NTC Urban Transportation Summit Yields Success

The National Transportation Center hosted its first-ever Urban Transportation Summit on October 29, 2001. Community leaders, faculty, students and special guests, including the Hon. Benjamin L. Cardin, Hon. Paul Sarbanes, Baltimore City Department of Transportation Secretary Alfred Foxx, TEDCO Director Philip Singerman, KCI Chairman of the Board Jack Kinstlinger and Assistant MDOT Secretary John Petty gathered to discuss regional transportation issues, employment and economic development. A career fair was also held for students to increase awareness of transportation as a field of study and to garner the wealth of opportunities that are now available.

Two panel discussions were held to examine perspectives on transportation, economic development and the goals of NTC’s education and training. A brief public forum was held for participants to ask panel members questions and for them to network and share their experiences with students and other attendees.

Congressman Elijah Cummings delivered the keynote luncheon address. He spoke to the needs of the industry to place more emphasis on helping students get the skills and assistance they need, on all levels, to be productive transportation professionals. He also encouraged attendees to speak to their congressional representatives, governments and organizations to participate in dialogue that will keep funding, education and research available on Morgan’s campus.

A special thank you goes out to NTC’s co-sponsors of the Summit. DMJM + HARRIS, KCI Technologies Inc., Maryland Dept. of Business and Economic Development, Maryland State Highway Administration, Maryland Transit Administration, Parsons Transportation Group and the Pennsylvania Dept. of Transportation. Without your help and unending support, this event would not have been possible.
Those of us that are going through the University Transportation Centers competition for the last two years of TEA-21 funding probably have mixed feelings about the process thus far. On one hand, we’re relieved that the preparation of proposals and oral presentations to reviewers is over. On the other, it was an excellent opportunity to realize what must be said in making a case for our individual centers and the UTC program. As debate and discussion surround the successor to TEA-21, making the case for our UTCs will be paramount.

What we do at UTCs, particularly with regard to education, is critical to the future of our nation. An NTC Advisory Committee member stated that Pennsylvania DOT, an organization of approximately 12,000 employees, expects that half of those employees will retire over the next four years. New employees will have to come from universities and colleges with UTCs or other transportation education and research units. The case also has to be made to students that there are opportunities for just about any academic discipline. Enrollments drive programs at higher education institutions; unfortunately, marketing and promotion of academic programs are not low-cost activities.

Research provides the findings, tools, techniques and methodologies that will arm future researchers and practitioners to ensure the security, safety and efficiency of our surface transportation systems. Research costs a great deal of money and time, but doesn’t always have a quick return on investment. Our efforts in sponsoring research must be extensive and long-term. The amount of funding for research over the years has been insufficient for a nation facing challenges and threats to its transportation systems.

Dr. Z. Andrew Farkas
NTC Director
NTC OUTREACH

NTC’s Public Land Acquisition Forum Brings Together Real Estate Professionals

The National Transportation Center (NTC) hosted a forum on October 17 to generate ideas and discuss issues relevant to the Public Land Acquisition Program instituted this semester at Morgan State University (MSU). Speakers included Dr. Andrew Farkas and Dr. Charles Carter of the NTC, Dick Moeller and Susan Lauffer of the Federal Highway Administration’s Office of Real Estate Services, and Theodore Jacobs representing University of Oklahoma’s Energy Management Program.

The venue for this event was MSU’s library at the Clarence Mitchell School of Engineering. About 40 participants and guests filled the hall while Murray Piper, Realty Officer for the Federal Highway Administration, Maryland Division, acted as the facilitator.

Program Director Ted Jacobs spoke about the “one-of-a-kind” Energy Management Program at the University of Oklahoma’s Price School of Business. The successful Energy Management Program, formerly known as the Petroleum Land Management Program, has similarities with the Public Land Acquisition Program insofar as both curricula include real estate law and practice, elements of economics, geography and statistics, and other features relevant to business school courses of study. Major revisions in Oklahoma’s program were instituted in March of 1999 after years of critical review.

This joint effort served as an opportunity to help shape and generate ideas for Morgan’s public land acquisition program. Interested observers included academicians from community colleges located in Maryland and Delaware, and special guests Prof. Fikru Boghosian, Chairman of the Department of Business Administration, MSU, and Prof. Jide Iwaree, Associate Professor, Department of Finance and Director, Real Estate Apprenticeship Program, Howard University School of Business.

To gather more information about the meeting or to register for the spring ’02 appraisal class, contact Charles Carter at ccarter@eng.morgan.edu or 443.885.1047.

Learn More About Principles of Real Estate Appraisal

Have you ever considered how real estate relates to transportation? The National Transportation Center, MSU’s School of Business and Management, SHA, FHWA’s Office of Real Estate Services and the IRWA have joined forces to offer a real estate curriculum at MSU. The spring ’02 course offering (BUAD 456 Special Topics) highlights Principles of Real Estate Appraisal.

If you think you have an interest, don’t hesitate to register. Slots are still available. The class is approved by the Maryland Real Estate Appraisers’ Commission for 45 hrs (licensure/certification & CE) and the Appraisal Institute for MAI/SRA designations. This and other classes are part of an initiative to recruit students into the right-of-way land acquisition profession.

To register, contact 443-885-1047.

Gear Up for Groundhog Job Shadow Day 2002

The NTC has actively supported the ongoing efforts of the USDOT’s Groundhog Job Shadow Day during the past few years. This year will be no exception. Mark your calendar, February 27, 2002, as the date to participate in this year’s upcoming activities.

Job shadowing is an academically motivating activity designed to give kids an up-close look at the world of work and to answer the question, “Why do I have to learn this?” Beginning with a nationwide kickoff on February 1, 2002, and continuing throughout the school year, students across America “shadow” workplace mentors as they go through a normal day on the job.

The NTC and FHWA will expose students to the vast amount of opportunity available in the various modes of transportation. Middle and high school students from across Maryland will have a chance to learn from local and regional professionals who are active in the transportation industry. Students will also have an opportunity to seek out summer jobs and internships with local companies. Representatives will have information regarding the Summer Transportation Internship Program (STIPDG), a 10-week summer program which is also sponsored by FHWA.

If you’d like to participate or obtain additional information, contact FHWA’s Sandra Talbert-Jackson at 410.962.4440.
As our first Summit, the NTC hosted some of the industry’s best. From students and speakers to vendors and faculty, everyone had a chance to interact and learn about the changing role of transportation.

Thanks again for your support!

Photos and Highlights From the NTC’s First Urban Transportation Summit . . .

Scheduled Presenters and Topics

**Session 1**

**Public Transportation Issues**
- Anthony Saka, Ph.D.
- Glenn Robinson
- Young-Jae Lee, Ph.D.
- Claudia Phillips, Ph.D.
- Hazel Ruth Edwards, Ph.D.


**Session 2**

**Highway Issues**
- Randal Reed, Ph.D.
- Carroll Perrino, Ph.D.
- Sanjay Bapna, Ph.D.

**Topic:** Spatially Referenced Crash Data System for Application to Commercial Motor Vehicle Crashes.

When: Wed. February 13, 2002
Where: Morgan State University School of Engineering
Time: 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
For more information or to register, contact 443/885-3666.
FHWA Awards $1 Million to Minority Universities for Transportation Research

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has established $1 million in cost-sharing cooperative agreements with Minority Institutions of Higher Education (MIHEs) to conduct transportation research and technology activities. The NTC is proud to announce that Morgan State was one of the recipients and congratulations are in order for Dr. Randy Reed for his project on proximity to highways and land values.

“Research is key to improving highway safety, reducing environmental impacts and alleviating traffic congestion,” FHWA Administrator Mary E. Peters said. “The cooperative agreements announced reflect our ongoing commitment to more fully utilize tremendous resources at our nations renowned minority institutions to help us fulfill our research goals.”

FHWA’s competitive assistance program allows MIHEs to compete solely with one another for cooperative, cost-sharing agreements. The program’s goal is to foster MIHE research and technology activities that will contribute substantially to the FHWA’s mission and help prepare the faculty and students at these institutions to successfully participate in the competitive research arena.

The agreements matched the expertise and capabilities of 11 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) with FHWA’s specific research needs. MSU was granted $75,129 to fund Reed’s project entitled The Effect of Proximity to a Highway on Real Property Value. The following universities were all designated funds under the cost-sharing cooperative agreements:

- Alabama A&M University
- Clark Atlanta University
- Florida A&M
- Langston University
- Morgan State University
- New Mexico State University
- Southern University
- Texas Southern University
- University of New Mexico
- University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez
- University of Texas El Paso

DOT Appropriations and Economic Stimulus Package Legislation Passed Into Law

Final action on the FY 2002 Department of Transportation (DOT) appropriations bill took place on Tuesday, December 18, 2001. President Bush signed the $59.6 billion transportation-spending bill (HR 2299) into law after months of controversy. The legislation provides $32.9 billion to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)—meeting the TEA-21 funding level requirements. The bill provides a 7.8% increase over the prior year’s funding. The legislation had been surrounded by a dispute over Mexican trucks operating inside the U.S. beyond their current 20-mile border restriction. After months of discussions and a veto threat by President Bush, a compromise was found and the bill was able to move forward.

Just when it appeared that the bill would pass, a provision was included in the legislation by the appropriators, that altered the distribution of the revenue aligned budget authority (RABA) and thus has resulted in nearly $1 billion of funding being earmarked for special projects in several congressional members home states.

Several members on both sides of Congress have expressed anger and frustration over the changes. But, despite these controversies, the legislation has been completed and signed into law.

The bill does not fund the President’s New Freedom Initiative, which sought some $145 million for specialized transportation activities for persons with disabilities.

CONGRATULATIONS to NTC Project Manager

Glenn Robinson

who was named to TRB’s International Trade and Transportation Committee.
**TRANSPORTATION EDUCATION NEWS**

**MSU Student Selected as Winner in Wayne Grace Memorial Design Competition**

Morgan State University grad student Kristen Humphrey was one of four students who received an award as recipients of the Second Annual Wayne Grace Memorial Student Design Competition, sponsored by the Landscape Architectural Registration Boards Foundation. Kristen's project, “More Than A Transit Hub: “A College Town Main Street” was displayed at the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) 2001 Annual Meeting held in Salt Lake City.

Kristen was awarded $1000 as a winner of the competition and was asked to participate in the President's Banquet to be recognized for her sound understanding of public health, safety and welfare considerations demonstrated in her project. On behalf of the NTC and MSU's Landscape Architecture program, congratulations Kristen on a job well done!

**Student Chapter of Institute for Transportation Engineers (ITE) Kicks off New Semester Strong**

The Student Chapter of the Institute for Transportation Engineers, led by Faculty Advisor Young-Jae Lee, kicked off the fall '01 semester at its first meeting on October 24, 2001.

The ITE chapter was introduced to new students and applications were submitted to help increase awareness of activities the chapter will participate in and support throughout the upcoming year. Students watched the video “Design Your Future Career in Transportation” and elected new officers to nationally represent the chapter. They are President Coray Davis, Vice President Monisade Adega, Treasurer Stella Obaze-Igbinedion and Secretary Ronald Vaughn.

**Two Outstanding MSU Students Selected As Eisenhower Fellowship Recipients**

The National Transportation Center is proud to announce that two students, Philip R. Shaw and Travis Marcus were selected as recipients of the Dwight David Eisenhower transportation Fellowship (DDETFP). Both students will be honored on Tuesday January 15, 2002 at the DDETFP Research Showcase during the Transportation Research Board's 80th Annual Meeting. The FHWA's Universities and Grants Program sponsors the Research Presentation Showcase and focuses on the education and training of new transportation professionals, the work of former DDETFP recipients and the transportation education pipeline.

MSU Junior Philip Shaw is a sociology/anthropology major from Silver Spring, Maryland. Second year graduate student Travis Marcus has a bachelor's in industrial engineering from South Carolina State University and is currently pursuing an M.S. in Morgan's Transportation graduate program. Both were selected for the HBCU Fellowship based upon academic performance, recommendations and related work experience. Combined, Philip and Travis were awarded more than $30,000 toward their academic studies. They will make on January 15 at TRB and in the future on behalf of the Morgan State University Community.

If you'd like more information on the DDETFP program, visit the NTC website's Education section or contact NTC Student Coordinator Joyce Trussell at 443.885.3666. You may also contact the Universities & Grants Program at 703.235.0538 or visit www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov

For more info about job and internship information, visit the NTC Job Page, at www.eng.morgan.edu/~ntc or stop by our office to browse our Job Resource Guide and Resource Library.
The National Transportation Center at Morgan is offering annual grants to full-time faculty and researchers in all disciplines for land surface transportation research. Grants are subject to available funding.

Faculty and other researchers are invited to submit research proposals that would directly address the theme of the center: Transportation: A Key to Human and Economic Development. The focus of this theme is on 'quality of life' areas, such as mobility of labor and the elderly, workforce and access to employment, urban development, equity, environmental, safety and other societal and economic effects and the application of technology to problems in these areas. Grants of up to $90,000 (for salaries and all other research costs) will be awarded. Collaboration with other researchers at Morgan, state agencies or other universities is encouraged but not necessary. Collaboration with researchers outside the university should involve some significant in-kind or non-federal cash contribution added to NTC funding and use of student research assistance is required. Proposals will be peer-reviewed.

Grant recipients are required to submit a final technical report at the end of the grant period and expected to disseminate results further through publications.

Application materials must include within a maximum of 20 pages:

* Abstract of 500 words or less
* Introduction, background to problem and purpose
* Methodology and detailed research tasks
* Management plan, including level of student assistance
* Detailed budget, including principal investigator and student salaries, indirect cost, fringe benefits, travel and other expenses
* Additional funding or in-kind contribution from non-federal source(s)
* Curriculum vitae of investigator(s)
* Department chair or director’s memorandum of support

For more information, contact Dr. Andrew Farkas, Director at 443.885.3666. The application deadline is March 1, 2002.

NTC Seeks to Award 2002-03 Research Grants

NTC Researchers to Present Current Studies at TRB’s Annual Meeting

The NTC is proud to announce that five of the Center’s principal investigators will present their studies to some of the industry’s most notable professionals during the Annual Transportation Research Board (TRB) Meeting scheduled to be held in Washington, DC from January 13-17, 2002.

This meeting, an information-packed program that attracts approximately 8,000 participants from around the globe, is an opportunity for researchers, practitioners, policy makers and students to come together and share knowledge and perspectives about the latest developments in transportation research, policy and practice.

All transportation modes are covered with more than 1800 presentations and 450 sessions. We are proud to announce that the following will represent the NTC by sharing their research:

- Dr. Claudia Goetz Phillips, ASLA and Dr. Hazel Ruth Edwards, AICP
  A Socioeconomic, Community Based Approach For Developing Integrated Mass Transit Systems As Applied To Baltimore City (Session No. 433)

- Randal Reed, Ph.D.
  The Role of the Speeding Fine Function in Driver Coordination (Session No. 411)

- Anthony A. Saka, Ph.D. and Dennis K. Agboh, Ph.D.
  Assessment of Operational Benefits of Electronic Toll Collection in the Baltimore Area (Session No. 208)

ATTENTION MORGAN COMMUNITY

Join us for the

NTC’s Annual Research Symposium

February 13, 2002

NTC-funded projects will be showcased to students, colleagues, state agencies and transportation professionals across the region.

Admission is free and all are welcome, however, registration is required. You may visit the NTC website for more details at www.eng.morgan.edu/~ntc or contact the main office at 443.885.3666.