

My #1 priority for the Minnesota State University (MNSU) Aviation Studies program is to create and maintain a safety culture and safety excellence where all affiliated students, faculty, and staff operate in a safe, healthy, and secure working environment. As Dean, I am ultimately responsible for the safety and well-being of all personnel within the MNSU Aviation Studies program, and I pledge the following:

- (1) A PRODUCTIVE AND EFFECTIVE SAFETY CULTURE:
 - Encouragement, promotion, and active engagement in a “safety-first” mindset.
 - Implement safety processes and procedures adaptable to all operational or environmental changes in the aviation program.
 - Mechanisms that allow confidential communications and non-retribution reporting.
 - The Aviation Safety and Quality Program (ASQP) will ensure continuous improvement of the safety culture and safety program that is consistent with the mission and educational goals of the aviation program.

- (2) MAINTAIN A SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (SMS) WITHIN FLIGHT OPERATIONS:
 - MNSU and North Star Aviation (NSA) are obligated and jointly responsible for contributing to the ASQP Committee.
 - MNSU and NSA will work together in partnership to maintain the SMS program that fully incorporates the four pillars of Safety Policy, Safety Risk Management, Safety Assurance, and Safety Promotion.

- (3) ENCOURAGEMENT AND PROMOTION OF SAFETY:
 - You are empowered; your participation is encouraged and valuable. If you see something unsafe or may even appear unsafe, you can make appropriate decisions necessary to ensure safety is not compromised or overlooked.
 - You have my full support. Your actions will be non-punitive, and all students, faculty, and staff can make a confidential safety report, when necessary.
 - Safety is everyone's responsibility. The aviation program maximizes safety performance by identifying and reporting hazardous activity and when appropriate, mitigates or eliminates those risks to safety.

As signed on this day, September 3, 2024:

Mwarumba Mwavita
Mwarumba Mwavita, Ph.D.
Dean
College of Education