

Florida Tech Sustainability Capstone Project Wins Best Research Poster Award at International Symposium on Sustainable Aviation in Istanbul Turkey

Florida Tech graduate Tariq A. Buhilaigah won the Best Poster Award at the International Symposium on Sustainable Aviation in Istanbul Turkey on June 1, 2016. Titled “A Decision Tool for Solar Energy Efficiency Assessment in Small Airports”, the research was a senior capstone project for the Florida Tech Sustainability Minor program and represented a student research collaboration between the College of Science and the College of Aeronautics.

Tariq states “This award is not only a personal honor but also shows the importance of collaborating across disciplines to address important global issues”. The Sustainability Minor project coupled with his major in Interdisciplinary Science clearly prepared him for this opportunity. The symposium was organized by the Sustainable Aviation Research Society and Anadolu University to foster the exchange of key research on sustainability issues in aviation. Dr. Ismael Cremer, Associate Dean of the FIT College of Aeronautics, noted that “Sustainable energy is a key aspect of reducing the environmental impact of airports and this project designed a useful tool for airport managers to improve solar energy decision-making.”

Tariq was one of 16 minors and majors who graduated from the Florida Tech Sustainability Program in May 2016. His project advisor, Dr. Ken Lindeman, Dept. of Education and Interdisciplinary Studies, stated that “Hands-on research that crosses several disciplines is a trademark of our capstone research projects. Tariq’s enthusiasm and commitment to quality were evident from the beginning and we are delighted by his achievement.”. The Florida Tech Sustainability Program will exceed 100 graduates from over 10 countries in 2017. For more information see www.fit.edu/sustainability.

