ASSISTANT DIRECTOR MESSAGE

Steve Liu have done an excellent job implementing a more permanent solution to managing the computing resources of the laboratory.

EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS

The Center for Professional Capacity Building has a copy of three videos developed by the Mack-Blackwell Center at University of Arkansas for the purpose of educating young people about the transportation profession. The videos are entitled Back to the Future, Please (intended for junior high and high school students), Make it Happen (geared toward middle school students), and Check it Out (developed for elementary school students). The tapes are designed to be an ice-breaker for a formal presentation to students. It is anticipated that these materials will be used in math and science classrooms and for outreach demonstrations.

If you are asked to speak to any of the appropriate audience groups, please feel free to contact me to use the videos in your presentation. All three tapes were made possible through the support of the Mack-Blackwell National Rural Transportation Study Center, the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department, the Arkansas Academy of Civil Engineers, ASCE, and the Arkansas Section of ASCE.

If you have any questions or other comments, please contact Beverly Kuhn at (512) 467-0946 or bkuhn@tamu.edu

CALENDAR MARKS

Aug 9-12  ITE annual meeting, Toronto
Aug 14-15  Summer Graduation
Aug 31  Fall Semester Begins
Aug 31  TxDOT Reports Due
Aug 31  End of FY 97
Sep 7  Labor Day (TxDOT Holiday)
Oct 12-16  Fifth Annual World Congress on ITS, Seoul
Oct 12  Columbus Day (TxDOT Holiday)
Oct 25  Daylight Savings Time Ends
Nov 16-18  SAE International Truck and Bus Meeting and Expo, Indianapolis
Nov 26-27  Thanksgiving Holiday

TOG'S Mission

Develop implementable solutions which promote a safer, more effective, more efficient, and sustainable transportation system by providing quality research, education, technology transfer, and leadership in transportation system operation.
BRAVO! GREAT JOB! TAKE A BOW!

Kelly Blume, Peter Koonce, and Dena Jackson take a bow! Kelly and Peter were awarded the American Public Transit Foundation Scholarship for the 1998-1999 calendar year. Along with these new recipients of the scholarship Dena’s award was renewed. Congratulations!

Debbie Jasek take a bow, “for her excellent work in putting out an informative, well done newsletter each month. It is readable, interesting, and timely.”

To recognize someone’s great job, send pertinent information to Debbie Jasek (Deborah Jasek@TRA@TTI) anytime during the month.

CONGRATULATIONS

Marc Jacobson from the San Antonio Office married his best friend Elizabeth Vallin on July 12. The happy couple has just returned from a beautiful week in Seattle and Vancouver. Congratulations on your marriage and best wishes for a happy future from all of us!

Lisa and Richard Badillo are the proud parents of a baby girl. Victoria Gayle was born on July 3. Everyone is doing fine. Congratulations to everyone from all of us!

Larry and Bev Rilett have welcomed a new addition to their family. Samuel Parker Rilett — weighing in at 7 lb. 12 oz.— was born at 10:00 a.m. on July 27, 1998. Everyone is doing fine. Congratulations to the whole family from all of us!

HELLO AND GOODBYE!

Goodbye and Best Wishes

The members of TOG, especially those from the Houston office, send best wishes and a fond farewell along with Mike Ogden who is leaving TTI. Mike is taking a position in Houston with Klotz Associates, Inc.

Klotz is a civil engineering firm with offices in Houston and Austin, Texas. Mike says that he has been presented with an opportunity to work in the private sector that he just couldn’t pass-up. He will be developing a traffic engineering section within this firm.

Mike says that would like to thank everyone within the TOG/TTI for all their support/friendship over the past 16 years. Mike says that he will miss everyone and that he hopes to see them at various ITE/TRB/other activities in the future.

While at TTI, Mike worked within two separate Divisions of the Institute and conducted research for numerous agencies including the DOT, FHWA, TxDOT, DPS and METRO. His project involvement has included the study of traffic control systems, freeway and travel corridor analysis and the evaluation of HOV lanes. Mike has not only served the Institute with his technical expertise in many areas, but also as a leader in organizing events such as TTI day. He will be remembered by all who worked with him on various projects and endeavors for his cheerful disposition, great sense of humor, refreshing perspective, kindness, and concern for all. Mike will be missed both as a researcher and a friend. Good luck and best wishes.

Julia Wilkie of the San Antonio office is leaving and her last day will be August 14. Julia was an important part of the S.A. Office staff and will be missed.

She and her husband will be relocating to Dayton, Ohio. Geoff has accepted a position with KPMG Peat Marwick as a consultant in the public services division and Julia is still exploring her opportunities.

Julia, who was also heavily involved with the new South Texas ITE Chapter, will be finishing her term as President of the Chapter long-distance. She will be flying back to Texas for the October and December meetings.

We wish Julia and Geoff the best of luck in their fresh start and the beginning of life together outside of Geoff being in the military.

Jeanette Montufar, Research Associate in the Transport Operations Program, will be returning to the University of Manitoba in August. Jeanette has spent the past year at TTI working with Dan Middleton and Debbie Jasek on the Commercial Vehicle Strategic Plan for Texas. She is returning to Canada to complete work on her Ph.D. Although Jeanette will be missed by all here, we know that she and her husband will not miss the long “commute” between Texas and Canada. We wish her well and the best of luck in future endeavors.

Hello and Welcome

Cesar Quiroga, is the newest member of the San Antonio office. Cesar joins us from Louisiana State University. We are excited about Cesar coming on board... he will be a fine addition to our S.A. staff. Welcome Cesar!

Jim Rea has joined TTI as a Systems Analyst in the TransLink® Research Center. Jim will be employed full-time as he finishes his Ph.D. in computer science. He also brings 15 years of industry experience in software engineering and system analysis. Please feel free to stop by and visit with Jim about his interests and expertise. Welcome Jim!

The Transportation Systems Division would like to welcome back a former employee and old friend. Srinivasa Sunkari rejoins the division as an Assistant Research Engineer. Srin, who will be working initially on the Smart Diamond Project, joins us after spending time in cool Colorado Springs. Welcome back Srinivasa!
TTI SHIRTS AND CAPS

TTI logo shirts and caps are now available for purchase to interested employees. This especially timely for summer casual dress and for those TTI employees working on outside projects. Jody Kollman worked with a local advertising company to get quality shirts and quantity discounts. Samples were presented to the TTI Leadership Team at the June meeting.

The TTI T-Shirts are available with a maroon logo on a white shirt or with a white logo on a colored shirt. The logo is on the front of the shirt where the pocket is optionally located. The following shirts are available: a 50/50 cotton t-shirt ($16.25 white/$17.25 colors), a 100% cotton pique golf shirt ($21.00 white/$22.00 colors, and an outerbanks deluxe golf shirt ($32.00 white/$33.00 colors).

There are 2 styles of hats available. The first style is a twill golf cap with leather strap. The second style is a low profile 6 panel soft cap. Both are available in multiple colors and are $15.00.

Ordering will be direct (individual transactions) with K&L Advertising in College Station (409) 696-5469. The order forms can be found on the TTINET at http://ttinet.tamu.edu/lobby/grapevine/t-shirtorder.htm Shirts/caps will be held for pick-up or will be sent to the designated office location (not home addresses). K&L accepts checks or money orders only. Contact Jody if you wish to see samples.

MEANWHILE BACK AT THE RANCH

Gene Goolsby has take over Program Manager responsibilities from Mike Ogden. Please contact him if you have any questions on projects/work in the Houston office.

TOG staffers Kevin Balke, Beverly Kuhn, and Jerry Ullman recently presented a three day course on Freeway Operations to twenty-three members of the TxDOT Dallas District. Training is one of the tasks for the Dallas Interagency Contract. Chris Pierce of the Dallas TTI Office also attended the course.

Jack Webb attended the NCUTCD (National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices) meeting June 23rd through the 26th in San Antonio. One of the social highlights of the trip was an evening at the Alamo specifically set up for our group. The highlights of the meeting have been posted on the TOG website.

The Dallas office of TTI had 83 percent attendance at the Covey First Things First Training Course presented in the Arlington office in June.

David Noyce has been busy collecting conflict, crash, and driver understanding data associated with Protected/Permitted Left Turn Signal Displays. Dave, Mike Elmquist, and former TOG employee, Chris Brehmer, spent time this month in Detroit MI, Dover DE, and Peoria IL. Dave also attended a NSF-sponsored workshop for New Engineering Faculty in Madison WI.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Aug 4 Larry Rilett
Aug 13 Dennis Smalley
Aug 21 Clayton Ripps
Aug 23 Abiel Hinojosa
Aug 24 Dan Middleton
Aug 25 Maria Medrano
Aug 27 Frank Pakuszewski
Sep 4 Chris Poe
Sep 10 Sang-Soo Lee
Sep 19 Robert Benz
Sep 19 Mark Hickman
Sep 20 Michael Pacelli
Sep 22 Conrad Dudek
Sep 23 Garry Ford
Sep 30 Gene Goolsby

TRIVIA QUIZ

Here are the answers to last months trivia:

The Great Smoky Mountains are located in North Carolina and Tennessee.

Maine is the only state in the contiguous U.S. that is adjoined or touched by only one other state (New Hampshire.)

Alaska contains the most national forest land.

What U.S. city is located where the Monongahela and Allegheny Rivers meet to form the Ohio River?
What river was Huckleberry Finn's playground?
What river runs through the Grand Canyon in Arizona?
What river that flows through the Okefenokee Swamp was celebrated in a Stephen Foster song?

DILBERT QUOTES

As of tomorrow, employees will only be able to access the building using individual security cards. Pictures will be taken next Wednesday and employees will receive their cards in two weeks.

Fred Dales at Microsoft Corporation, Redmond, WA

E-mail is not to be used to pass on information or data. It should be used only for company business.

Accounting Mgr., Electric Boat Company

What I need is a list of specific unknown problems we will encounter.

Lykes Lines Shipping
WEATHER IN TEXAS!

It is so dry that the fish are starting to carry canteens.

It is so hot that birds are using potholders to catch worms.

Upon being stationed in south Texas during an especially hot summer, General Phil Sheridan was reputed to have said, “If I owned both Hell and Texas, I’d live in Hell and rent out Texas!”

A visitor to Texas once asked, “Does it ever rain out here?”

“Yes, it does,” a rancher replied. “Do you remember that part in the Bible when it rained for 40 days and 40 nights?”

“Yes, I’m familiar with Noah’s flood,” the visitor said.

“Well,” the rancher said, “we got two and a half inches during that spell.”

Elmer Kelton The Time It Never Rained

THE 1998 SUMMER FELLOWS (AKA The Year of the M)

The Summer Fellows have had a very productive summer. Their final presentations are scheduled for Monday, August 3, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Room 217. If your schedule allows you are invited to attend the presentations. We would like the fellows to know that we are all proud of your hard work and wish you best of luck in your future endeavors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summer Fellow</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>Title of Study</th>
<th>Supervisor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maurice Johnson</td>
<td>Texas Southern</td>
<td>“Accuracy of Link Travel Times Based on AVI and Loop Data”</td>
<td>Larry Rilett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Jozwiak</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M</td>
<td>“Driver Understanding of Protected/Permitted Left-Turn Signal Displays”</td>
<td>Dan Fambro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Hotelling</td>
<td>University of Texas at El Paso</td>
<td>“Comparing the TxDOT Advanced Transportation Management System to the ITS Architecture”</td>
<td>Mark Hickman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Knodler</td>
<td>University of Massachusetts at Amherst</td>
<td>“Evaluation of Border and Non-Border Driver Comprehension of U.S. Traffic Signs”</td>
<td>Dale Picha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nia Rogers</td>
<td>Carnegie-Mellon University</td>
<td>“Integrating ITS and GIS”</td>
<td>Larry Rilett</td>
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