ED’S CORNER

Performance review time is a good time to stop and reflect on what we’ve done and where we’re going. In this issue of our newsletter, we’ve included a two-page summary highlighting some of our achievements for the past year and some of our goals for next year. A number of people have helped in putting this overview together, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them.

Please take time to review this summary and reflect on our success. We should all be very proud of TOG’s and TTI’s accomplishments. Thank you all for your contributions.

Ed Seymour

CALENDAR MARKS

Mar 28 First Day of Passover
Mar 29 Good Friday
Mar 31 Easter
Apr 7 Daylight Savings Time begins
Apr 11 Transportation Science Fair, Gilchrist Bldg.
Apr 12 Job Shadowing
Apr 12-14 Parents Weekend
Apr 15 Tax Day
May 3-8 Final Exams
May 10-11 TAMU Graduation
May 12 Mothers Day
May 13 Grades Due
May 17 TOG Day

HELP! DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED!

As a repeat reminder, the Center for Professional Development is in need of neat freebies and transportation related items to be used in educational outreach activities. Anything from key rings, to stress balls, to pencils, to scratch pads, to stickers, to brochures are appreciated. If you have any extra freebies from trips, or you are attending a conference where there are some neat transportation related items available as freebies, a donation of these items to our collection will be appreciated.

If you have items you wish to donate, please contact Debbie Jasek at 845-5239 or by e-mail at d-jasek@tamu.edu.

TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES SITE UP AND RUNNING!

The traffic control devices web site is up and running. The site, found at http://tcd.tamu.edu/, features both current and previous research, MUTCD history, pictures and biographies of research staff, and links. Check out this valuable resource.

NOTES FROM THE CPD

Laredo Construction Days

The TxDOT District Office in Laredo held Construction Career Days in February. During the 3 day career day event, 1200 high school students from schools throughout the District were bused to the Laredo Office. Booths, displays, and activities provided students information on college, technical schools and careers in construction and transportation. Debbie Jasek of the CPD manned a booth that provided information on TTI, Texas A&M, Palo Alto College, and transportation careers.

Brazos Valley Regional Science and Engineering Fair

The Brazos Valley Regional Science and Engineering Fair will be held March 18-20 at Texas A&M University. The CPD will provide judges and will present special awards to the best transportation related science project.

As always for more information on these topics please contact Gary Thomas at 458-3263 or by e-mail at g-thomas@tamu.edu or Debbie Jasek at 845-5239 or by e-mail at d-jasek@tamu.edu.

Gary Thomas

CAN I BORROW YOUR CAR?

Sue Chrysler, Gene Hawkins, and Paul Carlson will be measuring vehicle headlamps as part of a TxDOT project on highway signs. The purpose of the study is to determine how much light reaches signs on the road. They’re looking for any and all vehicles including ones with broken, dirty, and misaimed headlights. The measurements will take place at Riverside during the day. The whole procedure will last less than an hour and they’ll provide shuttle service if you’d just like to loan your car for an hour. Watch for e-mail notices or contact Sue Chrysler via email or phone if you’re willing to participate.

Gary Thomas

TOG’s Mission

To facilitate innovations in transportation system operations through leadership in research, education, and technology transfer.
HELLO AND GOODBYE
Welcome

The Houston Office would like to welcome back Tony Voigt. Tony rejoins TTI as an Assistant Research Engineer after spending some time working for Klotz Associates, Inc. in Houston.

The San Antonio Office for Research and Implementation would like to welcome back Marc Jacobson to its full-time staff. Marc has returned to TTI (he previously worked in the San Antonio Office for approximately two years) after working as a traffic signal engineer with the City of Dallas for two and a half years. Marc received his Bachelor’s in Civil Engineering in 1996 and his Master’s in Civil Engineering in 1997 both from Texas A&M University and is now a registered Professional Engineer. Marc will be assisting on various projects for both the Dallas and San Antonio Offices. Marc will be based in the Dallas Office until June of this year -- at which time he'll relocate to the San Antonio TransGuide Office. Marc's interest areas include traffic control devices, traffic safety, highway-rail intersections, intelligent transportation systems, and transportation in education.

DIRECTIONS TO CAMP HUBBARD

For those of you who might be traveling to TxDOT's Camp Hubbard office, Kay Fitzpatrick obtained a map of where to park and how to get around in the area. This map is a bit easier to decipher and therefore more useful than the one available on the TxDOT website. If you are in FTD, you can now find the map at: `\H:\FTDshare\MAPS\txdot_camphubbard.tif`. For those not in FTD, you can get the map here: `\Tti-admdata\fid\FTDshare\MAPS\txdot_camphubbard.tif`.

TRAVEL ALLOWANCE GUIDE AVAILABLE ON WEB SITE

The State Comptroller’s Travel Allowance Guide has been updated and is available at [http://travel.tamu.edu/tag/](http://travel.tamu.edu/tag/). Chapter 9 covers the major changes from the previous guide. The Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts has adopted the State of Texas Travel Allowance Guide to help state agencies and state employees comply with the travel laws enacted by the legislature. All state employees who travel, make travel arrangements, or process travel vouchers should be familiar with the guide. This edition of the guide is effective until superseded by the state comptroller or legislative action.

TOG TRAVELS

Larry Rilett recently attended the National Science Foundation Workshop on Responding to Unexpected Events. The purpose of workshop, which was held in New York City, was to identify research areas associated with responding to events such as earthquakes, nuclear accidents and terrorist attacks. It was held at the Marriott Financial Center Hotel located (literally) next to the World Trade Center site. My hotel room overlooked part of Ground Zero and needless to say, the workshop was an interesting, if sobering, experience.

Gary Thomas traveled to Dallas to assist in an ITS Standards course on Dynamic Message Signs and to Phoenix to teach an NHI course on Traffic Signal Systems.

Hassan Charara and Leonard Ruback attended the 2002 ITS Standards Training course on Center-to-Center communications taught by ITE in Dallas.

Debbie Jasek traveled to Atlanta for the National Summer Transportation Institute workshop. During the workshop TTI was awarded the Excellence in Partnership Award from FHWA for the third year in a row.

Debbie Jasek, Kay Fitzpatrick, and Marcus Brewer traveled to Brownwood to meet with TxDOT on Project 4048.

Debbie Jasek traveled to Laredo to participate in the Laredo District Construction Days and to interview TxDOT and International Bridge Officials on truck accommodation issues.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Mar 03  Hanseon Cho  
Mar 04  Russell Henk  
Mar 06  Steve Schrock  
Mar 22  Montasir Abbas  
Mar 27  Srikar Doddi  
Mar 28  Helen Olivarez  
Mar 29  Kay Fitzpatrick  
Mar 31  Paul Davis  
Apr 04  Carroll Messer  
Apr 07  Amber Holguin  
Apr 08  Beverly Kuhn  
Apr 10  Hassan Charara  
Apr 17  Marc Jacobson  
Apr 21  Robert Pina  
Apr 25  Darrell Borchardt  
Apr 25  Kerry Brown  
Apr 26  Kevin Balke  
Apr 26  Beth Neilson  
Apr 30  Danny Morris  

MEANWHILE BACK AT THE RANCH

Paul Davis participated in a panel discussion about careers in technology at the Bryan High School technical program. The panel members discussed how they came to work in their respective fields, the decisions made along the way, and how they prepared for their careers. The panel consisted of six people from diverse technical fields, and about six students asked questions. This event was broadcast to classrooms within the school and interested students will tour the TransLink lab in the future.
THE GOVERNOR VISITS TRANSLINK

Governor Rick Perry recently visited TTI and TranLink® and held a press conference detailing his proposed transportation corridor.

UPCOMING CAMPUS and OTHER EVENTS

Mar 11- Jul 31 Fathers and Sons. The extraordinary private and public careers of President John Adams, President John Quincy Adams, President George H.W. Bush, and President George W. Bush through original art, documents, artifacts, photographs, and video, Bush Library.

Mar 23 Big Event
Mar 23 Fourth Annual Easter Celebration from 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., Bush Library. Activities will include entertainment, face painting, storytelling, an Easter Egg hunt, Easter Egg Roll, door prizes, and refreshments.

Apr 12-14 Parents Weekend
Apr 17 Distinguished Lecture Series, Dr. Paul J. Fox Exploring Our Planet's Record of Ocean Time: The Ocean Drilling Program, 7:30 p.m., Presidential Conference Center
Apr 21 Aggie Muster
May 10-11 TAMU Graduation

CATALOGS AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Texas A&M University Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs are now available on the Internet at www.tamu.edu/admissions/catalogs.

WORDS OF WISDOM

It is easier to go down a hill than it is to go up. but the view is better from the top.

You can either complain that rose bushes have thorns -- or rejoice that thorn bushes have roses.

NEW PROJECTS

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>181000</td>
<td>Rilett</td>
<td>Texas Higher Education Coord. Board</td>
<td>Forecasting Highway Bridge Deterioration Under NAFTA Truck Traffic</td>
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<td>400431</td>
<td>Burris</td>
<td>CRSPE, Inc.</td>
<td>Queue Jump Value Pricing Project - Lee County, Florida</td>
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<td>Seymour</td>
<td>AASHTO</td>
<td>National Transportation Communications for ITS Protocol (NTCIP) Newsletter</td>
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<td>Tech Transfer &amp; Tech Support Services for the Laredo District, Operations Section</td>
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<td>474500</td>
<td>Balke</td>
<td>Battelle Memorial Institute</td>
<td>Incident Management Performance Measures</td>
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Gov. Perry Discusses Future Transportation Issues

Gov Perry and Kevin Balke