Message from the Associate Director

The TxDOT RMC FY 2003 proposal preparation process has begun. TxDOT sent a list of project titles to universities on January 29. Copies of the RFPs will be distributed the first week in February.

Preliminary lists of possible projects were circulated in the SPP&E after the RMC meetings in November, 2001. Initial expressions of interest were requested from SPP&E researchers after the November RMC meetings and again in late January after the official list was received from TxDOT.

If you have not done so yet, please let your Program Manager know if you are interested in being considered to lead or support any projects. Decisions on Principal Investigators will be coordinated through the Assistant, Associate, and Deputy Directors.

It is anticipated that pre-proposal meetings will be held in mid-February on some or all projects. Proposals are due to TxDOT on March 27. To meet this deadline, proposals are due to RDO by March 19. Drafts of the work scope are due to me by March 11 to provide time for review by senior SPP&E researchers. As always, early submissions are greatly appreciated.

If you are selected as a PI, please contact your RDO liaison immediately and keep them involved throughout the proposal process. Like previous years, SPP&E PI’s will organize brain-storming meetings with interested staff to discuss issues and possible approaches on proposals. Proposal work scopes will be reviewed by at least two senior SPP&E researchers.

The proposal process is a busy, but fun time. It is our opportunity to help TxDOT address critical transportation issues. So, be creative and innovative, but also keep proposals short and to the point.

Thanks!
Katie

Staff Activities

The SPP&E was well represented at the 2002 TRB Annual meeting. The following researchers presented papers, chaired sessions, gave presentations, and participated in poster sessions.

Ginger Daniels Goodin – Marketing Managed Lanes in Texas and Managed Lanes Research in Texas

Jason Crawford – Assessment of Handheld Cellular Telephone Use on Dallas County, Texas Freeways

Bill Eisele – Statistical Comparison of Travel Time Estimates Obtained from ITS and Instrumented Test Vehicles and Estimating Corridor Travel Time Mean, Variance, and Covariance with Intelligent Transportation Systems Link Travel Time Data

Tim Lomax – Measuring Urban Mobility, Traffic Congestion and Travel Time Reliability, and Highway Congestion

David Schrank – Measuring Urban Mobility and Methodology for Analyzing Mobility Levels: What We Learned in Grand Junction, Colorado

Shawn Turner – Traffic Congestion and Travel Time Reliability and FHWA Mobility Monitoring Program
Eun Sug Park – Chaired session on Vision for Statistical Methods in Transportation

Kim Phillips – Use of Digitally Enhanced Photographs to Improve Public Participation: Case Study of Muenster, Texas

Jody Naderi – Design Considerations in Simulating Pedestrian Environments

Cliff Spiegelman – Statistical Support at a University Transportation Research Institute

Bill Stockton – Pricing Glossary: Responding to the Hard Questions

Katie Turnbull – Transit and Future HOV Facilities

Josias Zietsman – Allocating Responsibility for Mobile Source Emissions

Sharada Vadali – Flexible Modeling Strategies for Assessing the Influence of Transportation on Accessibility

George Dresser – MOBILE6 Workshop

Cinde Gilliland – Customer Surveys for Strategic Management Workshop

Also at TRB, Naomi Ledé was presented with the first Sharon D. Banks Award at the Chairman’s Luncheon. Katie Turnbull was appointed Chair of the Group 5 Council and a member of the Division A Council.

Bill Stockton moderated and spoke at a session at the TexITE Mid-Year meeting in Irving. Bill’s presentation was on the TxDOT Model Border Crossing project.

John Overman participated in the National Transit Institute (NTI) Fellows Workshop at Rutgers University. Much of the workshop focused on learning to develop and teach adult curriculum using the ADDIE (Analysis - Design - Development - Implementation - Evaluation) process. John’s Fellow’s topic is Environmental Compliance for Transit Operations.

Congratulations

Tina Collier, Austin Liaison Office, has been promoted to an Assistant Transportation Researcher. Tina received her Masters in Geography from Southwest Texas State University in December. She continues to be a key part of the research team on TxDOT Austin District IAC projects and RMC studies.

Congratulations Tina!

Welcome

Steve Venglar is a new member of the Austin Liaison Office and the SPP&E. Steve has been located in the Austin Office since 1997, but continued to be part of the San Antonio office. Steve will continue to work on TxDOT RMC and IAC projects, as well as activities in the Center for Professional Development. He will also be taking on additional responsibilities in the Austin Office.

Welcome Steve!

Calendar

March 12-13 – 3rd Annual Forum on Public Health and Transportation Safety, Houston

April 12-17 – Texas Transit Conference, Lubbock

June 10-13 – TxDOT Spring RMC Meetings, Location TBA

Birthdays

February
Tammy Pietrucha 2/16
Scott Cothron 2/24
Susan Adams 2/28

March
George Dresser 3/9