, Earth System Science and Policy, Computer Science and Space Studies. Through this program, we will graduate PhD students with top level research skills to help solve problems in the aviation and aerospace industries.

In addition, we want to take this opportunity to thank our many donors for their generous support of UND Aerospace. We are especially grateful to be halfway toward our \$20 million goal required to construct our new building. We are “bursting at the seams” and in need of extensive research and office space as well as innovative, learner-centered classroom space. So a special “thank you” goes out to our generous donors who have committed to this critically needed building.

Finally, we want to highlight and congratulate our UND Aerobatic Team for capturing a fifth consecutive National Collegiate Aerobatic Championship! This is an amazing accomplishment and we thank all team members and coaches for their very dedicated work to make this dream become a reality.

Thank you for your continued support of UND Aerospace! Please visit us anytime to see the latest achievements and exciting happenings at the University of North Dakota’s John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences.

Paul D. Lindseth, PhD
Acting Dean, John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences



CONTENTS

AEROCOM

Robert O. Kelley President
University of North Dakota

Bruce Smith Dean
John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences

Paul Lindseth Associate Dean

Ken Polovitz Assistant Dean

Editor **Josh Christianson**

Design & Layout **Emily Pedersen**

Past issues of Aerocom available online

www.aero.und.edu

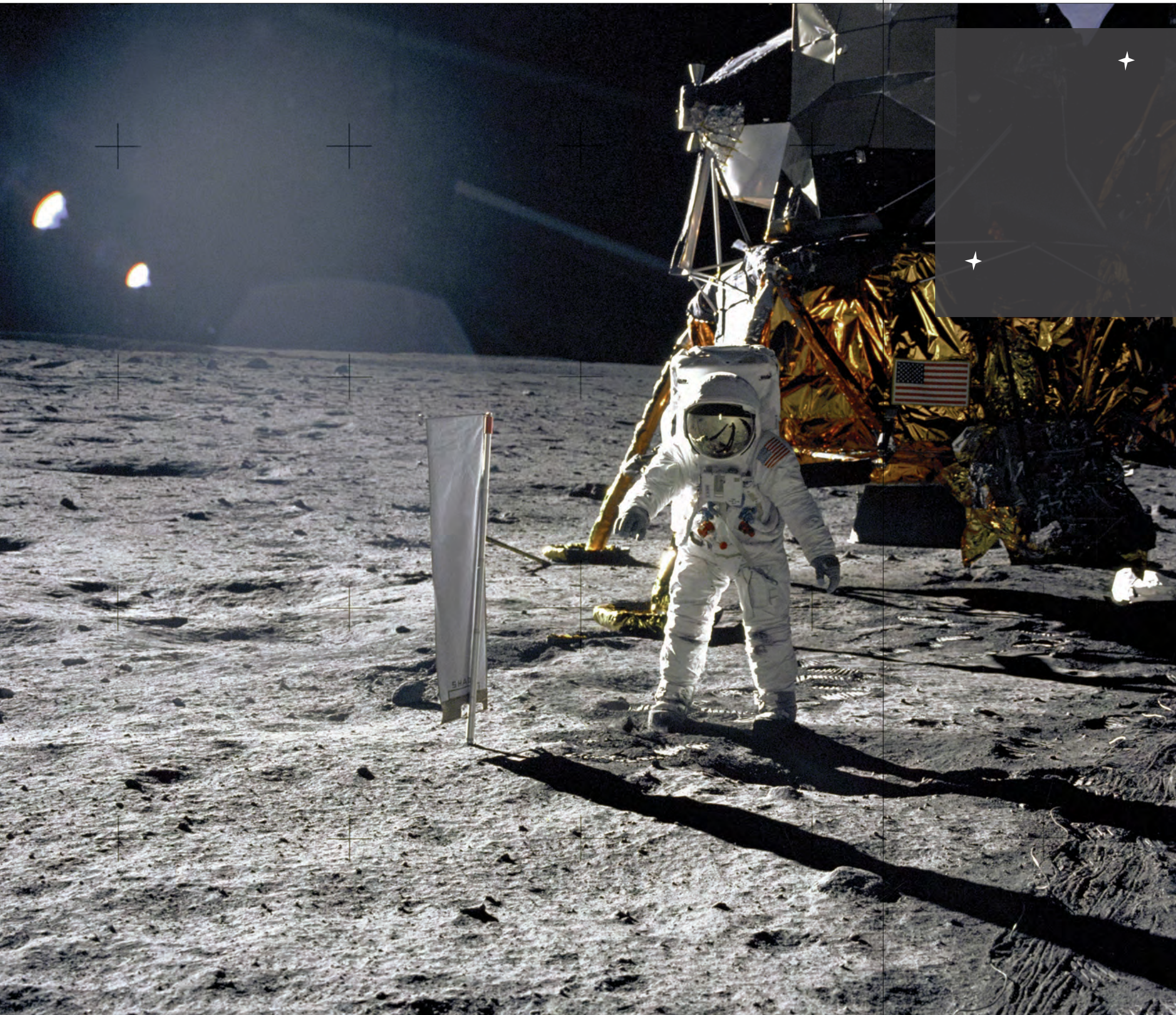
Cover Image
Apollo 11 Launch
from Kennedy Space Center
Space Studies article on page 4

Photo Credit
NASA

- 04 Space Studies**
Department of Space Studies
Celebrates their 25th Anniversary
- 08 Achievement in Aviation Safety**
The Hat in the Ring Society Awards
Achievement to UND’s Dana Siewert
- 10 Altitude Chamber Training at UND**
Experience from Dr. Jensen and Dan Fluke
- 12 Alumni Profile**
- 13 Senator McCain**
Senator McCain visits the John D.
Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences
- 14 Office of Student and Alumni Services**
- 16 AeroNews**
Computer Science Update

- North Dakota EPSCoR Program Receives
NASA Award to Invest in Research

- UND Aerobatic Team Sweeps Nationals
- 18 Aerospace Alumni Advisory Board Update**
A message from AAAB President,
Rich Baker
- 19 Upcoming Events**



SPACE STUDIES

celebrates

25 YEARS

By Suezette Bieri and Juan Miguel Pedraza
Photography Courtesy of NASA and Jackie Lorentz

"Space, the final frontier," said Captain James T. Kirk—a grand introduction to each Star Trek episode.

With daily discoveries coming to us from NASA's stunningly successful Mars mission, from stellar neighbors in our Milky Way to the farthest known reaches of the universe, there's still a lot more to learn.

"It's a fascinating realm," said Santhosh Seelan, professor and chair of the John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences Department of Space Studies, celebrating 25 years since its launch by John Odegard himself. "Space is still indeed the final frontier."

Today's Space Studies program encompasses the study of planetary geology and near-earth objects, the design and building of space flight simulators and "space suits" (more accurately called "planetary exploration suits"), and their associated support systems. "Students participate at every level of research here," notes Seelan. "It's very hands-on."

The Department of Space Studies launched the world's first—and today one of the few—fully online master's degree programs in 1987 and recently added a PhD program. The department is home to faculty who have worked for NASA and the space industry, including a former military test pilot and a former Soviet space scientist, among others. The Space Studies Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor helps NASA analyze and assess potential planetary threats such as asteroids.

The idea for a space studies program was part of John Odegard's drive to expand the Odegard school from a school for airplane pilots to a broad-based academic division encompassing a range of scholarly endeavors related to flight, flying, and atmospheric and outer space exploration. A native North Dakotan and experienced aviator, Odegard was a visionary who in the late 1960s believed that UND should establish a Department of Aviation. And he did just that after receiving his MBA from UND.

As the aerospace program was growing, Odegard decided that UND should also have a Department of Space Studies. In his many travels around the United States, he met and became friends with "Buzz" Aldrin (pictured left), lunar module pilot for Apollo 11 and second man to walk on the Moon. He hired Dr. Aldrin to come to UND to serve

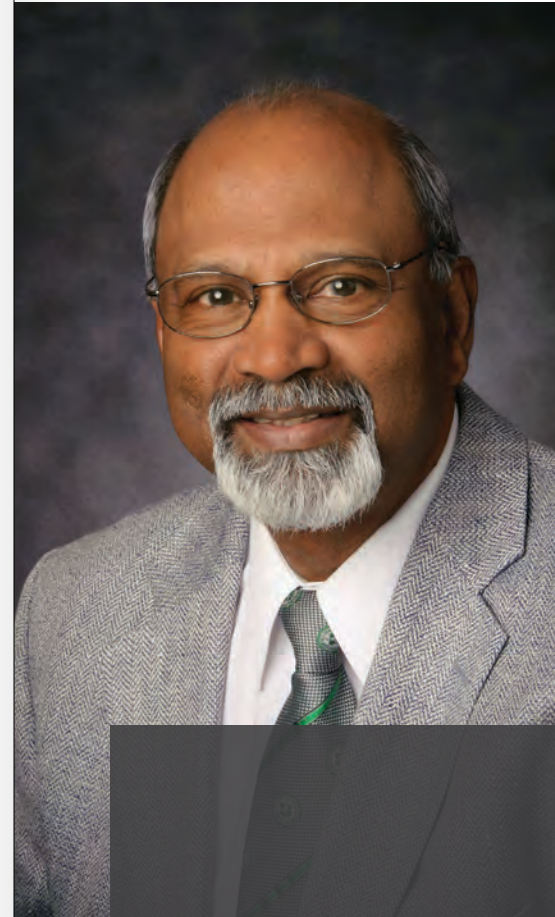
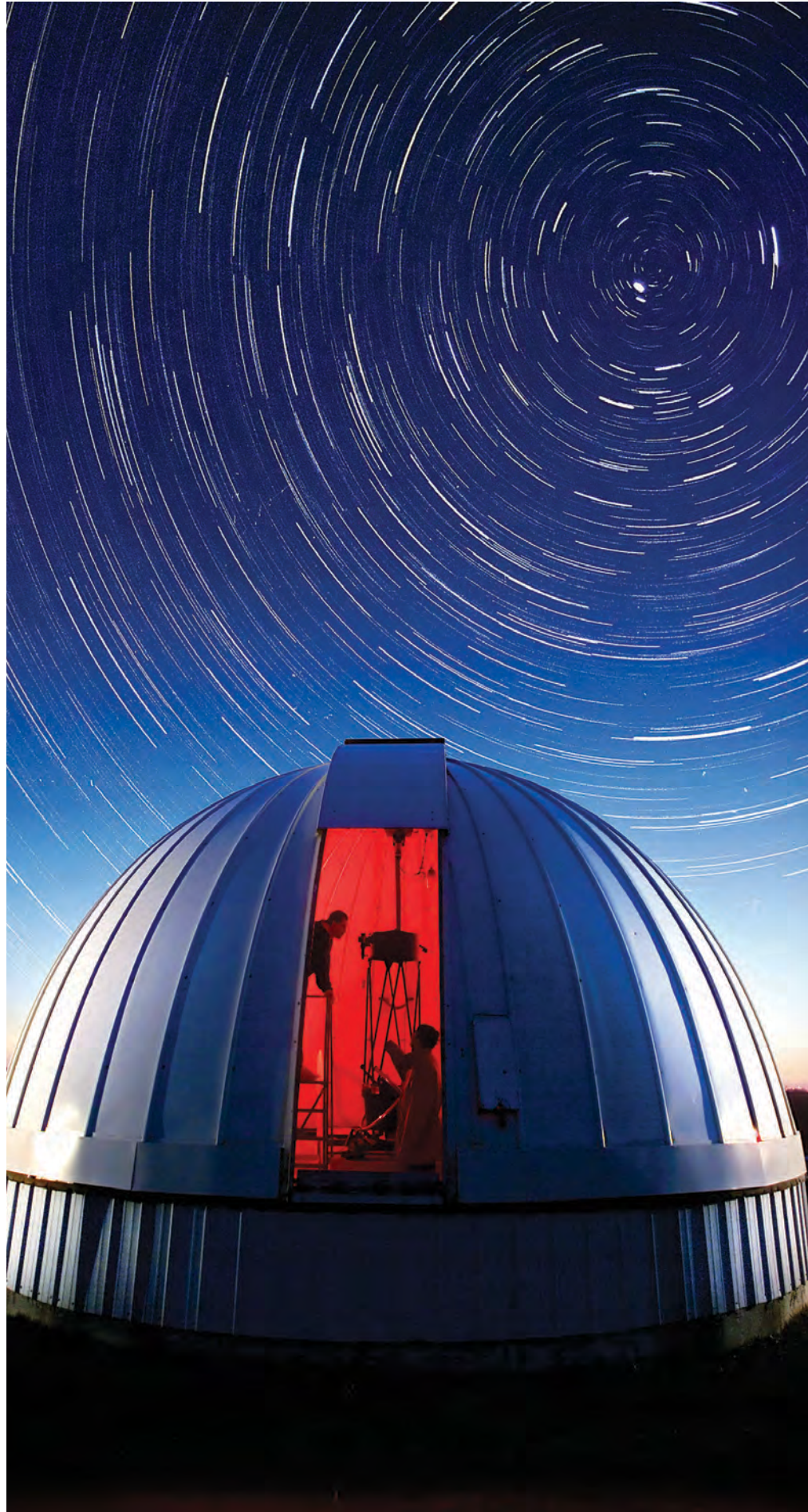
as a front man and promoter for the program. Aldrin recommended that the first chair of the department be David Webb, an internationally known consultant in the field of space development and a member of the National Commission on Space.

Webb arrived at UND in 1986 and began to assemble the Space Studies curriculum and faculty. The decision was made to offer students a multidisciplinary Master in Science degree in Space Studies. The degree would require students to take both technical and policy courses in order to give them broad knowledge about space in regard to law, economics, management, remote sensing, human factors, military applications, engineering, astronomy, planetary geology and history.

Chuck Wood, chair of the Space Studies department from 1990 to 2001, decided that the department could be financially saved and strengthened by offering the master's degree through distance education (<http://www.space.edu>). It turned out to be one of the first college degrees in the nation to be offered via the Internet. The transition to distance education, along with monetary support from the Board of Higher Education, allowed the department to flourish. As enrollment grew, additional faculty were hired. In 1998 the Department of Space Studies became the largest graduate program at UND. That same year the first *space.edu* Capstone class composed entirely of distance students was held on campus.

About 700 students have received Master of Science degrees in Space Studies since the department was founded. The department also offers an undergraduate minor in Space Studies for students interested in this unique and exciting field. The North Dakota Space Grant Consortium and NASA North Dakota EPSCoR are housed in the Department of Space Studies; Santhosh Seelan is the current director. The UND Observatory, the Human Spaceflight Laboratory, the Spacecraft Simulator Facility and the Life Sciences Laboratory are also housed in the Department of Space Studies.

Photos from Left: UND Space Studies Observatory; Santosh Seelan; 1987-1988 Faculty: Dick Parker, Joanne Gabrynowicz, Jim Vedda, and David Webb



Department HIGHLIGHTS

Department Chairs (chronological)

David Webb
 Jim Vedda | interim
 Chuck Wood
 Joanne Gabrynowicz | interim
 Paul Lindseth | interim
 Shan de Silva
 Mike Gaffey | interim
 David Whalen
 Santhosh Seelan

Faculty & Researchers

Santhosh Seelan | remote sensing, chair
 Vadim Rygalov | life sciences
 James Casler | management of space enterprises
 Michael Gaffey | planetary geology
 Ron Fevig | space mission design
 Paul Hardersen | planetary geology
 Pablo de Leon | space suit design & construction
 David Whalen | space policy and history

Research Associates

Vishnu Reddy | planetary geology
 Sherry Fieber-Beyer | planetary geology

Staff

Graphic Artist: Kathy Borgen
 Secretary/Administrative Assistant: Bev Fetter
 Deputy Director of the North Dakota Space Grant Consortium: Suzette Rene Bieri

Awards

Space Studies | 1966 and 2005 UND Foundation McDermott Award of Excellence in Teaching

Chuck Wood | Chester Fritz Distinguished Faculty

Joanne Gabrynowicz | Faculty Lecture Series

Shan de Silva | Faculty Lecture Series

Santhosh Seelan | 2009, 2011 and 2012 Outstanding Student Organization Advisor Award

Mike Gaffey | Chester Fritz Distinguished Faculty, Faculty Lecture Series, 2006 Leonard Medal from the Meteoritical Society, 2006 G.K. Gilbert Award from the Geological Society of America, 2007 UND Foundation Thomas Clifford Faculty Achievement Award for Excellence in Teaching

Bev Fetter | 2010 Meritorious Service Award



Achievement in Aviation Safety

AWARDED TO DANA SIEWERT

By Juan Miguel Pedraza

Dana Siewert, director of aviation safety at the University of North Dakota's John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences, received the Achievement in Aviation Safety Award from the Hat in the Ring Society, an organization of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) Foundation.

Siewert spearheads the UND Aerospace Safety Program where safety and wellbeing of its students, faculty, staff and visitors are placed above all other considerations.

"Safety is not one person, but an organization-wide commitment so I accept this award on behalf of the entire Odegard School," Siewert said.

Siewert is a designated Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) pilot examiner for private through airline transport pilots and flight instructor certificates. He's been on the FAA's designated pilot examiner "Honor Roll" three times.

Siewert has more than 11,000 accident-free flight hours. He holds an airline transport pilot certificate in both single and multiengine aircraft and commercial privileges in single engine seaplanes and helicopters.

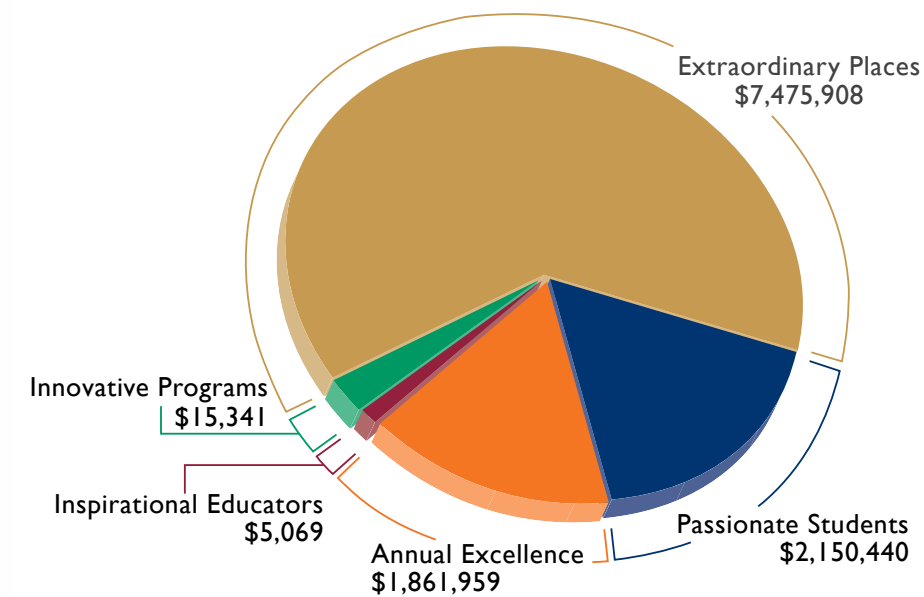
About the Hat in the Ring Society

The Hat in the Ring Society is named after leading World War I fighter ace Eddie Rickenbacker's 94th Aero Squadron—Rickenbacker's planes were emblazoned with an Uncle Sam hat-in-the-ring logo. The unit's meet-any-challenge spirit is the foundational value of the organization. Members are asked to make a commitment of \$1,000 per year to support Foundation initiatives to teach safety, preserve airports, grow the pilot population, and uphold aviation's overall image.

Academy Award winning actor and pilot Morgan Freeman is the organization's honorary Chairman. The group's newly updated program includes four new awards—including the award that Siewert just received—that are given to individuals each year who showcase achievements in general aviation.



NORTH DAKOTA SPIRIT IS PASSIONATE



TOTAL GIFTS DIRECTED TO THE JDOSAS TO DATE:
\$11,508,717

GOAL: \$20 MILLION
 11 ENDOWMENTS NOW WORTH ALMOST \$3.6 MILLION

Thanks to the spirit of our alumni and friends, **UND keeps getting better.**

Passionate students at the John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences are driven to reach for the sky – and stars – as they seek new possibilities and challenging limits. Your support of our future means that the Odegard School will continue to set the global standard for aerospace education. We are counting on your spirit of philanthropy to take us to the top.

Show Your Spirit: spirit.UND.edu | 800.543.8764





ALTITUDE CHAMBER TRAINING

By Juan Miguel Pedraza

It only takes a few seconds for the heads-up—if you know what you're feeling—and in an airplane those few seconds spell the difference between getting back safely—or not.

We're talking decompression—the emergency situation flight attendants discuss while demonstrating the deployment and use of those bright yellow oxygen masks.

"It can happen real fast," said Dr. Warren Jensen (*pictured above: center*), a flight surgeon and Chester Fritz Distinguished Professor of Aviation at the John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences. Jensen also runs the school's altitude chamber, where students learn how to deal with decompression and hypoxia—a condition that occurs when the body is deprived of oxygen, such as when an airplane loses cabin pressure.

"You want to deal with it before the hypoxia impairs you," said Jensen, who in 2012 ran more than 200 altitude chamber classes with a total of approximately 850 students. "The goal of our altitude chamber training here is to teach students to recognize the symptoms of hypoxia—they're different for each person—and to deal with them immediately."

Decompression in an aircraft at altitude—and the resulting hypoxia for anyone aboard—can be fatal, as was likely the case with the Lear 35 that crashed in South Dakota with famed golfer Payne Stewart, friends, and crew aboard. As experts such as

Jensen attest, hypoxia can quickly lead to confusion and blackout, but not if the crew has been trained to recognize what's going on and takes appropriate action immediately.

The altitude chamber—a unique asset at the University—is used for both aviator training and research, including Fortune 500 corporate pilots. The chamber is capable of simulating altitudes in excess of 80,000 feet and is used to teach flight crews the physiological effects of high altitude flight in a safe training environment. Subjects presented in aerospace physiology courses include hypoxia, hyperventilation, cabin decompression issues, visual disorientation, spatial disorientation and several other related topics.

Altitude chamber training works. Ask Dan Fluke.

Fluke (*pictured above: right*), an airline pilot and 2009 graduate of UND Aerospace, always knew he wanted to fly. He also knew he wanted the best training and safety courses available. This is why he enrolled at UND and, as part of his training, took Dr. Jensen's altitude chamber course.

Recently, while flying a Canadair CRJ commuter jet with 40 passengers aboard, Fluke noticed a familiar and ominous sensation—a numbing feeling, a kind of tingling, that he recognized only because of his UND altitude chamber training and CRJ simulator experience.

"I knew what it was right away," stated Fluke, who also runs a business in Florida, writing and publishing aeronautical training guides. "That sensation is what triggered me to look at the indicators, which told me that the aircraft, in fact, was depressurizing. It all rang a lot of bells for me, back to my training at UND. I went for my (oxygen) mask and we had to make a quick decision to descend to the closest airport."

"Basically what you get is a sensation, starting at your core and progressing outward towards your arms," said Fluke who was featured in the most recent UND "More than Beads and Feathers" campaign, which featured notable American Indian students, faculty, and alums. "You know to go for the mask first rather than fumble with the instrumentation or worry about other things. You want to get ahead of the situation."

Jensen, himself a UND alum and an Air Force veteran, earned a master's in aerospace medicine from Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, in 1993. Today, he serves as the UND Aerospace director of aeromedical research and as its flight surgeon. Jensen's research areas include human flight performance, decision-making in emergency settings and oxygen delivery systems. He also teaches courses in human factors in aviation and aerospace physiology. Unmanned aircraft systems (UAS)—for which the aerospace program at UND has become a world leader—is another research area for Dr. Jensen.

Jensen also serves in the same capacity for the North Dakota Air National Guard—he determines whether a pilot is fit to fly. As a pilot, doctor and diabetic, Jensen knows all too well that pilots do not like to be grounded, even if there is a good medical reason why they should be. Jensen is an academic advisor to 25-30 aviation undergraduate and graduate students. He is also the aviation medical advisor to students, flight instructors and faculty for medical certification issues.

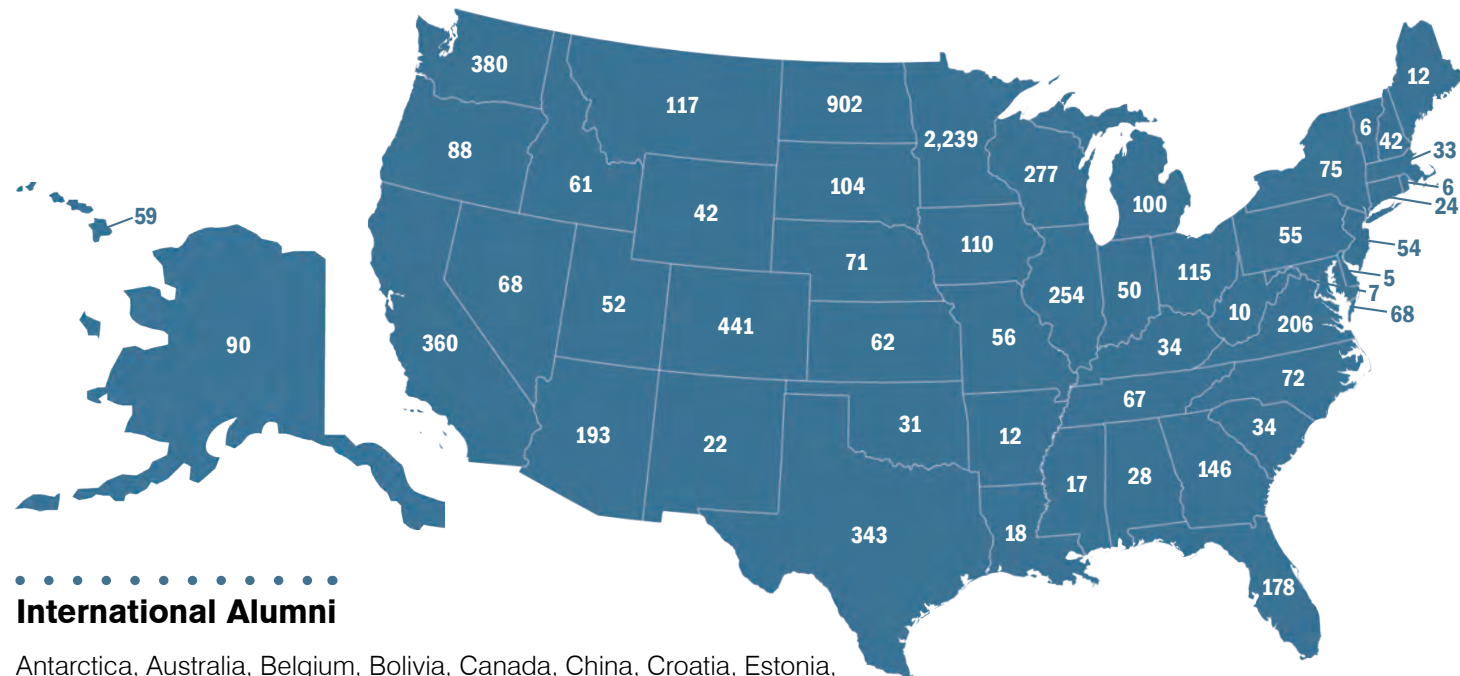
The UND altitude chamber is run by a team that includes Jensen, Joe Schalk—who has 47 years of chamber experience—and Steve Martin, both of whom are Air Force altitude chamber training veterans. Additionally, Janelle Johnson, a finance associate for the UND Aerospace Foundation, works part-time as a member of the altitude chamber crew.

Fluke previously worked at UND recruiting events and in other capacities for Ken Polovitz, Kim Higgs and Amy Sand in the office of Student and Alumni Services. But among his most valued experiences at UND, Fluke notes, were those critical minutes of instruction with a flight surgeon and crew inside a big steel box in Odegard Hall.

"I called Doc a couple of days after the decompression incident in the CRJ and thanked him," Fluke said "The first signal I felt in that airplane was what I'd felt in Dr. Jensen's class." ■

AlumniProfile

find Odegard School alumni across the globe
NUMBERS REPRESENT ALUMNI LIVING IN EACH STATE



International Alumni

Antarctica, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, China, Croatia, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Guam, Hong Kong, Iceland, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Puerto Rico, Saudi Arabia, St Lucia, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom

Senator McCain Visits UND

By Juan Miguel Pedraza

Sen. John McCain paid a visit to UND Aerospace during last year's election season. McCain was in Grand Forks in support of then-Rep. Rick Berg's campaign for the Senate seat being vacated by Sen. Kent Conrad. The former presidential candidate and Arizona Republican spent an afternoon with Berg, Sen. John Hoeven, and UND officials touring UND's unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) facilities.

During the tour, McCain visited the UAS simulator, UND's flight and maintenance operations and the University's unmanned aerial vehicle displays. McCain mentioned that he recollected touring UND Aerospace in its early days and was amazed at how far the institution had grown. McCain is Ranking Member on the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee and a member of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. The University and Grand Forks Air Force Base are working with the state's congressional delegation to make Grand Forks one of six federal pilot test sites to be established across the country for integrating UAS in the National Airspace.

"We brought Senator McCain (to UND Aerospace) to show him the tremendous talent and technical capabilities at the school's UAS program," Hoeven said. "In partnership with the Grand Forks Air Force Base, the University and UAS-related businesses, Grand Forks has created the region's premier hub for UAS training, testing and associated businesses and is a perfect location for one of the sites."

"UAS have been a force multiplier for the armed services abroad and for border enforcement here at home," said McCain. "The University of North Dakota facility has the potential to fulfill a critical role in the training and educating of future UAS operators. The need for trained operators is a key component for increasing our UAS presence on the southern border and hopefully in the near future, with the help of this facility, we'll fulfill this need for our border patrol and armed services."

"We are grateful to Senator McCain for his great interest in our program, as well as to our Congressional Delegation for their commitment to helping Grand Forks achieve designation as a national pilot test site," said UND President Robert Kelley.

"We are proud of the UAS programs we have in place, and we appreciate the many collaborations we have with other academic units on campus, private and public sector partners, and with other institutions in the region as well as our State and Federal partners," said Bruce Smith, dean of the John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences. "It is important for us to have people, especially pilots like Senator McCain and Congressman Berg, visit our campus. It is too hard to imagine how spectacular it is unless you see it in person." Also on hand for the tour were UND President Robert Kelley; UAS Director Al Palmer; VP for Research and Economic Development Phyllis Johnson; VP for University and Public Affairs Susan Walton; Dean of the John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences Bruce Smith; and Associate Dean for Academics Paul Lindseth.



Your UND Aerospace Merchandise Headquarters

undaerospace.com/webstore.html | 1.800.258.1525 | 701.777.4740



Office of Student & Alumni Services

By Juan Miguel Pedraza

There's an old saying, "life is too short to work at something you don't enjoy."

Ken Polovitz, the John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences assistant dean and head of Student Services, turns that old saw into proactive advice for the students he helps to shepherd through the school: set goals, focus on them, and make the best of the myriad world-class opportunities the Odegard School has to offer.

"Don't forget us when you're done at UND because we sure won't forget you," says Polovitz, whose organization helps folks who already have a degree in hand—alums—to, among other things, make connections that can speed up careers or land new ones. The student services team of professionals; *(pictured above from left)* Josh Christianson, Amy Sand, Ken Polovitz, Christina Johnston and Kim Higgs; help students start early, from high school to transfer students.

"The Office of Student and Alumni Services has six main areas of responsibility for the Odegard School," said Polovitz, who started on his own student services career path at UND Enrollment Services before moving to UND Aerospace in 1985 under his mentor, UND Aerospace founder and first dean John D. Odegard.

Here's how it works:

In close coordination with the UND Admissions Office, there is a full slate of initiatives which include; attending college fairs and outreach programs throughout the country; keeping a prospective student database; sending numerous mailings; holding on-campus briefings and answering thousands of email and phone inquiries. The office has also coordinated the renowned International Aerospace Camp for over twenty-five years.

Dr. Kim Higgs, Amy Sand and Ken Polovitz have assigned student advisees as well as hundreds of drop-in visits each semester. The office houses all academic files, status sheets and forms required for on-time graduation and successful futures.

Prospective Student Outreach

Academic & Career Advising

"Career advising follows hand-in-hand with academic advising," Polovitz said.

Another major responsibility is the graduation certification of approximately 300 students each year. Career advising also ties in with the third major focus of Student Services, industry relations.

Student Services coordinates the industry visits and contacts for internships and job placement, making the office a full placement service for students and graduates.

Industry Relations

Both internal and external communication is coordinated through the office of Student Services, which includes college, departmental and alumni publications. Working closely with University Relations and other offices at UND, these efforts have become a major aspect for the office.

Communications & Marketing

"This is the newest addition to Student Services and fits very nicely into all aspects of the mission, for example, our outreach activities, industry relations, scholarships and student recruitment," said Polovitz, who is a licensed pilot, like many of his colleagues at UND Aerospace.

Alumni Relations & Development

Although this responsibility is actually a UND campus function, a UND financial aid officer—Christina Johnston—has an office within Student Services.

Student Financial Aid

"All of these student and alumni services started to come together back in 1985 when I was hired," said Polovitz. "At the time I was a UND enrollment services counselor; fresh out of graduate school. I was the first person hired in the recently created office of Enrollment Services formed in 1979. I got my private pilot certification in 1980."

Polovitz thus became—in terms of prospective student outreach—the so-called expert about the growing aviation program at UND.

"In 1985, Odegard said 'Polovitz, why don't you join us in the Aviation Department and do this full time for us!'" Polovitz recalled. "And that's how Student Services got started."

Student Services in this context isn't just for aviators. It functions for the entire college including all the academic departments. "Obviously—because it's the largest division in terms of number of students—the Aviation Department and its students consume the bulk of the efforts," Polovitz said.

"Throughout the years, the office has seen many individuals be part of the team and have contributed greatly to the development of the office," stated Polovitz. "One in particular was Justy Hager who developed the career development and placement programs for aviation students and graduates." Student Services currently has a fantastic team who are very professional and student oriented.

"They were like parents and advisors," said Dan Fluke, an airline pilot and alumnus of the UND aviation program. "It was fun to work for Aerospace in all different aspects including Student Services and flight instruction. We went on recruitment trips, talked to hundreds of students, attended the Oshkosh Air Show, and visited with people interested in the program. I still keep in touch with many of those students today."

According to Polovitz, "The John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences is fortunate to have such a comprehensive Student Services office. It is worth the investment because of the attention given to the bottom line - prospective and currently enrolled students and alumni."

Computer Science Update

Dr. Emanuel Grant (Computer Science) and Dr. Uttam Kokil (Department of Technology) were awarded a Collaborative Research Seed Grant in the amount of \$48,704. The grant will fund their project entitled "Comparative Study of Player Experience in Two Different Game Environments."

Travis Desell (Computer Science) and Susan Felege (Biology) are working on a project entitled "Harnessing Crowd Sourcing and Computer Vision for Video Analysis of Sharp-tailed Grouse Nesting Ecology and Nest Predators." They were awarded a UND Collaborative Seed Grant for \$48,269 to complete their project.

A team of students from UND won the 13th annual Digi-Key Collegiate Computing Competition on October 19th, 2012. Team coach was Scott Kerlin and members included Dustin Gustafson, Chase Myers, and Kyle Goehner (pictured left to right). They each won a \$300 Best Buy Gift Card and the Department of Computer Science was awarded \$5000.

The department splits the award with the local ACM Chapter and uses the funds to pay for student travel to events, such as the Midwest Instructional Computing Symposium, the Digi-Key competition, and the ACM USA Regional Programming Contest.



North Dakota EPSCoR Program Receives NASA Award to Invest in Research

The North Dakota NASA Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (ND NASA EPSCoR) program has been awarded \$375,000 from NASA for its Research Infrastructure Development (RID) project proposal submitted back in July 2012.

In addition to the award from NASA, the North Dakota State Legislature matched funding to the project.

"These funds will be used for NASA relevant seed research and travel support to researchers to visit NASA centers for developing collaborative research," said Santhosh Seelan, professor and chair of the Department of Space Studies at UND

Aerospace. "The award will also be used to fund graduate research assistantships through the seed research grants to faculty." Santhosh Seelan is also the director of ND NASA EPSCoR and the principle investigator of the RID award.

ND NASA EPSCoR is a statewide program that expands and enhances the research capabilities of scientists in states that traditionally lack strong university-based research efforts.

Established in 1979, ND NASA EPSCoR helps states compete more successfully for federal academic funding.

UND Aerobatic Team Sweeps National Competition

The University of North Dakota Aerobatic Team again topped all the competition last year, finishing the season with aerobatic gold against all comers.

"That's five consecutive National IAC Collegiate titles," said Mike Lents, an aviation lecturer at the John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences and the team's coach.

Members of the team are: Aaron Fettig, Bismarck; Ben Thomas, Fort Collins, Colo.; Alexander Sachs, Oregon, Wisc.; Jonathan Sievert, Anoka, Minn.; and Andrew Davidsmeyer, Jacksonville, Ill.; the coaches are Mike Lents, Algonac, Mich.; Greg Gilmer, Lander, Wyoming; and Jonathan Sepulveda, and the faculty advisor is Joe Vacek, assistant professor at UND Aerospace. "Ben, Jonathan, Alex, Andrew and Aaron proudly represented and demonstrated the best that UND has to offer," said Lents.

The aerobatic tradition is long and strong at UND. Former UND student and current airline captain Jeff Boerboon is a clear testament to this: Boerboon is a U.S. and international aerobatic champion with many top trophies to his name.

The UND Aerobatic Team competes at the collegiate level at aerobatic competitions around the United States at International Aerobatic Club-sanctioned events. UND operates two American Champion Aircraft Super Decathlons for its aerobatic team, aerobatic courses, tail wheel training and spin training.



TOP: Mike Lents flying the Super Decathlon

LEFT: Aaron Fettig, Jonathan Sievert, Mike Lents, Ben Thomas, Alexander Sachs, Andrew Davidsmeyer

Photo Credit: Laurie Zaleski, IAC



Check out what's happening at your alma mater and become a fan today!
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/UNDAEROSPACE



AEROSPACE ALUMNI ADVISORY BOARD UPDATE



On behalf of the UND Aerospace Alumni Advisory Board, I would like to offer greetings to all fellow alumni and to inform you on the latest happenings from the Board. Since our last update, AAAB members have met for their fall meeting in Grand Forks held in Odegard Hall over Homecoming weekend. Scheduling this meeting over Homecoming allows the AAAB an opportunity to participate in various functions around campus as well as facilitating Board interaction with students in formal and informal settings. One of the functions of the Board is to provide real life perspectives to students and faculty through both conversation and presentation. The AAAB planned and cooperated with the University in order to “step up” our activities during Homecoming. Presentations were developed by Board members who committed to arriving early with the goal of sharing their knowledge with students and faculty. Recognition needs to be given to all AAAB members who participated during this weekend. The dedication of this Board to the University resulted in our fall meeting being very well attended and received.

During the fall meeting, the AAAB voted a new member into the fold. The AAAB welcomes Mr. Brad Troxel as our newest member and we look forward to his active participation on the Board. One of the more notable things discussed and acted upon was a decision by the Board to award an AAAB scholarship. The Board is very sensitive to the huge financial challenges encountered by our future aviation professionals and has committed itself to the offering of assistance. We are looking forward to awarding two scholarships in the spring on behalf of the AAAB for deserving Odegard students. We are continuing our work with the “Tracks” program established by the AAAB a couple of years ago. The goal of these tracks is to connect faculty with designated board members in order to share industry experience in support of the Odegard School. The establishment of this program has served us very well in optimizing board/faculty interactions and has resulted in stronger working relationships. The six tracks are: Aviation Safety and Security, Aviation Education and Training, Aviation Law and Policy, Commercial Aviation, Air Traffic Control, and Business Aviation.

The Board does have a particularized need for experience within the UAS field in support of the UAS Center of Excellence. If you have expertise in the UAS field and have an interest in joining the Board, please send me an e-mail at leipzig06@comcast.net with a brief description of your career experience since leaving UND. I ask that you please copy Josh Christianson at joshc@aero.und.edu in order to ensure receipt of your application.

Our next board meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 17, 2013 in the Twin Cities from 0800-1200; exact location is yet to be determined. We will also have a dinner on Thursday evening, May 16th for those Board members who arrive early. All Board members are encouraged to attend or call in if at all possible. Logistics will be provided to all Board members well in time to make plans for this important meeting. The AAAB is always looking for ways to increase its involvement and visibility in support of the Odegard School. We encourage any and all interested parties, whether faculty, students, or alumni to take advantage of the notable experience in our Board members. The AAAB was established to serve all affiliated with UND’s aviation community. We have Board members who regularly travel to UND and are prepared to accommodate requests for support. Any alumni that have an interest in serving in this capacity should contact myself or Josh Christianson.



Rich Baker '00
President, AAAB
leipzig06@comcast.net

Front Line Manager
Washington Air Route
Traffic Control Center

- Rich Baker **00**
PRESIDENT
- Erin Olson **05**
VICE PRESIDENT
- Matt Kalouner **01**
SECRETARY/TREASURER
- Brian Gora **83**
PAST PRESIDENT

- Aiken, Joel **92**
- Anderson, Chad **98**
- Annis, Jay **98**
- Baas, Bradley **86**
- Baker, Rich **00**
- Barnes, David **01**
- Blumhorst, Jonathan **11**
- Boxrucker, Craig **00**
- Bunke, Jim **78**
- Castor, Jimmy **03**
- Coleman, Doug **84**
- Cooper, Chris **05**
- DuVernay, Jason **06**
- Ems, Michelle **05**
- Geisler, Robert **86**
- Gillen, Michael **92**
- Gora, Brian **83**
- Hall, Eric **90**
- Hauge, Tom **92**
- Hedrick, Robert **82**
- Heining, Joel **92**
- Hess, Erich **00**
- Huff, Matt **03**
- Jensen, Kurt **79**
- Kalouner, Matt **01**
- Kappenman, Jeff **83**
- Klinger, John **90**
- Kluenker, John **01**
- Knesek, Daniel **97**
- Kuhlman, Steve **89**
- Lasky, Todd **02**
- Leon, Steve **90**
- Leonard, Tim **87**
- Lounsberry, Tom **82**
- Lukasezck, Bryan **92**
- Martin, Larry **71**
- Martin, Roger **73**
- Miller, Andrew **93**
- Muhs, Bob **77**
- Muhs, Jack **87**
- Nelson, John **90**
- Nemec, Joe **01**
- Odegard, John **89**
- Olson, Erin **05**
- Schermerhorn, Rob **86**
- Shields, Josh **00**
- Stephens, Corey **99**
- Stimpson, Justin **01**
- Stork, Richard **04**
- Strack, Brian **01**
- Stubbe, Joseph **02**
- Swing, Jeff **96**
- Tomlin, Nicholas **94**
- Wright, Corey **05**

upcoming events:

February 23

UND vs Denver Pre-Game Party & Reception
5-6:30PM, Courtyard by Marriott Denver – Cherry Creek
Denver, Colorado

March 14–16

Women in Aviation Annual Conference
Gaylord Opryland Resort
Nashville, Tennessee

March 15

UND Aerospace Alumni & Industry Reception
6:30-8PM, Gaylord Opryland Resort
Nashville, Tennessee

April 9–14

Sun 'n Fun International Fly-In & Expo
Lakeland, Florida

April 18–20

SAMA Career Fair & Aviation Parents Weekend
Grand Forks, North Dakota

May 17

UND Aerospace Alumni Advisory Board Meeting
8AM-12PM
Minneapolis, Minnesota

June 6

UND Seattle Area Alumni Reception
Seattle, Washington

July 29–August 4

EAA Airventure 2013
Oshkosh, Wisconsin

July 31

UND Aerospace Alumni & Industry Reception
6-9PM, Hilton Garden Inn
Oshkosh, Wisconsin

Aerocom is published for alumni and friends of the John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences. Aerocom welcomes your suggestions, story ideas, alumni profile information and photos for use in future publications. Permission to reprint any portion of text or photography may be granted upon request. Visit our website at www.aero.und.edu Please send your information via email to joshc@aero.und.edu or via mail to:

02.2013

							1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28				

03.2013

							1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
31								

04.2013

							1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27						
28	29	30										

05.2013

								1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11					
12	13	14	15	16	17	18					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25					
26	27	28	29	30	31						

06.2013

											1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8					
9	10	11	12	13	14	15					
16	17	18	19	20	21	22					
23	24	25	26	27	28	29					
30											

07.2013

1	2	3	4	5	6							
7	8	9	10	11	12	13						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27						
28	29	30	31									

John D. Odegard
School of Aerospace Sciences
Attention: Josh Christianson
3980 Campus Rd, Stop 9007
Grand Forks, ND 58202-9007

Non-Profit
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Grand Forks, ND
Permit #10

from the **ARCHIVES**



Students from an
Astronomy class
prepare to study
a solar eclipse
on the roof of
Merrifield Hall
July 20, 1963