

RAC II SECTION STATUS REPORT

RAC Meeting/Teleconference

DATE: 5 June 2012

SECTION: Central Florida

SUBMITTED BY: Randy Allen

Current Membership Number: 619 (-8%)

- Professional: 272 (-9%)
- Student: 234 (-12%)
- Educator Associates: 113 (+1%)

Has this number increased or decreased since last report? Decreased. Why? Professional members dropped by 9% and Student members dropped by 12%. This could be from Professionals being laid-off and not wanting to pay for membership renewals and Students leaving school and not being able to afford their (second) year of membership – especially if their employer does not pay for their membership – pure speculation, however.

How many council meetings were held since last RAC meeting/teleconference? There have been two Council Meetings at the date of this report, and there will be three at the date of the RAC II conference call.

Please list the vacant council member positions: None

How many programs has the section sponsored since the last RAC meeting/teleconference? 1 (awards banquet)

Finances:

- Checking: \$0.00
- Savings: \$6,383.70
- Major Expenses Incurred: \$905.53 (-\$125.00-\$1075.67-\$450.00+\$745.14) Awards Banquet

Section Goals and how the activities help to achieve the stated goals: The goal of the Central Florida Section is to win, place, or show on all Section Awards.

Membership Recruitment Initiatives (Aaron Blevins): Aaron is planning membership drives for each category of Educator Associates, Professionals, and Students. For Students, he's working with UCF and UF to make sure students join AIAA nationally, in addition to local "clubs" that are associated with AIAA. For Educator Associates, he's planning a mixer for EAs to share STEM ideas and for non-EA Teachers to learn more (and become an EA member). For Professionals, he's identifying "Facility Representatives" to meet new-hires for them to learn what we've been doing and inform them of the benefits of joining AIAA.

Career & Workforce Development Activities (Jerry Lutz): Jerry will poll our Section to find out which of the following programs would be most useful to them:

- Time Management Workshops
- Career Transition Workshops (entry, mid-level, exiting)
- Technical vs. Management Career Path Workshops
- Resume Writing/Interviewing Skills

Then, he'll coordinate a Section Meeting to put on the workshop.

Young Professional Activities (Jose Castillo): Jose will be working on the following:

- He will identify a Young Professional member and he/she will speak at a Student Branch meeting and share his/her experience (best practices) with regard to interviewing, etc.
- He will cover topics from the Young Professional's "*Aerospace Career Handbook*" at a Student Branch or Section meeting, and also maintain awareness of the AIAA book, "*Advice to Rocket Scientists*" by Longuski.
- He will identify "Lawrence Sperry Award" candidates.

Honors and Awards (Randy Allen): Last year, we nominated Jerry Lutz and Jim McBrayer for Fellow status without success. This year, we're trying Sustained Service, since they are long-time, continuous, and active members. We've also recommended one member for Associate Fellow upgrade. We'll hold another year-end honors and awards banquet since it went so well at the end of this year.

Technical Activities (Clint Plaisted): Clint will maintain communication with our Sister Sections (Cape Canaveral and Palm Beach) – particularly to make sure we maximize the value of the Distinguished Lecture program. He'll be the point-of-contact for getting Distinguished Lecturers to come to Central Florida. He's also looking into conducting a mini-symposium to accommodate the Modeling and Simulation or Missiles and Fire Control industries in our Section.

Education Activities (Yunjun Xu): Last year, UCF was very active in outreach; while UF was active in the Student Conference. This year, Yunjun will see if he can add Student Conference participation to UCF's outreach and outreach to UF's Student Conference participation. He will also identify industry needs where academia is short and develop ways to fill the gap.

STEM/K-12 Outreach Activities (Morgan Ewen): Morgan will coordinate all our STEM K-12 activities, including Wings 'n' Things, Sun 'n' Fun, Engineering Week, Science Fairs, and High School and Middle School STEM support.

Public Policy Activities (Amanda DePreta): Amanda will (again) coordinate the "August is for Aerospace" and "Congressional visits Day" events for our Section.

Other Activities/Issues/Concerns: The AIAA Branch of the University of Central Florida was recognized as a finalist for "Student Organization of the Year" and the Branch President, Jose Castillo, was selected as the Student Officer of the Year.