Fall is moving along quickly! If it is October, it must be time for the Transportation Short Course.

With Rudder Theatre undergoing renovations, the opening session of the 81st Annual Transportation Short Course will be held at Reed Arena on Tuesday, October 16. The breakout sessions on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning will be held in the MSC and Rudder Tower. Shuttle buses will provide service between Reed Arena and the MSC, which is also (according to Mary Cearley) just a quick seven-minute walk.

The Short Course provides a great opportunity to interact with TxDOT staff and representatives from other agencies, organizations, and consulting firms. The sessions offer great speakers on a variety of timely topics. I hope you will be able to attend all or part of the Short Course.

I also hope you will be able to attend the special Research Development Seminar featuring Bob Reilly on Wednesday, October 3 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 102 of the Gibb Gilchrist Research Building or by Polycom link. Bob recently retired after serving as the Director of the Cooperative Research Program at TRB for 22 years. Bob will provide an overview of the various research programs and tips for successful proposals and projects.

Bob’s presentation and the Short Course provide opportunities for professional development and networking. I hope you will take advantage of both.

Thanks!

Katie
Promotions

Kevin Hall was inadvertently left off the list for promotions in the September Newsletter. Kevin has been promoted to a Research Scientist. Congratulations, Kevin!

Staff Activities

Beverly Storey and Jett McFalls gave a presentation on Stormwater Best Management Practice Issues at the TxDOT Landscape Design Workshop held as part of the TxDOT Design and Bridge Conference in Corpus Christi, August 13-15.


Tim Lomax, Shawn Turner, Joe Zietsman, and Katie Turnbull participated in the TRB Third International Conference on Performance Measures, September 9-12 in Irvine, California. Tim gave a presentation in one of the plenary sessions on Data for Better Performance Measurement (and Better Decisions too). He also served as a member of the Conference Planning Committee and edited the Conference Chronicle, which summarized the sessions for the first two days. Shawn gave a presentation on Data Collection to Support Performance Monitoring in one of the breakout sessions. Joe acted as the Rapporteur for a number of sessions and helped coordinate the session PowerPoints and research needs summaries. Katie acted as the Rapporteur for four sessions and is doing the proceedings for TRB.

Fall RMC Meetings

TxDOT has released the agendas for the fall RMC meetings at the La Quinta Inn & Suites Conference Center in San Antonio, November 6-7.

The agendas for RMC 2, 3, and 4 are summarized below.

RMC 2

Tuesday, November 6
1:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. — Introduction and Potential FY 09 Projects (Open Session)
3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. — Executive Session (TxDOT Only)

Wednesday, November 7
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon — New Projects and Project Presentations (Open Session). Bill Eisele and Ed Hard will be giving presentations on research projects.

RMC 3

Tuesday, November 6
8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. — Presentations and Potential FY 09 Projects (Open Session). Scott Cooner will be giving a presentation on a project.
2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. — Executive Session (TxDOT Only)

RMC 4

Tuesday, November 6
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. — Presentations and Potential FY 09 Projects (Open Session)

Wednesday, November 7
8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. — Executive Session (TxDOT Only)
Congratulations!

Tina Collier and Jon Geislebrecht were married on September 27th in Belize. Ask Tina Geislebrecht to fill you in on the details of the wedding, which occurred during Hurricane Dean! She also had an interesting experience while riding along Belize’s evacuation-clogged roads. Sounds like the Government of Belize could use some TTI expertise….

Congratulations Tina and Jon!

BIRTHDAYS

October
- Phillip Reeder 10/3
- James Ingalls 10/4
- Toni Carelock 10/8
- Ed Hard 10/11
- Jess Junek 10/11
- Christy Harris 10/14
- Katie Turnbull 10/15
- Patti Ellis 10/15
- David Pearson 10/21
- Mike Teal 10/25
- Bill Eisele 10/26
- Tina Geislebrecht 10/29

November
- Rachael Stensrud 11/2
- Eun Sug Park 11/7
- John Lowery 11/7
- Dennis Perkinson 11/13
- Bill Stockton 11/21
- Jennifer Barry 11/22

System Planning, Policy & Environment Research Group

Years of Service

The following SPP&Eer’s passed anniversaries at TTI October.

- Doh-Wan Lee — 1 year
- Alex Ferrazas — 10 years
- Bill Frawley — 15 years

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER 9 — Texas A&M Association of Professional Support Staff (TAPSS) Annual Conference, College Station
OCTOBER 16-17 — Transportation Short Course, Reed Arena, College Station
OCTOBER 17-20 — Texas APA Conference, Addison
NOVEMBER 5-8 — TxDOT RMC Fall Meetings, San Antonio
NOVEMBER 22-23 — Thanksgiving Holiday

Moves

John Wikander has moved from the Austin Office to the Mobility Analysis Program. John has been working 75 percent for the Mobility Analysis Program over the past year. Given the work load in the Program, John was needed on a full-time basis. John has relocated from Austin to College Station.

Darryl Puckett has moved from the System Planning Program in the SPP&E to the Houston Research & Implementation Office. Darryl has been located in the Houston Office since joining TTI 15 years ago and has worked on numerous projects over the years. Tony Voight requested the reassignment to better address the work load in the Houston Office. We will miss Darryl, but as we all know, once an SPP&Eer, always an SPP&Eer!