New Cessnas Arrive

by Pete Rosenbery

CARBONDALE, Ill. – As enrollment in Southern Illinois University Carbondale's nationally recognized aviation program continues to climb, the number of airplanes to train students is also growing.

The program gained five new Cessna 172S flight training airplanes Thursday night, Nov. 5. The planes, each with state-of-the-industry technology, were already in use by students on Friday. The program now has 38 available planes for students to train on, Ken Bro, the program's chief flight instructor, said.

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New planes continued from page 1 . . .

Program demand has ‘skyrocketed’

As the aviation program celebrates its 60th anniversary this year, Bro noted the continuing growth. The number of aviation flight students has increased from 132 in 2017 to 212 this fall. Enrollment in the aviation flight, aviation management and aviation technologies’ programs has grown from 441 students in 2017 to 612 students this fall.

“These planes could not come at a better time,” said Michael Burgener, the program’s interim department chair in aviation management and flight and aviation technologies chair. “With the large increase in aviation flight students this semester, our current fleet is experiencing high utilization. During busier flight blocks, there have been aircraft shortages. These new aircraft will help to alleviate that problem as well as provide students the latest technological advancements in flight training.”

The aircraft are financed entirely by student aviation flight fees, the same funds used to pay for maintenance upgrades and fuel.

“The demand for our program has skyrocketed in recent years,” Bro said. “Our freshman class was 150 students this year and looks to be as large next fall. With that in mind, we’re increasing our fleet to increase our capacity, and we are also looking at scheduling options to increase aircraft availability.”

Improved safety features

With a glass cockpit that resembles a video game, the planes have several improved features even from other advanced flight decks on those bought in 2018, Bro said.

“The full autopilot allows students to learn the automation characteristics common on commercial aircraft,” he said. “They also have a safety system that will right the aircraft if it is inadvertently put into an unusual flight attitude.

“This system is a new technology that greatly improves the safety through flight envelope protection.”

The new aircraft will allow flight instructors to start training primary-level students in advanced flight decks, Bro said. This means that students’ first flights may be in these new aircraft.

“This dramatically shifts the nature of their flight training and the way we’ve taught for 60 years,” he said.

Thousands of pilots will have their solo flights in these planes with students also earning their ratings. Because these aircraft will be in the program for many years, each plane will “have a special meaning to many pilots – there’s a great connection between pilots and their planes,” Bro said.

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Nominate an inspiring colleague for a Faculty and Staff Excellence Award

Know someone who inspires you with their incredible talent, passion and commitment? Nominate them for a Faculty and Staff Excellence Award. The nomination deadline is 4:30 p.m. Feb. 5.

This universitywide awards program is an opportunity to publicly recognize outstanding teaching, significant scholarly and artistic contributions, and dedication to furthering the mission of the university.

Details are available on the Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards website.

For guidelines related to the college-level awards, please contact the appropriate dean’s office.
Aviation Management and Flight Scholarship Winners

C. Gene and Robbi Seibert Aviation Management Scholarship

Gavin Voris

George J. Priester Memorial Scholarship

Sydney Reijmer

James and Helen Newby Aviation Scholarship

Kaia Maddock

Kevin Duffy Moore Endowed Scholarship

Gabrielle Loeb

Meadow Boden

Joseph A. Messina Scholarship

Carson Slaney

Angelina Kapp

Larry Byerly Memorial Scholarship

Gavin Voris

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Javier Aguirre

William R. Norwood Aviation Scholarship

Kaia Maddock

50th Anniversary of SIUC Aviation Scholarship

Matthew Santos

Dr. David A. NewMyer Scholarship

Sophia Ottoson

How To Helicopter

Aviation Technologies graduate Faith Lorenz has started her own blog and has her own brand “How to Helicopter”. The popularity of the blog on Instagram and Facebook has skyrocketed with some videos getting thousands of views.

#howtohelicopter is geared towards helicopter maintenance. The videos included in Instagram each show large and small tasks on a variety of helicopters. The sharing of information is also encouraged.

Faith graduated in Spring 2019, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Technologies. She is currently working at Helicopters Inc., St. Louis, as an Aircraft Maintenance Technician.

Stickers and T-shirts are available. Contact Faith on Instagram at howtohelicopter to order yours soon.
13th Annual SIU Aviation Golf Scramble

Join us

June 14, 2021

Proceeds benefit SIU Aviation

Mark Your Calendars

Boulder Ridge
Country Club
Lake in the Hills, IL

Things to Remember. . . .

- Thanksgiving Holiday(s) – November 26 – 27, 2020
- 42nd Annual Holiday Craft Sale (Virtual) – December 1, 2020, 12:00pm
- SIU System Board of Trustees Meeting – December 3, 2020
- Student Financial Aid – Last Day Financial Aid Can Be Processed for Semester – December 4, 2020 (remind students)
- Final Examinations – December 7 - December 11, 2020
- Winter Interession Begins – December 14, 2020
- Administrative Closure/Campus Holiday – December 24, 2020 – January 1, 2021
- Winter Intersession Ends – January 10, 2020
- New Student Orientation – January 15, Friday, 1:00pm – 3:30pm
- Martin Luther King, Jr’s Birthday (campus holiday) – January 18, 2020
- New Student Orientation College-Specific Campus Tours – January 18, Monday, 1:00pm – 3:00pm
- Spring Semester Start Date: January 19, 2020
- SIU Women’s Club – $15.00 annual membership: https://womensclub.siu.edu/
- FAFSA is available to file. https://studentaid.gov/
- SIU Admissions is waiving the $40.00 application fee until November 30.
- SIU Scholarship webpage is open – apply by December 1, 2020 (continuing students may apply, as well). If students apply by December 1 – they will be applying for all of the foundation scholarships that may be available for continuing students. https://scholarships.siu.edu/
  https://siu.academicworks.com/

Wear Maroon on Friday

Each Friday throughout the year, faculty, staff, students, alumni, community members and friends are encouraged to show their Saluki pride and wear SIU maroon.

For more information: Dr. David NewMyer, newmyer@siu.edu or call 618-453-8898.