If there was no aviation program in UIUC, consequently there would not be an aviation club. So, now I want to talk a little bit about history of Institute of Aviation. Institute of Aviation was found in 1945 and it was first established as Institute of Aeronautics. Leslie A. Bryan who contributed to Institute of Aviation greater than anybody in the university’s history. He was a professor of management and director of the Institute of Aviation at the University of Illinois from 1946 to 1968. He had been a professor of transportation at Syracuse University and also a track coach and athletic director. He was a professor of management and director of the Institute of Aviation at the University of Illinois from 1946 to 1968.

The Institute of Aviation established the Aviation Research Laboratory in 1970 as a result of federal support offered by the Office of Scientific Research, United States Air Force, to conduct a research project at the University of Illinois. The project was designed to “enhance man-machine effectiveness through scientific investigation critical human factors in airborne system design, training, and operation.” The Aviation Research Laboratory is located at Willard Airport.