



Dr John Barnes Trophy Presentations and AAU Meeting held at the Aviation Viewing Park, Manchester Airport on Friday 6th November 2009

Apologies: Alan Jocelyn (Listechnology), Steven Wright (Leeds), Charley Crocker (AAU Communications Officer)

Present: Andrew Lewis (MBDA UK), Thurai Rahulan (Salford), Titus Olaniyi (London South Bank), Mike West (Coventry), Chris Toomer (UWE), Chris Neal (Merlin), John Farley (AAU President), Mike Clee (Swansea), Paul Hogan (London Metropolitan), Simon Prince (City), John Barnes (Former AAU President), Keith Moodie (H & SE), David Philpott (ESDU), Harry Colson (Emerald), Peter Guy (Manchester Airport), Vince Chadwick (Manchester Airport), Jim Yip (Huddersfield), Alma Hodzic (Sheffield), Joshua Jordan (Sheffield), Dhiraj Tatipalli (Salford)

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Dr. John Barnes Trophy Presentation

Joshua Jordan from Sheffield University ('Innovative Aerodynamic Design of a Micro Air Vehicle') was judged the worthy winner of the trophy and the cheque for £500.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting of 8th July 2009

These were agreed.

Matters Arising from Meeting of 8th July 2009

RAeS Liaison. Thurai reported that he will be attending a proposed February meeting of the RAeS Accreditation Committee.

Aerospace Research Institute and Survey of Test Facilities. Simon Prince reported on the Research Centre Committee to which he belongs. An agreed position on the need for setting up an Aerospace Research Institute has been reached supported by Industry, the MOD and HEIs. Rolls Royce are understood not to wish to be involved, whereas Airbus are supportive. The Committee had agreed that the way forward was to define a 'road map' which would define Industry and Government requirements for an Aerospace Research Institute, a strategy for its establishment and the necessary funding. It is envisaged as initially having the role of coordinating the UK aerospace research community, eventually building up to something more substantial. Because of Rolls Royce's reluctance, Lord Drayson is not willing at present to support the initiative. However, he would like to see a Business Plan and

there may be support available from the UK Strategic Industry Fund, to which a bid for support has been made.

The survey of UK test facilities is shortly to be published on the SBAC website, although responses from one or two HEIs is still awaited. The survey has also been passed on to the MOD.

CEAS2009. Thurai reported that this had been an excellent conference and thanked everyone for their support.

AAU Website. Chris Neal made a plea for all Universities to send in a précis for inclusion on the website. So far, only Glamorgan have responded. It was agreed to go ahead with the new website as is and do a rolling update. The efforts of Paul and Charley are much appreciated and the result of their efforts is an excellent website. The AAU pays the organisation looking after the website name together with a maintenance fee.

Handley Page Celebrations – 23rd and 24th June. This conference, held at RAeS Headquarters and co-sponsored by City University, was a great success.

FI 2010

In 2008, the AAU shared a stand with the RAeS and the SBAC and took part in the Youth Day on the Friday. However contacts with the RAeS for facilitating the organisation of a stand are no longer clear. One possibility is for the AAU to pay for its own stand. The cost for a 3m by 3m stand would be around £5,000 and the total expense for exhibiting at Farnborough would be around £6,500. It was felt that the display should be centred around a screen projection of the AAU website with cards giving the website address for handing out to visitors. Universities should be encouraged to submit material for the stand which should be of benefit to the AAU as a whole. It was important to ensure that the stand had a good position. Simon Prince then offered to contact the TSB about possibly 'piggy-backing' on their stand. Alternatively, the AAU could offer to contribute to a larger stand with the TSB. This was agreed as the way forward. It was essential that a rota of volunteers be drawn up to provide good support to the stand. Also it was felt that more banners were needed. This could include a new banner for corporate members. Chris agreed to ask Charley to take on responsibility for banners.

Any Other Business

It was agreed to put the award of new AAU Honorary Fellowships on the next agenda.

Mike West reported that Alan Jocelyn had offered to give a lecture on his work at Listechology. It was agreed to invite him to give a talk at the next AAU meeting on 24th February 2010.

Dave Philpott said that ESDU were looking at student use of their datasheets. They wish to try and make them easier for students to use.

Simon Prince reported feedback from the KTNs on the importance of the AAU talking to industry about how they could be of benefit. He cited the survey of test facilities as a good example and suggested that there could be other on-going projects to support industry in the future.

Thurai thanked Peter Guy and Vince Chadwick for their hospitality and declared the meeting closed.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Friday 26th February 2010 at Brighton University.