

We have a few housekeeping questions below about your section. These questions do not have points associated with them. These are for READ and AIAA National's awareness.

Section Logo

Yes

Please upload a copy of your section's logo.

[Download File](#)

Website

Yes

Website

<https://aiaacentralflorida.org>

Social Media

Yes

Include the URLs to any social media pages you have for the section.

X (formerly Twitter)

https://x.com/aiaa_ucf?lang=en

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/AIAACFL/>

LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/aiaa-ucf/>

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/aiaaucf/?hl=en>

YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvPtuaM8bI0I9-rsRGssN-w>

Other Platforms**Activities**

Yes

List of Activities

[Download File](#)

Page: Programs

The points from this page count toward the overall "Outstanding Section Award".

If your section did not complete any of the below activities, you may simply skip this page.

Does your section have a dedicated Programs Officer/Committee Chair?

Yes

Enter the number of in-person dinner meetings and social events (networking, happy hour, etc) the section held.

5

Enter the number of lunch n' learn meetings the section has held.

0

Enter the number of field trips to a local company/lab/university/etc for a tour (The tour could have been taken outside your section).

3

Enter the number of activities listed above that were "NEW" for this year

3

Did your section host at least one activity during National Engineers Week?

No

Did your section host at least one event in collaboration with another AIAA Section or Another Professional Society?

Yes

Did your section participate as a group in an external event (Sponsored fun run/community outreach/science fair/etc.)?

Yes

Did your section invite a CEO or other community leader of a small company/subcontractor to present about their company, even if the company is not complete related to aerospace?

Yes

Describe the health of your Programs. Also include brief descriptions of any significant accomplishments or events, and any challenges you faced.

We have engaged in STEM activities including rocket builds and launches, glider competitions, the Junior Achievement of Central Florida INSPIRE program -- a forward-thinking, career exploration event that focuses on the development of our local youth and workforce. We are engaging our Educator Associates in these activities. We have partnered with a very large and active AIAA student section at UCF. We have maintained partnerships with the Cape Canaveral Section, Junior Achievement of Central Florida, INCOSE, and the Florida Space Institute. These partnerships have resulted in joint meetings, joint exhibit booths conferences, invitations to events sponsored by our partners, and more opportunities for engagement in the Central Florida community.

Challenges -- We continue to struggle with lukewarm participation and engagement by the membership at large. Our Section is geographically spread out which makes it difficult for members to attend in-person activities. We have had a Vice Chair vacancy.

Remedies

In 2025-2026 we will have a full slate of officers and committees including STEM/K-12, Programs, Membership, Webmaster, and Social Media. We will implement a robust program and seek better member participation.

Page: Management

The points from this page count toward "Outstanding Section Award".

If your section did not complete any of the below activities, you may simply skip this page.

Participation

Enter the number of representatives at Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Meetings.

4

Enter the number of section council officers at the Regional Leadership Conference (RLC) (In Person or Virtual)?

2

Enter the number of section council officers at the Council Integrated Training & Workshop at SciTech 2025 (In-Person Only)?

1

Did you have a council representative at an AIAA Town Hall event?

Yes

Enter the number of section council meetings held.

12

Enter the number of section council meetings open to the general membership?

10

Enter the average number of section council meeting attendance.

7

New council member (not previous year participant).

4

Does the section support members outside its main local area?

Yes

Does the section coordinate with other sections across regional or country borders?

Yes

Does section leadership actively communicate with regional director and AIAA staff?

Yes

Using Institute Level Resources

Did the section use the Distinguished Speaker Series?

No

Did the section request promotional materials for an event?

Yes

Did the section request Category III funds from the regional director?

Yes

Did you invite your regional director or deputy directors to speak to the section?

No

Administration

Did the section hold an annual section officer election?

Yes

Is each of the section's 4 required council positions (Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer) filled, or a regional director approved plan is in place to fill the open position(s)?

3

Is the Section's Policies and Procedures document reviewed annually and approved by the Section Council and published?

Yes

Does the section use the current AIAA section roster from MyAIAA roster report for communications?

Yes

Does the section publish meeting minutes for EVERY council meeting?

Yes

Was the previous year's section annual report submitted on time?

No

Was the previous year's audit-budget report submitted on time?

Yes

Was the previous year's activity plan submitted on time?

No

Financial Accountability

Did the section spend at least 50% of the proposed budget?

Yes

Did the section receive external sponsorship funds (includes company gift-match funds)?

No

Does the section have an Audit-Budget Committee?

Yes

Does the section have an Audit-Budget Committee with one person not on the section council?

No

Does the section publish and distribute section financial reports?

No

Does the section maintain monthly accounting of finances?

Yes

Does the section submit its 990-N to the IRS on time? (U.S. Sections only)

Yes

State the missions/goals of the section and how it is making a difference for its members.

Our mission is to advance the aerospace science and engineering profession by publishing and disseminating technical information; providing a forum for aerospace professionals to share knowledge and collaborate; offering professional development opportunities; promoting the aerospace profession to students and the public; and advocating for policies that support the aerospace industry.

We are making a difference by continuously educating the professional membership as to current and future trends in space and "New Space". We are imparting valuable knowledge to students at all levels by implementing hands-on activities such as rocket builds and glider competitions. We hold professional development forums for university-level students and provide them pathways for career development and we highlight employment trends and opportunities in the Central Florida area.

Please describe any challenges or problems that arose during the year (or that are ongoing) and how the section dealt with them.

We are challenged by lackadaisical participation by the majority of the membership and by the large extent of our section--a few hundred miles from Gainesville to Orlando to Tampa to Sarasota Florida and beyond. Our section is dealing with these by holding virtual meetings when possible. However we still don't get very many virtual participants.

We are using mass emails to the section membership pleading for more participation and support. These are having some effect. We will implement a robust slate of officers and committee chairs for 2025-2026.

To kick off the new 2025-2026 year, the incoming Section Chair will set up an in-person brainstorming meeting with mandatory participation by the new officers and committee chairs.

Describe any lessons-learned over the past year with either the management of the section or any other aspect related to the section council and its activities.

Our Vice-Chair suddenly quit. Consequently we have no presence in the Tampa region. A lesson learned is to interview officer candidates before they are nominated or voted on to ensure they are willing to fulfill the responsibilities of the office or committee position.

What is your Section doing that is innovative or novel, and could be shared with and benefit other Sections within AIAA?

Next year we plan to involve students in building a CubeSat in partnership with the Florida Space Institute. We have found a huge benefit in partnering with other societies like the International Council on System Engineering (INCOSE) and partnering with our sister Cape Canaveral Section.

Page: Management Info

Did your section hold an officer election for the upcoming 2025-2026 section year?

We haven't held it yet, but plan to later this year.

Section Officers

- Walter Hammond
- Chair

- Luis Gamarra
- Vice-Chair

- Tengjie Gao
- Secretary

- Jennifer Webb
- Treasurer

- Jim Karam
- Webmaster

Page: Communications

The points from this page make up the "Communications Section Award".

If your section did not complete any of the below activities, you may simply skip this page.

Does your section have a dedicated communications officer/committee chair?

No

Does your section council use Engage to communicate with the section membership?

No

Does your section use your section's Engage community page or outside website to post news/announcements?

Yes

Does your section actively use the Engage Library to store Section Files?

No

Enter the number of communications sent to section members at-large using email/Engage.

12

Does your section publish a newsletter on a regular basis (i.e. monthly, quarterly)?

No

Enter the number of non-AIAA newsletters with an AIAA feature.

0

Did the section send a personalized note to members that received membership upgrades (Associate Fellow, Fellow, etc.)?

No

Did the section send a personalized note to members that received National Awards?

No

Does your section actively communicate through social media sites (Facebook, X, LinkedIn, etc.)?

Yes

Did your section submit an article (paragraph or picture) for Aerospace America?

No

Describe the health of your communications activities. Also include brief descriptions of any significant accomplishments and any challenges you faced.

We have a strong communications program. Mass personalized emails are sent about every three weeks to all the Central Florida Section membership using YAMM Mail Merge software. Most of our activities (except small activities like rocket launches at a middle school) are posted on our website at <https://aiaacentralflorida.org>. Responses to emails, such as those pleading for better participation, are answered in a timely manner.

We post all recorded presentations on our YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvPtuaM8bl0l9-rsRGssN-w>

We regularly make posts on some of our social media accounts--principally Facebook and Instagram. Our Section Chair maintains a personal LinkedIn account. Next year he will make regular AIAA-related posts on his new website at <https://walterhammond.org>.

Page: Membership

The points from this page contribute to the "Membership Section Award."

If your section did not complete any of the below activities, you may simply skip this page.

Membership

Does your section have a membership officer/committee chair?

Yes

Does your section offer a section-sponsored membership incentive programs (such as a free dinner meeting if you become a member)?

No

Enter the number of section events that had a membership desk/display.

0

Enter the number of newsletters with a membership article.

0

Does your section events have a permanent banner or tablecloth that promotes AIAA?

Yes

Does your section routinely promote AIAA membership through posts on social media?

No

Did your section send retention letters/emails/voicemails/texts to members with expiring or recently expired membership?

Yes

Did your section host a new member orientation?

No

Did your section recognize continuing members during meetings or events?

No

Describe the health of your membership activities. Also include brief descriptions of any significant accomplishments and any challenges you faced.

Our membership activities need improvement. This year the Membership Committee Chair was over-extended and unable to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of said office, so the Section Chair stepped in and performed the duties ordinarily performed by the Membership Committee.

Plan for improvement: For the 2025-2026 year we will ensure that the membership committee is staffed with a chair and an assistant. Because of the paucity of willing volunteers to serve in committee positions, we are going to have to assign Council Members and volunteers to serve on two committees in some instances. Our goal is to have all committees staffed with at least two volunteers.

We need to encourage student members to upgrade to professional membership upon graduation. Members-- especially students-- will move, change email addresses, and not inform either AIAA HQ or us of the change. Consequently emails sent to them will bounce and they will stay uninformed and not participate in any activities. Our section will implement a policy of informing all students that they are to contact us with any changes. The last resort is to call each student, this will be very difficult because we are already stretched very thin.

Page: Career & Workforce Development

Please note, Career & Workforce Development (C&WD) is not an individual section award but the points go toward the "Outstanding Section Award".

If your section did not complete any of the below activities, you may simply skip this page.

Does your Section have a dedicated Career & Workforce Development Officer / Committee Chair?

No

Enter the number of seminars, workshops, forums, panel discussions, lunch-and-learn programs, etc. the section hosted.

6

Enter the number of workbooks, handouts, pamphlets, articles in section newsletters or other publications pertaining to C&WD related topics as noted above that your section provided.

10

Did your section have employment assistance programs relative to job fairs, announcements of job openings, changing careers, relocating, etc.?

No

Did your section use online resources for topics of career related interest such as: Continuing Education Resources, Career Placement, Online Consultant Services, Career Search Links, Online Resume Services, etc.?

No

Describe the health of your C&WD development activities. Also include brief descriptions of any significant accomplishments and any challenges you faced.

Historically our section has had a very robust C&WD program focused on students and young professionals. We typically conduct two or more Professional Development Forums each year, and advantageously the UCF Student Section is very active and has monthly meetings during the fall and spring semesters. We also take advantage of the fact that we have many members who teach at local colleges and universities --especially UCF and UF--which facilitates publicizing and conducting C&WD activities at their respective institutions.

We face a big challenge in that most AIAA student members do not continue their membership upon graduation. Also, the majority of the 2500 students majoring in aerospace or mechanical engineering at UCF are not AIAA members. We will make an effort to communicate with the M&AE faculty--whether they are AIAA members or not--and provide them information on the advantages of AIAA student membership to pass onto their students.

Page: Young Professionals

The points from this page make up the "Young Professionals Activity Section Award".

If your section did not complete any of the below activities, you may simply skip this page.

Does your section have a dedicated young professional (YP) officer/committee chair?

Yes

Enter the number of YPs serving as a section officer (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer)?

1

Enter the number of targeted YP events the section held.

0

Did your section host at least one event that highlighted YP work or efforts, or featured YP speakers/presenters (Such as a YP conference)?

No

Enter the number of section-specific development resources or development activities targeted at YPs.

0

Enter the number of events recognizing YPs.

0

Enter the number of YPs recognized in the past year (June 1, 2024-May 31,2025).

0

Does the section actively recruit and retain YPs through specific efforts?

No

Out of the total number of section-wide targeted YP events, how many were YP-specific recruitment events?

0

Has the number of YP members in the section increased from last year?

Yes

Did the section reach out to graduating university students in section (not necessarily in local schools) to remind them of the benefits of young professional membership after graduation?

No

Describe the health of your young professional activities. Also include brief descriptions of any significant accomplishments and any challenges you faced.

Our Young Professionals program is in need of improvement. Our YP committee chair has been unable to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of his position due to demands on his time. He is also moving to the Palm Beach section in Florida.

For 2025-2026 we will be recruiting a YP who is willing and has the time to chair our YP committee. We have many YPs who work for large aerospace contractors such as Lockheed Martin in the local area, and it shouldn't be a problem securing a commitment from one or preferably two YPs to serve on said committee.

Page: Technical Activities

There is no individual technical activities awards but the points from this page count toward "Outstanding Section Award".

If your section did not complete any of the below activities, you may simply skip this page.

Does the section have a dedicated technical activities officer/committee chair?

Yes

Does the section organize and run a technical short course?

No

Does the section organize and run a section technical conference?

No

Enter the number of technical meetings, with speakers from local companies, universities, or distinguished speakers your section hosted.

3

Does the section run a regional technical conference (Does not include the AIAA Regional Student Conferences or Design/Build/Fly)?

No

Does your section promote Technical Committees (TC) or Integrated & Outreach Committees (IOC) membership?

No

Does your section invite local TC/IOC members to an event showcasing committees to explain their committees' scopes and activities?

No

Did your section invite the AIAA CEO, Council, Board of Trustees, or Foundation Board of Trustees to speak to the section?

No

Describe the health of your technical activities. Also include brief descriptions of any significant accomplishments and any challenges you faced.

Our technical activities could stand some improvement. Our programs chair has to frequently go on travel out of country for his employer, which hampers his ability to organize programs and technical activities. Other Council members have been able to fill in. Unfortunately we have had to cancel two YP-related events due to low responses and lack of interest, and had to cancel a field trip to Cape Canaveral Space Force Station at the last minute because the Space Force sponsor said that mission requirements prevented us from coming onto the Station. The requirements for field trips to the CCSFS are numerous, very restrictive, and subject to last-minute cancellations.

Page: Honors and Awards

The points from this page contribute to the "Membership Section Award."

If your section did not complete any of the below activities, you may simply skip this page.

Does your section have a dedicated Honors & Awards Officer/Committee Chair?

Yes

Did your section host at least one event to recognize members receiving awards, achieving new membership, etc?

Yes

Enter the number of local/section awards given this past year (June 1, 2024 - May 31, 2025)

8

Did your section organize a local Engineer or Young Engineer of the Year Award?

No

Did your section council coordinate member upgrade outreach?

No

Enter the number of Associate Fellows Nominated by Section Council Members this past year (June 1, 2024 - May 31, 2025).

1

Enter the number of Fellows/Honorary Fellows Nominated by Section Council Members this past year (June 1, 2024 - May 31, 2025).

0

Does your section have a committee to identify and submit section members for National Awards and/or Membership Upgrades?

No

Enter the number of AIAA National Awards submitted by the section's committee or council.

0

Did your section nominate one or more members for a Special Service Citation?

No

Describe the health of your Honors & Awards activities. Also include brief descriptions of any significant accomplishments and any challenges you faced.

This year we were able to recognize and award eight worthy members and acknowledge their accomplishments. We plan to strengthen our honors and awards program next year by remedying the deficiencies described above.

Page: Public Policy

The points from this page make up the "Public Policy Section Award" but do not contribute toward the "Outstanding Section Award".

This page only applies to U.S.-based Sections. If your section did not complete any of the below activities or you are a non-U.S. based section, you may simply skip this page.

Does your section have a dedicated public policy officer/committee chair?

No

Did the section host a home district congressional member policy event?

No

Did the section host a state representation policy event?

No

Does the section have state and congressional leaders on section communications (social media, newsletter, etc)?

No

Did the section participate in Aerospace Policy Connection events (which has replaced Congressional Visits Day)?

No

Enter the number of section events related to the AIAA Key Issues.

0

Did your section provide input for the AIAA Key Issues?

No

Describe the health of your public policy activities. Also include brief descriptions of any significant accomplishments and any challenges you faced.

Page: Section-Student Partnership

The points from this page make up the "Section-Student Partnership Section Award". Please note the reference to "students" in these questions is targeted at university student outreach.

If your section did not complete any of the below activities, you may simply skip this page.

Does Your Section have a Dedicated Section-Student Branch Partnership Officer/Committee Chair?

Yes

Does the section offer a scholarship for university students?

No

Did the section fund a university project?

No

Did the section host at least one event in collaboration with a student branch?

Yes

Did at least one of your section officers attend one or more AIAA-Affiliated University Club Meetings? (AIAA/WoAA Student Branch, DBF Team, Rocketry Team)

Yes

Did your section support a regional student conference? (Ex: provided judges or funding)

Yes

Did your section support Design/Build/Fly Teams(s)?

Yes

Enter the number of events the section held that targeted university students.

6

Enter the number of section council members that mentored a university student(s)?

2

Does your section have an established professional and student branch liaison positions with at least one AIAA affiliated university organization (AIAA Student Branch, WoAA Student Branch, DBF Team, or Rocketry Team)?

Yes

Did your section members support activities at student branches?

Yes

Did students support section activities?

Yes

Did students support STEM K-12 activities?

Yes

Did the section and students share a Distinguished Speaker?

No

Did the section collaborate with an international student branch?

No

Did retirees support student projects and share experiences?

Yes

Did students demonstrate school projects to the section?

Yes

Did the section promote AIAA Student Branches or AIAA Student Membership to non-AIAA branches or students who are not yet members?

No

Describe the health of your Section-Student Branch partnership activities. Also include brief descriptions of any significant accomplishments and any challenges you faced.

The Central Florida Section enjoys an excellent partnership with the large AIAA Student Branch at UCF. We held four Career and Professional Development meetings with the AIAA UCF Branch during the school year. We held also held a Career Fair and partnered with the Cape Canaveral Section on a technical conference (the SmallSat Education Conference) which targeted university students and upper-level high school students in Central Florida. We also maintain a good relationship with the AIAA Student Branch at UF (University of Florida).

Challenges

The University of South Florida Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering will be launching a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering, along with graduate programs (M.S. and Ph.D.) in Aerospace Engineering in Fall 2025. We plan to be instrumental in helping start a local AIAA USF Student Branch in the coming year.

Please describe any actions by the Section to encourage Student Members continuing their AIAA membership after graduation.

We held a meeting with the AIAA Student Branch at UCF specifically for the purpose of encouraging the 120+ student members to continue their AIAA professional membership after graduation and upon entering the workforce. We described the benefits of professional membership, and our presentation seemed well-received.

Page: STEM/K-12

The points from this page make up the "STEM K-12 Section Award."

If your section did not complete any of the below activities, you may simply skip this page.

Does the section have a dedicated STEM K-12 Chair/Committee Chair?

Yes

Does the section have a STEM K-12 Committee (within the section)?

Yes

Did the section recruit participation from other section members for STEM outreach events?

Yes

Was K-12 STEM included in the annual section budget?

Yes

Enter the number of STEM K-12 activities run by your section.

5

Out of the total number of STEM K-12 activities run by your section, how many were run in collaboration with other organizations?

4

Out of the total number of STEM K-12 activities run by your section, how many had hands-on activities?

3

Out of the total number of STEM K-12 activities run by your section, how many were new?

3

Were underrepresented communities considered as part of STEM K-12 events?

No

Are the section's STEM K-12 activities advertised to section members?

Yes

Are the section's STEM K-12 activities advertised with other organizations?

No

Enter the average number of K-12 students at all the section's STEM K-12 events?

800

Did your section promote AIAA High School Membership?

Yes

Did your section promote AIAA K-12 Resources and Activities (Microlessons, competitions, scholarships)?

Yes

Did a section council member participate in AIAA's High School Mentor Match Program?

No

Enter the number of Educator Associates in your section.

66

Enter the number of Educator Associates the section gained compared to last year.

0

Did the section send letters/emails/voicemails/texts to educator associates that dropped membership?

No

Did any of the section council members visit a classroom?

2

Did the section participate in any teacher recognition events?

No

Did the section participate in any K-12 educator professional development opportunities?

No

Did the section participate in any K-12 competitions and programs as coaches, mentors, judges, or local event hosts?

Yes

Describe the health of your STEM K-12 activities. Also include brief descriptions of any significant accomplishments and any challenges you faced.

Our STEM K-12 Program is one of our greatest strengths, and only promises to get better next year. In partnership with the Reach For The Stars (RFTS) model rocket organization, we distributed four sets of model rocket launch kits to elementary, middle, and high schools in Central Florida. These kits contain 15 model rockets each and a launch controller, to give students the experience of assembling and flying their own rockets with parachute landings at distances up to 400 feet.

In partnership with Junior Achievement of Central Florida's INSPIRE program we have had tremendous success in showcasing hands-on booth exhibits with rocket and UAV models to thousands of 8th graders throughout Central Florida. In this regard our volunteers encouraged attendees to pursue technical careers as they progress in high school and college.

Our challenge is to staff our STEM K-12 endeavors with enough Central Florida Section volunteers to satisfy a burgeoning demand.

Page: Workforce Engagement

Please note, Workforce Engagement is not an individual section award but the points go toward the "Outstanding Section Award".

Workforce Engagement can be defined as any activities by a Section which bring together members from different technical, geographical, generational, or educational backgrounds. This promotes cross-functional knowledge sharing and advances the AIAA's workforce development priorities, utilizing members' differing views and experiences to accomplish the collective AIAA mission.

If your section did not complete any of the below activities, you may simply skip this page.

Does the section have a dedicated workforce engagement officer/committee chair?

No

Does the section leadership reflect the community it serves? (Company type, job function, gender, generation, geography, etc.)?

Yes

Enter the number of section events focused on reaching members of underrepresented communities.

0

Enter the number of events targeting a special demographic (By location, for retired members, specific professional interest codes, etc.).

0

Collaborated on an event or recruitment initiative with a partner professional society (e.g., SWE, NSBE, ASME) for the express purpose of reaching a group that is not typically engaged.

No

Describe the health of your workforce development activities, including any specifics relating to events, collaborations, or special initiatives. Also include brief descriptions of any significant accomplishments and any challenges you faced.

Workforce development in the sense described herein has not been meaningfully addressed by our section. This area is something for us to contemplate addressing in the future.

What actions has your Section taken to expand and/or rebalance your outreach efforts? Additionally, have you identified and mitigated any barriers to participation for prospective members?

We have not been able to identify any barriers to participation for prospective members.

Describe the Section's actions to broaden participation in events/activities and within the leadership team.

We seek better member participation without regard to race, creed, or national origin. We find it difficult to identify race, creed, national origin, etc. from the membership roster.

Page: Outstanding Activity

Please list ONE activity to be considered for the "Outstanding Activity Section Award".

If this is a reoccurring event, describe what is unique about this year's event and why it should be considered for the award.

The event submitted for "Outstanding Activity" must not have won this award in the last 5 years.

Please note the Outstanding Activity Section Award is not a monetary award, but simply bragging rights.

If your section does not want to submit an Outstanding Activity, you may simply skip this page.

Event Name

Playing with Fire: Adventures in Entrepreneurship

Event Date

5/30/2025

Speaker Affiliation (if applicable)

Tom Markusic, CEO and Founder of Gigengineer, Inc.

Joint Sponsors

Cape Canaveral Section

Event Type

Dinner Meeting

Attendance Count

200

Event Description

Dr. Tom Markusic describes his personal journey from an Ohio farm to landing on the moon. He highlights incremental accomplishments and lessons learned from academics, government civil service, and the commercial sector – culminating in starting his own “newspace” companies.

Dr. Markusic has spent the last few decades leading the development of modern spacecraft and rockets. “Newspace” will have a broad impact on 21st century corporate engineering and human space exploration. The combination of low-cost, fast-moving methodologies of newspace and artificial intelligence will transform how businesses work in space.

Describe any publicity for the event.

Production of an attractive two-page flyer for the event. Posting with pictures on the Central Florida Section web page, with a large link to register. Two mailouts to all the Central Florida Section membership (the Cape Canaveral Section conducted their own publicity). An additional mailout to the CFS Council soliciting their participation.

Did this event help produce new AIAA members? Please provide details.

Unknown.

What makes this event an "Outstanding Activity"?

Dr. Markusic founded and is the former CEO of Firefly Aerospace. Firefly Aerospace's Blue Ghost lunar lander successfully landed on the Moon on March 2, 2025. This marked the first fully successful commercial Moon landing. Blue Ghost carried 10 NASA instruments and operated on the lunar surface for over 14 days, including a period into the lunar night. The mission's success was a significant step for commercial lunar exploration.

Page: Feedback

Report Feedback

Overall, I give AIAA positive feedback except that this report did not allow for posting pictures and photos! Please make this change next year.

I complement AIAA on the all-encompassing thoroughness of this annual report. It will be very useful and serve as a benchmark to highlight deficiencies and areas for improvement of our Central Florida Section next year.