It is a pleasure to announce the promotion of Juan Villa to Program Manager. Juan takes over from Bill Stockton as Program Manager of the renamed Economics, Trade, and Logistics Program.

Juan joined TTI in 2001. He has been instrumental in developing new research related to border transportation, as well as new projects in Mexico. Juan serves as co-chair of TTI’s Diversity Council and is participating in TTI’s international research initiative.

Juan is Secretary of the TRB Committee on International Trade and Transportation. He is also Chair of the Planning Committee for the TRB North American Freight Transportation Data Conference.

The new program name better reflects the current work and experience of researchers within the program. It also better positions the program and TTI for future research opportunities.

I would also like to thank Bill Stockton for the excellent job he did as Program Manager since 2000. Bill provided leadership and direction to the program at a critical time. He is responsible for building the staff expertise and sponsor base of the program.

Bill has also done a great job of balancing his responsibilities as Program Manager, Associate Director, and researcher. And, he completed his Ph.D! The change will give Bill more time to focus on his Associate Director responsibilities.

The additional TxDOT RMC Program RFPs have been distributed. Please let your Program Manager and me know if you have an interest in being considered for a Research Supervisor or a support role.

Thanks!

Katie
Mohamadreza Farzaneh participated in the poster session at the TRB Workshop on Data for Goods Movement Impacts on Air Quality in Irvine, California on March 17-18. Mohamadreza’s poster was on Methodology for Quantifying the Emission of Mexican Trucks on Nonattainment Areas. Annie Protopapa, Multimodal Freight, also had a poster in the session. TTI is completing the workshop Electronic Circular for TRB.


Congratulations!

Beverly Storey has been appointed to the TRB Committee on Roadside Maintenance Operations. Jeff Borowiec has been reappointed to the Committee on Aviation System Planning. Cliff Spiegelman has been appointed to the Committee on Statistical Methodology and Statistical Computer Software in Transportation Research.

Bill Eisele, Heather Ford, Tina Geiselbrecht, Justin Malnar, Beverly Storey, and Joe Zietsman are participating in the initial class of TTI’s new Leadership Development Program. Jeff Arndt and Dennis Perkinson are assisting Gary Thomas with the program.

Shawn Turner and Joe Zietsman spoke at the Research Development Seminar on International Research on March 25. The seminar, which was organized by Ed Seymour, set a new attendance record for Research Development Seminars. Roger Bligh, Rafael Aldrete, Sue Chrysler, and Beverly Kuhn also participated in the seminar.
Retirement

Denise Pineda, Research Development Office (RDO), has retired from TTI after 25 years of service. Denise was honored at a retirement reception at the Gibb Gilchrist Building on March 28. Denise began her TTI career in the Safety Division at Riverside, before moving to RDO. She has been a key part of RDO and is well known for her service to researchers and her knowledge of the various databases. Denise will be returning to RDO on a part-time basis after a cruise and some well deserved time off.

Birthdays

April
John Wikander  4/2
Jennifer Franklin  4/11
Sung Ho Chang  4/16
David Ellis  4/20
Bonnie Duke  4/24
Jett McFalls  4/30

May
Kevin Hall  5/5
Cliff Spiegelman 5/15
Montie Wade  5/20
Diana Wallace  5/30