UTC PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PROJECT NUMBER: 01111

PROJECT TITLE: Aviation Transportation Internship: 2001

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Charles D. Haynes
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PROJECT EXTERNAL CONTACT: John C. Eagerton IV
Director, Aeronautics Bureau
Alabama Department of Transportation

PROJECT OBJECTIVE: Provide a set of priorities for future research in the areas of aviation health and safety in Alabama, and prepare a report that describes these priorities.

MODAL ORIENTATION OF PROJECT: Aviation Transportation

PROJECT ABSTRACT: A one-year project will utilize an undergraduate or graduate student intern to work one day each week at the Aviation Bureau of the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) in Montgomery, Alabama. This intern will work closely with Bureau staff to determine a set of research priorities focused on Alabama’s second tier airport system. These research priorities will include but not be limited to the following areas:

- Distribution of regional second-tier airports
- Allocation of ALDOT resources to the second tier airport system
- Safety surveys
- Design of a model smart airport
- Creation of accident/incident databases
- Comparison of airport licensing standards in adjacent states
- “Critical aircraft” specifications for second-tier airports

PROJECT TASK DESCRIPTIONS:
1) Select Intern
2) Orient Intern to ALDOT
3) Direct Intern as project ensues
4) Prepare final report

MILESTONES AND DATES:
a) Phase I (Jan 1, 2001-Jun 1, 2001): Ongoing weekly assignment at ALDOT in Montgomery, with supervision by PI and ALDOT staff.
b) Phase II (Jun 1, 2001 – Dec 31, 2001): Redirection of project as necessary by study of Phase I procedures and interim results.
c) Dec 31, 2001: Draft final report completed
d) Early 2002: Seminar

TOTAL BUDGET:
One-year project: UTCA funds $21,539; Aeronautics Bureau $16,075; total budget $37,614.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT:
This project will utilize one undergraduate or graduate intern student.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER RESEARCH OR PROJECTS:
This project is the initial aviation effort of UTCA, and is not directly related to other transportation projects at UTCA.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ACTIVITIES:
The results of this project will be provided to the sponsors in the form of a final report (UTCA and Aeronautics Bureau) and a final presentation (to the Aeronautics Bureau). In addition, a seminar will be conducted to acquaint the user community with the results and recommendations.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT:
- Create a set of research priorities for aviation safety and management in Alabama.
- Create a “master plan” for continued development of Alabama’s second-tier airport system.
- Foster a closer relationship between UTCA and the ALDOT.
- Improve safety and management of second-tier airports in Alabama.

TRB KEYWORDS:
Airport management, second-tier airport system, aviation safety hazards, airport funds allocation.