A letter to the editor in the new issue of Aerospace America discusses diversity. I probably write more about that letter next month.

That letter writer complains about diversity, which he opposes, and he claims he is unwanted and unwelcome due to being a straight white male with about fifteen years of experience working as an aerospace engineer.

Opposing whiteness is not the same as opposing white people, since we sometimes define whiteness starting with its first appearance in law in 1681 in Maryland as a response to Bacon's Rebellion, starting to formalize a divide-and-dominate public policy, a pyramid scheme, and a racial bribe which is almost impossible to refuse.

Most people are good people, but today we focus active anti-racism on systemic racism, not individual racism. Government in Mexico and France is not allowed to collect data on race matters, but race dominates life in the U.S.A. Our anti-racism experts are not preaching to the choir. There is no choir.

The 1978 Bakke SCOTUS decision allows public school admissions policy to consider race among other demographic categories, as it replaced affirmative action with diversity, but not for course corrections to our anti-Black public policies.

We are in a marathon, not a sprint, but I am pleased to note that AIAA is making the ultimate pivot with respect to diversity since June 2, 2020.
The 2021-2023 AIAA Diversity Plan

Diversity

Two paragraphs in the 2022 book by Victor discuss diversity and the 1978 Bakke decision of the Supreme Court of the U. S. (SCOTUS). The book is On Critical Race Theory. He hurried to publish this short book because it is the first book on this subject targeted at a lay audience instead of academia.

The first sentence implies that diversity programs subvert policies aimed at intervening in racial inequality. The second sentence states, “Diversity replaced affirmative action as a rationale for promoting integrated organizations following [the Bakke decision].” This first paragraph later continues, “Powell’s opinion also established that the state had a compelling interest in promoting a diverse student body. This compelling interest meant schools could therefore continue to consider race as one factor in a holistic admissions process. Importantly, Powell’s opinion in Bakke rejected the traditional rationales of slavery, Jim Crow, or ongoing racial discrimination as reasons to diversity. In line with [Derrick] Bell’s interest convergence thesis […], Powell focused on the shared educational benefits of diversity for both whites and people of color. Diversity is a nebulous concept that equates highly politicized identities (race) with relatively benign ones (region of origin). Powell’s opinion domesticated diversity, helping to make it palatable by detaching the concept from a commitment to righting historical injustice.”

The second paragraphs ends with, “Organizations have even reshaped legal responses to civil rights law, capturing and subverting the very laws designed to stop discrimination. For some organizations, having a diversity program is the whole program, as courts have blunted the impact of antidiscrimination law by ruling that the presence of antidiscrimination programming—regardless of that programming’s effectiveness at stopping discrimination—is a good-faith effort and can protect companies from legal liability.”


“We need to make the ultimate pivot…”
Climate

"...the ultimate sense of urgency..."

Understanding our planet to benefit humankind

https://climate.nasa.gov/

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE
Vital Signs of the Planet

Carbon Dioxide

\[
\uparrow 421 \text{ parts per million (current)}
\]

Ice Sheets

\[
\downarrow 424 \text{ billion metric tons per year}
\]

Global Temperature

\[
\uparrow 1.1 ^\circ \text{C since preindustrial}
\]

Sea Level

\[
\uparrow 4 \text{ inches since January 1999}
\]

Arctic Sea Ice Minimum Extent

\[
\downarrow 12.6 \text{ percent per decade since 1979}
\]

Ocean Warming

\[
\uparrow 345 \text{ mercenaries since 1855}
\]
France-USA: [www.3af-mp.fr](http://www.3af-mp.fr)
France: Francis Guimera, preceded by Alain Chevalier
Houston: Douglas Yazell

Ethiopia-USA:
Ethiopia: Tulu Besha Bedada, PhD and Berhan Gessesse, PhD
Houston: Thomas Haregot

Peru-USA:
Houston: Jackelynne Silva-Martinez
Peru: Julio Valdivia, Saul Perez

AIAA Houston Section sister sections

AIAA Houston Section International Activities Committee (IAC)
Chair: Douglas Yazell, douglas.yazell@me.com
Fire and concrete: will France’s model of radical climate protest catch on?

As campaigning heats up around the world once again, eyes have been turning to the country that is taking things further...
Human-driven climate crisis fuelling Horn of Africa drought - study

Region is suffering its worst drought in 40 years after five consecutive years of below-average rainfall

https://www.theguardian.com/world/ethiopia

Current events:
https://www.ethiosss.org


Head of mission: Mr. Gazebo Kebede, Honorary Consul
Consular services: No information available
Supervising authority: Embassy of Ethiopia in Washington, D.C.

Ethiopian Honorary Consulate in Houston, United States

Deputy Chief of Mission: Fiona Evans

Ambassador Tracey Ann Jacobson, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Ambassadors, arrived in Addis Ababa on February 25, 2023 to begin her assignment as Chargé d’Affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Ethiopia. She previously served as Ambassador to Panama, Tajikistan, and Ukraine. Her domestic assignments included serving as Principal Deputy at the Department of State for International Organization Affairs, Deputy Director of the State Department’s Foreign Service-Human Rights, and Deputy Executive Secretary at the National Security Council in the White House. Ambassador Jacobson is joined in Ethiopia by her husband, David Brough, a retired member of the British Diplomatic Service.
‘Without the ice cap, we cannot live’: the Andes community devastated by climate crisis

The Quelccaya glacier, high in the mountains of Peru, is shrinking at an alarming rate and the people who live in its shadow are struggling to maintain their livelihoods

by Ángela Ponce, Sarah Johnson and Illa Liendo. Photographs by Ángela Ponce


Current events: https://www.theguardian.com/world/peru.
AIAA Houston Section Monthly Status from Douglas Yazell: Diversity, Climate, History and Three Sister Sections: France, Ethiopia and Peru, Thursday, 5/18/2023

AIAA Houston Section: Mexico and the Section's territory in Texas
AIAA Region VII (International) and Region IV (Mexico and four states of the USA)

Region IV Sections:
1. Houston (Texas, includes Mexico & Texas A&M University)
2. Southwest Texas (includes Dallas & Fort Worth)
3. North Texas (includes San Antonio)
4. Albuquerque (New Mexico)
5. White Sands (New Mexico)
6. Oklahoma (includes Arkansas)
AIAA Houston Section Monthly Status from Douglas Yazell: Diversity, Climate, History and Three Sister Sections: France, Ethiopia and Peru, Thursday, 5/18/2023

Mexico News Daily

Ken Salazar was sworn in as United States Ambassador to Mexico on September 2, 2021.

In 2009, President Obama nominated Mr. Salazar to serve as Secretary of Interior where he had a lead role on the Obama-Biden agenda on energy and climate, the nation’s conservation agenda including America's Great Outdoors, and Indian Country. Ambassador Salazar has been a lifelong fighter for civil rights and the inclusion of Latinos in the American dream.

In 1998, Mr. Salazar was elected as Colorado Attorney General and became the first Latino ever elected to statewide office in Colorado. He was reelected as Attorney General in 2002. In 2004, Attorney General Salazar was elected to the United States Senate for Colorado becoming the first Latino democrat to be elected to the United States Senate since 1972.

Ambassador Salazar has been admitted to practice law in state and federal courts, including the United States Supreme Court. Ambassador Salazar and his family have farmed along the banks of the Rio Grande River in New Mexico and Colorado for more than four centuries.

Mexico will try to ‘deceive the world’ at Cop27, experts warn

President not expected to attend summit but critics cast doubt on veracity of pledges the country could make

Nina Lakhani in Sharm el-Sheikh

Flag of the USA

Flag of Texas

The Guardian

U.S. EMBASSY & CONSULATES IN MEXICO

Head of mission
Alicia G. Kerber Palma, Consul General

Consular services
- Visa applications accepted
- Passport services available
- Legalization services available

Supervising authority
Embassy of Mexico in Washington, D.C.
Get ready for **Open Ramp Day** on May 20th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, the ultimate planespotting event at Hobby Airport! With unobstructed views of aircraft in motion, a static aircraft display, VR flight simulator, and historical talks this is the perfect opportunity to witness and capture the magic of aviation. Fly-in or drive-in and join the fun.

**Planespotting:**

Get up close to the action at Hobby Airport with the best plane spotting location in Houston. Bring your camera and enjoy unobstructed views of aircraft in motion from the Museum's ramp or upper floors.

**Historical Presentation:**

11:00 AM - Step back in time with Story Sloan's captivating photo essay showcasing Houston's early aviation history. Story will share his rare collection of photos from the 1911 'Air Meet' and sheds light on the remarkable individuals who shaped Houston's aviation legacy. Don't miss this incredible opportunity to witness history through the lens of one of Houston's most renowned photo archivists and historians.

**VR Flight Simulator:**

The VR flight simulator lets you get into a cockpit, take the controls and fly a simulation out of Hobby Airport and beyond. Suitable for all ages.

**Museum Exhibits:**

- **Fly Girls of WWII - Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) Exhibit**
- Houston Aviation History exhibits from the early 1900s to the present day

Shirts, hats, toys & collectibles for sale

Admission is $12 for adults and $6 for kids. Fly-in visitors, car club drivers, and museum members receive free admission! Mark your calendars and see you there!

The 1940 Air Terminal Museum is located west of William P. Hobby Airport.