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South Dakota Aeronautics Commission
c/o South Dakota Department of Transportation
Becker-Hansen Building
700 E. Broadway Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: December 2018 SD Aeronautics Commission Update

Dear Aeronautics Commissioners:

I wanted to take this opportunity to again thank you for investing in promoting aviation and airports across the state of South Dakota. The SDSU Aviation Mobile Simulator was partially funded (\$75,000) by the Aeronautics Commission in the April 2016 meeting in Deadwood, SD. During the last two years, we have developed, designed, implemented, recruited, and traveled with the mobile training device throughout the state. It was developed and built in late 2016 and we picked it up as an early Christmas present in December of 2016. The outside of the simulator proudly displays the logo of the SDDOT and the Aeronautics Commission as outlined in the agreement. We spent January and February training operators, developing lesson plans, creating training scenarios and road testing the device. Its first showing was at the Career and Technical High School in Sioux Falls and then the SD Airports conference in March of 2017. Since then we have traveled throughout the state promoting aviation and increasing the visibility of our sponsors. We are now in the twilight of this grant with an end date of December 2018.

The highlights of the project have definitely been the number of students that we introduced to aviation and witnessed the lightbulb moment when they realized that could fly, and still reside in South Dakota. We specifically targeted non-majority populations of students with the simulator, with emphasis on females, Native American students, and rural students.

This project has been IMPACTFUL! We created a Native American outreach through the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, developed and delivered a high school course in aviation at the Brookings High School and participated in five Women in Science events. As the only aviation flight program accredited in the state, we have seen double digit increases in enrollment of

students in the program and we attribute much of this growth to the Aviation Mobile Simulator.

Because of this funding from the Aeronautical Commission, we were able to engage the simulator at 32 different events, serving over 1,921 people, not including all the aviation students and guests in the Brookings area who used the simulator while it was at our facility. Of the 1,921 participants, over 1,500 were students. Depending on the event and audience we were able to recoup some demographic information about many of the participants. As you can see below, the majority of the participants were school aged students (76%)- our target demographic of the project.

<u>Age of Participants</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Elementary	570	29.7%
Middle School	466	24.3%
High School	431	22.4%
College	108	5.6%
Adult	259	13.5%
Total documented participants	1,921	

We would love to continue travelling with the sim and we do continually get requests to bring it to different events but the end of this grant essentially concludes the SDSU Aviation Mobile Simulator Lab travel. We are working to create opportunities to continue promoting aviation and try to accommodate any requests we can. If in the future the Commission would like to partner again to promote aviation, please keep the simulator in mind as we have all the components in place to keep this impactful project operating. We appreciate the willingness of the Commission to take a chance promoting aviation in South Dakota. I hope you feel your resources went to good use! The agreement did call for a final presentation in December 2018; if you would like an in-person report of this project, I would be happy to provide it. If you have questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,



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