

**Library & Information Science for Transportation (LIST) Committee
TRB Committee ABG40**

TRB Annual Meeting 2003

Jan. 12, 2004
Caucus Room, Hilton Hotel
Washington, D.C.

Submitted by Daniel Krummes
LIST Committee Secretary

Committee members present included: Sandy Tucker (Chair), Daniel Krummes (Secretary), Janice Bain-Kerr, Jerry Baldwin, Nelda Bravo, Barbara Harder, Joyce Koeneman, Wes Lum, Arlene Mathison, Nina McLawhorn, Richard McReynolds, Bonnie Osif, Chris Pringle, Ann Sweeney and Ken Winter.

“Friends of the Committee” in attendance included: Matthew Barrett, Bob Benke, Bill Carr, Patrick Casey, Linda Cullen, Larry Decina, Rita Evans, Gary Frederick, Roger Garren, Bob Garrett, Dave Johnson, Lyn Long, Mary Lupa, Metzzy Martinez, John Metcalf, Lisa Pogue, Glenn Roberts, Roberto Sarmiento, Sue Sillick, Ann Sullivan, Jane Watson and Laura Whyne

TRB staff present included Jessica Formalent, Steve Godwin, Tom Palmerlee and Barbara Post.

1. Call to Order (Sandy Tucker)

The meeting was called to order at 8:05am.

2. Introductions (Sandy Tucker, Committee Members and Friends of the Committee)

Sandy welcomed Committee members and Friends of the Committee to the LIST Committee’s annual meeting. Members and Friends then introduced themselves.

3. Approval of Mid-Year Committee Minutes (Dan Krummes)

Minutes for the Committee’s Mid-Year Meeting, held on July 17, 2003 in Portland, Ore., had been previously posted to Committee members on the Committee listserv. No corrections to the minutes were received, and they were approved by a unanimous Committee vote.

4. 2004 Mid-Year Meeting (Sandy Tucker)

Sandy noted that possible meeting locations for the 2004 Mid-Year Meeting were Park City, Utah and Irvine, Calif. Our Mid-Year Meeting will be held in conjunction with the meetings of other committees from within our TRB section, most probably with the Technology Transfer / Conduct of Research group at Irvine. Committee members noted that this was a

logical fit given LIST Committee interests, and Committee consensus was that the Irvine meeting would better provide the LIST Committee with a good “cross-pollination of ideas.” Sandy will keep Committee members informed on the status of the Mid-Year Meeting.

5. LIST Committee Programs at the 2004 TRB Annual Meeting (Sandy Tucker)

Sandy invited program organizers to give brief highlights of their projected 2004 TRB Annual Conference programs. LIST Committee programs are appended as Attachment A to these minutes.

6. 2003 Campaign to Support the National Transportation Library (Arlene Mathison)

Arlene described efforts by members of the national transportation information community (particularly members of the Special Libraries Association, Transportation Division) and national transportation organizations (such as AASHTO, CUTC, ARBTA and APTA) to ensure that the National Transportation Library will continue to exist as a viable entity during a period when its parent organization (the Bureau of Transportation Statistics) had planned to close down most NTL operations. Arlene noted that the issue had received widespread visibility and that policymakers who perhaps were unaware of the NTL and its programs as recently as early 2003 were now much more cognizant of the issues raised by its possible closure.

7. CUTC Directors’ Survey (Rita Evans)

Rita described a 2003 LIST Committee-sponsored survey on transportation information utilization which was prepared for and surveyed 65 CUTC Directors. The survey had a 30% return rate. Of particular interest were results regarding staffing levels at CUTC libraries. Sandy noted that the survey had been created as part of an effort to raise the consciousness of CUTC Directors regarding the importance of the systematic collection and dissemination of transportation information (and also to raise awareness that not everything is available on the Worldwide Web). Dan Krummes, Arlene Mathison and Sandy Tucker also worked with Rita on the survey. Full results can be found online at: http://tti.tamu.edu/shared_documents/tucker/

8. Study of Report Series Indexed by ITRD (Bonnie Osif)

Bonnie looked at report series currently indexed by ITRD (the list was supplied by Helga Trantes of BAST) to see which of the various series were held by U.S. libraries. Baseline information was created by looking at OCLC library holdings. Bonnie’s results confirmed what most of us had long suspected: international coverage is not good in U.S. transportation library collections.

Bonnie will next look to see which series may be now available on the Web. Further on down the road, Committee members concurred with Bonnie’s suggestion that a master list be compiled of important report series not currently held by U.S. libraries. Committee consensus was that some sort of national collection development policy needs be investigated if we are to plug the “holes” that Bonnie identified to better provide our end users with comprehensive international research coverage.

9. Presented Paper (Mary Lupa)

Mary Lupa, Senior Transportation Planner with Wilbur Smith Associates in Chicago, Ill., presented a paper which she had co-written with Wilbur Smith Corporate Librarian Betty Phillips (based in Columbia, S.C.) entitled: "What's in a Transportation Consultant's Library?"

During her presentation Ms. Lupa summarized many (but not all) of the results of her research. The abstract which Ms. Lupa and Ms. Phillips prepared for their paper succinctly points to the general direction of their research: "Libraries have an ongoing value to transportation consultants as well as to transit and highway service providers, public agencies and academic research institutes. Even when resources are limited, a strong and diverse library, with hard copy and electronic components, is an important factor in continued success. To identify emerging library issues, a dialogue was begun between the corporate and local librarians of a transportation planning, engineering, infrastructure and economics firm [i.e., Wilbur Smith Associates]. The framework of each library was presented and emerging issues discussed.

A full text, electronic version of the paper can be found on the Annual Meeting Compendium of Papers CD-Rom.

10. TRB's "Strategic Plan for Transportation Information Management" (Steve Godwin)

TRB Director of Studies and Information Services Steve Godwin briefly discussed a \$250,000 TRB project that will look at establishing a national strategic plan for transportation information management. This will be a policy study, i.e., a study which will provide policy advice to the federal government. Steve noted that much of the preliminary background work necessary for the policy project had already been carried out by Barbara Harder and Sandy Tucker and documented in their recently-completed "Scoping Study for a National Strategic Plan for Transportation Information Management" (NCHRP Project 207, Task 142).

Steve also noted that an ad hoc committee to carry out the work of the policy study is currently being drawn up and that TRB views the policy project as very important.

11. TRIS Database & TRB Library Update (Barbara Post)

TRB Manager of Information Services Barbara Post provided LIST Committee members with a brief update on TRIS Database and TRB Library issues. In terms of TRIS, she noted that TRB's new data input system was not yet operational. She hopes that it will be at some point in 2004. Barbara also noted that TRIS and the Research-In-Progress (RIP) Databases were mentioned in three versions of the current Transportation Reauthorization bill language, a positive sign, she believes in that there now is broad recognition in Congress and within the Administration towards the importance of these TRIS and RIP.

TRIS online now has 7,000 - 8,000 unique users per month. Over 14,000 full text links now exist, with nearly 100,000 links now established for direct ordering of reports indexed in the Database.

RIP has now over 20,000 visits per month and is being indexed by Google. 41 State DOTs have contributed RIP records since Sept. 2002. RIP now contains over 7300 records.

Barbara also described a two-day meeting held in Sept. 2003 at UC Berkeley's Institute of Transportation Studies that brought together, for the first time ever, staff from UC Berkeley's Harmer E. Davis Transportation Library, Northwestern University's Transportation Library and TRB staff responsible for input of TLIB subfile records. Meeting sessions looked at current practices and also set the stage for official Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs), which will be drafted by TRB for the current two participating libraries.

12. National Transportation Library Update (Nelda Bravo)

In 2003 the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, the National Transportation Library's parent organization, decided to shut down the NTL. (See discussion regarding this in preceding Agenda Item #6). Hence much of 2003 was spent "gearing up to shutting down" according to the NTL's Director, Nelda Bravo. Funding for fiscal year 2004 was subsequently approved, so the NTL will remain in operation through at least Sept. 30, 2004.

Nelda noted that the NTL's reference service is now handling 6,000 questions per month (submitted via e-mail). The NTL's commitment to TRIS Online remains strong, and work continues on this Internet version of the Database.

The NTL collection now includes 12,470 digital documents (including 3,335 from the National Technical Information Service).

The NTL continued in 2003 to develop plans to host the Transportation Research Thesaurus. Appropriate software was purchased and installed, and the TRT will be available online shortly.

In 2003 the NTL also continued its support for transportation libraries networking. The NTL continued its financial support of the Midwest Transportation Knowledge Network (MTKN) and most recently has provided seed funding for a transportation libraries union catalog which, via the OCLC bibliographic utility, will provide an Internet-based linkage consisting of MTKN member libraries and four other nationally significant collections (the TRB Library, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Library, UC Berkeley's Harmer E. Davis Transportation Library and the Virginia Transportation Research Council Library).

13. TRB Update (Tom Palmerlee)

TRB Staff Representative Tom Palmerlee revealed that the 2005 TRB Annual Conference theme will be "Transportation from the User's Perspective: Safety, Security, Integration and Focus on the Customer."

He noted that the TRB committee structure was reorganized in 2003 and that from an administrative perspective, the committees are now easier for TRB staff to effectively manage. He added that the challenge for the LIST Committee will be to reach out and effectively partner

with other TRB standing committees, a charge endorsed by Committee members who expressed the strong desire to better integrate our activities with those of TRB committees within our section (especially with the Technology Transfer Committee, the History Committee and the Conduct of Research Committee).

14. LIST Committee Triennial Survey (Barbara Harder and Sandy Tucker)

Barbara and Sandy gave a brief overview of the LIST Committee's recently completed Triennial Survey. Committee members briefly discussed the report in terms of Committee goals and critical issues. Committee consensus was that our goals should be restated in order to emphasize transportation information end users. Committee members also agreed that the LIST Committee need be international in scope, and that education and training needs to be emphasized in our overall scope notes.

A full text, electronic version of the Triennial Survey can be found at: http://tti.tamu.edu/shared_documents/tucker/

15. Developing Liaison Relationships with Other TRB Committees (Barbara Harder)

A new committee activity for 2004. Barbara Harder will coordinate a subcommittee that will look at coordinating liaison relationships with standing TRB committees that share LIST Committee goals. Subcommittee members will include: Nelda Bravo, Bill Carr (ex-officio), Arlene Mathison, Nina McLawhorn, Sandy Tucker (ex-officio) and Ken Winter.

16. Subcommittee to Identify Large Transportation Collections (Dan Krummes)

A new committee activity for 2004. A subcommittee was formed to attempt to identify large transportation collections that exist in organizations (chiefly research-oriented universities) which have hitherto been undocumented in the transportation information community. Dan Krummes will head up the effort, probably utilizing the American Library Association's *North American Title Count Database*. Committee members will include Sue Dresley, Roger Garren, Chris Pringle, Bonnie Osif, Roberto Sarmiento and Sandy Tucker (ex-officio).

17. Subcommittee to Plan Programs for 2005 TRB Annual Meeting (Joyce Koeneman)

Joyce Koeneman will work with a subcommittee consisting of Dick McReynolds, Lisa Pogue, Chris Pringle and Sandy Tucker (ex-officio) to plan LIST Committee-sponsored programs at the 2005 TRB Annual Meeting.

18. Subcommittee to Review Library/Information Science Literature (Roberto Sarmiento)

A new committee activity for 2004. Roberto Sarmiento will head up a subcommittee which will scan bibliographic literature for works pertinent to the purview of the LIST Committee. The subcommittee will prepare and disseminate summaries and abstracts of such works. Subcommittee members include: Matthew Barrett, Mary Ellen Tucker, Arlene Mathison,

Chris Pringle, Ben Nelson, Sandy Tucker (ex-officio) and Jane Watson.

19. Library Consortia (Nelda Bravo)

After providing a brief overview of the 30+ years history of transportation library national consortia efforts, Nelda described current NTL work with the Midwest Transportation Knowledge Network pilot program. She also noted the evolving national transportation libraries union catalog (described earlier in Agenda Item #12).

20. Adjournment (Sandy Tucker)

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05pm.

APPENDIX A. LIST Committee Sponsored Programs at the 2004 TRB Annual Meeting

Committee Meeting

Monday, Jan. 12, 2004 Chaired by Sandy Tucker

Conference Sessions

Monday, Jan. 12, 2004: "Critical Issues in Transportation: Information Resources for Decision Makers." Moderator: Nelda Bravo (National Transportation Library). Presenters: Rita Evans (Harmer E. Davis Transportation Library, Institute of Transportation Studies, University of California, Berkeley), Roger Garren (National Transportation Library), Arlene Mathison (University of Minnesota), John B. Metcalf (Louisiana State University) and Lisa Randall (Federal Highway Administration).

Co-Sponsored Conference Sessions:

Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2004: "Information Bridged Across the Organization: Knowledge Management and Human Resources." Moderators: Bonnie Osif (Pennsylvania State University) and Arlene Mathison (University of Minnesota). Presenters: Michele Egan (The World Bank), Marleen Steele (Pennsylvania Dept. of Transportation) Pamela Tripp-Melby (International Monetary Fund) and Maryanne Ward (Consultant).

Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2004: "Metadata: Perspectives of Various Transportation Communities." Moderator: Patricia S. Hu (Oak Ridge National Laboratory). Presenters: Ed Christopher (Federal Highway Administration) Patricia S. Hu (Oak Ridge National Laboratory) David R. Fletcher (GPC, Inc.), Joyce Koeneman (National Transportation Library), Anita Vandervalk (Cambridge Systematics, Inc.), Jeffrey L. Western (Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation) and Marcus Ramsay Wigan (Oxford Systematics).

Workshop

Sunday, Jan. 11, 2004: "Your Reports in the Electronic Age: Making Information Accessible" Moderator: Sandy Tucker (Texas Transportation Institute).

Presenters: Rhonda Brinkmann (Texas Transportation Institute) and John W. McCracken (Federal Highway Administration).