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Able Flight at Purdue: Opportunities in Technology

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Able Flight at Purdue:
Opportunities in Technology

Dr. Erin Bowen\textsuperscript{a}, Prof. Bernie Wulle\textsuperscript{b}, Scott Winter\textsuperscript{b}, Jennifer Kirschner\textsuperscript{b}, & Kevin Crombie

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November 16, 2012
Perspectives on Able Flight at Purdue

- Interactive Discussion Panel:
  - Background on Able Flight – Prof. Bernie Wulle
  - Research with Able Flight – Dr. Erin Bowen
  - Using Qualitative Data – Jennifer Kirschner
  - Able Flight – An Instructor’s Perspective – Scott Winter
  - The Student Experience – Kevin Crombie

- Opportunities for Application – All
Perspectives on Able Flight at Purdue

- Background: A Multi-Collaborative Project
  - Purdue and Able Flight [a 501c(3) nonprofit]
  - Aviation Technology and Technology Leadership & Innovation
Perspectives on Able Flight at Purdue

Able Flight:

- Innovative training program that seeks to break down barriers, both real and perceived
- Provides pathways for advanced educational and career opportunities within aviation
- Has awarded over 30 flight scholarships to individuals with a variety of disabilities
- Not only benefits students, but instructors and the faculty members with whom they come into contact
Able Flight at Purdue:

- This summer, 6 scholarships were awarded for flight training at Purdue.
- Students spent 5 intensive weeks at Purdue, living in the residence halls and learning to fly with university flight instructors.
Perspectives on Able Flight at Purdue

- **Sport Pilot’s License:**
  - Students receive at least 15 hours of instruction and 5 hours solo in a modified light sport aircraft
  - Must complete one flight longer than 75 nautical miles
  - Must pass a Federal Aviation Administration oral and practical exam with a Designated Pilot Examiner
  - Students complete a ground school course on aviation and aerodynamic principle
  - Must pass a Federal Aviation Administration written exam
Where We Are Now

Current Areas of Investigation

**Discovery**
- Human factors & ergonomics research
- Assessing learning styles and training techniques
- Equipment solutions
- Research dissemination

**Learning**
- Summer training program
- Instructor education & training
- Human Factors/Ergonomics student exploration projects
- Expanding CoT diversity opportunities

**Engagement (in development)**
- Internships
- On-site practica
- Research collaboration (industry & regulatory)
- Expanding industry opportunities through data-driven collaboration

Able Flight at Purdue
Able Flight at Purdue
The instructors

( not just my assigned instructor )

, the planes and hanger — it

. I want to stay around

for Able Flight have been

forget that some of us

have been wonderful in the
done a great job,

helped me make this an

never got impatient or frustrated

was great. Everyone was extremely

were open to questions if

wouldn’t hesitate to ask another

All the atmosphere. The other chief in a different way to make things stick versus a classroom lecture Flight, as well as long run. I think the students, the university, with them; likewise for