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**Rhet. 105**  
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**Joint meeting**

Last aviation club meeting was held on March 2 at Mechanical Engineering building room 252. I had been informed that the meeting would be a jointing meeting with WIA(women in aviation) club, another national fraternity in UIUC. So, honestly speaking, I was expecting that there would be many aviation students, including some pretty ladies who want to become a pilot. With all the excitements, I got to the building, five minutes before the appointed time, 7 O'clock. When I got into the room, however, I was disappointed by the fact that there were only eight people sitting in the chairs. What was worse, five of them were the guys. With Dan's greeting, I seated at the back of the room and patiently waited for the meeting to start.

A couple more students came in before the meeting started at 7:15. Dan started with some announcements, and those were about the fundraising AHP and WIA were planning to do. The plan was that they will sell sandwiches with soda and chips at the Champaign airport and the price will be \$7. They discussed which sandwich shop they would choose and the approximate benefit for selling one sandwich was one dollar.

As they discussed the fundraising, I observed the room carefully to find some characteristics. The room that had appeared clean was somewhat disorderly room. The curtains were not fully raised and slanted to one side and some blocks on the ceiling were about to drop.

Whiling looking around the room, Laura, the head of WIA, came up and announced their schedule for the rest of semester. She handed out a schedule paper and went over everything on it briefly. The announcement was about skydiving trip and field

trip on April.

The meeting was finished at 7:38 and there were total thirteen students at the end. There were all white Americans except one Asian American. It was surprising that no one at the meeting was African American.

All students at the meeting eagerly participated in the discussion and that showed me their attachment to the club. And that also made me question myself why they who have tons of works to do, care about the club as if someone is grading them on their involvement. After pondering over the question, the only answer I could come up with was that they truly and deeply love what they do and they love it because it is about aviation. When I was in high school, I joined some clubs to make my extracurricular fancier and I guessed some of aviation club members might have joined the club to fill out their resume. But, shamefully, they were just different from me.

I was disappointed by the small number of students there and the fact that they did not talk about any technologies used in aviation. That worried me a little bit for I thought I might not find technologies involved in the club. There are still many meetings left, so I expect I will get more useful information later.