As you can see in this newsletter, May was a busy month for P&Eer’s.

Congratulations to the P&Eer’s presented with awards at TTI Day — Suzie Edrington, Nick Norbage, Tara Ramani, Juan Villa, Dave Shrank, Tim Lomax, Shawn Turner, Lauren Geng, Cliff Spiegelman, Pam Rowe, Michelle Young, Sherie Ruter, Mary Levien, and Justin Malnar all received awards. Please see page 4 for photos and the exact awards.

P&Eer’s were also active giving presentations and participating in conferences throughout the state and around the country. Many researchers took the opportunity to discuss possible projects with sponsors at these events.

While diversifying our research portfolio continues to be a priority — continuing to serve our number one sponsor, TxDOT, also continues to be a priority. Congratulations to the following P&Eer’s who are PIs on RMC proposals selected for FY 2012.

Ginger Goodin — Evaluation of the I-10 Katy Freeway Managed Lanes

Karen Lorenzini — Managing the TDM Process: Developing MPO Institutional Capacity

Suzie Edrington — Identifying Best Practices for Managing Operating Costs for Rural and Small Urban Public Transportation Systems


Thanks also goes to everyone assisting with these and other TxDOT RMC proposals. Writing good proposals typically involves many people.

Now is also a good time to begin thinking about problem statements for the FY 2013 RMC process. Problem statements are typically due in early August.

Talking with TxDOT staff to identify key issues is a great way to develop good problem statements. Volunteering to write problem statements for TxDOT personnel to submit is also appropriate.

Thank you for all your hard work and extra efforts!

Thanks!

Katie
Researchers from the Center for Air Quality Studies participated in the TRB Transportation, Planning, Land Use, and Air Quality Conference in San Antonio on May 9 and 10. Joe Zietsman presented a paper, Characterization of Exhaust Emissions from Heavy Duty Diesel Vehicles in the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria Area (Jeremy Johnson, Tim Wood, Reza Farzenah, and Doh-Won Lee, co-authors) and moderated a session.

Tara Ramani presented two papers, Conceptualization and Defining Sustainability — A Proposed Approach for Transportation Agencies (Joe Zietsman, co-author) and Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Reduction Programs and Strategies — Applications for the Houston-Galveston Metropolitan Area (Joe Zietsman, Graciela Lubertino, and Jinpeng Lv, co-authors), and moderated a session.

Reza Farzaneh presented a paper on Emissions Impact of Speed Limit Enforcement.

The assistance of Teresa Qu and Liz Yang on the Austin bicycle and pedestrian project was inadvertently left out of the April Newsletter. Kudos go to both Teresa and Liz, who played major roles in the modeling work to estimate bicycle and pedestrian supply and demand for the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Sharada Vadali gave a presentation, Spatial Representation in Economic Impact Models at the International Transportation Economic Development Conference in Charleston, West Virginia May 1-3.

Joe Zietsman has been asked to serve on ITS America’s expert technical working group to act as a technical resource for the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Applications for the Environment: Real-Time Information Synthesis (AERIS) program.

Eun Sug Park gave a presentation on Development of Enhanced Statistical Methods for Assessing Health Effects Associated with an Unknown Number of Major Sources of Multiple Air Pollutants at the HEI (Health Effects Institute) 2011 Annual Conference in Boston on May 1.

A number of P&Eer’s gave presentations at the 13th TRB National Transportation Planning Applications Conference held May 8-12 in Reno, Nevada.

Nick Wood gave a presentation on Assessing the Marginal Cost of Freeway Congestion for Vehicle Fleets Using Passive GPS Data (Randall Guensler, Georgia Institute of Technology, co-author).

Stacey Bricka gave a presentation on Surveying and Modeling Long Distance Trips (Erik Sabina, Denver Regional Council of Governments; Julie Paasche, NuStats; and Catherine Durso, University of Denver, co-authors). Stacey also gave a presentation on Changes in Household Vehicle Fleet Compositions and Policy Implications (Trey Baker, co-author) and acted as the assistant for the session on Possibilities of the Capability of Livability and Sustainability in Transportation Facilities.

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Karen Lorenzini was the co-author of a presentation, Feedback on Feedback: CAMPO’s Findings from Testing Various Feedback Approaches (Jonathan Avner, Wilber Smith Associates and Kevin Lancaster, Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, co-authors) and acted as the assistant for the session on Chances for Advances in Modeling Circumstances.

Ed Hard gave a presentation on Impacts of Proxy Reporting in Household Surveys on Trip Rates (David Pearson, co-author).

Steve Farnsworth gave a presentation on An Innovative Approach to Mapping Vehicle Classification Data.

Joe Zietsman and Tara Ramani did not attend the conference, but they were co-authors on a presentation by Graciela Lubertino, Houston-Galveston Area Council, on Methodology for Estimating Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Assessing Mitigation Options for Project-Level and Regional-Level Applications for On-Road Mobile Sources.

Matt Sandidge was a panelist in the New System Start-UPS and Governance Models Session at the 2011 American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Bus & Paratransit Conference held May 6-9 in Memphis.

The P&E was also well represented at the TRB 4th International Transportation Systems Performance Measures Conference, May 18-20 in Irvine, California. Tim Lomax served on the Conference Planning Team. Tim moderated a breakout session, Class of Priorities, and participated as a panelist on another breakout session, Asking the Right Questions — Timely Advice for Emerging Tools, Better Data, and Approaches for System Performance Measures. Joe Zietsman moderated a session, Implications of Climate Change and Sustainability Performance Management Programs. Tara Ramani gave a presentation on the NCHRP project, Sustainability Performance Measures for State Departments of Transportation and Other Transportation Agencies. Bill Eisele presented a poster, Developing and Applying Fluidity Performance Indicators in Canada to Evaluate Freight System Efficiency (Juan Villa, David Schrank, and Louis-Paul Tardiff, Transport Canada, co-authors).

John Overman and David Schrank were part of the Delta-T presentation at TTI Day. Ginger Goodin participated in the Leadership at Every Level session.
P&E TTI Award Winners!

Congratulations to the following P&Eer’s on receiving awards at All TTI Day.

UTCM Outstanding Student of the Year — Suzie Edrington

TTI/Trinity Outstanding Master’s Program Student — Nick Norbage

Keese-Wootan Fellowship — Tara Ramani

TTI/Trinity Researcher — Juan Villa

TTI Team Award — 2010 Urban Mobility Report — Dave Shrank, Tim Lomax, Shawn Turner, Lauren Geng, Cliff Spiegelman, Pam Rowe, Michelle Young, Sherie Ruter, Mary Levien, and Justin Malnar

Photos by Jim Lyles

Team Award Winners

Delta-T Class of 2010

P&Eer’s include David Schrank, Erlinda Olivarez, and John Overman
Years of Service

The following P&Eers will celebrate a special anniversary with TTI this month:
- Stacey Bricka — 1 Year
- Trey Baker — 5 Years
- Tara Ramani — 5 Years
- Mark Ojah — 10 Years

Congratulations!

**Meredith Highsmith** passed the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) exam and now is now a Certified Planner!

Congratulations, Meredith!