Message from the Associate Director

As many of you know, Carol Walters has announced her retirement from TTI at the end of 2003. Carol joined TTI in 1986. She has been instrumental in developing and managing the System Operation Management Program and TTI’s Arlington Office.

Carol’s accomplishments at TTI are lengthy. She started the Institute’s office in Arlington and developed a vibrant ongoing program. Her work with the TxDOT Dallas and Fort Worth Districts resulted in Interagency Contracts (IACs) that have grown over the years.

Carol was responsible for initiating the first IAC with the El Paso District, and more recently with the Lubbock District. She has also been active in the TxDOT research program, with recent projects examining road rage. Carol is well known for her work in bottleneck analysis and mitigation techniques.

Carol is active in TexITE, ITE, and TRB. She served as Vice President and President of TexITE and received the TexITE Engineer of the Year Award in 1995.

Scott Cooner has been promoted to Program Manager of the System Operation Management Program. Scott will assume his new responsibilities on December 1 to allow a month transition. Scott has been a full-time researcher since 1995 and worked as an undergraduate and graduate researcher before that. He holds both a B.S. and an M.S. in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University.

Scott is actively involved in both IAC and RMC projects. He has strong working relationships with TxDOT staff. He received the 1999 TTI Trinity Outstanding New Researcher Award.

At the same time, Cliff Franklin will join the Dallas Research and Implementation Office under Jim Carvell. This change is logical based on Cliff’s work in Dallas.

While wishing Carol the best in retirement, we hope she will return to TTI on a part-time basis after taking some time off. Her accomplishments at TTI set a standard for others to follow. We welcome Scott to the SPP&E management team and look forward to working with him and others in the program.

Thanks!  
Katie

Krugler Joins TTI

Paul Krugler has joined TTI on a part-time basis. He will head up a new Implementation Initiative at the Institute. Paul will be located in the Austin Office.

Paul recently retired from TxDOT after 35 years with the Department. Paul will be helping identify opportunities for implementation projects through the TxDOT program, as well as with other sponsors.

Please let Paul know if you have any ideas on implementation activities.

77th Annual Short Course

The 2003 Short Course was held on the TAMU campus October 14th and 15th. As always, the two days were filled with good presentations and numerous opportunities to interact with TxDOT staff and other transportation professionals.

The traditional morning session on the first day was followed by a second general session in the afternoon. The second session focused on HB 3588, toll financing, and potential toll projects around the state.

The breakout sessions on Wednesday covered a range of topics. Special thanks go to the TTI session coordinators for their help in organizing the sessions. SPP&E’ers serving as session coordinators included Bill Stockton, John Overman, Carol Walters, Ginger Goodin, Linda Cherrington, Montie Wade, and Katie Turnbull.

A special thanks also goes to TTI’s Conference Services and all the other staff who helped make Short Course a success!
Welcome

Boris Palchik has joined the Austin Liaison office. Boris has a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas, Austin and will receive his Masters in City and Regional Planning from the University of Texas, Arlington in December. Boris was an undergraduate research assistant in TTI’s Austin office while attending UT. He also has experience working for the North Central Texas Council of Governments and LKC, Inc. Boris will be assisting on the Tyler toll implementation project, studies for the Austin District, and other projects.

Moving

Korey Curtis has moved from the System Operation Management Program in Arlington to the Houston Research and Implementation Office. Korey joined the Arlington Office in 1999 and has played a key role in the data collection activities of the office. He will be assuming the same responsibilities in the Houston Office. The move allows Korey’s wife to attend nursing school in Houston.

New Location

Linda Cherrington has moved to TTI’s Galveston Office. Yes, it is a trailer, and yes, the restrooms are out the door, down the path, and into the nearby building. Linda can be reached at (409) 740-4734. The address is 200 Seawolf Parkway, Galveston, Texas 77553-1675.

New Arrival

Tammy Pietrucha, and her husband Rich, welcomed a new addition to their family on October 14th. Brieanna Nicole Pietrucha weighed 6 lbs, 14 oz and was 18 inches long.

Congratulations Tammy and Rich!

Birthdays

November
Jeremy Lindley 11/3
Jonathan Turner 11/5
Eun Sug Park 11/7
Dennis Perkinson 11/13
Bill Stockton 11/21
Eric Lindquist 11/23

December
Jason Crawford 12/5
Erlinda Snodgrass 12/5
Joan Hudson 12/9
Anthony Simmons 12/12
Poonam Wiles 12/17
David Staas 12/21
John Overman 12/23
Kimberley May 12/30
Heather Ford 12/30
Juan Carlos Villa 12/30

Calendar

November 3-6 – Fall RMC Meetings, Austin, TX
November 27-28 – Thanksgiving Holiday
December 11 – All TTI Day, Brazos Center, College Station, TX
December 24 – January 2 – Winter Break