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Transportation Division

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TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

The Transportation Division promotes the exchange of knowledge and information in transportation, both in general or in one of its many subdivisions including air, highway, rail, and water transport, and multimodal transportation.

FROM THE CHAIR

MARY ELLEN TUCKER

All of us know that our world changed on September 11th.

How are we doing our part? In a time of uncertainty, as transportation information professionals, we have the power to supply a precious commodity - correct and complete technical information, delivered in a timely fashion to those who need it to do their work. Some of our members are being called upon to work late hours, or to piece together disparate bits of data to help make sense of the aftermath of the disaster. Sometimes, we help by listening to questions with empathy, and then supplying useful knowledge to members of our news media preparing them to communicate with the public. We find ourselves relied upon to do what librarians are famous for: the provision of thorough and dependable information service.



What else can we do?

Here is a note from Samuel Felder, Leadership Associate with SLA. "Professionally, those in the immediate areas may wish to volunteer professional support and services to help companies rebuild when the time comes. Contact your local chapter president and help to co-ordinate volunteer efforts. There undoubtedly will be many opportunities to assist with the rebuilding, including providing education. SLA's September 11 Disaster Help & Information Exchange can also be used to co-ordinate responses. If you have any questions please contact Tamara Coombs, tamara@sla.org"

I believe that at this time, we can benefit from sharing with each other how we are being called upon to respond to this event, and the ways that we are delivering information services. Some of our members are using the TRANLIB listserv to post disaster-related questions and answers. If you or those in your organizations are called upon to make extra efforts at this time, I urge you to use our best resource, your fellow members of the Transportation Division. Our listserv is a great communication tool. If you don't already subscribe, you can find instructions on how to join at: http://www.library.northwestern.edu/transportation/slatran/td_tran.html

In closing, I quote Frank Rich, in a recent column he wrote for the *New York Times*: "The more we know now, the better, because knowledge is an antidote to the anxiety of change, and more change is the only certainty ahead." If knowledge is the antidote to anxiety, as information providers, it is our job to deliver this powerful cure.

Transportation Division New Members

SC Dept of Transportation
Library
Attn: Ann Adcock
955 Park St Rm 110
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Phone: 1-803-737-9897
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Fax: 1-517-373-0168
aper@mdot.state.mi.us

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Saint Louis, MO 63108-3302
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4340 E Louisiana Ave
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Phone: 1-303-757-99220
Fax: 1-303-757-9242
beth.moore@dot.state.co.us

Tribute to Jeanne Thomas

By Barbara Post

Like many Transportation Division members, I had mixed emotions when I read the July 5th e-mail from Jeanne Thomas. I know all her friends and colleagues in the Division wish her and Nick a happy retirement and hope they will enjoy their trips to Africa and Greece. Jeanne has been my friend and colleague for so many years. Like many of you, I have relied on Jeanne for advice and help throughout years. Jeanne has been one of hardest workers of our Division and has helped the transportation library community achieve the recognition and stature it enjoys today. Her accomplishments in her career as a transportation librarian are too numerous to mention.

During her years as a Division member, Jeanne has served on numerous committees – always willing to do more than her share of the work and provide support wherever it was needed. During her term as chair in 1992-93, the Division celebrated its 50th Anniversary and Jeanne organized a memorable dinner cruise on the Ohio River.

In 1995, Jeanne worked to establish the Transportation Access Group (TAG) within OCLC. The purpose was to provide a common online database for transportation material and a union catalog of serials for the Transportation Division. The TAG group has continued to grow and has become a great resource facilitating the sharing of information.

Jeanne has become a recognized authority on transportation information issues. In 1994, she participated in a Federal Highway Administration's scanning tour to visit European and Asian countries to gain an understanding

of international transportation information exchange. She has participated in several National Cooperative Research Program (NCHRP) Panels, including 20-39 on developing an improved Research in Progress Database and 20-48 on accessibility of non-English language transportation information resources. She has been a member of the Transportation Research Board's (TRB's) Information Services committee, including serving as chair of that committee. She was instrumental in forming TRB's technical committee on Library and Information Science and is the first and current chair of that committee. She is also on TRB's Group Five Council.



Jeanne on Safari September 2001

In her positions within the Transportation Division and TRB, Jeanne has organized many conferences and meetings including the recent conference in St. Petersburg, Florida on "Accessing Information Resources Worldwide." Jeanne's organizational ability and diligence impressed everyone in TRB and made the conference a great success.

I am happy Jeanne will continue with some of her work at NCHRP and TRB, as that means I will still get to work with and visit with her. I am glad her retirement is not a farewell.

Jeanne, thank you for your years of service to the Division and your friendship. Best wishes to you and Nick as you enter into a new phase of your life.

Transportation Division News

2001 International Symposium On Transportation Technology Transfer

The International Symposium on Transportation Technology Transfer was held in St. Petersburg, Florida, July 29-August 2, 2001. The symposium's purpose was to bring together professionals and organizations from around the world to share and exchange ideas, information, and best practices in technology transfer. Participating organizations held concurrent meetings and programs open to all. Joint sessions on broad technology transfer topics were also held to bring everyone together.

Accessing and sharing of information resources is part of the technology transfer process. The "Conference on Accessing Transportation Information Resources Worldwide" was one of the concurrent programs designed for librarians, information professionals, and those interested in information resource sharing. Some Transportation Division members participated in this conference as speakers, moderators, or recorders. Additional members were in attendance for the conference and symposium.

The program for the conference was planned so there would be a real sharing of international information. Speakers came from around the world. In the three "Information Resources and Plans" sessions, the speakers spoke about the resources, services, and plans of their agencies or organizations, which were providers or sources of transportation information. The countries and agencies represented in these sessions include the following:

Austria – Kuratorium fuer Verkehrssicherheit (Austrian Road Safety Board), Netherlands – Information and Technology Centre for Transport and Infrastructure (CROW), Finland – Finnish Road Administration, France – Institut National de Recherche Sur Les Transports et Securite (INRETS), Australia – Australian Road Research Board (ARRB), United Kingdom – Transport Research Laboratory (TRL), United States – BTS National Transportation Library and Transportation Research Board (TRB), Sweden – Swedish National Road and Transport Research Institute (VTI), Canada – Transport Canada, Germany – Bundesanstalt fuer Strassenwesen (BASt), and Mexico – Mexican Transportation Institute (IMT).

In the program on "Knowledge Management", three speakers described their approach to knowledge management. It was a "how to" session about organizing information resources into a practical information resource for staff.

The simultaneous discussion sessions covered six key topics. These sessions were rather informal and allowed

more in-depth discussion of the topics by the participants. The six topics were Information Availability/Accessibility/Translation; Internet Resources; Lessons Learned from Washington, Prague, and Acapulco Information and Documentation Conferences; Transportation Information Infrastructure Around the World; Updated International Information Resources Guide; and Preserving Archival and Digital Resources.

The "Future of Information Access" session gave the public and private sector views of the issues shaping the future of information access. In the 'Summing Up/ Conclusions' session, two conference participants gave their impressions and described the key elements of the conference. The second joint session of the symposium was on information resources. This session gave insights into what is happening in our knowledge economy and in information sharing from three perspectives: academic, an international organization, and a department of transport.

The proceedings for the "Conference on Accessing Transportation Information Resources Worldwide" will be available primarily in an electronic format, with a small number of copies printed. The proceedings were produced through a partnership between the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration and the Transportation Division of the Special Libraries Association.

The "Conference on Accessing Transportation Information Resources Worldwide" was sponsored by a group of organizations and agencies: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development/International Transport Research Documentation (OECD/ITRD), World Road Association (PIARC), American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), Transportation Research Board (TRB), Special Libraries Association, Transportation Division (SLA TRN), Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Besides the meetings, there were several opportunities to share a meal, get to know one another, and see the area. One evening a group of librarians and friends took Jeanne Thomas to dinner as a farewell and to wish her well in her retirement. One of the benefits of conferences such as this is the networking and informal, small group discussions that occur. The conference and the symposium strengthened our international relationships, increased awareness of resources, opened up communication and led to new friendships.

Kaleidoscope: News of Transportation Members

Nelda Bravo announced that the National Transportation Library has a new reference librarian, Jane Watson. Before joining the National Transportation Library at the end of September, Jane was the head of public services at the Marine Corps University Libraries in Quantico, Virginia. Jane can be reached at: Tel: 202-366-8557, Fax: 202-366-3676, jane.watson@bts.gov

John Cherney announced that the WisconsinDOT Library is going through a few changes at the moment. There will be an expanded web presence, hopefully by the end of the year, coinciding with a complete redesign of the entire department's website. Approval was received to automate the library's holdings, a project that will hopefully be completed within a year's time. If server issues work out, the library catalog will be available on the web.

Catherine Cortelyou moves on to a new position. Long-time Harmer E. Davis Transportation Library (HEDTL) reference librarian, Catherine Cortelyou, transferred to a new position within UC Berkeley's Institute of Transportation Studies on Oct. 1st, when she moved to the Institute's Technology Transfer Program. Her new duties will include outreach, reference services and course development, and she will work closely with practicing California traffic and transportation engineers. Though remaining an Institute employee, she will no longer be affiliated with the Transportation Library.

Catherine first came to the Transportation Library in 1975 as a library assistant shortly after completing her master's degree in City Planning. After completing a subsequent Library Sciences M.S. at Berkeley she job-shared the reference librarian position with Elizabeth Carter for a number of years. After Elizabeth's retirement in the early 1980s, Catherine assumed the position full time. Over the ensuing 20+ years Catherine has been active on the UC Berkeley campus with a variety of University and Library committees and has participated in Transportation Division projects.

Tech Transfer will be moving to new quarters in late October, and Catherine will have a phone number assigned at that time. In the meanwhile, she can be contacted through Tech Transfer's general phone number, 510-231-9590. Her e-mail address (ccortely@library.berkeley.edu) will remain the same.

HEDTL will be recruiting a reference librarian in the near future and a link to the job posting will appear on TranLib, the Division's listserv. For the interim, reference services are being provided by veteran Bay Area librarians Rita Evans and Seyem Petrites.

Betty Lou Hicks reports a change in email address and in the Company name. The Company recently changed its name to better reflect all the different types of engineering and architectural projects they handle.

Betty Lou Hicks
Hanson Professional Services Inc.
bhicks@hanson-inc.com

Anne Mackereth left MinnesotaDOT in March 2001 for a job at an academic/health sciences library. She is currently the Public Services Librarian at Greenawalt Library of the Northwestern Health Sciences University in Bloomington, MN. Her phone number is 952-885-5419, ext. 218. Her email address is amackereth@nwhealth.edu

Maryanne Ward, Technical Publications/Library Manager at PACCAR Technical Center, completed the Situational Leadership II training. The training focused on the role of the manager in today's environment in which managers are not so much bosses or judges, but partners, facilitators, supporters, and coaches. Training involved how to use four leadership styles to match the developmental levels of staff members and teams and to set up a communication process for reaching agreements about mutual expectations.

Produced by the Ken Blanchard Companies (the same Blanchard who authored "The One Minute Manager" and other management books), this is really a great course. Maryanne highly recommends it. The training continues and is reinforced through weekly emails in which various workplace scenarios are laid out and an opportunity to apply the training is provided. If you get a chance to take this course, grab it!

Suzan Zimmerman announced that the Road Safety Library of Transport Canada has been closed. The collection will be amalgamated into the collection of the Transport Canada Library. One staff member has gone to the main library. Inquiries on road safety issues should be addressed to the main TC library at 1-613-998-5127 or sent to libreq@tc.gc.ca. Suzan is working elsewhere in the department at the moment, but will be returning to Road Safety in November to manage their web site. Following is the contact information for Suzan:

Suzan Zimmerman
Internet Manager / Gestionnaire de l'Internet
Transport Canada / Transports Canada
zimmers@tc.gc.ca
http://www.tc.gc.ca
Tel: 613-993-4765 Fax: 613-990-0680

2001 TRANSPORTATION DIVISION PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Presented at the Transportation Division's Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon
Special Libraries Association Annual Conference
San Antonio, Texas - June 12, 2001
By Laura Whyne

The guidelines for the Transportation Division Professional Achievement Award state that this award shall be given to a past or present member of the Division on the basis of outstanding contribution and/or service to the Transportation Division. This contribution and/or service may take the form of contributions to library and transportation literature or bibliography, to the work and effectiveness of SLA and the Division, or to the transportation field through organizational work or publication. The purpose of the award is to honor those who have rendered distinguished service or have made a significant contribution to transportation libraries and librarianship.

I am very pleased to announce that the 2001 recipient of this award is Judy Gutshall, Senior Librarian at the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Knowledge Center.

Judy Gutshall has been providing library services for PennDOT since 1979. Judy is active in the Special Libraries Association (both the Central Pennsylvania Chapter and the international-level Transportation Division), the Capitol Hill Libraries Group, and the Transportation

Research Board's Library and Information Services Committee. Judy also serves on an NCHRP Research Panel.

Judy has been a member of SLA since 1981. In the Central Pennsylvania Chapter, she has served on various committees, including Nominating, Membership, and Bulletin Editor. She served as President Elect and President from 1984-1986. She is also a member of the Solo Librarians Division. For the Transportation Division at the SLA Annual Conference in Pittsburgh, she presented a paper on the use of the AASHTO VAN and TRIS database by state DOT's. As part of the Division's program in Cincinnati, she discussed the moving of libraries. Judy has also assisted in the past with organizing the GTRIC program.

Judy is an exemplary role model and leader, who has made significant contributions to the transportation field. She provides exceptional service to her job, peers, and SLA.

Congratulations to Judy Gutshall as the 2001 recipient of the Transportation Division Professional Achievement Award.

**THE TRANSPORTATION DIVISION
PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

This award shall be given to a past or present member of the Division on the basis of outstanding contributions and/or service to the Transportation Division. This contribution and/or service may take the form of contributions to library and transportation literature or bibliography, to the work and effectiveness of Special Libraries Association and the Transportation Division, or to the transportation field through organizational work or publication. The Award is not made posthumously. The purpose of the Award is to honor those who have rendered distinguished service or have made a significant contribution to transportation libraries and librarianship.

Nominations must be received by January 1st.

Presentation of the Award will be made at the Annual Business Meeting of the Transportation Division. The Executive Board of the Division is the judging committee for this Award.

DATE: _____

NAME OF NOMINEE: _____

ADDRESS OF NOMINEE: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL:

CONTRIBUTION/SERVICE (Use additional paper/pages, if needed):

NAME OF THE NOMINATOR: _____

ADDRESS OF NOMINATOR: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Send nominations by mail, fax, or e-mail to the current Division Chair.