As we close out 2010 and begin 2011, I would like to thank everyone in the SPP&E for the outstanding job you continue to do. While there are some uncertainties looking forward to next year, thanks to the SPP&E Program Managers and others, the SPP&E enters 2011 in good shape.

Ginger, Phillip, Shawn, Joe, Ed, Dennis, Beverly, Linda, Juan, Scott, and Jason continue to do a excellent job maintaining existing research with current sponsors and diversifying program research portfolios.

SPP&E research expenditures were up for the first quarter of FY 2011 compared to the same period in 2010. TxDOT represented 64 percent of those expenditures by home program and 62 percent by expending program. The TxDOT percentage by home program is two percent lower than the first quarter in FY 2010, while the percent by expending program is the same.

The TxDOT percentages should decline during the year as new projects with other sponsors come online. For example, Ginger Goodin leads the TTI portion of a Battelle team that was recently selected on the FHWA IDIQ project, Exploratory Research on Technology Options for Collection of Road User Fees. Other SPP&Eer’s have developed recent proposals to NCHRP, FTA, and other sponsors.

A big thanks also goes to Susan Adams and the RDO staff for all their had work and extra efforts ensuring that proposals for all of TTI are submitted on time and in accordance with sponsor requirements. The technical and administrative support staff also continues to do an excellent job supporting all parts of the SPP&E.

Having just moved to the 3rd floor and back to the 4th floor as part of the repainting and recarpeting in the CE/TTI Building — I would also like to thank all the Facilities and NIS staff for their outstanding work!

Thank you all for making 2010 a great year — 2011 will be even better!

Happy Holidays!

Thanks!

Katie
**Volume 10, Number 11/12**

**Congratulations!**

**Staff Activities**

**Ginger Goodin** and **David Ellis** gave presentations at the Transportation Funding 101 Legislative Briefing on November 8, which was attended by 60 legislative staff members. David discussed the basics of transportation funding and Ginger described recent vehicle miles traveled (VMT) research. The briefing was organized by **Cinde Weatherby** and the Strategic Transportation Solutions Center.

**Joe Zietsman** was part of a team receiving a special textbook prize of DKK 25,000 at a recent Book Fair in Copenhagen. The award is for a textbook idea on sustainability in transportation. Joe and three other researchers from the Technical University of Denmark, the University of Leeds, and Virginia Tech will write the textbook. Along with the award, the group also lined up a publisher at the Book Fair.

**Suzie Edrington** received her Masters of Urban Planning (MUP) from Texas A&M University in December. Suzie has been promoted to an Assistant Research Scientist as a result of completing her MUP, and as a result of taking on additional responsibilities in the Transit Mobility Program.

**Congratulations, Suzie!**

**Welcome!**

**Ipek Senser** has joined the Travel Forecasting Program as an Associate Transportation Researcher. Ipek has a B.S. in Civil Engineering, a M.S. in Architecture-Building Science, and a M.S. in Civil Engineering-Transportation from the Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey. She has a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin. Ipek will be working primarily on projects supporting TxDOT’s Transportation Planning and Programming Division.

**Welcome, Ipek!**

**Ginger Goodin** gave a presentation on recent TxDOT research on mileage-based user fees to the Transportation Commission on December 15. The information was well received and TxDOT has requested additional research, including a possible demonstration project.

**Eun Sug Park, Cliff Spiegelman, YiYi Yang,** and **Dan Middleton** presented a Research Development Seminar on November 18 on Using Statistics in Transportation Research. The group discussed common misperceptions in the use of statistics, components of valid statistical analyses, and examples of recent research projects. The services offered by the Stat Help Desk were also described.

*Staff Activities Continued on Page 3*
Years of Service

The following SPP&Eers reached special anniversaries with TTI:
Rodney Jackson — 20 Years
Ed Hard — 10 Years

Delta-T 2010

The 2010 Delta-T Class presented their project the Leadership Team on December 9. Members of the 2010 class pictured above are: Top row from left: John Overman, David Bierling, David Schrank, Andy Mullins, Edgar Kraus, Wally Simpson. Bottom row from left: Marcus Brewer, Marie Ethridge, Erlinda Olivarez, Laura Higgins, Kelly West.

Staff Activities Continued

Jeff Borowiec was the luncheon speaker at the first Annual Texas Aerospace Higher Education Summit held at Texas State Technical College in Waco on November 9. The Summit’s goals included identifying key issues in improving post-secondary aerospace education in Texas; discussing collaboration between post-secondary institutions, industry, and government to address these issues; and establishing a Texas Aerospace Higher Education Network to continue partnerships between post-secondary programs.

Calendar of Events

December 24-31 — Holiday Break
January 3-5 — Texas Transportation Forum, Austin
January 17 — Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
January 18 — TAMU Spring Semester Begins
March 18 — Spring Break

December
Jason Crawford 12/5
Erlinda Olivarez 12/5
Joan Hudson 12/9
John Overman 12/23
Heather Ford 12/30
Juan Carlos Villa 12/30

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