

FAA Center of Excellence Outstanding Student of the Year



Each year the FAA Center of Excellence (COE) names a Student of the Year. This year the DOT FAA COE Outstanding Student of the Year was awarded Andrew P. Leonard, who is currently working on a Master of Science in Aviation at the University of North Dakota (UND). In January, Andrew traveled to Washington D.C. where he accepted his award at the Annual Winter Meeting of the Department of Transportation.

Andrew was chosen out of 35 other students who were nominated for his/her achievements and promise for future contributions to the transportation field. At the University of North Dakota, Andrew has been working with Leslie Martin on the ADS-B project that is part of CGAR.

In addition to his ADS-B research, Andrew also teaches several undergraduate and also serves as an Altitude Chamber Operator. Within the CGAR ADS-B study Andrew works on collecting and organizing data that comes from the UND helicopters that are participating in the study. This study is working on looking at how accurately helicopters could fly predetermined GPS routes. After the flights are completed Andrew takes the flight data to digitally recreate the flight for comparison to the predetermined flight path of the helicopter prior to flight.

