Message from the Associate Director

The 75th Annual Transportation Short Course will be held on the Texas A&M University campus on October 16th and 17th. The Short Course starts with the General Session on Tuesday morning and ends at noon on Wednesday.

The General Session includes the TxDOT slide show, presentation of the awards, and comments by the TxDOT Commissioners. There may be some special features this year in celebration of the 75th time the Short Course has been held at TAMU.

The topical sessions are Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning. Unlike previous years, there will be no sessions on Wednesday afternoon.

The Short Course is a great time to hear the latest on projects, policies, and issues influencing TxDOT. It is also an excellent opportunity to interact with TxDOT staff and other sponsors.

A special thanks to SPP&E researchers helping as session coordinators for the Short course. Bill Stockton, Ginger Daniels, Carol Walters, Montie Wade, John Overman, and Gordon Shunk are all acting as session coordinators this year.

I hope SPP&E staff take advantage of the Short Course by attending sessions of interest and taking time to talk to TxDOT personnel and other sponsors.

Thanks!
Katie

Congratulations!

Kimberly Phillips, Environmental Management Program, has been accepted into the Power Pipeline 2001 program. Power Pipeline is a weekend leadership building session for emerging women leaders sponsored by the Foundation for Women’s Resources.

Tina Collier, Austin Liaison Office, has been accepted into the 2001-2002 class of Leadership Cedar Park. The year-long program includes issue-specific activities, leadership skills development workshops, interactive community issues presentations, and tours.

Diana Wallace, Systems Operation Management Program, recently received her 15 year TTI pin and Shawn Turner, Mobility Analysis Program, received his 10 year TTI pin.

The TxDOT Austin Office recently evaluated the TTI IAC as part of its regular provider evaluation process. TTI’s work was rated as exceeding expectations and outstanding on the different elements. Congratulations to Ginger Daniels, David Schrank, Steve Vengeler, and other staff supporting the Austin District IAC work.

Shawn Turner’s work on the TxDOT Project Summary Report on the Developing Guidance for Sharing Archived/Warehoused ITS Data project was praised by RTI staff. The report was rated as an excellent project summary report.

Congratulations to all!

2001 – 2002 Holidays

The holiday schedule approved by the Board of Regents for 2001-2002 is as follows:

November 22-23 – Thanksgiving

December 24 - January 1 – Winter Holiday

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – January 21

Spring Break – March 14-15

Independence Day – July 4
New TxDOT Appointment

Mike Behrens has appointed Jim Randall as the new TP&P Director. Jim replaces Al Luedecke who retired in August.

Jim has been with TxDOT for 22 years. He served as Director of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway Office, Director of Multimodal Operations Office, Interim Director of the Public Transportation Division, and Director of TP&P’s Multimodal Section. Jim has been the Deputy Director of TP&P since 1999.

Jim has BS degrees in Civil Engineering and Business Administration from University of Texas at Austin. Jim has been active in the research program, most recently serving on RMC 2.

Staff Activities

Stephen Farnsworth, Ed Hard, and Charlie Bell attended a TransCAD software training course presented by Caliper Corporation in Boston.

Welcome

Robert McLain has joined the full-time staff of the System Operation Management Program as a Technician I. Robert has been a student worker with the Program. He holds a B.S. degree in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of Texas at Arlington. Robert will be assisting with data collection and data reduction activities.

Casey Toycen has taken a temporary Research Associate position in the Urban Analysis Program. Casey has a B.S. degree in Community and Regional Planning from Iowa State University. She will be assisting on projects under the TxDOT TP&P IAC.

Michael Martello has taken a temporary Assistant Research Engineer position in the Austin Liaison Office. Michael has a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Florida, Gainesville and a M.S. degree in Transportation Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. He has worked for the City of Austin and CTR. Michael will be assisting on the TxDOT Austin District IAC.

Calendar

October 15-17 – TxDOT Short Course, College Station
November 5-8 – TxDOT Fall RMC Meetings, San Antonio
December 5 – All TTI Day, College Station

Birthdays

**October**
- Rachel Miller 10/4
- Toni Carelock 10/8
- Ed Hard 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 Collier 10/29

**November**
- Eun Sug Park 11/7
- Dennis Perkinson 11/13
- Grant Schultz 11/20