TOG Family News

WELCOME

The San Antonio – Blanco Office welcomes Kathy Montemayor to the Teens in the Driver Seat Center. Kathy has been a valuable asset to TOG and the TDS program deployment in the North Texas region over the past months. As her family has relocated to the San Antonio area, it’s only appropriate for TTI and TDS to utilize her skills and special talents.

The Houston office would like to welcome Roma Garg to TTI. Roma joins the Research and Implementation Division in the Houston Office as an Assistant Research Scientist. Roma is originally from India, where she earned her Bachelors Degree in Civil Engineering and Masters Degree in Structural Engineering. She attended Texas A&M University, where she earned a Masters Degree in Civil Engineering. She has several years of teaching and consulting experience from India. Garg will be working initially with several researchers, including Robert Benz, Darrell Borchardt, LuAnn Theiss, and Tony Voigt, on several projects.

R.J. Porter joins the Operations & Design Division as an Assistant Research Scientist. R.J. received his Bachelors, Masters, and Ph.D. at The Pennsylvania State University in University Park, PA. R.J. worked at the Pennsylvania Transportation Institute before coming to TTI. He will be working on three different projects this coming FY—one with Paul et al. concerning the safety of wider pavement markings, one with Jerry Ullman to develop and evaluate work zone performance measures, and one with Kay Fitzpatrick to develop guidelines for ramp terminal spacing for freeways.

Christina Madsen has recently joined the TOG Research and Implementation Division in the Dallas Office working on the Teens in the Driver Seat program. She will lead the North Texas TDS efforts and support work with the TxDOT Dallas District Office. No stranger to the Dallas Office, Christie had been working in the Safety Center from Dallas.

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Recent Travels

TOG went to Pittsburgh, PA for the ITE Annual Meeting during early August. Gary Thomas, Marcus Brewer, Andy Ballard, Marsha Anderson Bomar, Jodi Carson, Bob De Roche, Gene Hawkins, Russell Henk, Keith Knapp, Beverly Kuhn, and Penelope Weinberger were in attendance and/or made presentations.

Staff from the Houston office beat a path to Port Arthur, TX and surrounding areas during July. LuAnn Theiss, Roma Garg, and Tony Voigt (as well as Jeff Arndt and Linda Cherrington from SPP&E) traveled to Port Arthur on numerous occasions to conduct stakeholder meetings for the TxDOT Beaumont District. Paul Adamson, Michael Davis, Barock Goshu, and Mario Martinez traveled to Port Arthur to collect data for the project.

Gary Thomas traveled to Houston on July 10 to speak to the Summer Transportation Institute at Texas Southern University. Two days later he chaperoned the transportation undergraduate fellows and several members of the ITE student chapter to TranStar and Houston METRO.

Tony Voigt traveled to Minneapolis, MN on July 11-14 to participate in the TCRP Panel Meeting regarding a guide for implementing bus-on-shoulder (BOS) systems.

Jerry Ullman traveled to Madison, WI on July 16-17 to participate in the joint meeting of the AASHTO Subcommittee on Systems Operation and Maintenance, Subcommittee on Maintenance, and Special Committee on Wireless Technology. He presented information and gathered input pertaining to national work zone performance measure development efforts.

Robert Benz traveled to College Station on July 23 to meet with Bill Stockton and Judy Perkins of Prairie View A&M University regarding the Summer Transportation Institute.

Beverly Kuhn traveled to Arlington on July 23-July 25 to teach a Managed Lanes Workshop.

Michael Davis traveled to El Paso, TX on July 30-August 9 to conduct data collection and field measurements on freeway direct connect ramps.

Ed Seymour, Christopher Poe, Paul Carlson, Tony Voigt and Beverly Kuhn participated in the TxDOT Urban District Engineer Meetings in College Station, hosted by TTI on July 31.

Cesar Quiroga has been traveling a lot giving presentations and providing training to TxDOT and utility company officials in connection with the new web-based utility permitting system (called Utility Installation Review [UIR]). UIR is being tested at five TxDOT districts (San Antonio, Pharr, Bryan, Fort Worth, and Houston), which has required a significant number of trips, both by car and by plane.

Also in connection with UIR, the system has generated considerable attention nationwide. On July 18th, with the help of Gary Thomas, Cesar Quiroga conducted a web conference to demonstrate the system to representatives from eight state DOTs: Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Montana, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Family News - continued

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Yingfeng (Eric) Li joined the Infrastructure Management Program in San Antonio on August 1st. Eric comes from the University of Kansas, where he finished with a Ph.D. in Transportation Engineering. The title of his dissertation was "Analyzing Highway Work Zone Crashes and Traffic Control Effectiveness".
TOG Is Hiring

New positions within TOG are listed below. Continue to share this information with your contacts. You can also forward potential names to the hiring supervisors so they can make personal contact. Applicants interested in applying for a position should go to https://tamujobs.tamu.edu/ choose "create an application" on the left side, and follow the instructions on the site to apply for the position.

New Positions

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<th>Program</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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<th>Position</th>
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<td>College Station - FWZ</td>
<td>Jerry Ullman</td>
<td>070955</td>
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<td>Houston - JHO</td>
<td>Tony Voigt</td>
<td>071073</td>
<td>Asst. Transp. Researcher</td>
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<td>Dallas - JDO/JHO</td>
<td>Christopher Poe</td>
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<td>Asst. Transp. Researcher</td>
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<td>El Paso - GEP</td>
<td>Rafael Aldrete</td>
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<td>Traffic Surveyor</td>
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<td>San Antonio - GSA</td>
<td>Steven Venglar</td>
<td>071487</td>
<td>Lead Office Assistant</td>
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TOG Mission Statement

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