



National leaders on program of Oberstar Forum

Infrastructure issues leapt to the forefront of the national consciousness when the I-35W bridge collapsed in Minneapolis. The Sixth **James L. Oberstar Forum on Transportation Policy and Technology** will provide a setting for state and national leaders to discuss our nation's infrastructure, lessons learned from the collapse, and possible implications for public policy. The forum—titled “Our Nation's Transportation Infrastructure: Heading Towards a Crisis?”—will run from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. October 8 on the Minneapolis east bank campus.



James Oberstar



Amy Klobuchar

The forum begins with a welcome by **Robert Bruininks**, president of the University of Minnesota, and **Robert Johns**, director of CTS.

Next, two of Minnesota's leaders in Washington will give their perspectives. Chairman Oberstar will present “The Government's Role in Ensuring a Strong Transportation Infrastructure,” and Senator **Amy Klobuchar** will offer “New Directions for Our

Transportation Infrastructure.”

The forum then turns to two panel discussions. The first, “Transportation and National Politics,” will feature **Norman Mineta**, former secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation; **Bud Shuster**, former U.S. representative and former chair of the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee; and Senator Klobuchar and Congressman Oberstar.

The second panel, “State Challenges and Innovations,” will feature **Frank Busalacchi**, secretary, Wisconsin Department of Transportation; **Will Kempton**, director, California Department of Transportation; and **Tim Martin**, former secretary, Illinois Department of Transportation.

Chairman Oberstar will conclude the event with closing remarks.

The forum is free and open to the public. Space is limited, however, so attendees are encouraged to register.

A brochure has been mailed with further details; if you would like a copy or need further information, please contact **Paula Fenstad**, 612-624-3708, cceconf5@umn.edu. Updates are posted on the Oberstar Forum Web page at www.cts.umn.edu/oberstarforum. **CTS**

Researchers to assess options for reducing state greenhouse gas emissions

CTS has received an appropriation from the Minnesota Legislature to assess public policy and technology options for reducing the volume of greenhouse gases (GHG) emitted from the transportation sector in Minnesota.

“The public is asking us to answer these questions,” said Rep. **Melissa Hortman**, assistant majority leader in the House and co-author of the bill with Rep. **Frank Hornstein**. “I am eager to hear academic perspectives,”



Melissa Hortman



Frank Hornstein

she said. “We need a stronger relationship between the University and the Legislature.”

CTS associate director **Laurie McGinnis** will provide interdisciplinary leadership and coordinate outreach efforts for the project.

The research team—led by **David Kittelson**, Department of Mechanical Engineering; **Elizabeth Wilson**, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs; and **Julian Marshall**, Department of Civil Engineering—will investigate a number of

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20th Anniversary keynote: role of research

Transportation research has an impressive record with technical solutions—such as fuel efficiency and safer road design—but



Genevieve Giuliano

has had little influence on problems that require policy solutions, such as highway financing. Indeed, argues **Genevieve Giuliano**, today's critical transportation problems are public policy problems, either because technical solutions are no longer effective or because political and institutional barriers prevent their implementation. “As researchers,” she says, “our challenge is not just to do ‘good research,’ but to inform the public policy process.”

Giuliano will explore the role of research in shaping the future of transportation in her keynote address at the CTS 20th Anniversary Celebration on October 23 in Minneapolis. Giuliano is a professor in the School of Policy, Planning, and Development and a senior associate dean for research and technology at the University of Southern California. She is also the former chair of the Transportation Research Board Executive Committee.

Using the Transportation

CERS Institute explores public health aspects of rural transportation safety

Speakers explored the connections between rural transportation safety and community health at the Center for Excellence in Rural Safety's annual Summer Institute, held at the University of Vermont (UVM) in Burlington on July 30 and 31.

Presentations converged around a common desire to drastically reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries due to crashes on rural roads. Nationally, about 60 percent of traffic fatalities are rural, the majority of which occur on rural, two-lane roads. Health costs each year due to motor vehicle crashes have been estimated at \$230 billion, or 2.3 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product.

"Think about it. They're your friends, they're your coworkers, cousins, relatives—someone's going to be touched by it," said keynote speaker **Anthony Kane**, engineering and technical services director with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). "We need to get the political will and leadership to address it. Health care costs can be a vehicle to do it."

This was the second meeting of an annual Summer Institute held by the University of Minnesota's Center for Excellence in Rural Safety (CERS). The two-day gathering, hosted this year in cooperation with the new UVM Transportation Center and the New England Transportation Institute (NETI), is aimed at sharing information, setting research priorities, and developing strategies for improving rural transportation safety. Leading state and national transportation officials, researchers, policymakers, and professionals attended the meeting.

CERS, which was established by the 2005 federal transportation act, is



Anthony Kane



Tom Horan



Max Donath



Mick Rakauskas



Bernie Arseneau



Colleen Landkamer

a program led by **Lee Munnich** of the University of Minnesota's Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs in cooperation with CTS and sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration. Other partners include NETI and the School of Information Systems and Technology at Claremont Graduate University.

CTS director **Robert Johns** served as master of ceremonies. Speakers representing the University of Minnesota included **Tom Horan**, CERS research director and visiting scholar at the Humphrey Institute, who shared the latest CERS research into the public health aspects of rural transportation safety; **Max Donath**, director of the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Institute at CTS, who described human-centered technologies for reducing fatalities and life-changing crashes; and **Mick Rakauskas**, a research fellow with the HumanFIRST Program at the ITS Institute, who discussed attitudes and behaviors associated with rural fatal crash risk.

Bernie Arseneau, Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths Program co-chair and director of the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) Office of Traffic, Safety and Operations, helped conclude the event by summing up the information and ideas presented over the two days. In addition, Blue Earth County commissioner **Colleen Landkamer**, a member of the CTS Executive Committee, moderated a panel discussion on rural driving behavior.

Other panels addressed technological

solutions for improving rural safety and community health; a community perspective on transportation, health, and safety; and innovative national policies for safety and health.

Developmental psychologist **Jean-Pascal Assailly**, research director for Paris-based INRETS, a public research institute under the auspices of the Ministry of Research and the Ministry of Transports, provided another keynote, focusing on the causes of young driver crashes. Assailly, along with **Sonja Forward**, a senior research fellow and psychologist with the Swedish Road and Transport Research Institute, contributed an international perspective that reinforced the universal nature of rural transportation safety challenges. They also shared their research and policy successes.

In the end, most agreed that rural transportation safety is a public health issue in need of strong leadership, partnerships and collaboration, more behavioral research, and direct, personal, unvarnished communications campaigns to engage the public.

"It's time that we as a nation adopt a 'toward zero deaths' vision," Mn/DOT's Arseneau said. "By having that long-term goal, we're able to continue our focus on our journey. Our journey is to reduce those deaths to zero."

To read more about the meeting and the Center, please visit www.ruralsafety.umn.edu. **CTS**

Freight and Logistics Symposium to address impacts of rapid change

The 11th annual CTS Freight and Logistics Symposium, November 30 in Minneapolis, will address the impacts of rapid change on freight movements in the Midwest.

Topics will include ethanol transportation requirements, the shift from imports to exports, competition for containers, truck-weight impacts on roads, intermodal needs, the special needs of medium-sized

manufacturers, and emerging industries.

Richard Stewart, director of the Transportation and Logistics Research Center at the University of Wisconsin-Superior, will make the keynote presentation, focusing on the rapid economic change across the Midwest.

Panels with representatives from the business community, academia, and the

public sector will then discuss freight challenges and public policy alternatives in response to rapid change.

The symposium brochure is enclosed. For more information, contact **Paula Fenstad** at 612-624-3708, cceconf5@umn.edu, or visit www.cts.umn.edu/events. **CTS**

CTS committees welcome new chairs, members

CTS Executive Committee members welcomed new chair **Fred Corrigan** at the committee's August 16 meeting. Corrigan is the executive director of the Aggregate and Ready Mix Association of Minnesota and co-chair of TERRA, the Transportation Engineering and Road Research Alliance.

Corrigan succeeds **Richard Murphy Jr.**, CEO of Murphy Warehouse Company, who chaired the committee for four-plus years. "Richard demonstrated exemplary leadership in moving forward the strategic goals and priorities of CTS," said CTS director **Robert Johns**.

Several departing members received

thanks for their dedicated service and support: **John Hausladen**, Minnesota Trucking Association; **Roberta Humphreys**, University of Minnesota; and **Charleen Zimmer**, ZAN Associates.

The Executive Committee also welcomed the following new members:

- **Debra Brisk**, Transportation Section Manager, HDR Engineering, Inc.
- **Scott Dibble**, State Senator and Chair, Senate Transportation Subcommittee
- **Ron Have**, President, Freightmaster Inc.
- **Jim Hovland**, Mayor, City of Edina
- **Michael Huber**, Center for Prevention, Blue Cross, Minnesota

- **Rick Krueger**, Executive Director, Minnesota Transportation Alliance
- **Doug Weiszhaar**, Vice President for Special Projects, WSB & Associates

In other organizational news, Weiszhaar became the chair of the CTS Council Coordinating Committee as of July 1, succeeding Zimmer.

And in a change earlier this year, **Shannon Tyree**, associate with WSB and Associates, Inc., succeeded **Ann Johnson** as chair of the CTS Education and Outreach Council. Johnson, president of Professional Engineering Services, Ltd., served as chair of the council since 1999.

CTS



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Shannon Tyree



Doug Weiszhaar



Charleen Zimmer

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possibilities:

- Increasing efficiency by improving vehicle fuel economy (e.g., CAFE or carbon emission standards, incentives for more efficient vehicles) and by switching toward other modes (walk, bike, bus, light rail).
- Reducing GHG by substituting alternative fuels for gasoline and by increasing use of electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles while encouraging low-GHG electricity generation.
- Shifting land use and transportation infrastructure to reduce transportation energy consumption by increasing urban density and mass transit, encouraging non-vehicle transportation options, and reducing vehicle idling (e.g., trucks at truck stops, ships in port) and airplane circling while queuing to land.

The researchers will evaluate these

options within a larger framework that attempts to identify economic tradeoffs, potential externalities and risks, and potential policy drivers.

Their report will identify short-term (up to 2015), medium-term (2015–2025), and long-term (>2025) technologies, strategies, and policies.

The researchers described their expertise at a July framing workshop, which was attended by Hortman; **Frank Pafko**, Mn/DOT; **Peter Ciborowski**, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency; and **Jan Homan**, Metro Transit. McGinnis kicked off the meeting and presented the background of the study and the proposed research approach. "Studies such as this have had important policy impacts in other states, such as California," she said.

A number of University faculty and researchers have been invited to serve in an advisory capacity for the study: **John**

Adams, Department of Geography and Humphrey Institute; **Winthrop Watts**, Mechanical Engineering; **Jerry Fruin**, **Stephen Polasky**, and **Steve Taff**, Applied Economics; **David Tilman** and **Jason Hill**, Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior; **Lanny Schmidt**, Chemical Engineering and Materials Science; **Ned Mohan**, Electrical and Computer Engineering; **Steve Manson**, Geography; **Tim Smith**, Bioproducts/Biosystems Engineering; **Carissa Schively Slotterback**, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs; and **Alfred Marcus**, Carlson School of Management.

CTS will report its preliminary findings to the legislature by February 2008 and issue a full report by June 2008. CTS also plans to disseminate the results through various events and presentations.

For more information about the study, please contact **Jan Lucke** at 612-625-8401, jlucke@cts.umn.edu. **CTS**

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Research Board's 2006 list of "critical issues" as a framework, Giuliano's presentation will reflect on the role of research in shaping our perceptions of critical transportation problems and their solutions.

Research has played a critical role in developing and designing transportation infrastructure and technologies, understanding and predicting demand for transportation services, and determining the public institutions that manage, operate, and oversee our transportation system, Giuliano says. Research has also been critical in defining or discovering

transportation problems, from the health impacts of vehicle emissions to the consequences of limited mobility for those who do not have access to a private vehicle, she adds.

Following Giuliano, two University of Minnesota faculty panels—one focusing on engineering and technology research and education, the other on policy and planning research and education—will review how University contributions have addressed state and national transportation issues since 1987, as well as suggest future possibilities.

A CTS 20th anniversary brochure is enclosed with further details. For more information, contact **Paula Fenstad**, 612-624-3708, cceconf5@umn.edu. **CTS**



Upcoming events

To publicize your event, call CTS at 612-626-1077, fax 612-625-6381, or e-mail snopl001@cts.umn.edu. Visit the CTS Web site—www.cts.umn.edu—for more comprehensive event information.

Oct. 3–4	Minnesota Fall Maintenance Expo, St. Cloud. Contact Kathy Warren , 651-351-7432, kwarren@usinternet.com .	Oct. 29–31	Minnesota Public Transit Conference, St. Cloud. Contact Tony Kellen , 320-251-1499 (x103), kellen@stcloudmtc.com , or see www.mpta-transit.org .	Dec. 6	57th Annual Concrete Conference, St. Paul. Contact Kristi Fischer , 612-625-4265, cceconf4@umn.edu .
Oct. 8	Sixth James L. Oberstar Forum on Transportation Policy and Technology, Minneapolis. Contact Paula Fenstad , 612-624-3708, cceconf5@umn.edu .	Nov. 1–2	3rd Annual Asphalt Shingle Recycling Forum, Chicago. Call 630-585-7530 or visit www.shinglerecycling.org .	Jan. 22–25	Minnesota County Engineers Association Annual Conference, Brainerd. Contact Carrie Alkins , 612-624-3492, cceconf3@umn.edu , or visit www.mncountyengineers.org .
Oct. 16	Intelligent Transportation Society of Minnesota Fall Industry Forum, St. Paul. Contact Paula Fenstad , 612-624-3708, cceconf5@umn.edu .	Nov. 14–16	Minnesota Public Works Association Fall Conference, Brooklyn Center. Contact Carrie Alkins , 612-624-3492, cceconf3@umn.edu , or visit minnesota.apwa.net .	Jan. 30–Feb. 1	City Engineers of Minnesota Annual Conference, Brooklyn Center. Contact Carrie Alkins , 612-624-3492, cceconf3@umn.edu , or visit www.ceam.org .
Oct. 16–17	AirTAP Fall Forum, Breezy Point. Contact Mindy Carlson at 612-625-1813, carlson@cts.umn.edu .	Nov. 30	11th Annual CTS Freight and Logistics Symposium, Minneapolis. Contact Paula Fenstad , 612-624-3708, cceconf5@umn.edu .	March 13–14	Concrete Paving Association of Minnesota 47th Annual Concrete Paving Workshop, Mankato. Contact Deb LaValle , 651-762-0402, www.concreteisbetter.com .
Oct. 23	CTS 20th Anniversary, Minneapolis. Contact Paula Fenstad , 612-624-3708, cceconf5@umn.edu .	Dec. 5	Minnesota Association of Asphalt Paving Technologists (MAAPT) 54 th Annual Asphalt Conference, Brooklyn Park, Minn. See www.asphaltisbest.com or e-mail jthomas@mnapa.org .	Apr. 15–16	Minnesota Spring Maintenance Training Expo, St. Cloud. Contact Shirley Mueffelmann , 612-624-4754, cceconf2@umn.edu . CTS
Oct. 23–24	Annual Water Resources Conference, Brooklyn Center. Contact Paula Fenstad , 612-624-3708, cceconf5@umn.edu .				