ED’S CORNER

The TOG family has logged another successful fiscal year. And we're starting FY 02-03 in great shape with plenty of good projects. Congratulations to all of you! And, we should extend a special congratulation to the entire System Management Division for submitting 100% of the division's FY02 RMC deliverables to ITEC by the close of business on August 30th. Overall TOG has turned in 87% of our deliverables to ITEC within the first week after September 1. You've done a great job that helps achieve one of this year's objectives - improve our on-time delivery to ITEC.

Getting deliverables to ITEC at this date allows us to get some "distance" between our writing and our thinking. I'd encourage everyone to revisit their summary reports with a fresh perspective before they're finalized. These deliverables are especially challenging because of their limited length. The idea is to keep it simple, even when it is not.

Be sure to put the upcoming 2002 Transportation Short Course [http://tti.tamu.edu/conferences/tsc02/] on your calendars. It is scheduled October 22nd and 23rd. The Operations Sessions are #8 on the afternoon of October 22 and #15 in the morning of October 23. The Short Course is always a good opportunity to meet TxDOT and hear their concerns. There's almost always a future research topic hidden in the dialogue.

Ed Seymour

HELLO AND GOODBYE

Please join us in welcoming George Balarezo to the Signal Operations Program. George is a new graduate student. He is originally from Michigan by way of Syracuse University where he recently graduated with a BS degree in civil engineering. George is pursuing a MS degree while here at TAMU.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Sept 02  Alejandro Reyna
Sept 06  James McKenzie
Sept 10  Roberto Arredondo
Sept 10  Kyle Kurfées
Sept 10  Carissa Mardiros
Sept 11  Ho Jun Son
Sept 12  Michael Perez
Sept 19  Robert Benz
Sept 20  Ashwin Kekre
Sept 22  Conrad Dudek
Sept 22  Diane Fischer
Sept 23  Garry Ford
Sept 24  Stephani Holder
Sept 30  Chi-Leung Chu
Sept 30  Merrell Goolsby
Sept 30  Leonard Ruback
Oct 01  Dan Walker
Oct 04  Liz Post
Oct 08  Amy Elliott
Oct 08  Timothy Gates
Oct 11  Cara Garcia
Oct 11  Omar Mata
Oct 11  Tim Wolff
Oct 17  David Ibanez
Oct 19  Gene Hawkins
Oct 19  Charles Stevens
Oct 20  Seung-Jim Kim
Oct 20  Brenda Manak
Oct 21  Guangyu Liu
Oct 22  Juan Rodriguez
Oct 27  Srinivasa Sunkari
Oct 31  Marcus Brewer

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TOG’S Mission

To facilitate innovations in transportation system operations through leadership in research, education, and technology transfer.
At the Texas 2002 Transportation Summit in Irving Texas, Michael Jackson, Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation, talked at one of the luncheons. He indicated that six "touchstones" of the reauthorization focus are as follows:

1. Ensuring adequate and predictable funding.
2. Getting flexibility in funding.
3. Innovative financing including procurement reform.
4. Increasing the accessibility of the transportation system.
5. Improvement in safety.

KUDOS

Congratulations to the following staff on their recent promotions!

Rob Benz -- Associate Research Engineer
Jim Bonneson -- Research Engineer
Bob Brydia -- Associate Research Scientist
Tim Gates -- Associate Transportation Researcher
Gene Goolsby -- Senior Research Engineer
Leonard Ruback -- Research Scientist
Ed Seymour -- Associate Agency Director
Joan Stapp -- Lead Office Assistant
Jerry Ullman -- Research Engineer

The November Research Management Committee Meetings for RMCs 1-5, are scheduled for November 4-7, 2002, at the San Antonio Marriott Northwest in San Antonio, Texas. Those attending should make hotel reservations no later than October 15, 2002.

RMC meeting schedules are as follows:

RMC 1
Wednesday November 6, 2002 - 10:00 a.m.
Thursday November 7, 2002 - 8:00 a.m.

RMC 2
Wednesday November 6, 2002 - 1:00 p.m.
Thursday November 7, 2002 - 8:00 a.m.

RMC 3
Monday November 4, 2002 - 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday November 5, 2002 - 8:00 a.m.

RMC 4
Monday November 4, 2002 - 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday November 5, 2002 - 8:00 a.m.

RMC 5
Monday November 4, 2002 - 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday November 5, 2002 - 8:00 a.m.

Agendas will be distributed at a later date.

Hotel Reservations:
San Antonio Marriott Northwest
3233 N.W. Loop 410
San Antonio, Texas 78213
(210) 377-3900

The rate is $80.00 for a single or double sleeping room. To receive the contracted rate, please identify yourself as attending the Texas Department of Transportation RMC Meeting. All reservations must be secured with a credit card or cash deposit for first night's room and tax. Check-in time is at 3:00 p.m. and check-out time is 12:00 noon.

If you have general questions regarding the meeting, hotel or need special accommodations, please call Nina E. Kroeker (512) 465-7775.