

highlights & horizons

A Day in the Life of SMAT

What does a day in the life of SMAT look like? That's hard to say, because there is no "average" day, but here is a peek at what you might see if you came for a visit. The students arrive for class at 7am - some bright-eyed and bushy-tailed, others dragging themselves in looking very sleepy. Some days start off with several hours of lecture/theory in the classroom, other days they go straight out to the lab/shop area to practically apply the things they learn in the classroom. Throughout the course of the year, the students work on every single aspect of an aircraft. From riveting to welding, sewing fabric coverings and painting to removing and re-installing wings, troubleshooting hydraulic and electrical problems to overhauling an engine, cleaning corrosion off surfaces to taxiing aircraft--touching every part of the aircraft nose to tail, top to bottom.

When I'm not in the classroom or lab instructing our students, you'll most likely find me buried in lesson planning, scouring manuals for the most current information, researching the best real-world scenarios, and preparing airplanes and equipment--which may possibly include introducing curious faults for them to develop their troubleshooting skills. At 3:30 the school day is officially over for the students, but many stay later to work on extra projects or finish up labs. It is a thrill to watch the students learn and grow in the very fast-paced learning environment.



These are the majority of our students who graduated this past year and many of them are on a path into missions. I feel so honored and undeserving to have had a little part in these students lives and see them spreading out all over the world to take the love of Jesus to those who have never heard.



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I had the delightful opportunity this past November to travel to JAARS headquarters in NC to take the PT6 turboprop engine heavy maintenance course/certification with SMAT graduates.



Sometimes teaching is serious - like when we're running a turboprop engine and a mistake would be very bad! Then there are times when we do have fun together.



Our girl time together once a week for Bible Study is always a delight!



As instructors, we are constantly checking equipment to make sure it is ready for our students - such as making sure a propeller hub can be properly lubricated.

I really enjoy opportunities to represent SMAT and introduce people to mission aviation!



Horizons.

As of now, my plan for the future is to continue on at SMAT as a maintenance instructor, however I pray that I will always remain open to God's leading and stay in a state of "planning to stay, ready and willing to go wherever God may direct next". I have recently been challenged by James 4:13-14...

My prayer is that I would fully value each moment, take full advantage of present opportunities, and be fully invested wherever I am right now and keep taking one exciting year at a time!

I am also praising God that I am nearly at 100% of partnership commitments!

Thank you to each one of you who continue to faithfully partner with me as I remain in ministry at SMAT. You are having an impact on our students that is flowing around the world!

in Christ, **Christina**

Now listen, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a town, stay there a year, conduct business, and make money. You do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

James 4:13-14