

SEPTEMBER REPORT

1994 A monthly report on transportation research, education, and information/outreach activities at the University of Minnesota

CTS EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR 1994-95

The Center offers a number of events throughout the year to encourage communication and interaction between the University and the transportation community. The enclosed brochure announces Center events for the 1994-95 academic year—the CTS Transportation Research Conference, the Luncheon Speaker Series, the Faculty Seminar Series, the Transportation Careers Series, the Transportation Symposium Series, and Minnesota Technology Transfer (T²) Program Workshops. Dates and locations for fall quarter events are listed in the separate fall events calendar.

MN/ROAD HOLDS GRAND OPENING

Over 270 persons attended the fifth annual meeting and grand opening ceremony of the Minnesota Road Research Project (Mn/ROAD) on August 2. Mn/ROAD is a \$25 million joint effort of Mn/DOT, the University, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Local Road Research Board, and other partners to investigate road designs and procedures, materials, and the effects of traffic loads and weather on pavement. The Mn/ROAD facility, located northwest of the Twin Cities, features two test roads: the mainline experiment, which gathers information from actual I-94 traffic, and a low-volume design test road that provides data from test vehicles only. **Nelrae Succio**, former Mn/ROAD project manager, moderated the grand opening ceremony, which featured speeches by Mn/DOT Commissioner **Jim Denn**, **Kenneth Perret** of the FHWA, and **Bob Johns** of CTS. Professor **David Newcomb** of Civil Engineering (CE) presented a review of Mn/ROAD research in progress and future research, and cohosted a demonstration on the state of pavement structure, one of five concurrent demonstrations held that day. Mn/ROAD is expected to last at least 20 years, sending nearly 30 million bytes of data to Mn/DOT labs daily. The data will also be forwarded around the world, to be used in cooperative studies with organizations such as the Finnish National Road Administration.

TASK FORCE FORMED ON LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT

Over the past several months the Council of Logistics Management (CLM) and CTS have been exploring partnership opportunities for strengthening logistics education and research. CLM's **Mike DelBovo**, **Ron Lifson**, and **Cathy Peterson**—along with Professor **Fred Beier** of Marketing and Logistics Management, CTS Executive Committee chair **Shef Lang**, and **Cheri Trenda** and **Bob Johns** of CTS—met recently to discuss some possible actions. The result was the establishment of a formal group—the CTS Task Force on Logistics, Transportation, and Physical Distribution—that will act as a forum to identify logistics education and research issues and as an advisory body to guide efforts to address those issues. The establishment of the task force also follows the strategic direction of the Center's Executive Committee and Advisory Board, which believe that CTS needs to work more closely with industry in the area of freight transportation. Major activities will include strengthening the education link among educational institutions and the logistics industry; offering short courses and internships; conducting coordinated research; targeting outreach efforts; and promoting greater student awareness of career opportunities. One effort already planned for this fall is a survey by Beier to identify continuing

education needs and other current issues for logistics professionals. CTS and CLM are now determining membership of the task force, which will include representation from a cross-section of groups and interests.

STUDY COMPLETED ON CONGESTION / ROAD PRICING IN TWIN CITIES

A study of congestion/road pricing sponsored by Mn/DOT, the Metropolitan Council, and CTS has recently been completed. Performed by transportation consultants, the study provides a preliminary, broad-brush look at the potential viability of congestion and/or road pricing in the Twin Cities area. Several hypothetical pricing scenarios were identified, with a preliminary pricing and revenue collection structure developed for each. In addition to estimation of traffic and revenue impacts, the study also examined various measures of effectiveness for each scenario and identified several important issues that will need to be addressed if the concept of congestion/road pricing is to move forward in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area. A project management team consisting of **Dennis Foderberg** of the Center's IVHS Institute, **Frank Lilja** and **Adeel Lari** of Mn/DOT, and **Carl Ohm** and **Dave Engstrom** of the Metropolitan Council guided the study. Additional input came from a 25-member steering committee with representatives of the University, Hennepin County, the Regional Transit Board, the Federal Highway Administration, the cities of Burnsville, Bloomington, St. Paul, and Minneapolis, and the Offices of Senate and House Research. The executive summary is available by calling CTS at (612) 626-1077.

CTS AND MN/DOT TO HOST SPECIAL SEMINAR ON ROAD PRICING NEXT MONTH

CTS and Mn/DOT are hosting a special seminar on October 18 in St. Paul concerning road pricing in Singapore, one of the few places in the world to implement a form of congestion pricing. Three University staff—**Lee Munnich** and **Candace Campbell** of the Humphrey Institute's State and Local Policy Program (SLPP), and Professor **Herb Mohring** of Economics/Humphrey Institute—recently participated in an international conference on Advanced Technologies in Transportation and Traffic Management held in Singapore. While there they observed operation of Singapore's current Area Licensing Scheme and demonstration sites for a new road pricing system. In their seminar—which will include slides by Mohring—the team will discuss road pricing in Singapore, how it has worked, and implications for the United States. They will also discuss Singapore's unique Vehicle Quota System, designed to limit the growth in motor vehicles. **Adeel Lari** of Mn/DOT's Office of Alternative Transportation Financing will follow with an overview of Minnesota activities in this area. The seminar, which will be videotaped, will be held in Room 300N of the State Office Building, 100 Constitution Avenue, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. For further information contact Mn/DOT's **Micky Ruiz**, (612) 282-2269. The SLPP has just begun a national study of "Institutional and Political Issues in Congestion Pricing" for the FHWA.

CENTER MOVES INTO NEW OFFICE SPACE THIS MONTH

As this issue goes to print, the scheduled date for the Center's move to its new office space is September 30. The new address—200 Transportation and Safety Building, 511 Washington Avenue S.E., Minneapolis, MN, 55455—is given on the enclosed postcard as a handy reminder of the change. CTS phone and fax numbers remain the same. Please bear with us if you encounter any difficulties in contacting the Center during the period surrounding our move. Plans for an open house will be announced in future issues of the *Monthly Report*.

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RESEARCH AWARDS AVAILABLE TO GRADUATE STUDENTS

Awards of \$6,000 for developing a research paper on public sector aviation issues will be made to up to seven graduate students to be selected under a Graduate Research Award Program sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration and administered by the Transportation Research Board (TRB). This is the ninth year of the program motivated by the continuing need to attract gifted students to policy and management positions in the public sectors of aviation. The TRB must receive completed applications by **November 1**. Copies of the brochure and application forms are available at CTS.

FUNDING APPROVED FOR SECOND YEAR OF IVHS INSTITUTE

Dennis Foderberg, director of the Center's IVHS Institute, recently received news from **Elaine Joost** of the U.S. DOT's Research and Special Projects Administration (RSPA) that the two-year plan for the Institute has been approved, and that the second-year increment of \$1 million is in place. This follows an official site visit by Joost and **Amy Stearns** of RSPA on July 13, a prerequisite to continued funding under the grant that established the IVHS Institute under the Intermodal Surface Transportation and Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991. Foderberg, **Laurie McGinnis**, **Lowell Benson**, **Eil Kwon**, and **Dave Lynch** of the Center and **Bob Benke** of Mn/DOT participated in the site visit.

TWO TOUR GROUPS VISIT STATE TO VIEW IVHS TECHNOLOGIES

The Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Fourth ITE IVHS Seminar Tour was held August 7-13. Twenty-nine transportation professionals responsible for researching, planning, implementing, and operating transportation management and traveler information systems for highways and public transportation participated in this seminar tour. The tour included on-site visits to IVHS facilities in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Chicago, Ann Arbor, Detroit, and Toronto. The University's Human Factors Research Lab, Mn/DOT's Traffic Management Center, and Minnesota Guidestar were featured in the Minneapolis segment of the tour. **Dennis Foderberg** was responsible for the technical portion of the seminar tour and was the tour coordinator. Foderberg also set up and acted as tour guide for the I-95 Corridor Coalition Technical Study Tour, also held last month. A group of 19 federal, state, and local government officials from the I-95 Corridor Coalition spent three days on the transportation technology tour, which started in Minneapolis/St. Paul and proceeded to Chicago and Toronto.

MINNESOTA T² PROGRAM: NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

Three representatives of the Minnesota Technology Transfer (T²) Program—**Cheri Trenda**, program director; **Tom Donahue**, program coordinator; and **Vernon Mickelsen** of the FHWA and the T² Program Steering Committee—attended the national Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) Conference in Scottsdale, Ariz. Members of the nationwide FHWA Technology Transfer (T²) Center network and technology transfer personnel from Finland and the Baltic countries participated. Conference topics highlighted local agency technology transfer issues such as Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP) work zone products, ISTEA management system requirements for locals, and changes to the *Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD). Trenda presented two sessions: "Creating Effective Partnerships for Training" and "Strategic Planning for LTAP Centers." Technology transfer officials from Finland, Estonia, and Lithuania met with Trenda and **Nelda Bravo** of the FHWA Office of International Programs to explore opportunities for European-Minnesota exchange of effective technology transfer methods.

FACULTY AND STAFF ACTIVITIES

A paper by **Harrison Fraker**, dean of the College of Architecture, was published in the June issue of *Transport Policy*. The paper was titled "Streets, Parks, and Houses: Case Study of a Pedestrian Neighbourhood." **Bob Johns** presented "The Changing Organization and Management of State Transportation Agencies" at the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Joint Summer Meeting of the Planning, Economics, Finance, and Management Committees, held in Colorado Springs. **Dennis Foderberg** participated in the midyear meeting of the TRB Communications Committee in Las Vegas, of which he is secretary, as well as the committee's workshop on "IVHS Communications and Systems Architecture." Foderberg also participated in IVHS AMERICA's Coordinating Council meeting and National Program Plan Committee meeting in Reston, Va. **Laurie McGinnis** attended the midyear meeting of TRB Committee on the Conduct of Research, where she participated in workshops to develop problem statements for future research.

UPCOMING TRANSPORTATION 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.

- Sept. 22 CTS Education Council Meeting, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Radisson Metrodome, Minneapolis. Call CTS, (612) 626-1077.
- Sept. 27-30 CTS Research Council Meetings, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m., Room 780 Civil Engineering, Minneapolis: Economy, Sept. 27; Environment, Sept. 28; Infrastructure, Sept. 29; Traffic Flow & Safety, Sept. 30. Call CTS, (612) 626-1077.
- Sept. 27 1994 Northern Minnesota Safety Conference, Duluth. Sponsor: Minnesota Safety Council. Call **Regina Hoffman**, (612) 291-9150.
- Sept. 28 New DOT Alcohol Testing Issues for Employers, Minnesota Safety Council, St. Paul. Call **Regina Hoffman**, (612) 291-9150.
Dec. 13
- Sept. 29-30 Hazardous Materials Transportation, Minnesota Safety Council, St. Paul. Call **Regina Hoffman**, (612) 291-9150.
Nov. 29-30
- Oct. 3 CTS Information/Outreach Council Meeting, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m., 200 Transportation and Safety Building, Minneapolis. Call CTS, (612) 626-1077.
- Oct. 5-7 Minnesota GIS/LIS Consortium 4th Annual Conference, Sheraton Park Place, Minneapolis. Contact **Dennis Brott**, (612) 296-1681.
- Oct. 18 CTS/Mn/DOT Seminar: "Road Pricing in Singapore," 3:00 - 4:30 p.m., Room 300N State Office Building, 100 Constitution Ave., St. Paul. Presenters: **Lee Munnich**, **Candace Campbell**, and **Herb Morhing** of the University, and **Adeel Lari** of Mn/DOT. Contact **Micky Ruiz**, (612) 282-2269.
- Oct. 21-22 National Electric Transit Symposium, Radisson Hotel, St. Cloud, St. John's University, and St. Cloud Technical College. Sponsors: St. John's University, the College of St. Benedict, and others. Call 1 (800) 445-4394.
- Oct. 25-26 20th Annual Minnesota Public Transit Conference, Sheraton Metrodome, Minneapolis. Contact **Lori Graven**, (612) 625-9023.
- Oct. 25-27 FHWA National Conference on Integrating Environmental Considerations into Transportation Planning, Regency Hotel, Denver. Call **David B. Foster**, (202) 366-2065.
- Nov. 17-18 Minnesota Public Works Association Fall Conference, Thunderbird Hotel, Bloomington. Call **Kathy Warren**, (612) 351-7432.