

The Speakers Keep Droning On...

Brittany J. Scharf¹, Matthew Smith², Kalan A. Taylor³, and J. Stacy Strickland⁴

¹Marine Science Agent, UF/IFAS Extension Hernando County, ²Sustainable Food and Agricultural Systems Agent, UF/IFAS Extension Sumter, Pasco, and Hernando County, ³4-H Agent, UF/IFAS Extension Sumter County, ⁴Agricultural Agent, UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County

Situation:

Anyone operating a drone for commercial purposes must possess an Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Certificate through the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Objective:

- Increase drone prep students' knowledge of Part 107 (drone) subject matter by 80% when measured via pre/posttest.
- The passing rate of the UAS certificate would be 80% when measured by a one-month follow-up survey.



Figure 2: Students practicing communication and flight techniques using toy drones.

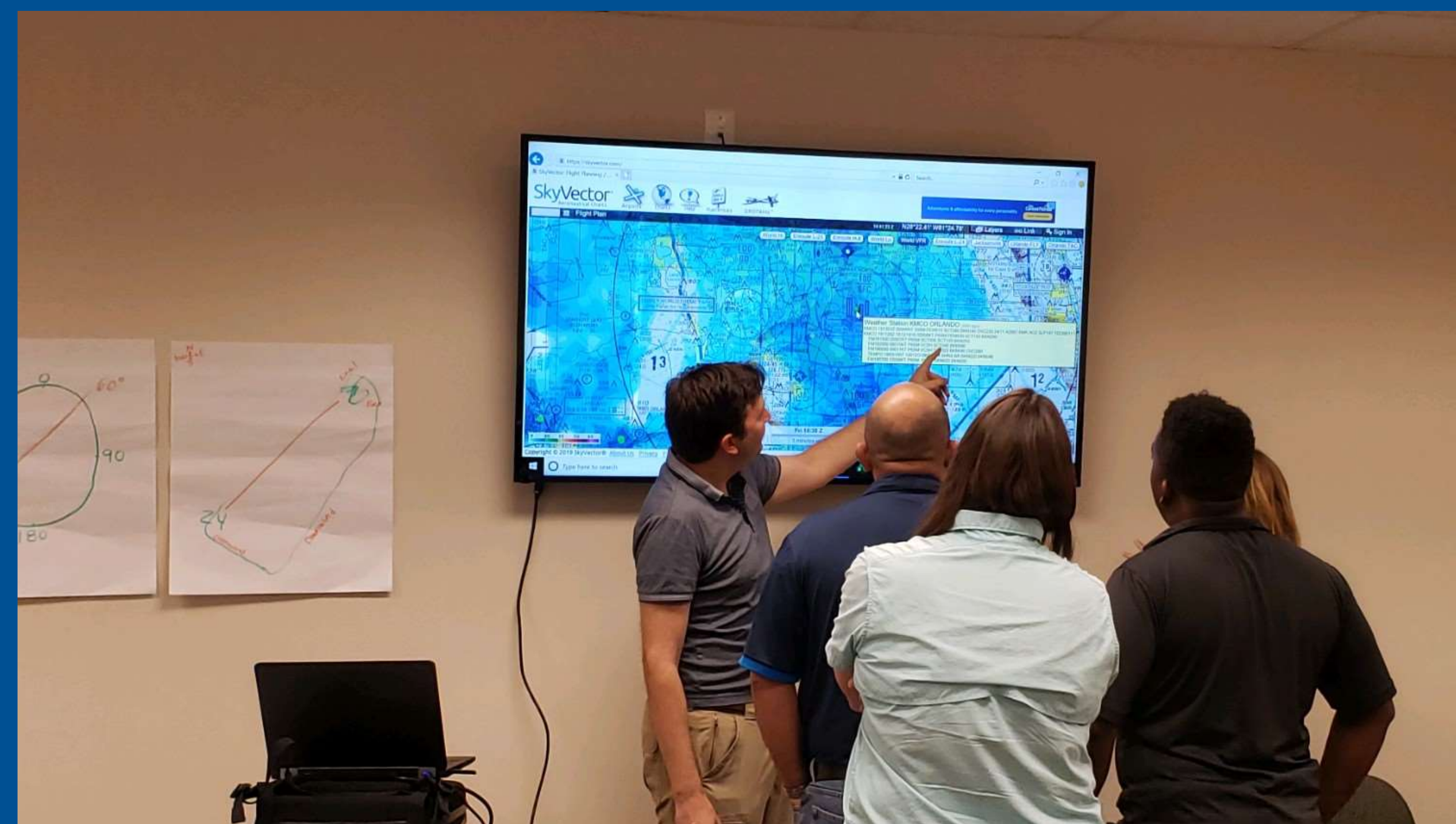


Figure 3: Students learning how to use aeronautical weather reports.

Results:

- Pre/posttest showed 102% increase in knowledge (n=20).
- 100% of participants who attempted FAA Part 107 Exam now hold UAS Certificate (n=17).
- Two new businesses created and/or expanded.

Study Tip

As you travel across the United States in the westward direction, degrees of longitude increase.

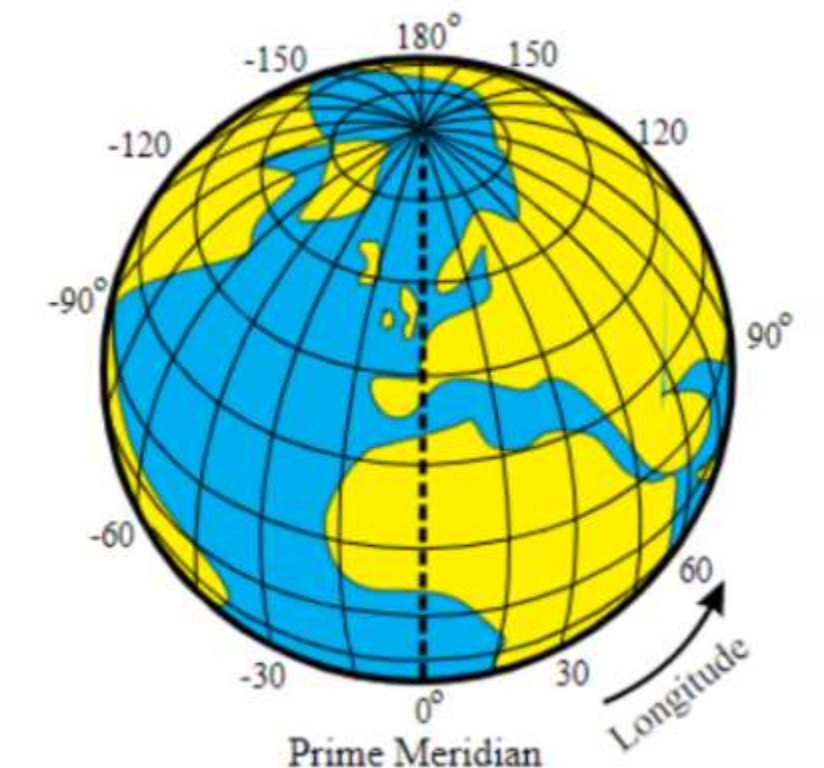


Figure 4: Curriculum includes study tips and practice questions.



Figure 1: Promotional flyer for course.

Conclusion:

Per the FAA, utilizing drones for commercial purposes provides tremendous opportunity for growth in employment. Our programmatically diverse team has attracted an audience that is new to Extension and has helped clientele build and expand their business.

