



Trip to ATAIN conference at Taylor University:

A Columbus MET Team attended the ATAIN Aerospace and Space Sciences Conference on September 11th, 2007 at Taylor University. Three Columbus students, Robert Sullivan (MET), Jessica Sullivan (IUPUC), and Grant Berkemeier (MET) traveled to Upland, Indiana to attend the ATAIN/Taylor University conference. Dr. Don Takehara, Director of the Center for Research and Innovation at Taylor University, invited the Columbus and West Lafayette Purdue teams to present their technologies. Pete Bitar, CEO of both XADS and AirBuoyant, led the New Aircraft Design Breakout Session. Robert Sullivan and Margaret Ratcliff (MET, Assistant Professor) both gave a presentation titled *“Balloon Launched UAV with Nested Wing for Near Space Applications.”* Robert Sullivan, who also works at Cummins, Inc., spoke about satellite communication networks and the need for high altitude UAVs based on his experience in Afghanistan as a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force Special Tactics group. Three additional students from Purdue University attended, Joe Gangestad, George Pollock, and James Goppert, all graduate students in the Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering Department. Joe Gangestad, also CEO for Orbit Frontiers, gave a presentation on *“Lorentz Actuated Spacecraft – Electrodynamic Propulsion without a Tether”* and James Goppert gave a presentation on *“Agent Based Multiple Vehicle Coordination for Distributed Unmanned Air Vehicle Management.”* The keynote speakers were Dr. France Cordova, President of Purdue University and Jason Lovell, Manager of the State of Indiana’s Defense Development Initiative, through the State of Indiana’s office of Energy and Defense Development.

<http://www.css.taylor.edu/~cri/rtp/srtp/aeroconference07/sessions.htm>