If the temperatures are over 90°, summer must be here! As I always say, summer is a very busy time at TTI. This summer appears to be no exception.

TxDOT research reports for projects concluding in FY 08 are due at the end of August. Please be sure all of your TxDOT deliverables are submitted to Communications on time.

I cannot stress enough the importance of getting your deliverables in on time. TxDOT is monitoring overdue deliverables very closely. PIs with overdue deliverables are not able to propose on new projects.

Even without TxDOT’s action on overdue deliverables, submitting your reports on time is just good practice and business sense. Meeting sponsor expectations for timely submittal of deliverables is as important as conducting quality research.

Two research development seminars will be offered in June and July on report preparation. In addition, Communications can provide assistance with editing and other support.

Many of you will be participating in mid-year meetings of TRB committees, conferences, and workshops over the summer. Take advantage of these opportunities to network with current sponsors and get to know potential sponsors better.

I appreciate the efforts many of you are making to diversify the project funding and sponsor base within the SPP&E. The number of proposals submitted by researchers in the SPP&E is up over previous years. The number of awards has also increased.

In addition to the Research Development Seminars on report preparation, seminars will also be offered on intellectual properties, working with the Research Foundation, the TxDOT RMC process, and IDIQs over the coming months.

While everyone is busy, I hope you will have time to enjoy summer activities and to spend time with family and friends. We all need to take time to relax, recharge our batteries, and enjoy the summer.

Thanks!

Katie
Staff Activities

Jeff Arndt moderated a session, Safety Strategies to Reduce Bus and Pedestrian Collisions, at the APTA Bus & Paratransit Conference and International Bus Rodeo in Austin on May 3-7.

Juan Villa presented a paper, Transaction Costs in the Transportation Sector in North America, at the UN’s Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)-Organized Conference on Trade Facilitation held in Mexico City on May 7-8. Juan also presented a paper Options for Reducing Congestion at the Border at the Fifth Annual North American Agrifood Market Integration Consortium Workshop held May 22-23 in Austin.

Don Kang gave a presentation on Estimating Diversion Rates of Toll Roads with Multi-Commodity Network Flow Optimization at the Institute of Industrial Engineers Annual Conference and Expo in Vancouver held May 17-21.

Bill Eisele, Ed Hard, and Ginger Goodin gave presentations at the TxDOT Transportation Planning Conference in Houston, May 27-30. Bill’s presentation was on Congestion Monitoring for Small to Medium-Sized Communities. Ed spoke on Creating Partnerships with Local Communities to Manage and Preserve Corridors. Ginger’s presentation was on the Role of Preferential Treatment for Carpools in Managed Lane Facilities.

Linda Cherrington served as an invited discussant for a workshop on Data for Public Transit Planning, Marketing, and Model Development at the 8th International Conference on Survey Methods in Transportation in Annecy, France, May 25-31. Linda reviewed the workshop resource paper, led the discussion at the workshop, and wrote a short paper for the conference publication.

Congratulations!

John Overman has become a Certified National Highway Institute (NHI) Instructor. John earned the certification based on successfully completing the NHI Instructor Development Course and being evaluated over multiple classes. He completed the final evaluation while recently teaching the Metropolitan Planning Course.

Lisa Nimocks’ assistance during a recent research project in the Center for Air Quality Studies was praised by the project sponsor, CARMAX. The CARMAX representative noted “Lisa is always reachable, responds promptly, gives follow-up calls, and has such a pleasant disposition. I just wanted you to know that we really have enjoyed doing business with her.”

Congratulations John and Lisa!
**Birthdays**

**June**
- Beverly Storey 6/5
- Derrold Foster 6/7
- Mark Ojah 6/20
- Larry White 6/30

**July**
- Shawn Turner 7/15
- Cynthia Lowery 7/20
- Casey Dusza 7/22
- Tim Lomax 7/25
- Gary Lobaugh 7/26
- Lisa Nimocks 7/27
- Teresa Qu 7/30

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**Welcome**

**Marla Madison**, has joined the Research Development Office, as a Proposal Coordinator. Marla has a BS degree in Sociology from Texas A&M University. She has experience working as a Project Director with AIDS Services of Brazos Valley and as General Manager of the Hawthorne Suites in College Station.

Welcome, Marla.