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UND Aerospace Foundation Helicopter Hangar Construction Project

Background: All UND Aerospace Facilities at the Grand Forks Airport, whether owned by UND or the UND Aerospace Foundation (UNDAF), are used in the delivery of UND's aviation programs. The two entities share all costs of operation in accordance with a long-standing operating agreement based on percentage of flight hours flown by domestic undergraduate students and percentage of international students under contract with UNDAF. There is a shortage of both hangar and office space for current operations, requiring some aircraft to remain outside and unprotected overnight, in spite of UND's recent construction of additional hangar space and UNDAF's lease of two additional hangars from Grand Forks Flight Support and the Airport Authority on the west side of the airport. The distance and the relationship between the leased hangars on the west side and the rest of the UND Aerospace operations on the east side of the airport compromises both efficiency and safety of UND's Flight Operations. There is a need for additional hangar space adjacent to existing UND Aerospace facilities.

Project: The new facility will hangar helicopters owned by UND and UNDAF. UNDAF will own the facility and will execute a ground lease with the Grand Forks Regional Airport Authority. UND will enter a sublease for use of the facility. All operating costs will be shared between the two entities in the same manner as for all other airport facilities used in the delivery of the aviation programs. The goal is to have the facility ready for occupancy by fall 2011.

Funding: UNDAF will be responsible for the construction costs of the hangar. A gift of \$2.3 million was received by the UND Aerospace Foundation on April 11, 2011. The gift is restricted for the purpose of construction of a new helicopter hangar with office space for helicopter flight instructors.