



### PROVIDING A SAFE, SECURE, AND INTEGRATED SYSTEM

84th Annual Meeting Spotlights Transportation from the Customer's Perspective

More than 9,500 transportation researchers, practitioners, and administrators representing government, industry, and academia from the United States and abroad gathered in Washington, D.C., January 9–13, 2005, to participate in the 84th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board. The 5-day program offered attendees a variety of opportunities for information sharing and interaction with more than 2,600 presentations in nearly 470 sessions; 67 specialty workshops; 350 meetings of committees, subcommittees, and task forces; 66 meet-the-author poster sessions; and many additional events. The spotlight theme of the meeting—Transportation from the Customer's Perspective: Providing a Safe, Secure, and Integrated System—tied many of the diverse program sessions together. Details and highlights appear on the following pages.

Annual Meeting photography by Cable Risdon Photography

#### **SESSIONS & WORKSHOPS**



The Annual Meeting sessions were developed by the approximately 200 standing committees in the 11 groups of TRB's Technical Activities Division. Members of the incoming Technical Activities Council, who chair the 11 groups, met midday Sunday (*left to right:*) Operations and Maintenance: Leland Smithson, Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT); Marine: Larry Daggett, Waterway Simulation Technology, Inc.; Design and Construction: David Suits, New York State DOT; System Users: Barry Sweedler, Safety & Policy Analysis International; Legal Resources: Brelend Gowan, California DOT; Rail:

Christopher Barkan, University of Illinois–Urbana Champaign; Freight Systems: Christina Casgar, U.S. DOT; TRB Technical Activities Director Mark Norman; Council Chair Neil Pedersen, Maryland State Highway Administration; Policy and Organization: Robert Johns, Center for Transportation Studies; and Public Transportation: Patricia McLaughlin, Moore Iacofano Golstman, Inc. (Not pictured are Planning and Environment: Marcy Schwartz, CH2M Hill; and Aviation: Agam Sinha, MITRE Corporation.)



#### **Spotlighting the Customer's Perspective**

More than 40 sessions focused on the spotlight theme, "Transportation from the Customer's Perspective: Providing a Safe, Secure, and Integrated System." Sessions outlined what customers need and want from transportation organizations and systems. Leading transportation providers explained what transportation organizations are doing and can be doing to meet customer expectations. *Left*, Thomas Donohue, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, provides the business and carriers' perspective during a session on mega-trends in delivering goods.

\*\*Below (left to right)\*: 2004 Executive Committee Chair Michael Townes, Hampton Roads Transit; presiding officer Anne Canby, Surface Transportation Policy Project; and William Wilkinson, National Center for Bicycling & Walking, participate in a panel discussion on what travelers need and want from transportation organizations and systems.





The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has relied on measures of ridership, accessibility, safety, and infrastructure condition to justify continued investment in the federal transit program. Session presenters critiqued these measures and examined alternatives for proving the program's value. (Left to right:) Christopher Boylan, Metropolitan Transportation Authority; Brigid Hynes-Cherin, FTA; Mortimer Downey, PB Consult, Inc.; David Lewis, HLB Decision Economics, Inc.; and Thomas Deen, retired TRB Executive Director.



Tony Dalrymple, Johns Hopkins University, presents satellite images of coastal damage sustained after the tsunamis of December 2004, during a special session on the transportation and logistical challenges facing southeast Asia. Presenters discussed airlift and sealift of aid and relief supplies; rebuilding infrastructure in developing countries; impacts of the disaster on commercial shipping and global supply chains, public health, and environment; and U.S. military involvement.





In 2004, Congress passed legislation to dismantle the Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA) and to establish the Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA) in the U.S. DOT. During a well-attended session, members of the transportation community were invited to share their thoughts on setting strategic directions for transportation research. Above left, TRB Executive Director Robert Skinner, Jr., opened the panel discussion by suggesting seven criteria for judging the new agency's success or failure: stakeholder involvement, balance between long- and short-term research, internal coordination and leadership, coordination with stakeholders and other agencies, research and development (R&D) quality, scale of R&D efforts, and private-sector participation. Above right, Edward Fluhr, Travel Industry Association of America, joins other attendees in questioning panelists.



(Left to right:) Allan Rutter, North Texas Tollway Authority; D. J. Gribbin, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Robert Prieto, Fluor Corporation; Geoffrey Yarema, Nossaman Guthner Knox Elliott, LLP; James Taylor, Bear Stearns; and FHWA Administrator Mary Peters hold an open forum discussion on private-sector involvement in project financing and delivery of state highway projects. The session addressed strategies for encouraging public-private partnerships.

# TRB

# ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

#### **SESSIONS & WORKSHOPS**



(Left to right:) Kenneth Stackpoole, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University; Bob Pearce, Joint Planning and Development Office (JPDO); Nancy LoBue, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA); and Jaiwon Shin, NASA, examine the policy and practical issues related to the Integrated National Plan for the Next Generation Air Transportation System. The multiagency JPDO will present Congress with the plan to meet FAA's safety, security, mobility, efficiency, and capacity needs for 2025 and beyond.



Cathal "Irish" Flynn, retired Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy, and former Associate Administrator for Civil Aviation Security, FAA, discusses airport security during a halfday workshop that identified threats to the processing of passengers, baggage, and cargo; evaluated strategies for countering threats; and examined responsibilities for developing new approaches and technologies.



(*Left to right:*) Susan Ferguson, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety; Sandra Rosenbloom, University of Arizona; and presiding officer Gloria Jeff, Michigan DOT, summarize studies presented at the November 2004 Research on Women's Issues in Transportation Conference. Research examined crash safety for pregnant women; the relationship between community design and women's personal safety; and the reasons why women travel more often, link more trips together, and use toll roads more than their male counterparts.



Susan Hanson, Clark University, summarizes findings in the newly released TRB Special Report 282, *Does the Built Environment Influence Physical Activity?* The report examines general trends affecting the relationships among physical activity, health, transportation, and land use.



David Shinar, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel, presents research on safe headways between automobiles, in the keynote speech at the Human Factors Workshop Luncheon.





Kay Fitzpatrick, Texas Transportation Institute, presides at a Human Factors Workshop on approaches to reducing speeds on U.S. highways and residential streets. Speakers addressed speed advisory signs, rumble strips, and locations at which speed management treatments are or are not effective.



(Left to right:) Presiding officer Robert Tuccillo, FTA; Shelley Poticha, Center for Transit-Oriented Development; and Gerald Arrington, PB PlaceMaking, discuss the national trends in transit networks of light rail lines, subways, commuter rail, and bus rapid transit. The session examined how to improve the implementation of transit-oriented development in conjunction with new and existing fixed guideway systems.



Pierce Homer (left), Virginia DOT, and Marsha Kaiser, Maryland DOT, discuss concepts for managing freeway congestion through variably priced high-occupancy and generalpurpose lanes. Both states are considering proposals to create express toll lanes that could provide the option of congestion-free travel in the national capital region.



Trefor Williams (left), Rutgers University, and Douglass Couto, Michigan Department of Information Technology, preside at a half-day workshop on using information technology to improve management of construction projects.



The TRB Design and Construction Group held an inaugural forum to honor two experts who have made significant contributions to transportation research. Honoree Michael Katona, Washington State University, discussed soil-structure interaction, and honoree Don Ivey, Texas A&M University System, spoke about highway safety. (Left to right:) Design and Construction Group Chair Gale Page; Structures Section Chair Mary Lou Ralls; Katona; Ivey; Design Section Chair Barbara Petrarca; and Paul Scott, TBE Group, Inc.



# ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

#### **SESSIONS & WORKSHOPS**



(Left to right:) E. G. Edmonson, Journal of Commerce Group; Michael Howard, J. B. Hunt Transport Services, Inc.; Paul Nowicki, Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company; and Basil Maher, Maher Terminals, Inc., participate in a four-part mega session on the global supply chain. The session explored the effect that changing trade patterns have on ports of entry; the roles that gateways play in expediting the distribution of freight between modes; changing facility and site requirements; and the role of federal, state, and local policy in infrastructure planning and funding.



A four-part mega session covered the topic of cargo tracking for supply chain integration. Patricia Hu, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, presided at the second session, which addressed outlooks in cargo tracking by the Department of Defense, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the Department of Homeland Security, and the U.S. Postal Service.



(Left to right:) Lee Husting and Ted Hitchcox, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; Ann Williamson, University of New South Wales; Michael Conyngham, International Brotherhood of Teamsters; Kiu Sik Bae, Korea Labor Institute; and Michael Belzer, Wayne State University, participate in a session that examined the health and safety of transportation workers. Presenters discussed drug use, long working hours, and the effects of economic competition.



Mark Lepofsky, Battelle Memorial Institute, discusses the findings of a U.S. DOT–sponsored field test involving technologies to improve the safety and security of hazardous materials transportation.



(Left to right:) Eberhard Jäensch, DB–Netz AG; Francisco Javier Calvo, University of Granada; presiding officer Daniel Roth, Booz Allen Hamilton; and Nicola Shaw, United Kingdom Strategic Rail Authority, give presentations on Western Europe's use of open or shared access to rail networks. The session examined the success of pricing and management mechanisms and the complications created by the diversity of mechanisms.



Presiding officer
Matthew McDole (*left*),
E-470 Public Highway
Authority, and Timothy
Brown, Parsons
Transportation Group,
participate in a session
that examined how to
meet quality objectives
through design-build,
from the perspectives of
contractors, engineering
consultants, inspection
and testing consultants,
and owners.



Karen Borlaug Phillips, Canadian National Railway Company, provides a rail perspective on future negotiations about the North American Free Trade Agreement.

#### **Poster Sessions**



Meet-the-Author Poster Sessions provided participants with an opportunity to interact with authors in a more personal setting than the conventional lecture. Right, Xiao Kuan Yang, Beijing University of Technology, discusses research on preventing fatal crashes on the BaDaLing Freeway in China, during the poster session on transportation infrastructure, safety, and planning in developing countries. Below, The poster describing the effects of rejuvenating agents on recycled aged rubber-modified binders attracted attention at the poster session on general issues in use and characterization of asphalt binders.





Ali Porbaha, California State University, discusses recent U.S. projects that have applied accelerated construction technologies to construct embankments on soft ground in a faster, safer, and more reliable manner than conventional approaches.



Barbara Sisson, FTA, presides over a session on the need for further research on bus rapid transit (BRT) to quantify performance measures, socioeconomic impacts, and the benefits of selective vehicle technologies. The session included a case study of the Bogotá, Colombia, BRT system, which has generated positive financial and operational results.

# ANNUAL MEETING HIGH

#### **SESSIONS & WORKSHOPS**



William Withuhn, Smithsonian Institution, presides over a workshop examining the impact of transportation on visitor experience in national parks. Participants focused on new research to define the dimensions of visitor experience and how transportation affects those dimensions.



Jon Bryan Burley, Michigan State University, presents findings from a case study of context-sensitive design education on the Old Mission Peninsula, Michigan. Listening is presiding officer Craig Allan Churchward, HNTB Corporation.



the subject at the 44th Annual Workshop on Transportation Law, in Portland, Oregon, July 2005.



Fred Wagner (far right), Beveridge & Diamond, PC, presents slides on automobile collisions with deer, during a session on wildlife management. (Left to right:) Mark Cheskey, KCI Technologies, Inc.; Walter Eifert, Roux Associates, Inc.; and Edward Melisky, FAA, also participated in the panel discussion about the sometimes-conflicting mandates of reducing hazards to transportation and protecting the environment.



Cynthia Cook, an Arlington, Virginia-based consultant, discusses transportation investment in impoverished rural areas of Thailand, during a session on the impact of road construction on developing Asian and African countries.



Kevin Krizek, University of Minnesota, presents research on factors affecting discontinuity of on-street bicycle lanes in urban settings.

John Strahan, attorney consultant in Topeka, Kansas, presides over a panel discussion on Indian laws. Panelists addressed the definition of Indian roads, expanded Indian sovereignty,

constitutional protections, control of right of way, and binding contracts with tribes. The Eminent Domain Committee will conduct an expanded session on

#### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**



Performance Measurement Committee Chair Lance Neumann (*left*) was among the standing committee chairs who discussed technical activities at the All Chairs Meeting. Former Technical Activities Council Chair Kathleen Stein (*right*) acted as discussion facilitator.



Anita Vandervalk, Chair of the Statewide Transportation Data and Information Systems Committee, led a Sunday orientation for new chairs in the policy and multimodal groups.



Philip Demosthenes (*standing*), Parametrix, Inc., and Gene Russell (*right*), Kansas State University, give a presentation about research and implementation of roundabouts in the United States to the members of the Roundabouts Joint Subcommittee. The two men are coordinating the National Roundabout Conference in May in Vail, Colorado.



Roger Olson, Chair of the Pavement Rehabilitation Committee, presides at the committee's well-attended meeting.



The Exhibit Hall housed recent research projects and products of TRB sponsors. Several attendees examine the range of products offered by the National Highway Institute.



Transportation and Technology Academy (TransTech) students from Cardozo Senior High School, Washington, D.C., operated their first-ever exhibit at the annual meeting. Outgoing Executive Committee Chair Michael Townes (center) visits with TransTech coordinator Shirley McCall (right) and student Ebony Cooper (left) at the exhibit.



Attendee browses the array of TRB publications for sale in the Exhibit Hall.



FHWA hosted an exhibit to showcase innovations in pavement materials testing.



A demonstration of the mechanisticempirical pavement design guide, developed under the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) Project 1-37A.

#### **INTERSECTIONS**







The Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for transportation experts from the United States and around the world to share best practices and research. *Above left, (left to right:)* Eugene Calvert, Collier County Transportation Services Division, Florida; Bruce Drewes, University of Idaho; Ken Skorseth, South Dakota State University; and Stephen Ford, Mendocino County Department of Transportation, California, hold an informal discussion on technology transfer.

Above right, Hongyan He Oliver, Stanford University, and Nicole Davis, International Sustainable Systems Research Center, examine computer data on vehicle emission models.

Left (left to right:) Kate McMahon, U.K. Department of Transport; Martin Lowson, Advanced Transport Systems, Ltd.; and Tony Bliss, World Bank, attend the International Participants Reception on Monday evening.

#### **New Attendees: Tuning into Networks**





Above left, Several hundred newcomers to the Annual Meeting attended a welcome and networking reception on Sunday. After a presentation on TRB activities and how to navigate the annual meeting, attendees mingled with committee chairs.

Above right, Barry Sweedler (center), chair of the System Users Group, and TRB Technical Activities Director Mark Norman (right) identify committee meetings of interest to first-time attendee Charles Stevens.



# ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**



TRB Executive Director Robert Skinner, Jr., updates the TRB Executive Committee on recent activities of TRB and the National Academies, during the TRB Executive Committee winter business meeting.



Incoming and outgoing leadership converse during a break in the meeting. *From left:* 2005 Chair Joseph Boardman, New York State DOT; 2005 Vice Chair Michael Meyer, Georgia Institute of Technology; and 2004 Chair Michael Townes, Hampton Roads Transit.



Richard Schmalz, New York State DOT, discusses the challenges faced in rebuilding the arterial roadway adjacent to the World Trade Center. During his presentation at the winter business meeting, Schmalz highlighted federal, state, local, and private coordination activities; efforts to ensure the protection of the local residential and business community; the establishment of the Lower Manhattan Construction Command Center; and the status of major Lower Manhattan projects.

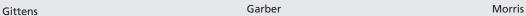


The TRB Executive Committee held a policy session on international roadway safety initiatives. Panelists discussed innovative measures adopted in their countries to deter speeding and alcohol use and to improve road conditions and vehicle safety. Measures included mandatory seatbelt use, daytime running lights, random breath tests, low blood alcohol concentration limits, alcohol interlocks, cell phone bans, intelligent road markers, variable signage, and speed and red-light cameras. (*Left to right:*) Hans Laurell, Swedish National Road Administration; Kate McMahon, U.K. Department for Transport; Ian Faulks, New South Wales Parliament; and David Anderson, VicRoads, Australia.









The TRB Executive



Committee welcomed new committee members and invited guests during the business meeting, including (clockwise from above left), Angela Gittens, consultant; Nicholas Garber, University of Virginia; Michael Morris, **North Central Texas** Council of Governments; Anne Canby, Surface **Transportation Policy** Project; and Nan Shellabarger, FAA, and Edward Johnson, NASA.



Shellabarger and Johnson



2002 Executive Committee Chair Dean Carlson was among the committee members completing terms of service, who were recognized at the business meeting.



Carol Murray, New Hampshire DOT, offers input during the business meeting.



C. Michael Walton, Chair of the Subcommittee for National Research Council (NRC) Oversight, reports on the subcommittees' activities in assisting the TRB Executive Committee with the strategic plan and special projects submitted to the NRC Governing Board for approval.

SPECIAL EVENTS

A. Ray Chamberlain, Vice President of Parsons Brinckerhoff and former director of Colorado DOT, received the W. N. Carey, Jr., Distinguished Service Award for his outstanding leadership and service to transportation research and to TRB. Active in TRB for 15 years, he has participated on many committees and



panels in several TRB divisions and served as chair of the Executive Committee in 1993. Chamberlain also chaired the National Research Council Committee that produced Special Report 229, Safety Research for a Changing Highway Environment. Chamberlain is known for thoughtful, disinterested assessments of complex issues, and for a keen understanding of the real-world context in which transportation decisions are made. 2005 TRB Executive Committee Chair Joseph Boardman (left) and 2004 Chair Michael Townes (right) presented the award to Chamberlain.

Sandra Rosenbloom, University of Arizona, received the Roy W. Crum Distinguished Service Award for her significant contributions to transportation research. Rosenbloom is internationally recognized for her scholarship on transportation and community development trends—notably suburbanization, aging populations, the increase of mothers in the labor force, and groups with special needs. The author or coauthor of more than 40 peer-reviewed papers, Rosenbloom cowrote the transportation planning chapter of the widely read textbook, The Practice of Local



Government Planning. Active in TRB for almost 30 years, Rosenbloom chaired the Paratransit Committee for 7 years and currently chairs the committee responsible for the Conference for Research on Women's Issues in Transportation.

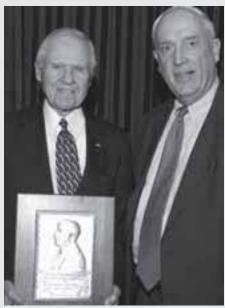
Lawrence Dahms, retired Executive Director of the San Francisco Bay Area's Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), was awarded the Frank Turner Medal for Lifetime Achievement in Transportation for his distinguished career in the field, professional prominence, and contributions to transportation management policy. TRB serves as the secretariat for this biennial award, which is sponsored by 16 organizations active in transportation. During Dahms's 23 years at MTC, the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) became a national model. Dahms led efforts to establish two innovative programs that provide



incentives for transit-oriented development. A frequent participant in national policy debates, he helped secure the expanded role given to MPOs in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991. Dahms has served on numerous TRB and NRC committees and panels during his more than 30 years of involvement. He chaired the Technical Activities Council from 1980 to 1982 and the Executive Committee in 1983.

#### Chairman's Luncheon

The program for the Chairman's Luncheon, hosted by 2004 Executive Committee Chair Michael Townes, included the introduction of new Executive Committee members and officers, an address by featured speaker Brian O'Neill, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, and presentation of TRB's most prestigious awards.



Richard Stander, Mohican Construction Company, received the George S. Bartlett Award for his outstanding contributions to highway progress. As vice president, president, and then chair of the Mansfield Asphalt Paving Company, Stander built the company into one of Ohio's leading contractors. He partnered with equipment manufacturers to become an early adopter of automatic paver screeds, pneumatic and vibratory rollers, and state-of-the-art asphalt plant production. Stander chaired the American Road and Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA) and was president of the National Asphalt Pavement Association. Active in TRB since the late 1950s, Stander has served on the Flexible Pavement Construction and Rehabilitation Committee for more than 40 years and chaired the Construction Equipment Committee. Peter Ruane (right), President and Chief Executive Officer of ARTBA, presented the award given annually by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, ARTBA, and TRB.

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#### O'Neill Assesses U.S. Highway Safety Record

Brian O'Neill, President of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) and the Highway Loss Data Institute (HLDI), discussed the progress and failures in improving highway safety in the United States, in the featured speech at the Chairman's Luncheon. In his examination of federal and state safety policies since the 1960s, O'Neill noted the lack of political leadership in making highway safety a high priority.

He contended that more lives could be saved if states reduce speed limits, enact primary safety belt laws, conduct sobriety checkpoints, and utilize speed cameras. O'Neill also noted that well-publicized enforcement of traffic laws is a more effective countermeasure than education programs. In conclusion, he suggested that researchers compare state strategies to see which are most effective in reducing fatalities.

A native of England, O'Neill joined IIHS in 1969 and held numerous high-level positions before becoming president of the orga-

nization and the HLDI in 1985. He has conducted research into virtually all aspects of highway loss reduction, including vehicle and highway design, emergency medical care, the effectiveness of traffic laws, and driver behavior. O'Neill is the author of many publications and scientific papers and coauthor of the Injury Fact Book. He has delivered dozens of presentations and has testified before federal and state regulatory agencies, U.S. congressional committees, and state legislatures on issues related to highway safety.

O'Neill served on the National Research Council (NRC) Committee for a Study of Geometric Design Standards for Highway Improvements and the Committee for a Strategic Transportation Research Study: Highway Safety. O'Neill also has been a member of the NRC Committee on Trauma Research and the TRB Steering Committee for the Conference on Highway Safety Research Development and Demonstration.



Brian O'Neill discusses the effectiveness of state policies to curb highway fatalities in his featured speech at the Chairman's Luncheon.

He has served on the editorial advisory boards of Accident Analysis and Prevention and Traffic Safety Evaluation Research Review.

A highway safety expert consulted frequently by print and electronic media reporters, O'Neill appears regularly on NBC Dateline, on other TV news magazine shows, and on network news programs.

#### **Boardman Guides 2005 Executive Committee**

Joseph Boardman, Commissioner of New York State DOT, took office as the 2005 chair of the TRB Executive Committee. Active in TRB since 1990, Boardman



2005 Executive Committee Chair Joseph Boardman (*left*) with predecessor Michael Townes at the Chairman's Luncheon.

also will serve as chair of the Executive Committee subcommittees for the National Cooperative Highway Research Program and the Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP).

At New York State DOT, Boardman served as assistant commissioner for the Office of Public Transportation and first deputy commissioner before he was appointed commissioner in 1997. He also has held several transportation management positions in New York State, including chief operating officer of Progressive Transportation Services in Elmira; commissioner of Public Transportation in Broome County; manager of Rome Transportation and Rome Parking Authority; and general manager of Utica Transit Authority. In 1983, he helped found the New York Public Transit Association, serving as president from 1987 to 1989.

Currently, Boardman is president of the

Northeast Association of State Transportation Officials (NASTO) and he serves as chair of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials Standing Committee on Rail Transportation. For TRB, Boardman has served on the Transit Fleet Maintenance Committee, the TCRP Project Panel on Reliability-Based Procedures for Maintenance of Transit Vehicles, the Subcommittee on Planning and Policy Review, and the Subcommittee for National Research Council Oversight.

Boardman received a master of science degree in management science from the State University of New York at Binghamton and a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics from Cornell University.

Succeeding Boardman as vice chair of the TRB Executive Committee for 2005 is Michael Meyer, Professor in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

#### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

### **Borrone Advocates National Policy** to Address Freight Transportation Supply

The 2005 Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lecture was presented by Lillian Borrone, who retired in 2000 as the assistant executive director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ). In her lecture, "Sparking the Connection: Supplying Freight System Responses to Global Trade Demands," Borrone contended that the United States has not given enough national attention to fostering and improving the transportation assets needed to deliver goods in a global economy.

"The growth in trade has been spurred by long-standing national policies advocating open market access," Borrone noted. "We must develop a matching platform to address the quality and efficiency of our transportation connections to the world economy."

To address capacity and quality issues, Borrone recommended the development of a national transportation policy that integrates the modal freight systems and involves environmental, energy, economic development, and security concerns. She outlined the following three-step approach to build infrastructure that meets future needs:

- ◆ Develop a policy framework and seek a consensus vision including Congress and the freight stakeholders. This will require strong national freight databases and common analytical tools.
- ◆ Identify the resources needed to support a freight policy framework and prepare an action agenda that will match freight demand to freight supply, engage the support team needed to get the job done, and identify the financial resources and applications to support the framework and the people required.
- ◆ Set public—private partnership priorities and leverage the best from each. Only through collaboration will the public and private sectors meet the mobility requirements of nationwide and worldwide trade.

Borrone closed her comments by calling on attendees to provide leadership in meeting the challenges of advancing the global freight system.

Borrone is the first woman to receive the lectureship



Borrone: "Our active policies to encourage global trade are out of balance with our passive policies regarding freight transportation supply."

award, which recognizes the career contributions and achievements of an individual in one of the areas covered by the Board's Technical Activities Division. Honorees are invited to present overviews of their technical areas, including the evolution, the present status, and the prospects for the future. TRB will publish Borrone's lecture in the 2005 series of the *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*.

Borrone has held senior positions in the port, aviation, and public transportation sectors. Before being named assistant executive director of PANYNJ, Borrone served for more than 12 years as director of the Port Commerce Department, overseeing the agency's marine terminals, water-

front development, and international relations. Other positions of responsibility that she has held within PANYNJ include director of management and budget, assistant director of aviation, and special assistant to the director of the Terminals Department. Borrone also served in the U.S. DOT as deputy administrator and associate administrator of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration, now the Federal Transit Administration.

In July 2001 Borrone was appointed by President George W. Bush to serve on the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy. An inaugural member of the Homeland Security Science and Technology Advisory Committee, she currently chairs the board of directors of the Eno Transportation Foundation and is a member of the boards of directors of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Jersey and of STV Group, Inc.

In the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, attacks on the World Trade Center, she served as a member of New Jersey Acting Governor Donald DiFrancesco's cabinet as coordinator of the Office of Recovery and Victim Assistance. She was the first woman to chair the TRB Executive Committee, and she has served as chair of the American Association of Port Authorities and president of the Women's Transportation Seminar. Elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1996, Borrone has received many honors and awards, including TRB's 2001 W. N. Carey, Jr., Distinguished Service Award.



(Left to right:) 2004 Executive Committee Chair Michael Townes, 2004 D. Grant Mickle Award winners Hughes, Richard, Harwood, and Bauer; K. B. Woods Award winners Muench and Mahoney; Charley V. Wootan Award winners Margolis, Zimmerman, and Poister; and outgoing Technical Activities Council Chair Anne Canby.

In conjunction with the Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lecture, awards were presented to the authors of outstanding papers published in the 2004 series of the *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board.* 

The K. B. Woods Award for the outstanding paper in the field of design and construction of transportation facilities was presented to Joe Mahoney and Stephen Muench of the University of Washington for their paper, "Computer-Based Multimedia Pavement Training Tool for Self-Directed Learning." Published in Record 1896, the paper presents evidence that the self-directed learning method should be applied in pavement training.

The D. Grant Mickle Award recognizes the outstanding paper in the field of operation, safety, and maintenance of transportation facilities. The 2004 recipients, Karin Bauer, Douglas Harwood, and Karen Richard of Midwest Research Institute; and Warren Hughes, BMISG, authored "Safety Effects of Narrow Lanes and Shoulder-Use Lanes to Increase Capacity of Urban Freeways." Published in Record 1897, the paper notes an increase in accident rates after an additional lane was added on urban freeways in California by narrowing lanes or converting shoulders.

The inaugural Charley V. Wootan Award for the outstanding paper in the field of policy and organization was presented to Theodore Poister, Georgia State University, and David Margolis and Douglas Zimmerman, Pennsylvania DOT, for their paper, "Strategic Management at the Pennsylvania

Department of Transportation: A Results-Driven Approach." Published in Record 1885, the paper identifies current strengths and opportunities of the strategic management

process in Pennsylvania. The award was established in 2004 in memory of the former chair of the TRB Executive Committee and Technical Activities Council.



#### **Mineta Addresses Road Gang**

The Road Gang, a 300-member group of regional highway transportation experts, presented major awards and discussed current highway and transportation issues during its Annual Meeting luncheon. *Below*,

during his keynote speech at the luncheon, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta commented that the reauthorization of the surface transportation act will be a major priority this year. He said that maintaining the vast infrastructure that connects various transportation modes is the greatest challenge facing the

surface transportation network. Furthermore, Mineta warned that the traditional financing mechanisms that built the system are becoming increasingly unsustainable. Mineta praised new federal programs that

Increasingly unsustainable.
I new federal programs that clear the path for publicprivate partnerships.



Above, (left to right:) 2005
Road Gang President
Frank "Rocky" Moretti;
Jonathan Gifford, George
Mason University; Secretary Mineta; TRB Executive Director Robert
Skinner, Jr.; and Technical
Activities Director Mark
Norman, 2004 President
of the Road Gang.

Standing committees awarded emeritus membership to 40 individuals who provided exemplary leadership and service over a long period. The 2005 group of honorees, recognized at the Annual Meeting, are listed below.

**Policy and Organization** 

Anthony R. Kane Taxation and Finance

Aad Ruhl Strategic Management

Kathleen E. Stein Strategic Management

Ronald W. Tweedie **Statewide Transportation Data and Information** Systems

**Marcus Ramsay Wigan** Freight Transportation Data

Planning and Environment

Janet Bell Public Involvement in Transportation

Martin J. Bernard, III Transportation Energy

William R. Black Social and Economic Factors of Transportation

Richard S. Marshment Transportation Planning **Applications** 

Marion R. Poole Transportation Planning for Small and Medium-Sized Communities

Darwin G. Stuart Transportation and Land Development

Robert E. Tatman Waste Management

Montie G. Wade Transportation Planning Applications; Transportation Planning for Small and Medium-Sized Communities

**Design and Construction** 

Ronald W. Eck Low-Volume Roads

Asif Faiz Low-Volume Roads

Stephen W. Forster Mineral Aggregates

**Don Louis Ivey** Utilities

Sanford P. LaHue Portland Cement Concrete **Pavement Construction** 

Alma P. Moser Culverts and Hydraulic Structures

Roger E. Smith Pavement Monitoring, Evaluation, and Data Storage

Shiraz Tayabji Rigid Pavement Design

**Operations and Maintenance** 

David A. Kuemmel Winter Maintenance

Issam A. Minkarah Sealants and Fillers for Joints and Cracks

James S. Moulthrop Pavement Maintenance

William R. Reilly Highway Capacity and Quality of Service

**Roger Roess** Highway Capacity and Quality of Service

System Users John W. Billheimer **Motorcycles and Mopeds** 



Richard Dowling (Ieft), chair of the Highway Capacity and Quality of Service Committee, and Operations Section Chair Daniel Turner (right) flank newly named emeritus member William Reilly, Catalina Engineering, Inc.



Ronald Eck (center), West Virginia University, expresses his gratitude after receiving emeritus membership in the Low-Volume Roads Committee.

Ezra Hauer

Safety Data, Analysis, and **Evaluation** 

John H. Lacey Alcohol, Other Drugs, and Transportation

A. James McKnight Motorcycles and Mopeds

**Alison Smiley Vehicle User Characteristics** 

Jerry A. Wachtel Simulation and Measurement of Vehicle and Operator Performance

**Marcus Ramsay Wigan Bicycle Transportation** 

Gary L. Winn Motorcycles and Mopeds John J. Zogby **Transportation Safety** Management

Helmut T. Zwahlen Vehicle User Characteristics

**Public Transportation** John Dockendorf **Bus Transit Systems** 

Edward S. Neumann **New Public Transportation** Systems and Technology

George Haikalis Intercity Rail Passenger Systems

Freight Systems

**Anne Strauss-Wieder** Freight Transportation Planning and Logistics

# TR NEWS 237 MARCH-APRIL 2005

## Impressions of a First-Time Attendee

JOHN D. BELL

n the afternoon of December 15, 2004, I heard three wonderful words: "You've been approved." My employer, the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT), had agreed to send me to my first TRB annual meeting in a 22-year career. This was perhaps the best year for me to attend the meeting. In the past several months, I had become more involved in TRB activities, through participation on a National Cooperative Highway Research Program project panel and selection to a standing committee. I also was in the early stages of cosponsoring a research proposal. Moreover, New York State DOT Commissioner Joseph Boardman would take office as the next chair of the TRB Executive Committee during the meeting.

I arrived on the afternoon of Saturday, January 8, to ensure that I wouldn't miss any sessions. After registering for the meeting at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, I promptly attached to my name tag the white ribbon that signifies new attendee. That way, if I did or said anything foolish, people might give me the benefit of the doubt—a strategy that paid off more than once!

I quickly realized that annual meeting attendees maximize their time when I saw the crowded hotel

gym at 6:30 a.m., likely the only free time all day. Their dedication was further validated by the standing-roomonly attendance at the 8:30 a.m. session. For the next 4 days, I was amazed by the scale and complexity of the annual meeting, as well as by the quality of presentations, the caliber of speakers, and the resourcefulness of the TRB staff who keep the mega event running smoothly. Just as impressive was the participants' collective knowledge of a broad spectrum of transportation specialties and issues.

Because my work at New York State DOT focuses on freight transportation and economic development projects, I was primarily interested in sessions on the transportation of freight by rail and

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maritime modes. The selection of interesting and beneficial sessions on the topic was vast, but I could not possibly attend all, so I had to make many difficult choices.

All of the sessions I attended were outstanding. The material presented was visually and intellectually engaging; it routinely yielded more questions than time allowed; and it spurred additional post-session inquiries, discussions, and analyses.

One of the most worthwhile sessions was Session 127, Innovations in Project Delivery and Financing for Surface Transportation Infrastructure. The all-day Sunday workshop provided a thorough and thought-provoking discussion of public–private partnerships (PPP). I gained insight on what is needed to ensure a successful PPP and what federal programs and resources are available to support continued and expanded use. A highlight on Monday was Session 283, Transportation from the Customer's Perspective: Mega-Trends in Delivering the Goods. The session provided the carrier, federal, and state perspectives on transporting freight internationally.

Committee meetings also proved to be rewarding. On Monday, I received my first committee assignment from the International Trade and Transportation



Meeting authors at poster sessions.



Participating in committee meetings

Committee. Later that evening, at the Intercity Rail Passenger Systems Committee meeting, Randy Wade of Wisconsin DOT and I presented an overview of our joint research proposal for improved methods of rail preservation cost allocation for shared-use rail systems. The presentation was repeated on Tuesday at the Freight Transportation Economics and Regulations Committee meeting and on Wednesday at the Local and Regional Rail Freight Transport Committee meeting. The level of interest and support from these three committees was gratifying.

Although at times overwhelmed and disoriented by the scope of the event, I attended or participated in nearly everything I had scheduled. The annual meeting planning tool on TRB's website was particularly helpful in prioritizing my meetings and sessions.

What I would do differently next time is read more of the papers on the Compendium of Papers CD-ROM before the presentations. I also would spend more time at poster sessions, because they allow for personal discussions with authors. Finally, I would visit more exhibits to obtain the valuable documents, software, and other information they make available.

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Selecting an itinerary of technical sessions.



As outstanding as my first annual meeting was, future meetings could be even better. Attendees may benefit from advance copies of PowerPoint presentations from sessions, either in hard copy or electronic files. This would allow challenged note takers—like myself—to focus more attention on listening to key points, instead of trying to copy down detailed information, such as tables and charts.

Attending my first annual meeting certainly rates as one of the formative experiences of my career. Perhaps if I had attended a meeting earlier in my career, the effect could have been greater. TRB is increasing efforts to involve younger professionals and graduate students in annual meeting activities. For employees of government agencies and private-sector firms with tightening travel budgets, expanded use and development of Internet e-sessions could lessen the impact of missing the meeting. TRB already posts some e-sessions online with real-time audio and Power-Point presentations. Perhaps in the future, the staff can incorporate streaming video, too.

In conclusion, my first TRB annual meeting was highly worthwhile. I look forward to the privilege of attending and participating in future meetings.

## Mark Norman, Technical Activities Director, responds:

TRB thanks John Bell for these impressions of a first-time attendee. His suggestions and those we have received from others for future improvements are being considered by the organizers of the TRB Annual Meeting. According to a February 2005 survey of annual meeting attendees, 91 percent of the more than 2,000 respondents rated the meeting as good to excellent, with only 1 percent ranking the meeting as fair or poor. We have already identified scores of improvements that will be implemented for the 2006 Annual Meeting as we strive to continuously improve the experience for first timers and veterans alike.