



## 2015-16 End-of-Year Report Academic Department Success Plan

**Department:** Aviation

**Department Chair:** Dr. Steve McCaskey

**Person Primarily Responsible for Preparing this Report:**  
Dr. Steve McCaskey

Please answer the following questions in two or three pages and submit to your Dean by October 3. Your Dean will review and advance to Academic Affairs by October 10<sup>1</sup> and will offer you feedback by Oct. 17. This report will help inform your 2016-2019 Student Success Plan update that will be due to your Dean by Nov. 4.

**1. Specific accomplishments/achievements this past year (briefly explain using bullet points, noting any changed/adapted):**

- Continued female student pilot interest and participation in the Annual Air Race Classic for Women in Aviation annually. Senior team members mentor and assist in the growth of new members who compete for positions each year
- Addition of new advising plan for undergraduate advising in conjunction with the COT Student Services Office
- Successful coaching of students in submission of scholarships for the Aviation Association of Indiana
- Continued recruitment and early outreach with students in conjunction with the Office of Admissions
- Continued success with themed housing in conjunction with residential life
- Continue to make flight fees readily available to new and prospective students so they can make informed decisions regarding which AVT major is right for them.
- Continued participation in New Student Orientation by talking with students/families in small groups about their chosen majors and answering academic content-related (and flight fees) questions for 25 minutes per NSO.
- Continued participation and interest in the team and annual National Intercollegiate Flying Association (NIFA) competition to increase student awareness and team strength in the professional flight area.

**2. Objective/Actions Not Achieved (briefly explain using bullet points):**

- We planned to generate interest and participation in the Design Build Fly teams and participate in the International Design Build Fly competition hosted annually by Cessna and Raytheon Missiles, Inc.
  - However, the level of participation by team members was lower than expected.
  - This year, the team membership is determined by interest, participation, and direct activity in support of the competition.
  - The faculty sponsor is also a new member and motivated to see this team achieve a high level of accomplishment.

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<sup>1</sup> Note that the Dean will request a refinement to the report if it is not suitably addressing the questions.

- 3. Looking ahead, briefly describe changes, additions, or subtractions that need to be made to your goals and/or action steps, including with respect to their linkage to student learning outcomes.**
- Increase time available for New Student Orientation and talking with students/families in small groups 25-45 minutes per NSO.
    - This is the key time to get students and parents the information necessary for their initial registration and understanding the Aviation programs.
    - The current 25 minutes is often cut short to 15 and we need more time to cover their questions.
  - We will add a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) and Flight Academy policies to the handouts given to all parents and students attending NSO and to those who ask for information to be mailed to them. This is an excellent way to cover many of the common questions asked year after year.
  - We plan to add a “Drone Racing Club” to the activities of the department. Other universities are asking us to field a team and participate with them.
  - The Department of Aviation Technology will make our annual scholarship awards at the Spring Fly-in at the Terre Haute Regional Airport. This will give visibility to the students with their peers, parents, and potential airline employers at one event.
  - We plan to address the flight fee process for the students and parents. This appears to them as a very cumbersome and hard to comprehend process. We will address through a diagram and simplification process that will help.
  - We will conduct an Aviation Alumni Appreciation Day in the academic year for ISU alum from the Department of Aviation Technology
    - The location will be at the ISU Flight Academy to create an awareness of our program and
    - Alumni will be able to speak to students about internships, careers, and future opportunities.
  - Coach students on scholarship programs available through the Aviation Association of Indiana (AAI) and how to apply.
    - AAI has several scholarships for aviation students in Indiana that are presented at their annual conference in October.
    - ISU students have often been recognized and received these scholarships and we need to revitalize this effort.
- 4. Do you see opportunity for this project to work more closely with another department, college, or unit such that greater impact might be possible (*briefly explain*)?**
- Through some partnerships with local and state law enforcement, we will explore the possibility of involving the Criminology and Criminal Justice students in some exercises with unmanned systems.
  - Our unmanned systems lab plans to purchase and load the ARCGIS software for terrain mapping. The Geographical Information Systems group in Earth and Environmental Science has expressed a desire to partner with us on the use of the software.
- 5. Is there anything else about your initiative you feel important to detail?**
- We believe many of the objectives we set in our student success plans that are coordinated by the college and those that are specific to our department were successful last year. We plan to make some changes to some programming that we conducted last academic year; however, are in process with that.