

A publication of

UIC Urban
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT CHICAGO
Transportation Center
COLLEGE OF URBAN PLANNING & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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UTC's 2005 Fall Symposium

Transportation Technology Advances

Titled "Technology Impacts on Regional Mobility," the sixth annual Fall Symposium offered the crowd of students, faculty, and staff from neighboring colleges and transit professionals throughout the region a glimpse into the future of how technology can and will impact transportation.

To open the program, Bob Benton and Norm Carlson of the George Krambles Scholarship Fund presented a check for \$50,000 to CUPPA Dean Robin Hambleton to fund an endowment that will be used to award scholarships to exceptional students pursuing studies in the transportation field. A pioneer in Chicago's rapid transit history, Krambles spent over 40 years working for the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) and its predecessor, the Chicago Rapid Transit Company implementing new ideas and technologies.



L-R: Joe DiJohn, Bob Benton, Robin Hambleton, Norm Carlson, Michael Shiffer

Following the scholarship presentation, the forward-looking portion of the symposium was kicked off by Jason Tai, Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDOT) Director of Intermodal and Public Transportation. Tai emphasized that university research centers are the keys to helping shape ideas for public policy makers. He praised the UTC for its work and impact on policies in Illinois.

Dave Zavattero, IDOT's ITS program manager, started the series of presentations by addressing data collection and display. Through numerous monitoring centers traffic and travel information is collected. The data is then displayed on the region's real-time travel information website, gmctravel.com. This website receives over 300,000 visits per month. In May wireless access to the website was made possible and there have been over 180,000 wireless hits since. Forty live video feeds and real-time maps enable travelers to see their travel route and adjust their trips accordingly.

Thomas E. Vick, Director of Transportation Management and Administration at Chicago Area Transportation Studies (CATS), followed with a presentation on the ramp-metering project in the Dan Ryan Expressway corridor. The study recommendations include instituting strategic ramp meters and HOV entrance ramps, along with expanded bus service. These implementations can reduce delay by over 16%, while person throughput can increase by 12% without expanding the physical capacity of the roadway.

Technological advances in the private sector are often kept as trade secrets. Michael Christie, from United Parcel Service (UPS), presented the advances in technology that have allowed UPS to remain a leader in the international shipping market. Christie said that efficiency is the key, and technologies such as advanced dispatch planning systems and the Delivery Information Acquisition Device (DIAD) allow UPS to optimize the use of its assets. Soon GPS will be added to the DIAD and drivers will have package, stop order, and route information at their fingertips.

Faculty & Staff

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Director's Message

The Urban Transportation Center's mission is to address transportation problems relating to our highways, transit and rail systems through research, education and technical assistance. Last year, we celebrated the Center's 25th year. Throughout this time, the Center has remained committed to its mission of excellence in research, technology transfer and education.

At the current time, researchers in UTC are involved in transportation issues relating to access and equity, travel behavior modeling, transportation policy, land-use and air-quality, freight transportation, GIS technology and tools and a variety of other research topics relating to transportation. Center faculty and affiliated faculty are from urban planning, public administration, civil engineering and computer science. We have transportation specializations in our urban planning and civil engineering teaching programs and we draw research assistants from several other disciplines. Being in the center of the City of Chicago, we are always presented with complex and diverse problems to work on. We are fortunate that we have excellent relationships with the many transportation agencies in the area as well as nationally, in addition to private transportation companies in Chicagoland, who are instrumental in pointing out to us which problems need research attention.

As I take on my role as Interim Director, I wish to thank faculty, staff and research assistants for making UTC a great place to work. During this interim phase, we continue to work hard to be a productive research center with strong grounding in theoretical and applied aspects of transportation research. The support given to us by our local, state and national agencies is highly appreciated and we hope to continue to produce planning, engineering and policy-relevant research. I also hope that we are able to focus in on a few grants in which we are able to work together as a team and to continue to collaborate on writing journal articles and technical reports. As always, we value our current students greatly and wish our alumni well.

Warmest Regards,

Piyushimita Thakuriah (Vonu)



Piyushimita Thakuriah

UTC symposium, cont.



L-R: James Szczesniak, Earl Wacker, David Zattero, Michael Christie, Tom Vick

Technology advances do not only occur on the ground as Chicago's Director of Airport Planning, James Szczesniak, explained in his presentation on the expansion of O'Hare Airport.

Simulation technology enables the airport to simulate all operations that occur in and around O'Hare. Simulations of runway traffic, airspace traffic, ground transportation, baggage system, and even the airport's toilet system have been included in the planning.

Earl Wacker of CSX Transportation, and Director of the Chicago Transportation Coordination (CTC) Office capped off the presentation portion of the symposium talking about the CREATE project – a \$1.5 billion project aimed at eliminating freight bottlenecks. CREATE will eliminate 323 hours of delay per day for over 500 freight trains moving along the 893 miles of track in the Chicago region.

A panel discussion followed the presentations in which integration was a key topic. All participants agreed that mobility is vital to all modes, and integrating the technologies used in the public and private sectors is necessary. Michael Christie pointed out that real-time traffic information helps UPS redirect shipments and delivery routes to maintain their efficient operations.

In addition to the current technologies being used in the region, the panelists alluded to other technologies on the horizon that will improve mobility. Technologies such as positive train control, cell phone tracking, and real-time speed limit controls may all help to ease congestion of freight and people in the future. Only time will tell what the future holds for transportation, but it is clear that there are people working on improving it today.

"I can see a day," Vick said, "when to avoid delay, your car will tell you to go 70 miles per hour, and you are just a guide. Like cruise control."



Participants listen attentively to Panel discussion.

News in Brief

Daisuke Mizusawa received the following two awards: The Presentation Award, 1st Annual Inter-university Symposium on Infrastructure Management, August 2005 and the ASCE Transportation Group's 2005 Graduate Scholarship. The scholarship was presented at ASCE Student Awards Dinner on April 6, 2005.

Jiangping Zhou won the 2005 Association of American Geographers China Group Travel Grant for his paper entitled "Stakeholder Conflicts in Recent Inner City Redevelopment in China: are there some roles for the planner to play?" The AAG meeting was held in Denver, Colorado in April 2005.

Silvia Becerra, our UTC Program Coordinator, was selected as the recipient of the UIC Award of Merit. She received the award in the UIC Award of Merit and Service Recognition Awards Ceremony which was held during the UIC Employee Recognition Week in November 2005.

Siim Sööt and Gidon Berman received a TRB travel award.

UTC Participates in the Chicago Marathon

Congratulations to Daisuke Mizusawa, Kristen Hoschouer, and Jessica Rinks for successfully completing the Chicago Marathon.

Diversity lunch expanded to include topics beyond the citizenship presented by the UTC staff. Guest lecturers and round-table discussions attracted new audiences from the larger college of Urban Planning and Public Affairs.

Faculty/Student Update



Best Wishes Sue McNeil

Sue McNeil, a dedicated educator, advocate, and a leader in her field, wrote yet another chapter on her already distinguished career. Recently, she left her position as director of the Urban Transportation Center and Professor in Urban Planning and Civil and Materials Engineering to join the civil engineering faculty at the University of Delaware.

The Center, with the help of the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs arranged a proper sendoff on August 3rd. Advisory board members, past and present students, as well as many of her colleagues and friends gathered in the Chancellor's Conference Room in University Hall for a reception to celebrate her five years of service to UIC. Dr. McNeil was celebrated for the welcoming, supportive, and nurturing environment she helped engineer at UTC.

Speakers highlighted several of her contributions to UIC and Chicago. Curtis Winkle of the Urban Planning and Policy Program noted Sue's commitment to providing the best education and support for her students. He also lauded her efforts to improve the recruitment process for high caliber doctoral students. John McCarthy, President of Continental Airport Express and a UTC Advisory Board member, commended Sue's efforts to promote inclusiveness and connectivity between the different sectors of the transportation world.

Sue has not cut all of her ties with the UIC family. She is now an adjunct professor of



Urban Planning and Policy, advising students and contributing to several of the Center's ongoing projects. We will miss her, but we wish her well in this new chapter of her life. Commenting on her time here she remarked, "It was a fabulous five years." We agree.

Canadian Society for Civil Engineering



Sadayuki Yagi and Daisuke Mizusawa

The 33rd Canadian Society for Civil Engineering (CSCE) Annual Conference was held in Toronto, Canada from June 2 to 4, 2005. Sadayuki Yagi and Daisuke Mizusawa participated in the conference to present their papers. Sadayuki presented "An Exploratory Analysis of Intra-Household Joint Activity-Travel Tours in the Jakarta Metropolitan Area" (co-authored with A. Mohammadian) under the transportation planning session. Daisuke presented "Trinity in Transportation Planning: Strategic Planning, Asset Management, and Performance Measures" (co-authored with S. McNeil) under the infrastructure condition assessment session. The paper was part of the 1st Specialty Session on Infrastructure Technologies, Management and Policy, which was very well attended. Mizusawa was given a memorial shield for this first specialty conference.

UTC PhD Forum



Members of the Forum

The UTC PhD Forum, established last year, has strong participation. The doctoral students discuss their ongoing research projects with their peers in bi-monthly meetings. This method of discussing presentations will help create better dissertations by allowing students to address possible problems early-on in their research. A recent forum focused on Yihua Liao's interest of "Longitudinal effects of Inadequate Transportation Access" Other research presented include "Evaluation of Distribution Consolidation to Address the Urban Freight Problem" by Yandan Lu and "Evaluating Customer Preferences to the Advanced Traveler Information Systems" by Lei Tang.

Conferences

Transport Chicago

Transport Chicago (formerly known as the Metropolitan Conference on Public Transportation Research or MCPTR), hosted by Pace Suburban Bus Company, took place June 3, 2005 at the Hermann Union Building on the Illinois Institute of Technology campus in Chicago, Illinois. The keynote speaker was Dr. Robert "Buzz" Paaswell from City University of New York and former UTC director. The afternoon general assembly session was a forum panel discussion of the merits of a third airport versus the expansion of O'Hare International Airport.

Dr. Paaswell's address titled "Invest Locally-Think Globally" compared Chicago to New York City, a well recognized Global city. The key points were: plan globally to locally in economics, freight, transportation, and communication systems.

Excerpt from Robert Paaswell's Address

New York City with its catastrophe of 9-11, is determined to rebuild remembering the past while looking toward the future.

The lessons learned in studying New York City determined that if it was to be a global city, it must continue to function well to maintain that status.

Second, New York City does not do the task of supporting the North East economy alone. Well-defined and smaller cities such as Albany with their strong economic centers play a part of the economic network. Third, infrastructure that is critical to the region is infrastructure that moves goods.

Fourth, conflicts arise from setting priorities. The basic conflict is between improving infrastructure for commuters and passengers and for improving infrastructure for freight. There are no tools to address these conflicts now.

And last, for the New York State Department of Transportation to address these issues, the Department itself must undergo change.

One of the important things to note when looking at global cities is that the transportation agencies are locked into a project-by-project analysis; the cross-cutting, multi-project planning and impact analysis has not been done.

In New York, as in Chicago, much is made of forecasting. The forecasting starts with jobs. Jobs attract people, who then form households and generate secondary activity. In these days of rapidly globalizing economics—and decreasing US manufacturing and related industries, we ask what will our growth sectors be? When NIPC notes that the Chicago region will have 5.6 million jobs by 2030, much of the growth in the city of Chicago, one must ask what sectors these represent.

This is a more difficult question than meets the eye—as technology that allows us to have instant information also allows for service industries to relocate around the globe. The common perspective of looking at the value of transportation benefits of a rapid transit project expressed in dollars, rarely justifies its capital cost. However, when economic development of benefits are factored in, most transit projects generate a significant return on public investment.

In the changing global economy, departments of transportation need to become more than just highway agencies. Agencies must rethink and restructure their missions and develop new institutional skills. Departments of transportation need to become more than just an engineering company and municipal planning organizations need to start dealing with the implications of global competition.

Steps should be taken to end "turf wars" between agencies and within organizations. Most of the large projects necessary to remain competitive need interagency support and cooperation. A reallocation of funding toward transit is required to free mass transit agencies to be innovative thinkers. Long term funding investment programs that establish consistent reliable funding mechanisms are needed.

Update

2006 TRB Annual Meeting

Plan now to attend the TRB 85th Annual Meeting from January 22–26, 2006 in Washington D.C. This year's spotlight theme is "Transportation 2025: Getting There from Here." Also highlighted will be "The Interstate Highway Systems 50th Anniversary - What Have We Learned?" and "SAFETEA-LU: What it Means for Research and the Transportation Community."

Several Urban Transportation Center faculty, researchers and students will be presenting at TRB including: Gidon Berman, Kazuya Kawamura, Yihua Liao, Jane Lin, Paul Metaxatos, Mark Minor, Daisuke Mizusawa, Kouros Mohammadian, Anthony Pagano, Siim Sööt, P.S. Sriraj and Vonu Thakuriah.

Reception

UTC and CUPPA Alumni Association will host a reception at TRB. The reception will take place on Monday, January 23, 2006 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm at the Hilton Hotel, room 1919.

For more information on the reception contact Gabrielle Brown at 312-996-4820 or at gabbyliz@uic.edu.

Spring 2005 METSI Report *by Joseph DiJohn*

McHenry County Transit Plan. The final draft plan was completed by the consultant and unveiled at an Open House in Crystal Lake for public and municipal review and comment. The County Board will also be given a presentation. UTC staff have been requested by the County to continue participation in the implementation phase.

METSI Supported Work

"Emerging Commuting Trends Evidence from the Chicago Area," Transportation Research Forum Annual Meeting.

"The Comparison of Different Truck Trip Generation Techniques at the Disaggregate Level: A Case Study of Retail Stores," Transport Chicago Conference.

"A Model Planning Process for Cargo Oriented Development- A Case Study in Chicago," Transport Chicago Conference.

"Accident Trends and Safety Devices At Rail-Highway Grade Crossings," International Cooperation on Theories and Concepts of Traffic Safety Conference.

"Effects of Whistle Blowing Bans on Accidents at Gated Rail-Highway Crossings: The Northeastern Illinois Experience," Journal of the TRF.

"Strategies for Overcoming Barriers to Paratransit Brokerage," TRF Annual Meeting.

"Framework for Disaggregate Truck Trip Generation Model Based on a Survey of Retail Business," TRF Annual Meeting.

"Measuring the Benefits of Implementing Asset Management Tools," Proposal Approved by MRUTC.

Krambles Endows Scholarship

The George Krambles Transportation Scholarship Fund announced it will be endowing a transportation scholarship to the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs at UIC. Krambles, an alumnus of the University of Illinois, was the former Executive Director of the CTA who began his career in 1937 with the Chicago Rapid Transit Co. He retired in 1980 and founded the Fund. The scholarship will provide financial assistance to an outstanding scholar in order to encourage professional careers in transportation. The Krambles Fund, CUPPA and UTC are in discussion stages to sponsor a fund raiser for the scholarship. More details will be made available as the program becomes fully developed.

TRF News

The Chicago Chapter of the Transportation Research Forum (TRF) held a well attended brown-bag lunch at DePaul University's downtown campus. Larry Wilson, of Wilson Consulting, presented work he had done for Metropolis 2020 on truck size, weight and route regulation in Illinois. He was joined by Mary Wells from the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority who discussed the impact of the Tollway's recently implemented I-Pass and variable tolls for trucks. A luncheon was held in November at which United Airlines executives shared plans to emerge from bankruptcy. David Young, former Chicago Tribune transportation editor and noted author, provided a historical perspective and commentary. The Chicago Chapter is planning a Chicago Session at the Annual Meeting in New York City next spring.

Interested in joining TRF? Contact Joe DiJohn, 312-996-1458 or go to the TRF website at www.trforum.org

TRB Census Data Conference At Irvine, CA

UTC researchers and graduates were strong participants in the TRB Transportation Planning Conference "Preparing for the Future," which was held May 11 to 13 at The National Academies Beckman Center in Irvine, California.

Siim Sööt and Gidon Berman produced a poster presentation about ACS in travel behavior analysis in Lake County. The poster included a temporal analysis of trends in Lake County, modeling of carpooling, travel by bus, travel by train and travel time and spatial analysis of the various distributions.

Ron Eash (MUPP 1987) presented the invited paper "Impacts of Sample Sizes in the American Community Survey." Currently he is a visiting scholar at Northwestern University.

Ed Christopher (MUPP 1983) was a FHWA liaison in the conference planning team, the rapporteur of the poster session in his presentation "Constructing a Road Map for the Conference Posters." He also presented the poster "Disclosure and Utility of Census Jour-

ney-to-Work Flow Data from the American Community" with Nandu Srinivasan (also FHWA).

Mary Kay Christopher (MUPP 1982) was, until recently, the General Manager of Service Planning at the Chicago Transit Authority. She is now a senior consultant for MK Associates.



L-R: Mary Christopher, Gidon Berman, Ron Eash, Ed Christopher, Siim Sööt

Papers & Presentations *UTC faculty & RAs in italics*

Papers/Publications

Kawamura, K., H.S. Shin, S. McNeil, and E. Ogard (2005). "Business and Site Specific Trip Generation Methodology for Truck Trips." Project 05-03. Midwest Regional University Transportation Center. University of Wisconsin, Madison, 109 pages.

Lee, J. and P. Thakuriah (2004). Probabilistic Linkage of Commercial Motor Vehicle and Carrier Data. Journal of Transportation Research Forum, Vol. 43, No. 2, Fall, pp. 37-52.

Sinha, A. and P. Thakuriah (2004). Relationship of Occupational, Industry and Socioeconomic Characteristics and Job Start Times: Evidence from Current Population Survey. Transportation Research Record, Journal of the Transportation Research Board, Vol. 1894, Fall, pp. 67-74.

Thakuriah, P. and Y. Liao. An Analysis of Variations in Vehicle-Ownership Expenditures. Forthcoming in Transportation Research Record, Journal of the Transportation Research Board. Accepted March 2005.

Thakuriah, P., S. Sööt, P.S. Sriraj, Y. Liao and J.G. Berman. Activity and Travel Changes of Job Access Transportation Service Users: Analysis of a User Survey. Forthcoming in Transportation Research Record, Journal of the Transportation Research Board. Accepted February 2005.

Thakuriah, P. Reconstruction of Missing Commercial Motor Carrier Exposures: Evaluation of Alternative Strategies. Under review for publication in Accident Analysis and Prevention.

Presentations

Berman, J.G., S. Sööt and S. Kudo. Travel Behavior Analysis Using the American Community Survey. Census Data for Transportation Planning - Preparing for the Future. TRB Census Data Conference 2005, Irvine, California.

Chandler, D., N. West and K. Kawamura. Development and Testing of a Model Planning Process for Intermodal Cargo Oriented Development. Transport Chicago, June 2005.

Liao, Y. and P. Thakuriah. Multilevel Linear Modeling of Household Vehicle Usage. North American Regional Science Council, November. 2005.

Mizusawa, D. and S. McNeil. Quantify the Benefits of Implementing Asset Management. 1st Annual Inter-university Symposium on Infrastructure Management, Waterloo, Canada, August 2005.

Mizusawa, D. and S. McNeil. Trinity in Transportation Planning: Strategic Planning, Asset Management, and Performance Measures. CSCE Conference 1st Specialty Session on Infrastructure Technologies, Management and Policy, Toronto, Canada, June 2005.

Rinks, J., S. Mastracci and P.S. Sriraj. Accessibility Issue for Visually Impaired CTA User. Transport Chicago, June 2005.

Shin, H. S. and K. Kawamura. Data Need for Truck Trip Generation Analysis: Qualitative Analysis of the Survey of Retail Stores. Transport Chicago, June 2005.

Advisory Board

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CONNECTOR

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UTC's Mission Statement

"The Urban Transportation Center (UTC) seeks to understand and improve urban transportation through the creation, application and dissemination of transportation knowledge while also making use of the Chicago metropolitan area."

Papers/Presentations, cont.

Sriraj, P. S., M. Minor, P. Thakuriah and L. Ramasubramanian. Housing Relocation Assistance for Low-Income Families: A Relocation Tool for the Chicago-Land Region. 46th Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Kansas City, Missouri, October 2005.

Thakuriah, P. Travel Behavior of Low-Skilled Workers in Response To Targeted Transportation Services. 46th Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Kansas City, Missouri, October 2005.

Thakuriah, P., Y. Liao and R. Baiman. A Longitudinal Analysis of Effects of Lack of Adequate Transportation Access. North American Regional Science Council, November 2005.

Thakuriah, P. Activity and Travel Changes of Job Access Transportation Service Users: Analysis of a User Survey. Transportation Research Board Annual Conference, January 2005.

Thakuriah, P. An Analysis of Variations in Vehicle-Ownership Expenditures. Transportation Research Board Annual Conference, January 2005.

Wang, M. and K. Kawamura. Computable General Equilibrium Approach to Evaluate the Impacts of Freight Projects. Transport Chicago, June 2005.

Theses and Projects

Dong, Yukun. MUPP Thesis: Urban Regimes and Infrastructure Financing. Spring 2005.

Gu, Xiaohua. MPA Project: Ozone Action Day Public Advisories Effects on CTA Ridership. Summer 2005.

Hart, Jonathon. MUPP Thesis: Strategies for Effective Park-and-Ride Design and Deployment. Spring 2005.

Mirsha, Santosh. CME Thesis: Quantifying Air Quality Benefits of Public Transit Improvement. Spring 2005.

O'Donnell, David. MUPP Project: Green Building at Bickerdike Redevelopment Corp. Summer 2005.

Scheu, Rachel. MPA Project: Assessing Residential Building Code Opportunities in Kane County Illinois: Increasing Efficiency to Decrease Peak Demand. Spring 2005.

Zhou, Jiangping. MUPP Project: Financing Rail Rapid Transit Expansion: A Comparison Between Chicago & Shanghai. Summer 2005.

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