



# Propelling Aviation Careers

The FAC Education Committee Newsletter

Vol 18-01



**2018 FAC 49th Annual  
Conference & Exposition**  
**Sun. July 15—Wed. July 18**  
**Tampa Marriott Waterside  
Hotel & Marina**

**See silent auction  
packages, live auction  
items, & raffle items  
by clicking [Here](#)  
OR  
you can see  
everything on  
the  
conference app!**

## Message from the FAC Education Foundation President

Since its inception in 1990 the FAC Education Foundation has assisted 137 deserving College students within the State of Florida interested in studying, working and making a career within OUR field of interest, Aviation. Many of the students FAC has helped over the years are known to you, and many are FAC members past and present.

Since 1990 FAC has awarded \$440,000 in scholarships and \$360,000 for student internships at our General Aviation and Commercial Airports within Florida. I am not aware of any state specific/aviation specific organization that has contributed more to furthering the education of students interested in aviation than FAC.

The support FAC offers to students, Colleges and Universities within Florida would not be possible without the generous donations from our FAC members and friends. Each year the Foundation is challenged to obtain the donations needed to keep the program running. Your help in providing items to be raffled off at our Annual Conference, your cash donations, and your participation in the Foundation Auctions are critical to the Education Foundations success. Thank you for supporting FAC and our Education Foundation.

Jeff Bunting  
President, FAC Education Foundation



## Upcoming Annual Conference Fundraising Activities

- ➔ **Sun. 7/15 from 7AM—8AM:** 5K Walk/Run/Stroll. Meet at 7AM at Cotanchobee Ft. Brooke Park. Register on-site on the day of the event.
- ➔ **Sun. 7/15 at 12PM to Mon. 7/16 at 5:15PM:** Silent Auction will be located next to the registration table on Sunday 7/15 and in Meeting Room 5 Monday & Tuesday. Bids Close Monday, July 16th at 5:15PM.
- ➔ **Tues. 7/17 8AM—12PM:** Silent Auction Pick Up at Meeting Room 5
- ➔ **Wed. 7/18 at 12PM at the Leadership Luncheon:** Raffle Drawing & Live Auction. Purchase your raffle tickets at the registration desk or at the Silent Auction table.

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## Donald Ventrice – Lee County Port Authority 2018 Ops to Cops Intern

Donald Ventrice has been intrigued by aviation for as long as he can remember. When he was a child his family would take trips from White Plains New York down to Fort Myers Florida and he always looked forward to the flight as much as the vacation. His fascination with flight led him to study Aerospace and Occupational Safety at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach Florida. Aviation has once again brought him back to Fort Myers, this time as an intern rather than a passenger.



So far Donald has spent the majority of his internship working on projects and shadowing Operations Agents. His first project with Operations was to inventory the nose gear markings at each of the airport's gates. He found the range of aircraft types painted on the pavement interesting and noted that some gates still had markings for old aircraft such as the L-1011.

When asked about his favorite experiences to date he immediately pulled out his phone to show a video of two F18s taking off in rapid succession. Not a bad day at the office! He also enjoyed responding to a bird strike and participated in what he described as "high energy snarge collection". He noted the sense of urgency that the strike caused and liked how well everyone worked together to make the runway safe as quickly as possible.

Donald is extremely thankful to the Florida Airports Council for providing him with this opportunity and said that this internship is helping him decide what career he wants to pursue when he gets out of school.



**The Florida Airports Council awards Internship Grants to member airports to help provide work experience for students interested in pursuing careers in airport management.**

**To date, the program has supported over 37 airports with internships, awarding \$360,000 to more than 95 students.**