

# DECEMBER REPORT

1995 A monthly report on transportation research, education, and information/outreach activities at the University of Minnesota

## CENTER HOLDS POLICYMAKERS' FORUM ON INNOVATIVE FINANCING

On November 27 the Center held a special event titled "Transportation Policymakers' Forum: A Working Session On Innovative Transportation Financing." The forum—designed for legislators, CTS Executive Committee and Advisory Board members, and other policymakers—presented radical visions on privatization and the role of new technology. Ninety persons attended, including over 20 legislators. CTS acting director **Bob Johns** opened the forum and introduced **Jane Garvey**, deputy administrator with the Federal Highway Administration, who presented "Transportation Finance and Wayne Gretzky: Skating to Where the Puck Will Be." Her speech was followed by an opening panel; a working session led by **Arthur Harkins**, associate professor in Education Policy and Administration; a reactor panel; and closing comments by **Shef Lang**, chair of the Center's Executive Committee. Panel participants included:

### Opening Panel

Moderator: **Mary Hill Smith**, Member, Metropolitan Council

- **John Platt**, Chief of Staff, Ohio Department of Transportation
- **Robert Poole**, Reason Foundation

### Reactor Panel

Moderator: **Joe Gasper**, Member, Metropolitan Airports Commission

- **John Adams**, Professor, Department of Geography, University of Minnesota
- **Ed Cohoon**, Deputy Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Transportation
- **Jane Garvey**, Deputy Administrator, Federal Highway Administration
- **G. Edward Schuh**, Dean, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

CTS is creating a proceedings of the event and will announce its availability in a future *Monthly Report*. Findings from the forum will also be presented to the Governor, the Minnesota Legislature, and at the CTS Annual Transportation Research Conference next May. Questions about the forum can be directed to **Gary DeCramer** at CTS, (612) 626-7331.

## PROJECT MEETING, ISTEA SESSION FOLLOW CTS FORUM

CTS and the Humphrey Institute held two follow-up events on the day after the CTS forum. First, **Cindy Burbank**, director of legislative affairs for the FHWA, met with project principals of the "Transportation Technologies and Sustainable Communities" initiative. The primary objective of this national effort is to review national and local implications of sustainability on the development of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). **Lee Munnich**, **David Van Hattum**, and **Barbara Rohde** of the Institute's State and Local Policy Program are conducting the project, which is being funded by Mn/DOT's Guidestar Program, in cooperation with CTS. Participants at the meeting included **Hank Dittmar** of the Surface Transportation Policy Project, **Gene Ofstead** and **Bob Benke** of Mn/DOT, **Tom Horan** of the Claremont Graduate School, **Al Steger** and **Jim**

**Cheatham** of the FHWA, and **Bob Johns** and **Gary DeCramer** of CTS. Burbank then joined policymakers and community representatives for a morning session on the reauthorization of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA). Over 60 persons attended, including Commissioner **James Denn** of Mn/DOT and representatives of the FHWA, MPOs, RDCs, the state legislature, counties, and the university.

### **INSTITUTE PARTNERS & AFFILIATES PROGRAM HOLDS KICK-OFF MEETING**

The *Institute Partners & Affiliates Program*, directed by **Steve Hay**, held a kick-off meeting on November 21 in Minneapolis. The new program presents unique opportunities for private sector organizations and public sector agencies to participate in a collaborative program of research, education, and technology transfer. Over 20 persons attended the meeting, which featured a program description by Hay and **Dennis Foderberg**, director of the Institute. Highlights included presentations by **James Denn**, commissioner of Mn/DOT; **Jim Wright**, director of Minnesota Guidestar; Professors **Max Donath** of Mechanical Engineering and **Yorgos Stephanedes** of Civil Engineering; and ITS Institute staff **Eil Kwon** and **Lowell Benson**. Former CTS director **Dick Braun** was the featured after-dinner speaker. If you would like more information about the *Institute Partners & Affiliates Program*, please call Hay at (612) 626-1808. In other news, the ITS Institute Steering Committee met on November 2. Cochair **Gene Ofstead** of Mn/DOT welcomed the group and introduced **Jim Wright** of Minnesota Guidestar, who reviewed the Minnesota model deployment and Guidestar POLARIS projects. Foderberg gave the fiscal year 1997 funding outlook and announced two new committee members: **Al Steger** of the local FHWA division office, and **John McGowan** of FHWA in Washington, D.C.

### **RESEARCHERS COMPLETE LOGISTICS REPORTS**

Professor **Fred Beier**, director of the Logistics Management Research Center, has completed a final report on the *Educational Needs and Practices of the Logistics Community in the Twin Cities Area*. The objective of the project was to gather baseline information concerning the recruiting and hiring practices as well as the educational needs of the logistics community in the Twin Cities area. It was supported by the Twin Cities Roundtable of the Council of Logistics Management (CLM), CTS, and the Logistics Management Research Center. The CTS Task Force on Logistics, Transportation and Distribution, chaired by **Cathy Petersen** and **Ron Lifson**, helped Beier develop the survey used in the project. Professor **Fred Manzara** of Metropolitan State University completed another logistics report, titled *Logistics Course Inventory*. Manzara surveyed logistics-related programs and courses by reviewing various university and college student course catalogs. For copies of these reports, please call CTS at (612) 626-1077.

### **CLM SPONSORS STUDENTS AT MONTHLY MEETINGS; STUDENT JOBS LISTED**

The Seminar and Education Committees of the Twin Cities Roundtable of the Council of Logistics Management (CLM) have awarded scholarships to students to attend CLM monthly meetings. The University of Minnesota, North Dakota State University, University of Iowa, Metropolitan State University, and the University of Wisconsin-Stout are each sending between five to ten students to a meeting they have selected. These meetings are an opportunity for professors, students, and practitioners to exchange ideas on logistics and

the topic of the monthly meeting. The cost of the monthly meeting seminar is included in the scholarship. In addition, the students are recognized at the dinner and are encouraged to bring their resumes. At this time eight firms have agreed to sponsor the students. If your firm would like to sponsor students, please call **Cathy Petersen** of CLM at (612) 690-4324. In other student news, CTS again includes with this *Report* a listing of student job/internship opportunities in transportation-related organizations. If your organization has student job openings, send postings to CTS to be included in upcoming issues of the *Report*.

### **LIBRARIAN JOINS CTS STAFF**

**Laura Dale Bischof** joined CTS on November 16 to manage the Center's library and information services. Her experience includes positions in several of the libraries at the University of California, Berkeley, including assistant librarian in General Reference Service, and program coordinator/librarian in the Teaching Library. She holds a master's of library science degree and a doctorate in German, both from Berkeley. Bischof will work closely with Mn/DOT Library staff to define and develop services for the Minnesota Transportation Libraries (MTL), the new joint information services program of the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT), CTS, and the Minnesota Local Road Research Board (LRRB). CTS would like to thank **Jerry Baldwin** and **Pam Newsome** from Mn/DOT—joining committee chair **Cheri Trenda** and **Laurie McGinnis** and **Eil Kwon** of CTS—for serving on the search committee. CTS will describe how faculty, students, and practitioners can use its library services in future announcements.

### **FINAL COMPONENTS FOR 1996 T<sup>2</sup> PROGRAM APPROVED**

The Mn/DOT State Aid Division, directed by **Pat Murphy**, has approved funding support for two initiatives of the 1996 Minnesota Technology Transfer (T<sup>2</sup>) Program. Components include statewide mechanic training and computer-aided design training for local agency personnel. Funds from the State Aid Division supplement the T<sup>2</sup> Program funds provided by the Minnesota Local Road Research Board and the Federal Highway Administration. Additional 1996 T<sup>2</sup> initiatives include research and local maintenance innovations catalogs, expanded course topics, the circuit rider van program, and evaluation of new distance education technologies.

### **CTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS**

The CTS Executive Committee, chaired by **Shef Lang**, held its fall meeting on October 25. **Dick Bolan** of the Humphrey Institute discussed transportation planning and policy education initiatives being explored at the Humphrey Institute, and how they might be coordinated with CTS efforts. The committee continued its discussion of a CTS Fellows program for University faculty, and the development of the top transportation issues facing Minnesota. It also provided input for the November 27 Transportation Policymakers' Forum.

### **CLASS OFFERED ON ENVIRONMENTAL DECISION-MAKING**

The University is offering a course titled "Risk and Uncertainty in Environmental Decision-Making" in winter quarter. Professor **Patrick Brezonik** of Civil Engineering is the instructor of the course, which will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 to 6:35 p.m. Topics will include risk and uncertainty in hydrology and water resources management; mathematical and statistical bases for incorporating uncertainty into risk assessment models; the EPA's framework for ecological risk assessment and its application to aquatic systems; and others. Call (612) 626-1348 for further information and registration materials.

## CALL FOR PAPERS: GPS CONFERENCE

The Call for Papers has been issued for the 1996 Geographic Positioning System (GPS) Conference, tentatively scheduled for May 9, 1996, in St. Paul. The conference will focus on the unifying effect that GPS is having on the mapping and decision-making processes. Last year's conference attracted 150 persons and featured 30 papers on a variety of subjects. Papers for this year's conference are sought from all branches of science, all industry groups, and all levels of government. Abstracts are due **January 15, 1996**. For further information contact **David Zenk**, Center for GPS Research, Dunwoody Institute, Minneapolis, zenkx002@maroon.tc.umn.edu. A copy of the call is also available from CTS.

## UPCOMING TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED EVENTS

If you wish to publicize an event, call **Pam Snopl**, Center editor, at (612) 624-0841, or fax your announcement to (612) 625-6381. For other Center information, please call (612) 626-1077.

- Dec. 6            Logistics Education and Resource Network (LEARN) Monthly Meeting, "Unions & Trucking: Present and Future," with **Tom Keegel**, Teamsters Local #544, Old Spaghetti Factory, Minneapolis. Call **Mike Kern**, (612) 379-9672.
  
- Dec. 14           45th Annual Concrete Conference, Earle Brown Center, St. Paul. Call **Catherine Ploetz**, (612) 626-2259.
  
- Dec. 19           CTS Safety and Traffic Flow Council meeting, 780B Civil Engineering, Minneapolis, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Contact CTS, (612) 626-1077.
  
- Jan. 3            CTS Infrastructure Council meeting, 780B Civil Engineering, Minneapolis, 8:30-11:00 a.m. Contact CTS, (612) 626-1077.
  
- Jan. 4            CTS Environment Council meeting, 229 Nolte Center, Minneapolis, 1:30-4:30 p.m. Contact CTS, (612) 626-1077.
  
- Jan. 5            CTS Economy Council meeting, 229 Nolte Center, Minneapolis, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Contact CTS, (612) 626-1077.
  
- Jan. 7-11        75th Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting, Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C. Contact TRB, (202) 334-2934.
  
- Jan. 8 -  
Mar. 18         Inventory Management Course, various community colleges. Part of the American Production and Inventory Control Society (APICS) certification program. Four classes to choose from, 10 sessions each, from January 8 through March 18, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Contact the APICS chapter office, (612) 941-7305.
  
- Jan. 31         "New Urbanism," 7:30 to 11:30 a.m., Holiday Inn North, Minneapolis. Sponsor: Sensible Land Use Coalition. Call **Valerie Williams**, (612) 474-3302.
  
- \*Mar. 8-9        "The Road Best Travelled," 1996 Annual State Bicycle Conference, Hyatt Regency, Minneapolis. Contact **Jack Benson**, (612) 296-5269. \*PLEASE NOTE: The *November Report* incorrectly listed the date and location for this event. We apologize for any inconvenience.