The SPP&E is going international. **Juan Villa** is moving to Mexico City this summer. He will be working in the Texas A&M University Office there.

Both Juan and his wife grew up in Mexico City. Juan’s wife recently completed her Ph.D. from Texas A&M University and was offered a position at the Pan American University in Mexico City.

Juan currently has two projects in Mexico and feels the opportunities for additional work there will be enhanced by an on-site presence. In addition, his location in the University’s Office may lead to collaborative activities with other parts of Texas A&M University the TAMUS.

Juan will continue to lead projects for the Council on Environmental Cooperation, FHWA, TxDOT, and other sponsors. His location in Mexico should be of benefit to all sponsors and to other researchers at TTI. Juan will be making regular trips to College Station and other cities in Texas and the U.S. for project work.

SPP&E researchers continue working on a wide range of activities in China. **Ed Hard**, **David Ellis**, **Teresa Qu**, and **Shawn Turner** traveled to China in April for workshops, seminars, and meetings. Read more about their activities on page 2.

Closer to home, SPP&Eer's have been involved in recent meetings with representatives from the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI) and the DFW Airport. **Joe Zietsman** provided a tour of the new Environmental and Emissions Research Facility (EERF) to the UMTRI representatives. Joe also gave a presentation to the group in the meeting that was coordinated by Bill Stockton.

**Jeff Borowiec** assisted Bill Stockton and Dennis Christiansen with the meeting with DFW officials. Follow-up activities from both meetings are underway.

In addition, Joe and **Beverly Storey**, **Jett McFalls**, **Ming-Han Li**, and **Derrold Foster** provided a tour of the EERF and the Erosion and Sediment Control Laboratory to Amadeo Saenz and John Barton from TxDOT on April 2.

Thanks!

Katie
Staff Activities

Brian Bochner co-presented a Project for Public Spaces webinar sponsored by FHWA on Context Sensitive Solutions.

Jeff Borowiec, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Texas Airports Council at their annual meeting on April 8 in the Woodlands. The meeting was held during the 2010 Texas Aviation Conference. He will also chair the newly established education committee. The Council focuses on promoting all airports in the state of Texas, promoting the economic benefits of airports, and promoting legislative efforts to insure the operational and economic stability of airports in the state.

Ginger Goodin, Trey Baker, and Katie Turnbull participated in the 2010 Symposium on Mileage-Based User Fee: Moving Forward in Minneapolis, April 20-21. The Symposium was co-sponsored by the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota and TTI. It built on the 2009 Symposium held in Austin. Ginger gave a presentation highlighting the 2009 Symposium. Katie moderated a session on Political Realities and Project Champions and helped facilitate the closing discussion circle on actions for moving forward. Trey is assisting with the Symposium Summary. All three were on the Symposium Planning Team. In addition, Ginger gave presentations at a pre-symposium workshop on pay-as-you-go insurance and at a post symposium session on the International Scan.

Linda Cherrington moderated a workshop — The Power of Transit: Learning from Peer Regions — sponsored by the Houston-Galveston Area Council on April 29. Transit executives from Seattle, San Diego, Denver, Dallas, and Atlanta shared their views on the successes, achievements, and challenges faced in planning, developing, and delivering regional transit services.

Ed Hard participated in a workshop in Beijing hosted by the Beijing Transportation Research Center (BTRC). The workshop focused on developing a comprehensive travel survey for Beijing and developing travel forecasting models. The workshop was held April 21-12. Shawn Turner and Teresa Qu gave presentations at BTRC on processing remote traffic microwave sensor data. They also met with representatives from other agencies and universities to discuss possible research initiatives. And yes, Shawn did get Ed out on a bicycle ride around Beijing.

David Ellis was also in Beijing in April. He participated in a series of workshops at Beijing Jiaotong University on the economic impacts of transportation improvements, the impact of fuel prices on travel demand, forecasting transportation fee revenue, and measuring the impact of congestion on local economies.
**Retirement**

**David Pearson**, Transportation Planning Program, was honored at a Retirement Reception on April 7. David was recognized for his 20 years of dedicated service to TTI. Dennis Christiansen, Katie Turnbull, and Janie Temple and Bill Knowles from TxDOT provided comments and Dennis presented David with the “famous” TTI retirement clock. David will continue to work part-time on the Transportation Planning Program.

**Appointments**

**Joe Zietsman** has been appointed to the TRB Transportation Air Quality Committee.

**Brian Bochner** has been appointed to the TRB Task Force on Context Sensitive Design/Solutions.

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**Congratulations!**

**Eric George**, Student Worker II, Mobility Analysis Program, received the Texas A&M University Campus Student Employee of the Year Award on April 15. The Texas A&M University Student Employee of the Year Award honors two outstanding Texas A&M student employees for contributions made to the university and community over the past year. Eric was chosen from among 40 nominees. Eric has been a Student Worker in the Mobility Analysis Program for 5 years and will be graduating in May. He managed to maintain a 4.0 GPA each semester he has been employed at TTI.

**Teresa Qu**, Mobility Analysis Program, passed all the requirements for her Ph.D. in Urban and Regional Science from Texas A&M University. Teresa will receive her degree at commencement ceremonies in August.

Congratulations Eric and Teresa!
Years of Service

The following SPP&Eers reached a special anniversary with TTI in April:

David Ellis — 10 years

Birthdays

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

**June**
Scott Crawford 6/4
Beverly Storey 6/5
Derrold Foster 6/7
Mark Ojah 6/20
Sangita Sunkari 6/25

New Arrival

Lauren Geng, Mobility Analysis Program, and her husband Richard, welcomed a baby boy on April 6. Daniel Zhu weighed 7 lbs., 14 oz., and was 21 inches long.

Congrats Lauren and Richard!