Message from the Associate Director

The SPP&E ends the FY 02 year and starts the FY 03 year in good shape. Completing reports on TxDOT RMC FY 02 projects has been a priority in August. Overall, SPP&E researchers have done a good job of submitting reports to ITEC by the August deadline. Please see that any straggling reports make it to ITEC as soon as possible.

The SPP&E project base looks strong for FY 03. SPP&E researchers were successful on a number of TxDOT RMC projects. Researchers working with TxDOT Districts and Divisions and TNRCC continue to do an outstanding job meeting sponsor expectations, and IAC levels remain high.

SPP&E researchers are also working on current projects and preparing proposals for TCRP, NCHRP, NHI, and FHWA. We will continue to work to diversify our funding base in FY 03, while maintaining strong ties to existing sponsors.

Thanks for the continued great work everyone in the SPP&E does. See you September 5th at the All SPP&E meeting!

Thanks!
Katie

New Dr.’s

Ming-Han Li and Eric Lindquist received their Ph.D.s from Texas A&M University in August. Ming-Han’s Ph.D. is in Urban and Regional Science and Eric’s Ph.D. is in Political Science. Both are now official Drs.!

Congratulations Dr. Li and Dr. Lindquist!

Promotions

The following SPP&E’rs have been promoted.

Lisa Day, Urban Analysis Program, has been promoted to an Administrative Coordinator.

Bill Frawley, Urban Analysis Program, has been promoted to a Research Scientist.

Jason Crawford, Urban Analysis Program, has been promoted to an Associate Research Engineer.

Ming-Han Li, Environmental Management Program has been promoted to an Assistant Research Scientist.

Steve Venglar, Austin Liaison Office, has been promoted to an Associate Research Engineer.

Shawn Turner, Mobility Analysis Program, has been promoted to an Associate Research Engineer.

Nancy Stratta, Research Development Office, has been promoted to a Research Services Administrator.

Gary Lobauh, Transportation Planning Program, has been promoted to an Assistant Research Specialist.

Congratulations Lisa, Bill, Jason, Ming-Han, Steve Shawn, Nancy, and Gary!

Fall RMC Meetings

TxDOT has announced the following schedule for the Fall RMC meetings. The meetings will be held at the Marriott Northwest in San Antonio.

RMC 1 – Wednesday, November 6, 2002, 10:00 a.m. – Thursday, November 7, 2002 8:00 a.m.

RMC 2 – Wednesday, November 6, 2002, 10:00 a.m. – Thursday, November 7, 2002 8:00 a.m.

RMC 3, 4, & 5 – Monday, November 4, 2002 1:00 a.m. – Tuesday, November 5, 2002 8:00 a.m.

More information on the requested presentations at each RMC meeting should be available in September.

New Dr.’s

Ming-Han Li and Eric Lindquist received their Ph.D.s from Texas A&M University in August. Ming-Han’s Ph.D. is in Urban and Regional Science and Eric’s Ph.D. is in Political Science. Both are now official Drs.!

Congratulations Dr. Li and Dr. Lindquist!
Staff Activities

Cliff Spiegelman, Mobility Analysis Program, and John Wikander, Austin Liaison Office, and two individuals from the TAMU Bioengineering Department received the Statistics in Chemistry Award from the Chemometrics Committee of the American Statistical Association Section on Physical and Engineering Sciences. Their paper, “A Simple Method for Lineorganizing Non-Linear Spectra for Calibration,” published in Chemometrics and Intelligent Laboratory Systems, was recognized as an example of outstanding collaboration between statisticians and chemists. Cliff and John received the award at the ASA meeting in New York City on August 13th. Congratulations Cliff and John!

Jason Crawford was named the TexITE Younger Member of the Year at the TexITE Summer meeting in Houston. Jason was recognized for his efforts in starting the Fort Worth Section of TexITE and serving as the first President and his leadership in chairing the TexITE Younger Members Committee.

Bill Eisele presented a paper on Lessons Learned Using ITS Data Sources to Estimate Corridor Travel Time and Mean Variance at the 7th International Conference on Applications of Advanced Technologies in Transportation held in Boston, August 5-7. Larry Rilette co-authored the paper.

A number of SPP&E researchers participated in the ITE Annual meeting in Philadelphia, August 4-7. Brian Bochner presented a paper on ITE’s Initiatives Supporting Smart Growth. Sias Zietsman presented a paper on Quantifying the Change in Travel Patterns as a Result of Smart Growth. Shawn Turner presented a paper on FHWA’s Mobility Monitoring Program: Transforming Gigabytes of Archived Operations Data into Mobility and Reliability Performance Measures. Carol Walters gave a presentation at the Downtown Goods Moving Session on Dallas: Problems Solved, Challenges Remaining. Katie Turnbull presided at her last meeting as Chair of the Transit Council Executive Committee.

Christy Harris has been accepted into the 2003 Class of Leadership Arlington.

Correction. The August SPP&E Newsletter incorrectly stated that Jim Schutt received his 10 year pin. Jim actually received his 15 year pin.

Mergers

Bill Eisele, Mobility Analysis Program, and Amanda Vanek were married on August 17th in Hillje, Texas.

Congratulations Bill and Amanda!

Departures

Joe Kammerman, TTI’s man at FHWA in Washington, D.C. has taken a new job with Innovative Emergency Management, Inc. The firm, which is based in Baton Rouge, LA, specializes in emergency management planning and operations. Joe will be working in their Washington, D.C. office on evacuation models and other emergency planning projects.

Good luck Joe!

Calendar

September 5 – All SPP&E Meeting, Texas Ranger Museum, Waco

October 22-23 – TxDOT Transportation Conference, College Station

Birthdays

September
Ginger Goodin 9/7
Nester Mendoza 9/8
Nancy Stratta 9/8
Fernando Rodriguez 9/9
Melissa Quatmann 9/9
Josias Zietsman 9/16
Scott Cooner 9/20
Sterling Robertson 9/20
Jimmie Benson 9/24
Todd Carlson 9/26
Laura Higgins 9/28

October
Phillip Reeder 10/3
Rachel Miller 10/4
Elizabeth Delafield 10/7
Toni Carelock 10/8
Ed Hard 10/11
Christy Harris 10/14
Katie Turnbull 10/15
Patti Ellis 10/15
Jessica Lavy 10/19
David Pearson 10/21
Mike Teal 10/25