Message from the Associate Director

As always, the TRB Annual Meeting was a busy, informative, and educational event. I continue to be amazed at the high energy level everyone maintains given all the activities packed into the week.

TTI and SPP&E researchers were actively involved in presenting papers and posters, moderating sessions, and chairing and participating in committee activities. A few items from the Annual Meeting are worth noting.

The new group, section, and committee structure was in place for the Annual Meeting. As part of the change from five to eleven groups, the Technical Activities Council recommended establishing two new annual paper awards. This recommendation was approved by the TRB Executive Board. One of the new paper awards is named after TTI Director Emeritus Charley V. Wootan. The award, which will be administered by the Policy and Organization Group, will be given annually to the best paper addressing transportation policy and organizational issues.

A slight modification has been made in the terms of the committee members and chairs to allow for a more orderly transition. Terms will now expire on April 14, with new terms starting on April 15.

The spotlight theme for the 2005 Annual Meeting is “transportation from a users’ perspective – safety, security, integration, and the customer’s experience.”

While it does seem a long way off at this point, remember, papers for the 2005 Annual Meeting are due to TRB by August 1. Please let me or your Program Manager know if you have any questions on TRB.

Thanks!

Katie

Polycom Links

The Austin and Arlington Offices are now connected to College Station by video links. The Polycom units in College Station are located in the CE/T TI Bldg., Room 801C, and at the Gibb.

Special thanks to Heather Ford for overseeing the ordering and delivery of the units. Thanks also to Diana Wallace and Shanna Yates for their help in setting up the units.

Staff Activities

The SPP&E was well represented at the 2004 TRB Annual Meeting. SPP&E’ers presenting papers, moderating sessions, and chairing committee meetings included:


Tim Lomax – moderated session on Asset Management: Applying What We Know and chaired Task Force on Transportation Asset Management.
Tina Collier – presented poster on Managed Lanes Concept Marketing.

David Pearson – moderated session on Travel Survey Methods.


Bill Eisele and Bill Frawley – presented paper on Implementing Program for Access Management in Texas: Lessons Learned.


Montie Wade – chaired Subcommittee on Planning for the Conference on Small and Medium-Sized Communities.

Harlow Landphair – moderated session on Context-Sensitive Design and Solutions and chaired Committee on Landscape and Environmental Design.

Katie Turnbull – chaired Policy and Organization Group Executive Board.

Bill Frawley and Bill Eisele spoke at the TexITE Winter Meeting in San Antonio, January 30-31. Their presentation was on Access Management: Research Overview and Case Studies.

New Arrival

Joan Hudson, Austin Liaison Office, and her husband, Paul, welcomed a new baby, Jane Elizabeth, on January 8th. Both mother and baby, who weighed 7lbs, 10 oz, are doing well.

Congratulations Joan and Paul!