Message from the Associate Director

Research activities within the SPP&E and TTI continue to grow. Overall, research spending for the Institute is up 7.5% over FY 2000.

Almost all Programs within the SPP&E have more projects and higher funding levels than in previous years. Research efforts for TxDOT and other traditional sponsors have increased and researchers have been successful in securing projects with new sponsors. A good indication of this growth is the hiring of 16 new staff members in the SPP&E over the past year.

This growth reflects the excellent job all staff continue to do. It is also an indication of the strong working relationships researchers have with sponsors. SPP&E staff continue to provide sponsors with high quality products and services. Many projects are completed within very tight schedules to meet critical sponsor deadlines.

The extra efforts of TTI staff continue to be recognized by sponsors. TxDOT’s TP&P Division has noted the importance of the work being done by SPP&E researchers in numerous Programs. The great work of the Mobility Analysis Program on the Houston TRIP 2000 report was also recognized recently by the Greater Houston Partnership.

We have an outstanding staff within the SPP&E! Keep up the great work and enjoy the summer!

Thanks! Katie

TxDOT RMC Update

The RMC TAPs have been meeting over the past month to discuss research priorities for the FY 02 program. Updates on activities from Harlow Landphair (RMC 3 TAP) and Bill Stockton and Cinde Gilliland (RMC 2 TAP) include the following items.

! June 4-5 RMC Meetings. TxDOT PCs will be recommending selected universities for FY 02 projects.

! 1st week in July – ROC meets to finalize selections, projects, and budgets. Universities will be notified after the meeting.

! July – Call for Problem Statements for FY 03 research projects. Problem Statements due in late August.
Staff Activities

The SPP&E was well represented at the 8th TRB Conference on the Application of Transportation Planning Methods in Corpus Christi, April 23-26. The following researchers gave presentations at the conference.

Stephen Farnsworth – Utilizing Palmtop Computers as a Data Collection Device

David Pearson – GPS and Travel Surveys - Results from the 1998 Austin Household Survey

Bill Stockton – Houston QuickRide

Bill Frawley – Access Management Programs in the US: Lessons Learned

Bill Eisele – Economic Impacts of Raised Medians in Texas: Methodologies and Case Study Results. Bill also presented A Simple Methodology for Communicating Urban Mobility Information, which was authored by David Schrank.

Josias Zietsman – TRANSIMS in Transportation Decision-Making

Gordon Shunk moderated a session on Household Travel Surveys and the Student Paper session. Montie Wade moderated a session on Statewide Planning.

Welcome

Joan Hudson, P.E. has joined the Austin Liaison Office as an Assistant Research Engineer. Joan has a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University and is a licensed engineer in Texas. She has ten years experience with the City of Austin. She also worked for CTR, a consulting firm, and the Texas Research and Development Foundation during the summers while in school. Joan will be under the supervision of Ginger Daniels and will be assisting on TxDOT Austin District Interagency projects and RMC research studies.

Welcome Joan!

Calendar

June 4-7 – TxDOT Spring RMC Meetings, Arlington
June 9-13 – TxDOT Transit Conference, Austin
June 21-23 – TexITE Summer Meeting, Midland
October 15-17 – TxDOT Short Course, College Station
November 5-8 – TxDOT Fall RMC Meetings, San Antonio

Birthdays

May
Kevin Hall 5/5
Mark Middleton 5/6
Tricia CoCo 5/20
May 2001
Montie Wade 5/20
Diana Wallace 5/30

June
Beverly Storey 6/5
Darryl Puckett 6/16
Zack Graham 6/17
Ed Pultorak 6/30