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AVIATION SOCIETY HELPS COLLEGE STUDENTS TAKE FLIGHT

--Tony Jannus Scholars Awards Program Supports Future Aviators--

TAMPA, Fla. (Oct. 29, 2010) – The aviation field has grown in leaps and bounds since the day Tony Jannus completed the first scheduled air flight in 1914, and the Tony Jannus Distinguished Aviation Society is helping to push the industry even further by fostering the next generation of aviators through a Scholars Awards program. This year, the Society will reward seven recipients totaling \$17,500, an increase of one additional scholar and \$2,500 from previous years.

Selecting from a number of worthy candidates, the Society is proud to announce the seven deserving recipients of this year's Scholars Awards:

- **Kelsey Abert, University of Tampa**
- **Jeremiah LaPointe, St. Leo University**
- **Matthew Ryan LaRue, University of Tampa**
- **Kyle Rademaker, University of South Florida**
- **Taylor Richards, Embry-Riddle**
- **Michael Whitlock, University of South Florida**
- **Jennifer Wilson, University of South Florida**

The seven scholars awards recipients will be recognized during the 47th Annual Tony Jannus Award Dinner Banquet at the Renaissance Vinoy Resort and Golf Club on Oct. 29, 2010.

Requiring a strong interest in pursuing a civilian or military career in Aviation Management, Operations or Research and Development, a Scholars Awards applicant must be a current higher education student with a junior or senior standing and a minimum GPA of 3.0. Applicants must also submit a 300-word essay explaining their personal investment in pursuing a career in aviation and present their interests in an interview conducted by Society members.

About the Tony Jannus Distinguished Aviation Society:

Since its first nominee in 1964, The Tony Jannus list of winners has grown to a virtual "Who's Who" in the industry, including such luminaries as Brigadier General Charles Yeager, Donald W. Douglas, Sr., Capt. Edward V. Rickenbacker, Col. Frank Borman, Herb Kelleher, Sir Richard Branson, Joseph Leonard, Larry Kellner, and the first female recipient, Colleen Barrett.

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In addition to the Tony Jannus Award and the scholars awards program, the Tony Jannus Distinguished Aviation Society recognizes outstanding local high school and middle school students with an annual essay contest.

The Tampa and St. Petersburg Chambers of Commerce established The Tony Jannus Distinguished Aviation Society in 1964. The Smithsonian Institute recognized Tony Jannus as the founder of the world's first scheduled airline. The airline – which began flights on New Year's Day, 1914 – had only one plane, a single-engine Benoist flying boat that flew round trips daily between Tampa and St. Petersburg, Florida. For more information on the Tony Jannus Distinguished Aviation Society visit www.TonyJannus.org.

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