Message from the Associate Director

Thanks to the great efforts of SPP&E and other TTI staff, All TTI Day 2000 was a huge success, even though it was held in 2001!

All TTI Day does not just happen. It takes a lot of hard work and extra effort on the part of staff throughout the Institute. Bonnie Duke did an outstanding job as Chair of the All TTI Day 2000 Planning Committee! Other SPP&E’ers helping include Pam Rowe, David Schrank, Laura Higgins, Tommy Clement, and Toni Monroe.

In addition, SPP&E’ers from the Arlington and Austin offices were outstanding in the session on Who’s Who and What’s What in the Urban Offices and Bill Stockton did a great job with the session on TTI’s Truck Initiative.

Denise Pineda’s selection as the recipient of the 2000 Keese Career Achievement for Administrative/Technical Support Staff Award is a much deserved recognition of her outstanding efforts and contributions to TTI over the years.

Thanks again to Bonnie and everyone who helped make All TTI Day 2000 a success! Anna Jo Mitchell is Chair of 2001 All TTI Day (and I will NOT be involved in scheduling the date!). Please talk to your Program Manager if you are interested in helping.

Thanks!
Katie

Congratulations on TTI Award

Denise Pineda, RDO, was selected as the Charles J. (Jack) Keese Career Achievement for Administrative/Technical Support Award winner at All TTI Day 2000. Denise, who has been with TTI since 1983, was recognized for her many “above and beyond the call of duty” services to TTI.

Denise does an outstanding job juggling multiple proposals and numerous other responsibilities. She does it all with a great combination of attention to detail and attention to people.

Congratulations to Denise on a well deserved honor!

TxDOT Spring and Fall RMC Meetings

The following dates and locations have been set for the 2001 Research Management Committee Meetings. The meetings are scheduled as follows:

June 4-7, 2001 – Arlington, TX
RMC 1, 3 & 4, 12:00 Noon, June 6 – 5:00 p.m., June 7.
RMC 2 & 5 12:00 Noon, June 4 – 5:00 p.m., June 5

November 5-8, 2001 – San Antonio, TX
RMC 1, 3 & 4 12:00 Noon, November 5 – 5:00 p.m., November 6.
RMC 2 & 5 12:00 Noon, November 7 – 5:00 p.m., November 8

More information on hotels, meeting agendas, and research presentations should be available soon for the June RMC meeting.
TRB 2001

The SPP&E was well represented at the 2001 TRB Annual Meeting. Tim Lomax moderated a session on asset management and Katie Turnbull moderated a session on maintaining and evaluating HOV systems.

Ginger Daniels presented a paper on A Regional HOV System Planning Approach Involving Multiple Agencies. Sharada Vadali gave a presentation on the paper co-authored by Chul Sohn, Tracking Changes in Spatially Segregated Locations Previously Using GIS: Assessing Residential Land Use Impacts of Transportation Projects.

Bill Eisele presented the paper Using ITS Travel Time Data for Multimodal Analyses and System Monitoring. Larry Rillett, Kendra Brown, and Cliff Spiegelman were co-authors. Shawn Turner presented the paper Inputting Missing Values in ITS Data Archives for Intervals Under Five Minutes. David Gold, Byron Gajewski, and Cliff Spiegelman were the paper co-authors. Shawn also presented the paper Sensitivity Analysis of ITS Data Aggregation Level: Effects on VMT-Speed Distributions and Mobile Source Emissions Estimation Process. Byron Gajewski and George Dresser were co-authors.

Josias Zietsman gave a presentation on the paper, Analysis of Aggregation Bias in Vehicular Emission Estimation Using TRANSIMS Output, co-authored by Larry Rillett. Brian Bochner presented the paper, Prototype Southern Border Facility to Expedite NAFTA Trucks Entering the U.S., co-authored by Bill Stockton.

Jeff Borowiec gave a presentation on the Texas Business Aircraft User Survey. Bill Stockton gave a presentation on Monitoring and Evaluating the Houston HOV Facilities.

Congratulations

The extra efforts of Kevin Hall and Zack Graham in December 2000 were recognized by consultants working for TxDOT. Kevin and Zack put in extra hours to ensure that the 2015 and 2025 trip distribution runs for Austin were completed and available to TxDOT and their consultants.

Eric Lindquist, Mobility Analysis Program, received a Teaching Excellence Award from the Political Science Department at Texas A&M University for the Spring Semester 2000. Eric taught POLS 440 Public Policy.

Bill Eisele, Mobility Analysis Program, received the SWUTC Ph.D. Student of the Year Award in Transportation Engineering at Texas A&M University. Bill then competed with students from T.u. and Texas Southern University and received the Student of the Year Award for the SWUTC region.

Scott Conner and Jim Carvell were recognized for their high ratings as instructors at the December NHI Freeway Traffic Operations Course in Topeka. The course was a success despite the very cold temperatures and winter weather!

Mergers

Several members of the SPP&E staff got married over the Winter Break.

Erlinda Olivarez, Research Development Office, and Mark Snodgrass were married on December 22, 2000.

Rachel Green, Research Development Office, and Matt Miller, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Chemistry at TAMU, were married December 22, 2000, at the Bay Area Presbyterian Church in Webster.

Toni Monroe, Research Development Office, and Alvin Carelock were married on December 31, 2000 in a private ceremony at the Christ Holy Missionary Baptist Church in College Station.

Congratulations and best wishes to all!

Calendar

February 21 – TTI Rural Transportation Conference, Bush Conference Center, College Station
June 4-7 – TxDOT Spring RMC Meetings, Arlington
October 15-17 – TxDOT Short Course, College Station
November 5-8 – TxDOT Fall RMC Meetings, San Antonio

Birthdays

February
Tammy Pietrucha 2/16
Jesse Snyder 2/16
Scott Cothron 2/24
Susan Adams 2/28

March
George Dresser 3/9
Stephen Farnsworth 3/10
David Schrank 3/13