1. Search Committee Names Four TTI Director Candidates, Others Possible

Suggesting the search for TTI’s fourth director in its 56-year history is about at its midway point, Dr. Lee Peddicord, chair of the director search committee, announced Friday the names of four people who have been asked back for a second, lengthier interview. All four men have prestigious transportation-related backgrounds. Three have civil engineering degrees and one is a transportation economist. One of the candidates is a current TTI employee and one is a former TTI employee. They are:

- **Dr. Oliver McGee**—Ohio State University faculty member and former Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs of the United Negro College Fund. His second interview is scheduled July 13-14.
- **Dr. Jon Epps**—Engineering Services Manager of Granite Construction Company in California and a former Civil Engineering Department Professor at the University of Nevada-Reno. Epps was a Research Engineer with TTI from 1968-82. His second interview is scheduled for August 3-4.
- **Dr. Dennis Christiansen**—TTI Deputy Director with 35 years of employment with TTI. His second interview is scheduled for August 17-18.
- **Dr. Kenneth J. Button**—Professor of Public Policy, George Mason University. He was educated and held university positions in the United Kingdom. Dates for Button’s second interview are pending.

All four candidates will take part in on-campus interviews with key officials of The Texas A&M University System and others over a two-day period. All employees
will have the chance to meet the candidates at meetings to be scheduled later. Peddicord left open the possibility that other individuals could be considered, saying this is not the official final list of candidates. He speculated Director Herb Richardson’s replacement would be determined by the Board of Regents between late September and mid-October.

In making the announcement to a crowded Translink® Laboratory and to TTI urban offices via Polycom®, Peddicord said employees should be proud of TTI’s status among potential candidates. “Many of the people we contacted for consideration were flattered because of the reputation of the institute.”

View Friday’s Director Search Committee meeting: https://mediamatrix.tamu.edu/download_published_file.php?id=3606

top

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2. TTI at TexITE

The Summer Meeting sessions of the Texas Chapter of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (TexITE) were peppered with TTI moderators and speakers at College Station’s Hilton Hotel and Conference Center June 23-24. **Dennis Christiansen**’s discussion of the interstate anniversary and **Russell Henk**’s **Teens in the Driver Seat** were among six TTI presentations. **Chris Poe** and **Gary Thomas** served as moderators.

Experts updated attendees on topics that included toll roads, hurricane evacuations, safety and red light enforcement. According to Poe, the director of TTI’s Center on Tolling Research, two presentations on video tolling detailed new information for most attendees. Video tolling will supplement current transponder technology and offer transactions without the need for a toll tag. License plates will be photographed and a bill will be sent to vehicle owners anywhere in the country using Department of Motor Vehicles records. Video tolling will soon be in operation on State Highway 121 in Denton County and Loop 49 in Tyler.

**Karl Zimmerman**, **Andrew Ballard**, **Brian Bochner** and **Scott Cooner** were among the other TTI presenters.

Visit TexITE website: http://www.texite.org/

top

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Andrew Ballard presents Governor’s Task Force on Evacuation, Transportation, and Logistics at TexITE meeting.
3. Highway 40 Ribbon Cutting

For residents and commuters on College Station’s growing south side, travel became easier June 24 as TxDOT opened Texas 40, a three mile-stretch of four-lane divided highway that connects Wellborn Road and Greens Prairie Road near Earl Rudder Freeway (Highway 6).

The two-year, $6.9 million project was designed to increase safety and mobility in the area. Recently, the population in south College Station has ballooned as numerous subdivisions have been developed or expanded.

The ribbon cutting ceremony was attended by TxDOT Executive Director Michael Behrens and included an inaugural caravan of dignitaries led by a police motorcycle escort.

4. TTI Joins Blue Skyways
TTI’s participation in the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Blue Skyways Collaborative was recognized at a press event at the DFW Airport on June 20. The Blue Skyways Collaborative is a group of businesses, communities, government agencies and other groups voluntarily working together in the central states region to significantly reduce air pollution emissions. The ten central states include Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas, New Mexico, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa and Minnesota.

The EPA Administrators for Region 6 (Dallas) and Region 7 (Kansas City) spoke at the event, along with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Commissioner Larry Soward. Associate Research Engineer Joe Zietsman has been actively involved in the Blue Skyways Collaborative and coordinated TTI becoming a partner. Scott Cooner, program manager and associate research engineer, represented TTI at the press event. In addition to TTI, other partners recognized at the event included the City of Dallas, H-E-B Grocery Company, the City of Houston, the North Central Texas Council of Governments, the Port of Houston Authority, Capital Area Council of Governments, Caterpillar and public agencies in the ten states.

“Becoming a Blue Skyways partner is a natural tie with TTI’s research program,” notes Associate Director Katie Turnbull. “Research, implementation, evaluation and outreach play key roles in helping address the air quality issues facing North America’s heartland. TTI researchers are currently working with the EPA’s Smartways program on a national deployment strategy for truck stop electrification, and we have a number of other air quality-related projects underway.”


5. TTI Anniversaries

5 Years

Ming-Han Li, Assistant Research Engineer (AEM)
Chris Sasser, Assistant Research Editor (KWE)
Brandon Webb, Communications Specialist (KWE)

10 Years

Debbie Murillo, Communications Specialist (KAC)
John Overman, Associate Research Scientist (HTM)
Sharada Vadali, Assistant Research Scientist (ASP)

20 Years
Diana Wallace, Programmer/Analyst (HSO)

25 Years

Holly Crenshaw, Manager of Facilities and Support Services (SUP)

6. TTI in the News

There have been numerous mentions of TTI and our experts in recent media reports. Here are links to some of the stories.


http://columbus.bizjournals.com/columbus/stories/2006/06/19/daily11.html?jst=b_i n_hl Ohio patrol team anniversary (Columbus Business First) June 20

7. Editor's Corner: Year End Deliverables Roundup

As the end of the fiscal year approaches, so do the due dates for submittal of many TxDOT Research Management Committee contract deliverables. To receive proper attribution for your work, deliverables need to be processed and sent to TxDOT through TTI Communications.

Meeting your due date: The earlier you send your final deliverable to TTI Communications, the more smoothly the process will run and the more likely your deliverable will be received by TxDOT before its due date. Be sure to allow time for editing, processing, and queuing.

Sending your deliverable to COM: Send an email message to the centralized email address, TTI Reports (if using the Outlook address book) or TTI_Reports@ttimail.tamu.edu. When you send your deliverable for edit, please make sure to show the following information:

- Deliverable number(s)
- Exact location of products within a report if combined
- If color is needed and for which figures
- Special instructions
- Name and location of file(s) on TTI shared drives (you may attach small files to the message if you prefer)

Sending your report for edit: Written deliverables require an edit by TTI Communications at submittal stage (the first TxDOT review). COM can perform either a standard hardcopy markup (send a PDF file or hardcopy printout) or electronic in-file editing (send a Word file).

Sending your revised report for submittal after edit: After edit, return your revised report to TTI Communications promptly to help ensure that all deliverables reach TxDOT by their respective due dates.

Documenting nonwritten deliverables: Remember that nonwritten deliverables (such as equipment, software, installations, etc) also need to be documented as complete. Send information to COM regarding the product along with any available documentation (such as attendance lists, times and dates, photos, purchase orders, etc).

Verifying deliverable status: You can check the due date and status of your deliverable in the My Stuff section of TTInet or in automated email listings. If your deliverable does not show that it has been received in Communications within a week after you send it, please contact COM to verify that it has been received or to resolve any problems.
Sequence of submittal: RTI has specified that project summary reports (PSRs) be submitted after submittal of other deliverables on a project. Send your PSR to COM after you receive your copy of submittal documentation for all other deliverables.

Dolores Hott handles RMC 1 and RMC 5. Michelle Jones handles RMC 2, RMC 3, and RMC 4. Rhonda Brinkmann serves as backup on all RMCs. Feel free to contact any of them with questions regarding the editing and processing of your TxDOT deliverables.

top

CenterLine is a production of TTI Communications. We encourage your comments and suggestions for articles about TTI people and research efforts. Please send email to news@ttimail.tamu.edu or call Rick Davenport at (979) 862-3763.