

VAUGHN COLLEGE MAGAZINE

for Alumni, Parents and Friends

Volume 2, Number 1 Fall/Winter 2005-06



RECENT GRADUATES, LIKE TRACI JONES '03, GET AN EDGE IN THE JOB MARKET

FIRST BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MECHATRONICS ENGINEERING TO BE OFFERED

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

This has been a busy and exciting fall. It began in September with the start of classes and continued right through to the end of the semester as we reviewed architect's drawings for our first residence hall and received approval for our first engineering program.

The new fall class brought with it a continued shift in the programs students are choosing to pursue as well as their academic qualifications. Overall, more than 1,200 students are enrolled at Vaughn College and 74 percent (up from 69 percent in fall 2004) are pursuing a bachelor of science or an associate in applied science degree. Those enrolled in the associate in occupational studies or certificate program in aviation maintenance are now 26 percent of the total student population.

Incoming students are also academically more qualified to enter our bachelor of science degrees where the freshman grade point average is now 85.3 and the average Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) scores increased from 1002 to 1056 (nationally the average is 1000 and in New York City 900). Also, as a result of changing our tuition structure, we were able to offer more competitive financial aid packages to well-qualified students, and 41 percent of students offered packages accepted them (up from 32 percent last year). We also saw an increase in the number of students from Nassau County, Long Island, New Jersey and other states.

The increase of students from outside the immediate New York City area is what most excites me about our plans to build our first-ever residence hall. In October, the board of trustees approved Vaughn College taking the first step in building that hall and by this summer we plan to begin construction. We anticipate the hall will open in fall 2007 and we plan to post updates on the website at www.vaughn.edu.

We also learned at the end of the semester that we are now authorized by New York State Department of Education (NYSED) to begin offering our first engineering program in mechatronics. A hybrid of mechanical, electrical and computer engineering this program has had input and endorsement from our advisory council which includes The Boeing Company, Northrop Grumman, Lockheed Martin and United Technologies Corporation. Page 7 outlines this new degree program. In parallel, our graduate management program in airport management is currently being reviewed by our colleagues at peer institutions and should be submitted to NYSED in the spring.

The "icing" on the cake this semester was that our basketball team was once again the New York Urban Basketball League Champions for the second year in a row. In time, we hope to grow to a Division III, National Collegiate Athletic Association team.

As you read through this latest edition of the alumni magazine, you will see how Vaughn College is continuing its transformation. Our students are the greatest beneficiaries as we strive to offer them an education that puts them on the path to a lifetime of success.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "John C. Fitzpatrick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John C. Fitzpatrick, Ed.D.
President

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The Vaughn College office of public affairs publishes *Vaughn College Magazine* twice each year, in the fall and spring semester for alumni. For editorial comments please send correspondence to: Office of Public Affairs, Vaughn College, 86-01 23rd Avenue, Flushing, NY 11369. *Vaughn College Magazine* welcomes editorial and art contributions, although the editors accept no responsibility for unsolicited work.

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Cover Story

Recent Graduates Get an Edge in the Job Market

Associate Professor Seizes Opportunity to be Part of a New Age of Discovery

By Helene M. Brooks

Ever since he can remember, Associate Professor Donald O'Keefe has been fascinated by America's space exploration efforts, and he recalls the thrill and excitement of watching the shuttle launches on television. Little did he know then that he would have the opportunity of a lifetime – to personally witness the awesome power of the shuttle's liftoff in Florida last summer.

The intent of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Summer Faculty Research Opportunities (NSFRO) is to provide faculty members, who have limited NASA research experience, an opportunity to participate and support the new space exploration vision. This includes a return to the Moon, missions to Mars, and journeys beyond. Fellowships are awarded to qualified faculty members in science, technology, engineering and math disciplines. O'Keefe, who teaches mechanical engineering technology, computer-aided design, material processes and prismatic machining, became one of NASA's fellows.

When he learned his application to the NASA program had been accepted, he headed to the Kennedy Space Center, along with team members from the University of Wisconsin-Stout, Purdue, West Virginia University and other institutions. Their project, partially funded by the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE), involved the space shuttle orbiter.

By now it is a familiar sight to most Americans: the space shuttle "piggy-backed" on top of the giant 747. NASA keeps two of these jumbo jets, known as shuttle carrier aircraft (SCA), to carry the space shuttle orbiter. Because the Discovery landed at Edwards Air Force Base in California last August, the shuttle had to be returned to its home at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. This is a mean feat: The 747 uses twice the power and, as a result, a



lot more fuel (as much as 40,000 pounds per flight hour) to stay in the air. Its passenger area is stripped of carpeting, galleys and inside temperature ductwork in order to reduce weight. Even with these measures, the plane still weighs more than 250,000 pounds, and the drag creat-

ed by the shape and weight of the orbiter—176,000 pounds—means it flies by sheer brute force. The challenge for the 747 pilots assigned to these missions is in long takeoff rolls and extra care during steep turns.

O'Keefe and his team know, through computer-aided design, that the orbiter varies in weight according to its mission. When taking the orbiter and turning it horizontally or vertically on a crane to attach it to the external tank, it is important to maintain integrity for when the vessel re-enters the atmosphere. Through a computer-aided model, they set out to learn where the center of gravity was as the orbiter changed its position. O'Keefe explains, "The center of gravity is important for tying the orbiter to the external tank, because the orbiter is very fragile. No bump or scratch can occur. It's not like driving your car with a dent in it. One cracked carbon tile could be very damaging to present and future missions, so it is important to address the potential of tile vulnerability before launch.

Due to atmospheric and other conditions, there is only a small window of opportunity to bring the Orbiter down. You can't just go back out into orbit. Low visibility and rain clouds ruled out the Discovery landing in Florida, and instead, it landed in California. There are unique costs involved in transporting the orbiter back to home base. Special cranes and mounting parts—the same ones that are used to attach it to the external tank—as well as little "cars" known as STS (shuttle transportation systems)—are employed to

transport and place the shuttle atop the 747. How it tilts and rights itself becomes crucial to proper loading.

O'Keefe describes the shuttle's actual liftoff: "There is a bright, white heat and shock wave sensation when you are standing anywhere on Cape Canaveral Air Force Base during the launch," he remembered. He regrets his team did not have the opportunity to meet the astronauts of the Discovery, because in Houston they are placed under heavy quarantine. On the day of liftoff, early at 6 a.m. in the dawn's setting, you could catch only a glimpse of the silver Winnebago transporting them to the shuttle. They were boarded about four hours in advance of the mission.

Within five years, NASA plans a new generation of spaceships, building on the best of Apollo and shuttle technology, one that will be reliable, versatile, and safe. The new crew vehicle will be shaped like an Apollo capsule, but will be three times larger, allowing four astronauts to travel to the Moon at once. The new spacecraft will have solar panels to provide power, and both the capsule and the lunar lander will use liquid methane, planning for the day when astronauts will be able to convert Martian atmospheric resources into methane fuel.

For the rest of this fellowship project, O'Keefe's team helped NASA to produce educational projects for school children between the fifth and eighth grades. He feels the 10-week project was time well spent to be part of NASA's new space exploration plans. He said fellowships are a good opportunity to meet people out in the field and to remain current in the developments of your industry. He points to the many benefits of space exploration, from satellites that monitor our own planet's resources, to orbiting observatories scanning deep space, to the study of the nature of comets and their possible link to the formation and evolution of our solar system. "While there are occasional setbacks and inherent risks to space exploration, the people at NASA always have the positive spirit of opportunity, and I was glad to be a part of it."

Online Management Certificate Program Provides More Educational Options at Vaughn College

Vaughn College's first class has successfully completed its new certificate program in airport management.

This certificate program is a nine credit program of study offered completely online and helps students to attain their goals of furthering their education and knowledge in the aviation industry. The credits can be applied to any of Vaughn's degree programs.

The first graduating class was comprised of employees of The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ) and United Technologies Corporation (UTC). Kevin Dauwalt, an operations supervisor at La Guardia Airport, said he enjoyed taking the program with his peers. "All of the courses were interesting," he added, "and I appreciated the opportunity to learn how Federal Aviation Administration regulations relate to the daily practices in our industry."

The program of study, including courses in airport operations and management, aviation transport regulations, and aviation law, enables busy and career-minded people to attain their goals of furthering their knowledge of common aviation practices, safety measures, and management protocols. It can be invaluable to students as they progress into middle- and upper-management positions.

There is also an online certificate program in airline management coming



(l.) Dr. John Fitzpatrick, (center, standing and seated) the first graduates, (r.) Dr. Naveen Seth, Chair Management and Operations, and Ray Axmacher, Director, Distance Learning.

soon. Students pursuing this 12-credit course of study will examine airline economics and finance, aviation safety, and the management and collective bargaining interface in an industry and labor relations course.

President John C. Fitzpatrick said, "We are continuing our commitment to expand the College's academic offerings by using the latest technology to deliver these programs." He further stated that he is proud of the effort and discipline these individuals brought to this online program. "Online learning enables many of those who want to complete their education to do so without the limitations often imposed by shift work at our nation's airports. The success of these students proves these educational goals are worthwhile and

achievable, and we welcome all airport employees, and those who wish to pursue a career in airport management, to this program."

Faculty Spotlight

The faculty at Vaughn College have been busy working on various projects and attending professional conferences in their fields.

Dr. Ray Addabbo and **Arts and Sciences Chair Paul LaVergne** attended a three-day conference at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. The conference was called, "Frontiers in Mathematics," which included a discussion on fluid flow, mathematics, and statistics. In addition, LaVergne has been participating in an interdoctoral consortium at New York University.

Dr. Jeffery Surovell, of the arts and sciences department, has written prolifically on Russia. His latest project is an article explaining Russian policy toward NATO expansion (which will be submitted to several publications) and a book on Russian/Soviet relations with the West and Europe from 1955 to the present. The book's tentative title is *The Bear That Crashed The Party*.

Dr. Vincent Driscoll, of the management and operations department, recently received his commercial glider license and his Lighter-Than-Air Aviation license (for manning balloon flights).

Online Management Certificate Programs

The College has created partnerships with national organizations to offer online professional certificate programs in airline and airport management to their members/employees. Members also receive a discounted tuition rate.

Partners include The Port Authority of New York and NJ (PANYNJ), which operates many of the busiest and most important transportation links in the

region, including John F. Kennedy International, Newark Liberty International, Teterboro and LaGuardia airports.

Vaughn College's online certificate programs have been made possible through a grant from the Sloan Foundation. For further information, visit our website: www.vaughn.edu/distance learning/online programs.

Recent Graduates Get an Edge in the Job Market

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By William Blick

We at Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology know that when students graduate college, they seek that all-important first position in their chosen field. That is why the College tries to provide everything students need to successfully pursue their dream. From seasoned professionals working in the field who provide quality instruction, to fully equipped laboratories, Vaughn students get an excellent, personalized education that can provide the edge when they go looking for jobs. The plan is simple: build a strong academic foundation, and employers will respond.



Iaisha El-Tawil, '05

Take Iaisha El-Tawil, for example. El-Tawil, who graduated summa cum laude in May 2005.

She currently schedules flights for North American Airlines, which operates flight for sports teams, tour operators and political campaigns. North American is also a certified US Department of Defense air carrier. El-Tawil explains that many of the group projects that she had participated in at the College helped her to become a team player. These projects also helped her to develop negotiating and people skills, which she utilizes on a daily basis at North American.

About her experience at Vaughn, El-Tawil recommends that students be actively involved in the College community: "If I had one piece of advice to

give to students at Vaughn College, it would be to get involved in everything Vaughn has to offer. Join clubs, go to every presentation, meet every industry leader that visits, and go on every possible trip, including those to the airport, the FAA building and other places of interest. Vaughn has such a great support network that includes not only faculty and advisors, but also members of the industry."

El-Tawil also serves as the vice president of the alumni association. From an academic standpoint, she explains that she was well prepared for the material presented in North American's training program. Her continued involvement with Vaughn College exemplifies the type of strong bond that students forge with the College.

Not only do students find employment with the US government, airlines and airports, but also in other fields such as engineering, education, and with major television networks.



Traci T. Jones

Work experience
(05/03-Present)
IMB (International Business Machines)
Poukeepsie, NY
Mechanical Engineer
Hardware design for server components.

Education
1999-2003
Vaughn College of Aeronautics
Flushing, NY
Bachelor of Science in
Computerized Design
Associate in Applied Science in
Animated Graphics

Traci Jones, '03

Traci Jones graduated from Vaughn College in 2003 with an associate in applied science, engineering technologies (aeronautics) and a bachelor of science in computerized design. She is now a mechanical designer employed with International Business Machines (IBM). She has decided as a long-term career path to work in project manage-

ment where she is not limited to the strictly technical aspects of the job. In project management, she would also have the opportunity to interact on a supervisory level.

Jones was part of the organization called INROADS, which offers African American, Hispanic, and Native American Indian students who excel academically, a chance to work in internships with some of the nation's top employers. From her internship, she was able to establish the connection to her employer and secure a position within IBM.



Thomas Lomecki, '02

Some courses available at Vaughn College play very important roles in some of the jobs that the students obtain. For example, learning CATIA has proven to be a necessity for Jones in completing her work for IBM. She also explained that the core engineering classes, including thermal and fluid dynamics, and heat transfer, were pertinent to the type of work she is doing.

The truth is that Vaughn College is getting the attention of major employers. Thomas Lomecki, who graduated in May 2002 with a bachelor's degree in computerized design, now works at Northrop Grumman Corporation. This global defense company has its headquarters in Los Angeles, California, and provides a broad array of technologically advanced, innovative products, services and solutions in systems integration, defense electronics, information technology, advanced aircraft,

shipbuilding, and space technology. The company has more than 125,000 employees and operates in all 50 states and 25 countries. Lomecki started out at Grumman as a manufacturing cost estimator and, in October of 2004, he switched positions and began working as an electro-mechanical engineer. He is responsible for harness design and layout in a military/aerospace environment, as well as the creation of engineering drawings necessary for manufacturing use. Lomecki said, "My education and degree from Vaughn College have proven very helpful in my life; they not only have provided me with a strong engineering background, but they have also taught me how to use the latest computer-aided design tools such as AutoCAD and CATIA that are widely used by automotive and aerospace industries."

To students with similar career aspirations, he advises, "Get as much work experience as possible. I know it is easier said than done, but with a bit of luck and persistence I am sure that it is possible to find a great internship program or part-time job that can serve as a starting point for one's career path." He also noted that "the key is to plan early and start out small."



Roy Mathews, '05

While the College cannot guarantee that you will be placed in the job of your choosing, it can definitely provide the connections and groundwork for a bright future. "The school is a small community. Teachers and friends at the school are always willing to help new grads to get their foot in the door," says Roy Mathews, a May 2005 graduate of the aircraft maintenance program at Vaughn.

Mathews was an employee in the flight planning department at Polar Air and worked with large corporations' needs and within the the Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) to effectively plan and schedule flights. Mathews then gained employment with the large aircraft manufacturing company The Boeing Company. He will be based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



Nigel Sayers, '01

Some graduates may find themselves giving back to the Vaughn College community in a teaching capacity. One of our instructors, Nigel Sayers, graduated in 2001 with a bachelor of science in engineering technology- avionics and went on to earn a master's degree in optical engineering from Rose-Hulman Institute of Engineering and Technology in Indiana.

Sayers teaches fiber optics, laser principles, and electrical classes here at the College. He commented that the "hands-on" experience he received at Vaughn College gave him an edge over other students when he was pursuing graduate studies. He also explained that while many other institutions with similar programs provide theoretical foundations, Vaughn allows its students to experience the practical application of these theoretical principles. Of course there are other soft skills Sayers had acquired at Vaughn including public speaking and presentation skills that he uses daily in the workplace. Sayers says that: "it is an honor and a privilege to give back to the community through teaching," and to students and recent grads he explains that: "It is important to have a goal and stick with it. In this way, you will succeed."



Billy Chien, '04

Billy Chien, another instructor here, graduated in 2004 in the aviation maintenance program. Chien was impressed with the quality of the faculty at the College when he attended, saying that he admired the patience and personalized instruction that he received here. He also felt that what he learned, he would carry with him for the rest of his life.

Take Eric Adler, for example. Adler graduated in 2004 and landed a job immediately with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). He is currently completing training in radar maintenance in Oklahoma City, after which he will work at John F. Kennedy International Airport. Through his own persistence and Vaughn College's network, he was able to secure his position in a specialized area of the aviation industry.

"I have to say," says Adler, "the school and the faculty are doing it right." He added that most of what he came across in his field of study was introduced to him first at Vaughn College. Adler also noted that in his field, A+ and Net+ certification, which he obtained while at Vaughn College, were significant to the FAA.

Vaughn College has consistently shown through careful selection of a curriculum, a practical approach to the fields of study, and the fostering of connections between students and industries, that they will continue to have a successful rate of graduates who find fulfilling employment.

New York City Councilman Inspires Students to Pursue Their Goals and Contribute to Their Communities

These Remarks were made by the Honorable Hiram Monserrate, New York City Councilman, at the 2005 commencement ceremony.

This is an exciting day. It is an honor to be here sharing this very important moment with all of you, the graduating class of 2005. But I also want to thank all the board of trustees, distinguished guests, and our president, Dr. Fitzpatrick, for the fine work that he has done at this College.



What really encourages me about Vaughn College is what I see right in front of me—the great mosaic of the City of New York—achieving, progressing, and graduating.

I have had the opportunity to serve in the City Council, and I want to tell you that in 2002, I took my oath of office in this very same room. So this room has an emotional attachment to me, and as such, I see the deliverance of you, the students, and I know that the City Council and the City of New York does the right thing when we invest over a million dollars toward the expansion of this College.

As we enjoy ourselves, and shortly we'll be outside taking pictures, cherish this moment. We would not be here today had it not been for the professors that do a fantastic job. Don't they

deserve a round of applause? This is your day, too.

You make them so proud on graduation day, but you especially made us proud because you did it the old-fashioned way. You earned it. Tireless hours of homework assignments and research, and typing papers, taking time away

from other social activities to get the best grades. I give a special salute to all our honors students for achieving the greatness that you achieved today.

Let me add that it is most appropriate, as I look upon today's date, that I also make mention of another great leader that we had—right here in our community—Malcolm X.

Malcolm X believed that education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today. And you have shown your preparation for the future. But despite what you have achieved today, there is still much more to do. And it is not only incumbent upon yourselves, but upon this institution and our community, to support each and every one. I believe that education is like a huge sledge hammer that breaks down barrier after barrier. And I believe that education is the road to progress for individuals

and for communities united.

Many folks in our communities are filled with pride, because we hear so many of negatives about young people who have gone astray, who do the wrong things, who become statistics, and who do not become productive members of our society. But you are the hope and the aspiration of our entire society.

So I implore upon you to give back, because in this room can be the next member of the United States Congress. In this room can be the next President of this great union. And even more importantly, in this room might be a future professor at Vaughn College.

I encourage you to put your mind to whatever it is that you plan to do in the future, whether it's furthering your studies or being leaders of the industry. As I congratulate you, I want you to know that you have also energized me. As a member of the City Council, I will continue to support this institution, and institutions like it throughout our City, because you are our future, you are our leadership.

In closing, I thank Vaughn College for the honorary doctorate degree. And may your higher power illuminate your path.

Vaughn Developing New Graduate Program in Airport Management

The principles that are used in management and supervisory positions often seem elusive. That is because there is always new material being generated on the subject. Countless books have been written on the most effective way to manage and maintain an organization. Seminars and lectures are consistently available for managers and those aspiring to be managers. To assist course development and planning is underway for Vaughn College's first graduate program, a master of science degree in airport management.

There are several objectives for the

38-credit program. The degree will provide the opportunity for mid- or junior-level professionals to enhance their skills and knowledge to advance in airport and airport-related businesses. In addition, the program will raise awareness of and enhance skills related to safety issues in the airport environment.

In addressing the growing demand for the next generation of airport managers, the airport management program offers advanced training for a very dynamic industry.

Course-work will include offerings in statistics, finance, organizational safety

and behavior, economics and accounting. Core courses will be devoted to general management, with electives for specific areas of interest, and the remaining will be in research methods, a master's project, or a thesis.

The addition of this graduate program demonstrates Vaughn College's focused effort to provide strong foundations for those who work, or wish to work, in aviation, engineering, engineering technology or management positions. It also lays the foundation for more graduate level courses in other disciplines. The program is slated to begin in fall 2007.

College Authorized to Now Offer Engineering Degree

Very often the thinking and the engineering behind machinery that meet our daily needs and provide conveniences for us are taken for granted. For example, the anti-lock brakes on our cars, photocopiers, computer disk drives, and even humidity sensitive clothes dryers and windshield wipers, are all made up of a type of engineering known as mechatronic engineering. Vaughn College intends to implement a new mechatronic engineering program in fall 2007. This exciting field incorporates mechanical, computer and electronic engineering disciplines for the manufacture and design of “smart” products and processes.



The New York State Education Department website indicates that in February 2003, Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s Technology Review listed mechatronics as one of 10

emerging technologies most likely to be highly influential in the near future.

The rigorous program has several objectives: it will provide a link between academia and industry; it will provide students with knowledge and experience in analytical, computational, and experimental methods, with an ability to evaluate these approaches for use in practical situations; it will introduce students to reliability and safety analysis of engineering components that exhibit precise performance.

Employers such as Northrop-Grumman, United Technologies Corporation (UTC), Gulf Stream Corporation, National Broadcasting Company (NBC), and The Boeing Corporation have expressed interest in graduates of this degree. The depth and breadth of this program provides a high level of preparation and qualifies our

graduates to obtain positions in the engineering and design fields. Students may find opportunities in the aerospace, automotive, computer, communications and many other industries. Core courses include a strong foundation in electronic and mechanical engineering. Beyond that students will choose electives in engineering analysis and design, solid mechanics and motion, signals and communication, computer programming, and digital control systems. They will become proficient in the use of essential design programs such as Computer-aided Three-Dimensional Interactive Application (CATIA) and MSC Patran-Nastran analysis.

The mechatronic courses themselves, include a design project in each of the last four semesters, ones that involve sensors and actuators, and control systems. In addition, students will be required to take the “core curriculum” which includes basic math, science and liberal arts courses. The mechatronic engineering program enhances the already multifaceted and diverse engineering department at Vaughn College.

Opportunities for Air Traffic Control Students at Vaughn

In the early 1980s, there was a dramatic change in the aviation industry and, as a result, over the next few years it will shift again. On August 3, 1981, more than 11,000 air traffic controllers walked off the job in an effort to strike for better wages and retirement benefits. President Ronald Reagan took an uncompromising stand that they were in violation of US law, which barred strikes from government unions. Reagan subsequently fired all of them, and he declared a lifetime ban on the return of strikers to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). This stern action by the 40th president of the US was unprecedented.

In the next 10 years, it is estimated that 11,000 of 15,000 current controllers



will be retiring. This leaves a significant amount of openings for new employees. The FAA allows air traffic controllers to retire if they are over 50 years old with 20 years of service or at any age with 25 years of service.

The role of an air traffic controller is to ensure the safe operation of private and commercial aircraft. They are required to

work rapidly and efficiently. Total concentration is needed to keep track of several planes at the same time and to make certain that all pilots receive correct instructions.

Considering the excellent salaries and benefits that air traffic controllers enjoy, it is easy to see why competition is high for these positions. Many controllers

earn more than \$100,000 after only a few short years in their careers. In addition, many people are drawn to air traffic control because it is a challenging and rewarding job track.

Vaughn College is only one of 13 institutions in the country selected by the FAA to participate in a program that allows the College to recommend its students to the FAA for hire as air traffic controllers. Students must meet all legal and regulatory criteria, including having a qualifying score on the current FAA testing procedures, US citizenship, and completed coursework in Air Traffic-Collegiate Training Initiative (AT-CTI) specific courses.

The May 2005 issue of Flying magazine, offered a comprehensive overview on these shifting trends in the aviation industry. Vaughn College is mentioned first under a list of FAA-approved Air Traffic-Collegiate Training Initiative Schools.

Alumni News and Notes

From the Desk of....



Kalli Koutsoutis
*Director of Development
and Alumni Relations*

"Destiny is not a matter of chance—it is a matter of choice. It is not a thing to be waited for—it is a thing to be achieved."
—William Jennings Bryant

Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology has consistently shown rapid improvements and

growth since the days of the Casey Jones School and the Academy of Aeronautics. Had it not been for the continued support of dedicated alumni, the College would not have blossomed into the institution that we are so proud of today.

I would like to thank the outgoing president, Joe Castiglione '63, and Vice President, Jerry Nicolella '71, for their commitment to excellence and whose support has helped us to maintain the institution. In addition, we are excited about the dynamic ideas that are being generated by the new governing board, President Steve Mikhlin '99 and Vice President, Iaisha El-Tawil '05. With time and consistent effort, we can transform these ideas into a reality.

Alumni Association-sponsored events, such as the trip to the Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular, have been very successful. This past November the trip was completely sold out. Events like this continue to develop the community that comprises Vaughn College.

As these events are so vital to the College's extracurricular life, we welcome any ideas and suggestions for other activities that everyone can enjoy.

Also, upcoming in the new year, is a mentoring program which will allow alumni to provide guidance and direction for many students. This is an important way former students can give back to the College and make a difference.

The College's alumni website, www.vaughn.edu/alumnirelations, is our way of keeping you connected to the institution after graduation. It allows you to register as an alumnus, connect with the office of career development regarding job placement, and the office of the registrar to request a transcript. It also enables you to make a contribution to the annual fund, update your mailing information, join the alumni association, take a course in one of our new degree programs or online certificate programs, and stay in touch with classmates through our message board.

As always, if you are interested in posting your message, personal or professional, in our next issue, complete and mail the attached card, and keep us informed of any address changes so we can update our records. Please contact me with any alumni related questions or concerns you may have at 718.429.6600, extension 142 or e-mail me at kalli.koutsoutis@vaughn.edu.

PS: If you haven't already done so, please take a moment to make a donation to this year's annual fund in the self-addressed, postage paid envelop in the center of Vaughn College Magazine. Show your commitment to your alma mater by giving today's students the same opportunity that you had to achieve!

1974

John M. Krepp received a promotion from unit supervisor to assistant manager in the FAA's New York Flight Standards district office.

1969

Donald H. Doctor retired from the US Postal Service and is working on his doctor of theology degree. Donald performs weddings, benedictions and counseling.

1967

Joseph A. Giamanco received certification as a software quality engineer by the American Society of Quality.

1962

James T. Rodriguez retired after 35 years with Boeing Aircraft Company in Long Beach, California. Prior to that James worked for four years with North American Aviation on the X-B70 aircraft and development of the Vernier rocket engine.

1953

David J. Lee, Jr., worked for American Airlines from 1953 until his retirement in 1987. David started as a junior mechanic and became manager of aircraft operations at LaGuardia Airport.

John Foderaro was an associate professor at the College of Aeronautics where he taught math, physics, and flight engineering courses for three years. He retired after 35 years as a science teacher in the Pennsylvania public school system.

1947

Joseph Whitney entered the Casey Jones School in September 1941, left to serve in the military and returned to complete his studies in aircraft design at the Academy of Aeronautics in 1946.

1946

Frank Elmiger is active in his local church and works on historical aircraft. He was acquainted with Casey Jones and George Vaughn, two of the original founders of the Casey Jones School, as well as Walter Hartung, president of the Academy of Aeronautics. Frank was instrumental in helping to shape some of the design courses during the early years of the Academy of Aeronautics. In addition to working at the Academy, he also worked for Link Aviation Engineering on a helicopter for the US Navy.

1939

Daniel Birnbaum graduated from the Casey Jones School in 1939 while working as an inspector for Wright Aeronautical Company. Daniel was part of a graduating class of eight students who were hired at Lockheed Martin and its subsidiary Vega. Daniel and five of his fellow alumni drove to California from New Jersey where they worked for two years before the majority of them moved back East. He has helped design and build bombers, patrol aircraft, and commercial passenger aircraft. Since retiring in 1995, he has become a member of the Screen Actors Guild and has several commercials and movies to his credit.

1938

Ferdinand Rothermund retired from Pan American Airlines as an airline inspector.

IN MEMORIAM

1966

Ralph Lincoln Fisher, a professor in the College's Basic Science Department from 1966 until his retirement in 1992, passed away on August 23, 2005.

1956

Terrell P. Kirk, Jr. of Elmira, New York passed away on July 29, 2005. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Gloria.

1958

Alfred Bevacqua of Edison, New Jersey passed away on September 13, 2005. His wife, Charlene, survives him.

Dear Fellow Alumni:

I am proud, honored, and privileged to be entrusted with the enormous responsibility of leading the Alumni Association of Vaughn College. I consider the nomination to this post to be a call to duty and an affirmation of the new course the institution and the association have undertaken. This academic year brings with it many challenges and many questions yet unanswered. How do we increase our membership? How can our organization best serve its cause? That is, what can the organization do to help the current students, prospective students, and its constituency?

To answer these questions, in addition to many others, we'll look to utilize our greatest resource—our members, current and prospective. We will endeavor to increase our membership through traditional means by increasing awareness and non-traditional means by partnering with other, parallel organizations.

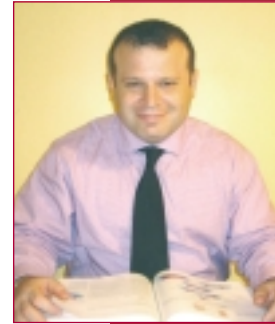
To be sure, fellow members, we will need everyone's help and cooperation to accomplish our goals. This means that the relevancy of our organization, and the benefits realized by those we serve, will depend on each individual member's contribution. And each individual will be charged with responsibilities appropriate to his/her background, experience or preference.

As I looked around the room at our last meeting, I realized that we are standing at the threshold of opportunity: our membership—experienced and diverse, our leadership—strong and open to all possibilities. The goals we've set for our organization are grand and will require the College's cooperation. So it is imperative that our interests and those of the institution are in—and stay in—perfect alignment. To succeed, we will need frequent and effective communication by all members; and this is precisely the reason why each member's presence at all meetings is essential.

And while I am happy to see an increase in the number of graduates joining the Alumni Association each year over the past three years, I sincerely hope that all alumni will continue to make their important contributions to the College's Annual Fund in order to increase opportunities for today's students.

This year hold lots of promise and lots of challenges for our organization. As your President, I think you're worthy of the challenge! Please contact me at steve.mikhlin@vaughn.edu. Help us reach our goals of maintaining an organization we can be proud of.

Steve Mikhlin '99



Vaughn Acquires Pieces of Its Past

Vaughn College recently acquired some historical treasures from Lynn Janetscheck, the daughter of the late William Weber, who passed away on September 26, 2004. He attended Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology when it was named the Academy of Aeronautics.

After serving in the Air Force from 1943 to 1946 as an aircraft maintenance-engineering officer, stationed in Hawaii, Weber went on to work for the Casey Jones Experimental Laboratory, developing and manufacturing sophisticated training aids for the US Army Air Force and then at Sperry Gyroscopes.

After his passing, William's daughter discovered some interesting remnants of the past, including an original jumpsuit with "Casey Jones" embroidered on the back, and training manuals and notes, which she has generously donated to the

College. These items remind us of our institution's proud heritage. The jumpsuit, original manuals, and notes will be added to the College's permanent collection in the library.



(l. to r.) Mario Brienza, director of the Aviation Training Institute, and Pat Sullo, hangar technician.



In the Spotlight

Faculty and administrators who have been promoted or had notable achievements at Vaughn College since the spring of 2005:

Stephen Braccio, professor in the Management and Operations Department, completed his doctorate in business administration.

Said Lamhaouar, associate dean of Academic Support Services, formerly director of Academic Support Services.

Highlights from Recent Events at the College



In the Big Leagues!

Vaughn College's very own basketball team, as part of the New York Urban Basketball League, is once again the Urban League Champions with a 9-1 record. Vaughn students are a lean and mean team: Kwasi Joseph, Jad Craig, Robert Bell, Jason Kestenbaum, Eloi Briganti, Felipe Guzman, Louis Rapozo, Abdul Littleton, Andre Thornton, Ramon Jackson, Vinny Feliz and Antonio McClean. Head Coach Tom Gleason and Emery Tyler lead the team to its record victories.

Tobyhanna Visit

Tobyhanna Army Depot in Monroe County, Pennsylvania offers an exciting opportunity for students interested in working in electronic and mechanical engineering-related industries. Vaughn students, along with Professors Vincent DeGatto, A. J. Krishnamurthy, and Andrew Kneissl joined Student Affairs Director Will Byrd and Career Development Coordinator Maryann Edwing on a recent trip.



Academic Honors Award Ceremony Held

Fred Quan, business and technology expert for Corning, Inc., was the keynote speaker at the Academic Honors Ceremony on October 6, 2005. One of his key accomplishments was starting Corning's specialty fiber business and growing it to a million dollars in sales within two years.

Technically trained as an electronics engineer, he had previously worked as a circuit design engineer with Hazeltine Corporation, now a unit of BAE Systems. His efforts in IFF radar systems are still operational on all U.S. military aircraft.



(l. to r.) Dr. Kalpana Jain, vice president of academic affairs, Alumnus Michael Joseph, Dr. John C. Fitzpatrick, Vaughn's president, and Fred Quan, keynote speaker from Corning.

Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology

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