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JATE Volume 7, Issue 2 leads off with “Examining the Relationship Between Safety Management System Implementation and Safety Culture in Collegiate Flight Schools.” To research this relationship, Michael Robertson of Southern Illinois University analyzed data gathered from an online survey of flight schools utilizing the Collegiate Aviation Program Safety Culture Survey (CAPSCUS).

Researchers from Nigeria, Brazil, Portugal, and Malaysia collaborate in “Efficiency Driver in Nigerian Airports: A Bootstrap DEA–Censored Quantile Regression Approach.” Here, a two-stage approach is utilized to measure efficiency at 30 major Nigerian airports over the period of a decade. Bootstrapped data enveloped analysis (DEA) and censored quantile regression results are reported, and policy implications are discussed.

Next, a team of researchers from Oklahoma State University present “Enhanced, Risk-Based FAA Oversight on Part 145 Maintenance Practices: A Qualitative Study.” This study researches Federal Aviation Administration oversight of Part 145 repair stations performing maintenance on Part 121 air carriers in Oklahoma. Repair station managers’ experiences regarding operational changes in maintenance practices were recorded.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University’s David Ison utilizes content analysis and a series of interviews of program directors and faculty teaching research courses to explore faculty perceptions of research education. “Teaching the Next Generation of Researchers: An Inquiry into Aviation Research Education” explores how research skills are delivered to aviation students and further explores strengths and weaknesses of students enrolled in research courses.

A group of researchers from Oklahoma State University collaborate with Ryan Wallace of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in “Pilot Visual Detection of Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) Equipped with Strobe Lighting.” In this study, a sample of ten pilots were asked to indicate when they visually detected an unmanned aircraft during a scripted series of five intercepts with a sUAS equipped with strobe lighting. A recommendation for further research accompanies the results of the authors’ findings.

This issue concludes with another article exploring sUAS. Kabir Kasim of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University researches sUAS operations as well as associated risks and benefits in “Assessment of Small Unmanned Aerial Systems Operations in the National Airspace System.” Risk reduction via mitigation actions are enumerated and a recommendation for further study is made.

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On behalf of the JATE editors and members of the editorial board, we thank you for your readership. It is our sincere hope that you enjoy the six peer-reviewed manuscripts contained in this edition.

Best regards,

John H. Mott, Executive Editor  
Mary M. Fink, Managing Editor

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