



Background

The Florida Airports Council (the Council) Strategic Plan contains an educational component, but a portion of that component is the responsibility of the FAC Education Foundation (the Foundation). This update of the Foundation's Strategic Plan separates its goals from those of the Council since these are two separate and distinct organizations. The Foundation, created in 1990, is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit, tax exempt, 'related entity' of the Florida Airports Council, which is a 501(c)6 organization.

Business Purpose

The purpose of the Foundation is to prepare, promote, publish, and distribute educational materials; conduct and support educational and training programs; conduct and support aviation educational research; encourage advancement in the airport/aviation profession through scholarships and internships for deserving students; and support FAC student chapters and educational members.

Vision Statement

Our vision is that the Foundation will be recognized statewide and nationally for its advancement of the airport/aviation profession through professional development programs, research, educational scholarships, internships, and support of Florida Airports Council's student chapters.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Foundation is to further the professionalism of FAC members so they may better perform their duties and responsibilities; assist students pursuing degrees in aviation; support research benefitting Florida's aviation industry; publish educational materials on the importance of aviation to the State's economy; and promote the development and enhancement of the airport and aviation industry in Florida.

Goals

GOAL #1 - Provide programs to support the next generation of Florida's aviation leaders

o Success Strategies

- o Provide internship funding to airports that are willing to host an intern
- o Provide scholarships to students attending FAC's Educational Member Institutions to offset the high cost of education and to establish a relationship with students interested in careers in the aviation industry
- o Provide support of FAC's Student Chapters to establish a relationship with Florida's future aviation leaders

GOAL #2 - Maintain and regularly update an Operating Plan that focuses on supporting student chapters, internships, scholarships, professional development educational and training programs, and aviation education research programs, and

GOAL #3 - Maintain and regularly update a Financial Plan that supports the Operational Plan, including annual and long-term revenue goals, annual expenditure goals, primary and secondary funding sources, and a resource plan.

Education Committee

The Education Committee is a standing committee of the FAC Education Foundation, chaired by an Airport Member Representative designated by the FAC Education Foundation President. A Vice-Chair may be designated by the Committee Chair and approved by the Foundation President. The FAC Secretary/Treasurer shall be an ex-officio member of the Education Committee. The Foundation President shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Committee.

The Education Committee shall meet at the FAC Annual Conference to conduct its business and at other times as considered appropriate by the Education Committee Chair.

The Education Committee shall make funding recommendations to the FAC Education Foundation Board of Directors on each program prior to the approval of each year's budget.

The Education Committee Chair shall appoint a member of the committee to serve as a liaison to each Educational Member Institution and Student Chapter.

The Education Committee shall meet to recommend scholarship recipients for the following year at the annual Specialty Conference, typically held in the fall. These recommendations shall be presented to the Education Foundation Board of Directors for final approval.

Operational Plan

In 2012, a review committee appointed by FAC Education Foundation President Ted Soliday made several recommendations to the Board of Directors for an Operational Plan which were accepted at the July Board Meeting. An Operating Policy was subsequently adopted by the Board in October of 2012, with the following key programs:

- **Student Chapters**

Students attending one of FAC's Educational Member Institutions may elect to form a Student Chapter of the Florida Airports Council. As of July 1, 2013 there were two active Student Chapters of FAC. They are located at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University [Airport Management Club – (AMC)] and Florida Institute of Technology [Collegiate Aviation Business Executives – (CABE)]. The organizational documents (charter/bylaws) of any new chapter must be approved in writing by the Foundation.

Each Student Chapter must identify a faculty member or academic advisor to provide guidance for the chapter and to communicate with the Council. The Education Committee will assign a member of the committee to serve as a liaison between the committee and Student Chapter. The liaison, a member of the Education Committee, or Foundation Board of Directors, will meet with each student chapter on an annual basis.

The Foundation will provide an annual stipend of \$500 to each Student Chapter to assist with travel expenses to tour airports, host speakers, and participate in aviation conferences. These funds are restricted to in-state travel expenses only. The Student Chapter will provide a year-end report on how these funds were spent.

The Student Chapter must maintain a minimum of five (5) students in good standing to remain a FAC Student Chapter and to receive the benefits therein.

Each Student Chapter must provide an Annual Report to the FAC Board of Directors documenting the Chapter's officers, members, and faculty/academic advisor; activities including recruitments, visits, guest speakers, and service projects, to remain an active FAC Student Chapter and to receive the benefits therein.

This report is due prior to the FAC Annual Conference, and should be combined with a verbal report at that conference, when possible. The report must include a breakdown and description of how the Foundation's \$500 stipend was expended.

- **Scholarship Program**

Each year, the Foundation provides scholarships for students attending one of FAC's Educational Member Institutions. Only students attending these institutions are eligible for these scholarships.

Students eligible for FAC scholarships shall be those pursuing careers in an aviation field, not just those pursuing careers in airport management.

Students applying for FAC scholarships shall be interviewed in person, unless otherwise approved by the FAC Education President or Education Committee Chair.

The highest scholarship each year shall be in the name of William P. Coulter and the second-highest scholarship shall be in the name of Betty McCord.

- **Internship Program**

The FAC Education Foundation provides grants for internships at FAC-member airports. The amount of these grants, and whether there will be a local government match, is determined on an annual basis by the FAC Education Foundation Board of Directors.

Professional Development Opportunities

In addition to the above programs, FAC also provides educational opportunities for its members through various methods of program delivery, including:

- **Conferences and Committee Meetings**

Each year, FAC holds an annual conference and one or more specialty conferences to provide the latest information on a variety of airport topics for its members, and to introduce its members to various suppliers and vendors. In addition, several FAC committees hold quarterly meetings and/or teleconferences to provide committee members and technical specialists with up-to-date information on various topics of interest to these FAC members.

- **Seminars and Webinars**

In partnership with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), FAC offers educational seminars on topics identified by FAC members as important to the industry. These seminars are videotaped and distributed to all publicly owned and operated airports in Florida and they are maintained on the FAC website for all members. In June of 2013, the partnership conducted a webinar to test the effectiveness of this method of service delivery.

- **Partnerships with Educational Institutions and Affiliates**

In 2013, FAC, in partnership with FDOT and the University of South Florida's Center of Urban Transportation Research (CUTR), began offering a three day training class on Airport Leadership Development. Based on the success of the first two classes, it is anticipated that the class will be continued in the future.

FAC entered into a partnership with Airports Council International (ACI) in 2013 whereby FAC members participating in ACI online training receive a discounted rate and, in addition, ACI provides a small portion of the revenues from each of those registrations to the FAC Education Foundation to support the Foundation's programs.

FAC also entered into a partnership with Global Aerospace, one of the world's leading specialist aerospace insurance providers in April of 2013. Global donates a portion of its premiums from each FAC-member airport to the FAC Education Foundation in exchange for FAC advertising this program to its members. In addition, Global contributes \$250 to the airport to defray a portion of its annual FAC dues. The airport may, however, elect to donate this to the Foundation, as well.

Goal Updates

In the fall of each year, the Foundation, with input from the Education Committee, will set its goals for all of these programs for the following year.

Financial Plan

The Foundation has short-term and long-term financial objectives.

- **Short Term**

The short-term goal of the Foundation is to provide adequate funds, on an annual basis, that support the Foundation's annual programs through fundraising and/or from the Foundation's reserves.

- **Long Term**

The long-term financial goal of the Foundation is to provide adequate funds to support the needs of the Foundation on a perpetual basis.

Assets

On January 1, 2013 [the Foundation's fiscal year runs from January 1st to December 31st of each year], the Foundation had total assets of \$93,367.79. The Education Committee recommended, and the Foundation Board approved, expenditure of up to \$30,000 in CY 2013 for all of the Foundation's programs.

Sources of Funds

The primary source of funding for Foundation projects in the past has been an annual appropriation from the Florida Airports Council. This generally occurred in September of each year and was based on the FAC Board's ability and willingness to transfer funds to the Foundation. This has been supplemented from time to time by grants from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), grants from other foundations, and fundraising programs conducted by the Foundation.

Future decisions on funding shall be based on program needs, the financial ability of the Florida Airports Council to provide funds to the Foundation, and amount of other funding available to supplement FAC resources.

Fundraising

The Foundation, through its Education Committee, will conduct a Silent Auction at each FAC Annual Conference to raise funds for Foundation programs.

The Foundation webpage has a link allowing members to make monetary donations to the Foundation.

Membership renewal invoices contain an option for members to make monetary donations to the Foundation along with their annual dues.

Additional fundraising activities will be employed, as appropriate, to further strengthen the Foundation's financial resources.

FAC Website

In 2013, the Foundation page on the Florida Airports Council website was upgraded to include:

- An overview of each of the Education Foundation's programs
- A list of airports that have offered airport internships within the past five years
- Examples of final reports from several interns for review by prospective students as well as airport managers interested in developing internship programs
- FAC Educational Member Colleges and Universities, along with contact information for faculty advisors and Student Chapter leaders for review by the public
- The FAC Scholarship Application Form for downloading by interested students [of FAC Educational Members]
- A donation page allowing interested parties to make online donations to the Foundation.

