



AsMA Constituent Organization Presidents for 2022-2023

Sobel Is ANAHPS President

Annette L. Sobel, M.D., M.S., FAAFP, FAsMA, FAAN, is the incoming president of the Aerospace Nursing and Allied



Health Professionals Society. Dr. Sobel retired as a Major General in the U.S. Air Force Reserves and is currently Adjunct Professor, School of Nursing, at Texas Tech School of Health Sciences, and Adjunct Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Texas Tech.

Dr. Sobel's 30+ years of a civilian and military career have focused on public service, human factors engineering, mitigating the threat of terrorism through weapons of mass destruction (WMD), medical innovations, and education for pre-hospital care, and training. She has worked internationally developing protocols and technology for disaster management and mass casualty response. Specifically, she focused on development of open-source systems for early warning of emerging infectious disease, sentinel surveillance, and big data analytics for health and other informatics systems. She led a number of initiatives across government agencies that innovate new technology and promote deployment of National Security initiatives focusing on Health Security.

Dr. Sobel received her Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry and Computer Science from Rutgers University in 1979 and her M.D. from Case Western Reserve in 1983. She did her Family Medicine internship and residency at Duke University. She received a Master of Science degree in Aerospace Medicine/Human Factors Engineering from Wright State University. She also attended Ari Command and General Staff College, Air War College, the NASA Flight Surgeon Course, the U.S. Navy Hyperbaric Medicine course, and the JFK school of Government National Security Program at Harvard University.

During her military career and a civilian career as a Distinguished Member of the Technical Staff at Sandia National Laboratories, NM, Dr. Sobel served during 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina responses, and worked on a number of forward-leaning partnerships for peace and non-proliferation, including U.S.-led Cooperative Threat Reduction efforts in the former Soviet Union directed at chemical and biological research, development, and production facilities. She led Department of Defense development of public health/counter-WMD initiatives in Thailand, Vietnam, Qatar, and across the CENTCOM (pre-AFRICOM) areas of responsibility for Office of the Secretary of Defense (I&E). She worked with USAID/NGOs in Africa on medical education and training. She is developing an interprofessional pre-hospital care and innovation initiative in Lubbock for medical, nursing, business, and engineering students. She is a former President of the Space Medicine Association and the Aero-

space Human Factors Association, recipient of the AsMA Julian E. Ward and AsHFA Henry F. Taylor Awards, and the Anti-Defamation League's Award for Superior Public Service.

Wilkinson Remains IAMA President

Elizabeth S. Wilkinson, MBChB, MFOM, MRCGP, DAvMed, FAsMA, FRAeS, is the President of the International Airline Medical Association (IAMA, formally known as the Airline



Medical Directors Association, AMDA). Due to the extenuating circumstances of COVID-19, Dr. Wilkinson is serving a second year as IAMA president. She has been a member of AsMA since 2010, was appointed as Fellow in 2018, and is the immediate past Chair of the AsMA Air Transport Medicine Committee serving from 2017 to 2020.

Dr. Wilkinson recently retired from her role as Head of Health Services at British Airways where she had worked for over 22 years, gaining accreditation in occupational medicine and aviation medicine. As Chief Medical Officer she led a team of over 50 mainly health professionals and provided a broad spectrum of occupational, aviation, and passenger health support. She was part of the EASA Task Force after the Germanwings incident, following which she helped oversee the development of the British Airways peer support program for flight crew.

Dr. Wilkinson has served on the IATA Medical Advisory Group (MAG) 2010-2019 and temporarily worked for IATA as Medical Officer from January-March 2021. She is now co-editor of Ernsting's *Aviation and Space Medicine* textbook and is currently working on the next edition. She is President of the UK Association of Aviation Medical Examiners and is also a member of the UK RAeS Aerospace Medicine committee and member of the Specialist Advisory Committee in Aviation and Space Medicine, UK.

A Reminder to Members:

Beginning with the July 2022 issue (next month!), the online journal will become the default member benefit and members will be asked to opt in and pay to receive a paper copy. This is driven by factors such as paper cost & availability. However, this change means we will be able to print color for substantially less and therefore have a better product. For more on this, please see Pam Day's commentary (February newsletter) and Fred Bonato's editorial (January AMHP).

Elliot is Incoming President of ASAMS

James Elliott, M.D., is the incoming president of the American Society of Aerospace Medicine Specialists. Dr.



Elliot is the Physician Manager of the Division of Aerospace Medicine Air Traffic Control Virtual Hiring Team (VHT) for the FAA. Prior to his current position, he was the Deputy Regional Flight Surgeon for the FAA's Central Region.

Dr. Elliott earned a Bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry from New Mexico State University, a Doctor of Medicine from the Mayo Clinic School of Medicine, and a

Masters of Public Health from The Johns Hopkins University. He completed residency training and board certification in General Preventive Medicine and Public Health and in Aerospace Medicine.

Dr. Elliott is a Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association. He is the current President of the Southwest Chapter of the Flying Physicians Association. Before joining the FAA, he serviced 24 years in the U.S. Air Force. He was a Chief Flight Surgeon with more than 1000 flying hours in a variety of aircraft, including the F-16, T-37, T-38, KC-135, and HH-60G. He has served on the faculty of the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, the Wright State University School of Medicine, and the University of Central Missouri Professional Pilot program. He is an instrument rated pilot and owns a Commander 112.

Metzler to Lead AsPS

Maj. Mari M. "Mars" Metzler, USAF, is the incoming President of the Aerospace Physiology Society. She is currently



Aerospace Physiology Training Manager, Headquarters Air Combat Command Training Support Squadron at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA. In this capacity, she guides Aerospace & Operational Physiology operations for Air Combat Command's largest Training Support Squadron, responsible for training 9,500 aircrew per year from 16 bases nationwide. Maj. Metzler provides squadron commander and

deputy coverage for 152 squadron members from 12 detachments across the nation. She is also the Subject Matter Expert for F-22 life support, safety investigations, and mishap prevention, and directs F-22 Aerospace Physiology training Air Force-wide. She manages Aerospace Physiology policies and sustains 13 Aerospace Physiology units comprising 113 personnel across Combat Air Forces. She also supports U-2 Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance high altitude missions.

Prior to this assignment, Maj. Metzler was the Flight Commander of the Aerospace and Operational Physiology Flight at Tyndall AFB, FL, leading a team of 14 airmen to provide aerospace physiology training for Department of Defense aircrew, parachutists, and civilians from 48 locations worldwide. She provided human performance briefings and consults to 325th Fighter Wing personnel and tenant units, enabling the Fighter

Wing's \$493 million flying hour program, generating over 12,000 flying hours and 9,900 F-22 and T-38 sorties annually.

Originally from Billings, MT, Maj. Metzler was commissioned via the Health Promotions Scholarship Program. Upon graduating with a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) degree from Des Moines University in 2008, she was assigned to the Medical Corps as a Family Medicine Resident at Travis AFB, CA. She also conducted medical research at the Travis Clinical Investigation Facility until competing successfully for a transfer from the Medical Corps to the Biomedical Science Corps in 2010. She has held multiple flight command positions, including Flight Medicine, Ambulance Services, Health & Wellness Center, Nutritional Medicine, and Aerospace & Operational Physiology.

Maj. Metzler also holds the rank of Major in the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and volunteers for CAP as a Search and Rescue Pilot and Check Pilot, and is an FAA-certified instrument flight instructor (CFII). She has over 1,000 military and civilian flying hours. She is Board Certified by the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA) in Aerospace Physiology. She is a Fellow and Life Member of AsMA, and has served in multiple AsMA leadership positions, including President of the AsMA Associate Fellows Group.

Jones to lead LSBEB

Jeffrey A. Jones, M.D. (CAPT, USNR Ret.), is the incoming president of the Life Sciences and Biomedical Engineering Branch (LSBEB) of AsMA. Dr. Jones recently retired from the



U.S. Naval Reserves after 32 years of military service. His last tour of duty was as the Wing Surgeon for the Fleet Logistics Support Wing, Naval Air Station, Fort Worth, TX, and the USNR Aerospace Medicine Specialty Leader. He is currently Professor in the Center for Space Medicine and the Department of Urology at Baylor College of Medicine; Deputy Care Line Executive for Inpatients, and Chief of Urology

in the Operative Care Line at the Michael E. DeBakey Veteran Affairs Medical Center in Houston, TX. He currently chairs the MEDVAMC Robotic Surgical committee. He is on the faculty at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, TX, and at the International Space University, having participated in >10 Summer Space Program sessions as Co-Chairman or Instructor. He is also a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)-designated Senior Aviation Medical Examiner (AME).

Dr. Jones graduated Magna Cum Laude from Trinity University in 1981 and Alpha Omega Alpha from Baylor College of Medicine in 1984. He completed his general surgery/urology residency in 1991 at Indiana University Hospitals. In his civilian job, he served 13 years as a NASA/JSC flight surgeon as crew surgeon, deputy crew surgeon, ascent/re-entry surgeon, and has staffed the Mission Control Center Surgeon console during 25 Shuttle missions and 15 ISS increments. He served as the Lead Flight Surgeon for the International Space Station during the early ISS assembly phase, and then served as Lead for Exploration Medicine during the Constellation Program.

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Dr. Jones has served with multiple military units with multiple aviation platforms, first as a specialty surgeon and then as both a USN and USAF flight surgeon and Fleet Marine Forces officer, during his 32-year Navy career. He was Executive Officer, Commanding Officer, and Senior Medical Officer in Marine Air Groups 41 and 42, Officer in Charge for the Flight Light Aid Station in Al Asad, Al-Anbar Province, and surgeon at the 399th Combat Support Hospital (CSH) during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He has supported and been a crewmember during expeditions to both the Arctic and Antarctic, including the Houghton Mars Project, to Devon Island, and Operation Deep Freeze to Amundsen Scott South Pole Station.

Dr. Jones is fellowship-trained & board-certified in Urologic Oncology and in Aerospace Medicine. He is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, American College of Preventive Medicine, and the Aerospace Medical Association. He is a member of more than 20 professional organizations. He is immediate Past-President of the Urological Society for American Veterans and serves on the Board of Directors for the Society of Government Service Urologists and the South Central Section of the American Urological Association. Regarding aerospace medicine leadership, Dr. Jones has served on the executive committee/board of governors for the AsMA Space Medicine Branch, Society of Navy Flight Surgeons, and American Society of Aerospace Medicine Specialists, as Vice-President then President of the Society of NASA Flight Surgeons, and on AsMA Council and for the Life Sciences Bioengineering Branch (LSBEB) as Member at Large and LSBEB Representative to AsMA Council.

In 2000 Dr. Jones received the Julian Ward Memorial Aerospace Medicine Resident of the Year Award and in 2011, he was named the Bruce Jackson Naval Reserve Flight Surgeon of the Year. He has received more than 100 individual awards, including Meritorious Service, Air (combat-V), Commendation, Achievement, Iraqi Campaign, Outstanding Volunteer Leadership from the National Kidney Foundation in 1995, and Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award from BCM/SDU in 2016.

MEETINGS CALENDAR

Please check the websites of meetings listed to see updates.

Calls for Papers - Ongoing: International Astronautical Federation Global Networking Forum Space Conversations Series, online. Visit <https://www.iafastro.org/events/iaf-gnf-space-conversations-series/> for more information.

HFACS Workshops: Workshops on the The Human Factors Analysis and Classification System. For more, visit <https://www.enrole.com/erau/jsp/course.jsp?categoryId=&courseId=HFAC> for in-person or <https://www.enrole.com/erau/jsp/course.jsp?categoryId=558570F8&courseId=OHFA> for online.

Sept. 28-Oct. 21, 2022; Advanced Aeromedical Examiners Course; Oslo, Norway. This course is designed to meet EASA's requirements. For more information, please see the flyer or visit [ESAM](#) or the [ESAM Academy](#).

Allen Is Incoming AsHFA President

Dr. John R. Allen is assigned to NASA Headquarters in Washington, DC, where he serves as the Program Executive for



Crew Health and Safety and for the NASA Human Research Program, overseeing the space medicine and research activities for human space exploration. Dr. Allen received a B.A. in Speech Communication from the University of Maryland. He received a Masters in Audiology/Speech Pathology from The Catholic University of America, and a Ph.D. in Audiology and Bioacoustics from Baylor College of Medicine.

He served in the Air Force for 26 years, retiring in 2006 at the rank of Colonel. During his U.S. Air Force (USAF) career, he held clinical and research positions, such as consultant to the USAF Surgeon General in Audiology and Speech Pathology, and commander of the USAF Medical Element, and was detailed to NASA HQ, beginning in 2006.

Johansen to Head Society of NASA Flight Surgeons

Benjamin Johansen, D.O., is the incoming President of the Society of NASA Flight Surgeons. He graduated from the Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine at Midwestern Uni-



versity and completed Internal Medicine residency training at Banner University Medical Center and Carl T. Hayden VA in Phoenix, AZ. He went on to complete a second residency in Aerospace Medicine and a Master of Public Health at the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX. He is board certified in Internal Medicine and Aerospace Medicine and currently works for NASA as a Flight Surgeon.

Dr. Johansen has supported Expedition 53/54 and Expedition 58/59 as a Deputy Crew Surgeon, providing medical care to NASA astronauts during 6-month missions to the International Space Station. He served as the Program Medical Officer for the NASA Commercial Crew Program leading up to the SpaceX Demo-2 mission marking America's return to human spaceflight from the Florida Space Coast. Following this successful mission, he served as lead Flight Surgeon for the NASA/SpaceX Crew-1 mission marking the first operational crewed flight to the ISS. He continues to provide medical support for joint SpaceX/NASA missions and is assisting in the development of medical operations for the Artemis program.

In addition to his NASA duties, Dr. Johansen continues works as a Flight Surgeon in the Air Force Reserves assigned to the 1st Air Force Detachment 3 at Patrick Space Force Base, FL. He is a member of the American College of Physicians, Aerospace Medicine Association, Space Medicine Association, and the Society of NASA Flight Surgeons.

Job Fair: Members---Log on via www.asma.org & click on 'Job Fair & Classifieds' in the left-hand column.

Garbino to Lead Space Medicine Association

Alejandro “Alex” Garbino, M.D., Ph.D., is the incoming President of the Space Medicine Association. Dr. Garbino is an EVA Research Scientist at NASA Johnson Space Center and Attending Physician in Emergency Medicine in Houston, TX. He has extensive experience practicing medicine in challenging environments.



Dr. Garbino’s work focuses on the human physical and cognitive challenges associated with working in space suits, including metabolic workloads, thermal stress, prevention of decompression illness, and managing cognitive load. In the past, he has served as Lead Physiological Monitor on the Red Bull Stratos high altitude jump, leading the logistics for the medical support team and providing field medical support for the subsequent StratEx record-breaking high-altitude jump, and a 2-month medical support and transport rotation in Antarctica. He also completed the NOAA/UHMS Physician Dive Medicine Program and the NOLS Wilderness Medicine course. He is a Fellow of the Aerospace Medicine Association and has served as a Vice President.

Dr. Garbino obtained a B.S. in Physics with Honors from the University of Houston in 2005. In 2012 he graduated from Baylor College of Medicine with an M.D. and a Ph.D. in Translational Biology. In 2015 he completed his Emergency Medicine Residency at Baylor College of Medicine, where he also served as Chief Resident from 2014 to 2015. In 2017 he completed his Aerospace Medicine Residency at the University of Texas Medical Branch/NASA Program. During his residency, he completed the U.S. Air Force Flight Surgeon and Critical Care Air Transport training program and rotated aboard the aircraft carrier *USS Eisenhower* (CVN-69) and with the Navy Experimental Dive Unit. He now lives in Houston, TX, but divides his time between there and Denver, CO. He is licensed to practice in Texas, Colorado, Florida, and California. He also holds Private Pilot, Skydiving, and scuba diver certifications.

Incoming SUSAFFS President is Gogate

Col. Sanjay A. Gogate, USAF, MC, is the new President of the Society of U.S. Air Force Flight Surgeons. He is currently the Chief of Aerospace Medicine Operations and Policy, Office of the Surgeon General, Headquarters Air Force. He leads five branches and 55 personnel in the development and execution of Air Force and Space Force Aerospace Medicine policy, doctrine, and administration. Col. Gogate is the senior advisor to the Air Force Surgeon General, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, Secretary of the Air Force, and Congress for the Aerospace Medicine Enterprise.



Col. Gogate earned his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from Nova Southeastern University (NSU) in 1999 and after several years of private practice in the civilian sector, he received a direct commission as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force

in 2004. As chief flight surgeon, he deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and numerous joint and special operations missions. Prior to his current position, he served as Commander, 27th Special Operations Medical Group, Cannon Air Force Base, NM. Other previous assignments include Commander, 1st Spec Ops Aerospace Squadron, Hurlburt Field, FL, and Chief, Physical Standards Branch, Headquarters Air Education & Training, JBSA-Randolph, TX.

A Fellow of AsMA, Col. Gogate is a member of the American Osteopathic Association, the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association, the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP), the American College of Occupational & Environmental Medicine, and the Society of USAF Flight Surgeons. He is quadruple board certified in Family Practice, Aerospace Medicine, Occupational & Environmental Medicine, and Lifestyle Medicine. His military decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Meritorious Unit Award, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal.

New Members

AsMA welcomes 31 new members in June.

- Beck, George; Salem, MA, United States
- Christensen, Eric; San Antonio, TX, United States
- Clarke, Stuart; Salisbury, Wiltshire, United Kingdom
- Cox, Brennan; Oakwood, OH, United States
- Fonso, Michael; London, United Kingdom
- Fray, Spencer; APO, AE, United States
- Garton, Quaid; Edwards, CO, United States
- Goff, Christopher; Waterlooville, Hampshire, United Kingdom
- Greene, Matthew; Charleston AFB, SC, United States
- Hall, Julianne; Silver Spring, MD, United States
- Issabekov, Galymzhan; Gainesville, FL, United States
- Jaradat, Suzan; Albuquerque, NM, United States
- Jones, Nathan; Springfield, IL, United States
- Kwan, Helen; New Westminster, British Columbia, Canada
- Lowe, Michael; Gulf Breeze, FL, United States
- Magnusson, Johann; Reykjavik, Iceland
- McEttrick, David; Stafford, VA, United States
- Morris, Corey; McMinnville, TN, United States
- Napoli, Nicholas; Charlottesville, VA, United States
- Pafford, Carl; Fishers, IN, United States
- Parker, August; Saint Petersburg, FL, United States
- Possnig, Carmen; Innsbruck, Austria
- Renteria, Miguel; El Paso, TX, United States
- Rowe, Michael; Avon Lake, OH, United States
- Ryan, Alison; Edinburgh, South Australia, Australia
- Schutte, Grant; Dublin, Ireland
- Scott, Trevor; Rockville, MD, United States
- Smith, Kieran; Boulder, CO, United States
- Tabassom, Ayesha; Shreveport, LA, United States

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Future AsMA Annual Scientific Meetings

May 21-25, 2023; Sheraton New Orleans Hotel, LA
May 5-9, 2024; Hyatt Regency Chicago, Chicago, IL
June 1-6, 2025; Hyatt Regency Atlanta, Atlanta, GA

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- Tinoco, Dayana; Ciudad de Mexico, Mexico
- Yamamoto, Shotaro; Tokorozawa, Japan

AsMA welcomes back two members:

- Long, Andrew; Dyess AFB, TX, United States
- Millea, Richard; Preston, Lancashire, United Kingdom

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Read Current News Online!

Visit the AsMA, Member, & Industry News to see what's new! Members: please check the Job Fair each month; new jobs are posted as we receive them.

FAA News: ATC System Funding

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has started investing the first \$1 billion of \$5 billion into the country's air traffic control system. The funding—made possible through President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law—will sustain, repair, or replace hundreds of buildings and pieces of equipment that make flying in the United States the safest in the world.

The FAA controls more than 5 million square miles of airspace in the United States and over 24 million square miles of ocean. The air traffic system includes hundreds of towers at airports and terminal approach control facilities which provide air traffic services to aircraft approaching and leaving busy airspace. It also includes centers handling aircraft at high altitudes. These facilities depend on power systems, navigation and weather equipment, and radar and surveillance systems across the country. The FAA will invest the \$1 billion available in the first year of funding into a variety of projects. The complete list and more on this can be found at www.faa.gov/bil/air-traffic-facilities.

NEWS OF CORPORATE MEMBERS

Medline Partners with Baptist Health

Medline announced a multi-year prime vendor partnership with Florida-based Baptist Health South Florida. The two organizations will partner to identify new strategies for enhancing data-driven operational and clinical efficiencies. As the system's primary supplier, Medline will exclusively provide an extensive portfolio of essential medical supplies and solutions across the health system's 12 hospitals and more than 200 outpatient centers and physician practices. Known for its industry-leading supply chain operations, Baptist Health South Florida will partner with Medline to optimize supply chain processes by leveraging data and technology to eliminate non-value-added activities and enhance financial and operational performance. As part of the strategic relationship, Baptist Health South Florida will have the ability to integrate key metrics such as item utilization, contract compliance, price accuracy, and spend by product categories through a collaborative analytics-integration process. The two organizations are committed to developing new ways to enhance supply chain operations and patient care through data.

—Please see <https://newsroom.medline.com/releases/baptist-health-south-florida-and-medline-partner-to-enhance-data-driven-supply-chain-strategy-and-outcomes> to read the complete press release.

Mayo Clinic Fellow Inspired by Mentor

As a medical student in Mexico, Paola Suarez-Meade, M.D., wanted a career that included research and clinical work. But among her teachers, the most common career paths involved making a choice: treat patients or study disease. A fascination with stem cells prompted her to seek out a research opportunity in the United States with neurosurgeon Alfredo Quinones-Hinojosa, M.D., who runs the Brain Tumor Stem Cell Laboratory at Mayo Clinic. Observing his work—treating patients with brain cancer while running a lab to uncover

the secrets of devastating tumors like glioblastomas—she realized she could craft a career combining both of her passions. Her path illustrates the important role mentors play in shaping the next generation of clinicians and scientists. Following her research opportunity with Dr. Quinones-Hinojosa, Dr. Suarez-Meade returned to Mexico City for her clinical internship and served as chief intern at Médica Sur Hospital, a Mayo Clinic Care Network member. Now, she is back in Dr. Quinones-Hinojosa's lab, building her research skills as a postdoctoral fellow and studying brain cancer. She is also helping trainees navigate the next steps of their careers in the United States and through Mayo's connection to Medica Sur.

—Please visit <https://newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org/discussion/experience-with-mentors-inspires-mayo-clinic-fellow-to-help-other-medical-trainees/> to read more.

UTMB Opens Two Zen Rooms to Alleviate Stress

UTMB's League City and Galveston campuses unveiled two new Zen Rooms, which are quiet spaces that promote mindfulness and invite health care workers to de-stress. Nurses and clinical staff struggle with a heavy workload and emotional drain, but they struggled even more through three waves of the COVID-19 pandemic. Across the United States, 54% of clinical staff report feeling burnt out. That leads to a high risk of medical error or staff quitting their jobs. The Zen Room is a safe space for nurses to decompress and to gather themselves. Space was found for the League City Zen Room on the second floor in one of the hospital's medical surgical units. The dedicated room is quiet with dim lights and soothing blue walls. Aromatherapy, a sound machine, yoga mats, and a massage chair provide relaxation. A massive, blank coloring book page offers another mindfulness option. The 6-ft by 7-ft abstract image invites doodling, coloring, and a few

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moments of focused calm. On the Galveston Campus, the new Zen Room was unveiled at Jennie Sealy Hospital. The calming room is a space for health care workers to decompress and re-center in a peaceful environment of natural colors, shapes, and vibes that are in tune with the earth. Funded by a grant from the UTMB President's Cabinet, the Jennie Sealy Zen Room is open to staff who need time to stop and breathe, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It features a massage chair, small air plants, a rock garden, and a rug made of rope to emphasize natural elements. The unveiling of the two Zen Rooms coincided with Health System & Nurses Week, an annual week of recognition of UTMB's hospital and nursing staff.

—Please see <https://www.utmb.edu/utmb/news-article/utmb-news/2022/05/13/zen-room-opens-at-utmb-league-city-campus-to-help-alleviate-staff-stress> for the complete press release.

AOPA Promotes Training App

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) is promoting their Flight Training Advantage (AFTA) app, which is a web portal- and iPad-based training application intended to help make the process of flight training more effective for everyone. The app individually customizes each student's lesson just for them. It keeps pace with their progress, so they know what to expect and how to prepare for each lesson. Students can see how they've performed with a full detailed lesson history—instantly on their phone, computer, or other device. Students can check their training progress; access tips, videos, and articles in support of critical skills they need to master; and earn badges that will entice them to keep going. AFTA saves students time and money by streamlining training. Flight instructors and schools also benefit from AFTA. Lesson prep, access to student records, and grading to airmen certification standards helps deliver an efficient, high-quality training experience. AFTA automatically assigns lesson elements based on student performance while giving instructors and schools the flexibility to modify on demand.

—Please visit <https://aopa.org/news-and-media/all-news/2022/may/flight-training-magazine/membership-afta> for more about this.

ALPA Outlines Measures for a Diverse Pilot Workforce

Testifying before the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation's Aviation Safety Subcommittee, the Air Line Pilots Association, Int'l (ALPA) outlined a plan to reduce the costs of becoming an airline pilot and create a more diverse and inclusive air transportation workforce while ensuring that the United States continues to stand as the unquestioned global leader in aviation safety. During a field hearing called by Sen. Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ), ALPA reiterated steps needed to en-

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sure that the nation's pilot pipeline remains robust and is welcoming to all, particularly to those who have traditionally been underrepresented in the profession. To help aspiring aviators, ALPA is calling on the U.S. government to align federal funding for pilot academic education and training with that of other highly skilled professions.

—Please see <https://www.alpa.org/news-and-events/news-room/2022-05-13-measures-to-foster-accessible-diverse-inclusive-pilot-workforce> for the complete release.

KBR Signs MOU with JLB Yaran

KBR has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with JLB Yaran that will further enhance KBR's engagement with Australian First Nations communities and businesses. The agreement was signed at the 2022 Indo Pacific Conference in Sydney, Australia. Under the non-binding agreement signed on Gadigal land, and witnessed by First Nations Elder Aunty Mary Doctor, KBR will collaborate with JLB Yaran to help recruit, connect, and engage with First Nations peoples for multiple opportunities in locations across Australia. This will integrate JLB Yaran into KBR's wider technical support network. JLB-Yaran is an indigenous and veteran-owned professional service provider with a long history of supporting the defense industry. The JLB-Yaran team has Australian defense experience, both in and out of uniform, further enhancing their ability to support the Australian Defence Force. The signing of this MoU with JLB Yaran forms part of KBR Australia's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), which the company has been implementing for more than 2 years. The KBR RAP provides a framework upon which KBR can realize its vision for reconciliation and provides practical steps to engage with and respect First Nations organizations and improve cultural understanding throughout KBR Australia.

—Please visit <https://www.kbr.com/en/insights-news/press-release/kbr-signs-memorandum-understanding-indigenous-service-provider-jlb> to read more about this.

Corporate News Bites

MedAire: MedAire now has a blog. One of the postings discusses medical training for yacht personnel. Three different courses are available, including recertification. Up to 12 crew can recertify their qualifications together onboard their vessel, using the equipment onboard. *For more about this, please visit <https://www.medaire.com/blog/post/2022/4/14/superyacht-medical-training-why-choose-medaire>.*

NIOSH: The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has awarded NIOSH researchers, staff, partners, and collaborators for their significant contributions to the field of occupational safety and health in a virtual ceremony held in late April. *For the award winners, please see <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/updates/upd-04-28-22-b.html>.*

FAA AME Seminars

These are offered by the FAA AME Program office.

July 18-22, 2022	Oklahoma City, OK	Basic
Aug. 5-7, 2022	Washington, DC	Refresher
Sept. 22-24, 2022	Albuquerque, NM	CAMA

Please check the [FAA website](#) for more information.