Message from the Executive Associate Director

The SPP&E Newsletter is back after a summer vacation that unexpectedly extended into the fall! SPP&Eer’s have been busy, so there is a lot of news to catch up on in this issue.

Congratulations to TTI award winners Linda Cherrington and Mary Levien. Congratulations to all the SPP&Eer’s (Michelle Young, Phillip Reeder, Kevin Hall, David Schrank, Justin Malnar, Linda Cherrington, Jeff Arndt, Tim Lomax, and Bonnie Duke) recognized as part of the team award. Thanks to all those individuals who helped make the 2009 TTI day a success!

Jeff Arndt is the chair of the 2010 TTI Day. Please let Jeff know if you would like to help with any of the planning activities.

Congratulations also go to Shawn Turner, Lisa Nimocks, Trey Baker, Marty Boardman, Todd Carlson, and Lauren Geng for their recent promotions. Shawn was promoted to Program Manager of the Mobility Analysis Program. He takes over for Tim Lomax who has done an outstanding job as Program Manager over the years and who will continue to remain a key part of the program and TTI.

Speaking of Tim, he was recognized by the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) with the Theodore M. Matson Memorial award. Presented at the ITE Annual Meeting in San Antonio in August, the award recognizes outstanding contributions in the field of traffic engineering.

SPP&Eer’s have been in India, China, Canada, Mexico, and numerous European countries. Additionally, projects have taken SPP&Eer’s throughout Texas and across the U.S.

The Research Development Office has moved from their three-year temporary home in the Wells Fargo Building to the new State Headquarters and Research Building. Stop by and visit them if you have not done so yet — the new building is fantastic!

Get ready to read all about these activities and more in this newsletter! Please let me know if I missed an activity and it will be included in the January Newsletter.

Thank you all for the great job you have done in 2009. I hope you all have a very enjoyable and safe holidays. See you in 2010!

Thanks,
Katie
Promotions

Congratulations to the following SPP&Eer’s for their recent promotions!

Marty Boardman
Associate Research Specialist
Transportation Modeling

Shawn Turner
Program Manager
Mobility Analysis

Lisa Nimocks
Business Coordinator III
Center for Air Quality Studies

Todd Carlson
Assistant Research Scientist
Urban Analysis

Trey Baker
Associate Transportation Researcher
Austin Office

Lauren Geng
Systems Analyst II
Mobility Analysis
Staff Activities

**Ginger Goodin** and **Tina Geiselbrecht** spoke at the International Bridge, Tunnel, and Turnpike Association (IBTTA) Conference in Florida, June 14-16. Ginger’s presentation was “The Future of HOV Occupancy Recognition” and Tina’s presentation was “Cashless Tolling and Equity: Mutually Exclusive?”

**Katie Turnbull** gave a presentation on Managed Lanes in Texas at the ITE Annual Meeting in San Antonio August 9-12. She also gave a presentation on HOV, HOT, and Managed Lanes at the 12th Annual Transportation and Infrastructure Summit in Irving, August 14.

**Trey Baker** authored an article “Feeding a Hungry Odometer” on VMT-based fees in the July 2009 issue of *Transportation Management and Engineering*.

**Ginger Goodin** co-authored an article on HOT facilities in the July-August issue of *TR News*.

**Katie Turnbull** co-authored three articles on changing demographics and the transportation system in the September-October issue of *TR News*.

**Bill Eisele** and **Bill Frawley** presented a workshop on Mobility Monitoring for Small– to Medium-Sized Communities at the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations Annual Conference in Savannah, October 27-30.

**Katie Turnbull** gave a presentation on the National Urban Partnership Agreement National Evaluation at the National Conference of State Legislators in San Diego on December 11.

The following SPP&Eer’s served as Session Coordinators for the 2009 Transportation Short Course. **Ginger Goodin**, **John Overman**, **Katie Turnbull**, **Montie Wade**, and **Joe Zietsman**. SPP&Eer’s speakers were **Tim Lomax** and **Jason Crawford**. In addition, numerous SPP&Eer’s also helped with logistics.

Center for Air Quality Studies Hosts Fulbright Scholar

**Anuradha Shukla** from India’s Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) has spent four months at TTI as a Fulbright Scholar. Anuradha has been working in the Center for Air Quality Studies. In additional to her work at TTI, she traveled to Virginia Tech and Georgia Tech to present lectures and attended an emissions testing conference in Ann Arbor.

**Overman Part of Delegation to India**

**John Overman** was part of a delegation traveling to Mumbai, India in September. The trip was organized by FTA and the Mumbai Metropolitan Regional Development Authority to assist in developing a transportation training institute in the India State of Maharashtra. John taught a session on transportation planning and participated in discussions on other topics.
Staff Activities

Shawn Turner recently served as the Report Facilitator on a FHWA/AASHTO International Scan Tour for Improving Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety and Mobility. During two weeks in May, the scan team met with national, state, and local officials in Denmark, Sweden, Germany, Switzerland, and England.

Juan Villa chaired a panel during the North America's SuperCorridor Coalition (NASCO) conference in Quebec City June 1-2. He provided an overview of TTI as part of the session.

Brian Bochner Retires

Brian Bochner officially retired from TTI on August 31. He is continuing to work part-time to assist with different projects and initiatives. Brian’s accomplishments and contributions in his 10 years with TTI were recognized at a retirement reception on September 18.

TTI and the Beijing Transportation Research Center (BTRC) co-sponsored the Innovations in Congestion Monitoring Workshop in Beijing, China October 28-29. Workshop participants included Shawn Turner, David Ellis, and Joe Zietsman. Teresa Qu and Ed Seymour also attended the workshop. TTI researchers met with BTRC staff to discuss other research topics while they were in Beijing.

Photo By John Hobbs
Congratulations!
Tim Lomax Receives ITE Award

Tim Lomax received the Institute of Transportation Engineer (ITE) Theodore M. Matson Memorial Award in August. The award was presented at the ITE Annual Meeting in San Antonio, August 9-12, 2009. The Matson Award is presented annually to recognize outstanding contributions in the field of traffic engineering. Tim was recognized for his research in the areas of performance measurement and mobility improvement.

Sunrise Images Photography/ITE

Congratulations!

Cliff Spiegelman was appointed as a Distinguished Professor of Statistics at Texas A&M University’s College of Science. The appointment was effective September 2. Cliff joined the TAMU faculty in 1987.

Cynthia Lowery, Environmental Management, was named HUBBER of the Month for October.

Welcome

Bob Trotter has joined the Economics, Trade, and Logistics Program as a Senior Research Scientist. Bob has 34 years of law enforcement experience with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), including 19 years as a senior executive. He is a graduate of Western Illinois University and he served in U.S. Navy. Bob is working on research projects dealing with U.S. Department of Homeland Security and CBP, focusing on technology, acquisition, and passenger and cargo processing at border crossings.

The 2008 Delta-T Class, which included SPP&Er’s Tina Geiselbrecht, Justin Malnar, Joe Zietsman, and Beverly Storey, was recognized at TTI Day. Jeff Arndt and Dennis Perkinson were also recognized for their assistance with the program.

Volume 09, Number 12
Congratulations to the following SPP&Eer’s on receiving awards at All TTI Day.

TTI/Trinity Administrative Technical Staff — Mary Levien

TTI/Trinity Researcher — Linda Cherrington

TTI/Trinity Sadler Bridges Senior Researcher — Katie Turnbull

TTI/Trinity Herbert H. Richardson Team Award — Texas 2030 Transportation Needs Assessment Team (Michelle Young, Phillip Reeder, Kevin Hall, David Schrank, Justin Malnar, Linda Cherrington, Jeff Arndt, Tim Lomax, and Bonnie Duke among team members)

Special thanks for SPP&Eer’s, Lisa Nimocks, Bonnie Duke, Ginger Goodin, Casey Dusza, Jennifer Barry, Michelle Young, Diana Wallace, and Carol Court for serving on the TTI Day Committees.
Years of Service

The following SPP&Eers reached special anniversaries with TTI:

June
Jeremy Johnson — 10 Years

August
Justin Malnar — 5 Years
Steve Farnsworth — 15 Years
Bonnie Duke — 20 Years
Patti Ellis — 20 Years

September
Erlinda Olivarez — 15 Years

October
Fannie Davila — 1 Year

November
Kristen Maldonado — 1 Year
John Wikander — 10 Years

New Arrival

Casey Dusza, TTI Austin Office, and her husband Eric, welcomed a baby boy on July 27. Gavin Rylan Dusza weighed 7 lbs., 4 oz., and was 20.5 inches long.
Congrats Casey and Eric!

Birthdays

January
Denise Pineda 1/3
Bill Frawley 1/9
Brian Bochner 1/11
Linda Cherrington 1/17
Sharada Vadali 1/18
Carol Court 1/21
Evelyn Pilgrim 1/21
Michelle Young 1/23
Stephen Ranft 1/30

February
Jeff Arndt 2/2
Tammy Pietrucha 2/16
Fannie Davila 2/19
Bryan Keene 2/21
Susan Adams 2/28
Nick Vierus 2/28

Calendar of Events

December 23, 2009—January 1, 2010 — Holiday Break
January 10-14 — TRB Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.
January 18 — Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 19 — First Day of TAMU Spring Semester Classes
March 26 — Dedication of the TTI State Headquarters and Research Building