Transportation Research Board
2008 Annual Meeting
Committee on Library and Information Science for Transportation – ABG40 (LIST)
January 14, 2008, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
Conservatory, Hilton Hotel, Washington, D.C.

Present: Jerry Baldwin, Jennifer Botelier, Nelda Bravo, Pat Casey, Bob Cullen, Rita
Evans (Secretary), Jessica Fomalot, Barbara Harder, Joyce Koeneman, Wes Lum, Arlene
Mathison, Lynn Matis, Leni Oman, Barbara Post, Roberto Sarmiento, Sue Sillick, Ann
Sweeney, Bob Sweet, Sandy Tucker (Chair), Amanda Wilson, Laura Whayne, Ken
Winter

1. Welcome and introductions – Sandy Tucker

2. Approval of minutes – Rita Evans
   • Correct spelling of Francis Harrison's name.
   • Add Ken Winter to list of attendees.
   • Minutes were approved with corrections.

3. TRIS Database Subcommittee – Ken Winter
TRIS Survey – An online survey of TRIS users yielded 362 responses with more than
800 open-ended comments. It will be a daunting task to interpret the data. Ken has
contacted the statistics center at the University of Virginia for assistance and has started
to draft a report; he believes it is very important to understand the results before
disseminating them. Survey results will be shared during NTL's Transportation
Roundtable in April. An eCircular is planned and follow-up action will be up to TRB.

Question: Is there any concern that there were 362 responses when the survey was sent
(electronically) to 5000 people for a response rate of 6%. Ken said he wasn't sure, but he
noted that web-based surveys have the worst return rates of any survey method.

4. TRB – Tom Palmerlee
Sandy Tucker has served as chair of LIST for the maximum six years allowed by TRB
and a new chair will need to be appointed. Tom would like to identify and talk to
potential chairs before TRB's summer meeting.

Tom encouraged LIST members to use the Research Needs Statements database and to
update records as appropriate. Developing research needs is one of the key functions of
TRB committees. The Data and Technologies Section which Tom chairs is holding a
section retreat March 19-20 to identify cross-committee research needs.

The theme of the 2009 TRB Annual Meeting is Energy and Climate Change.

4. TRT Subcommittee – Pat DeSalvo
The TRT Subcommittee met earlier today. NTL is managing the TRT as of October 1,
2007. The subcommittee will serve as technical review board and will report back to

NTL on terms. There was a discussion about creating liaisons to other groups such as AASHTO in effort to make TRT more robust, with greater buy-in from the transportation community. NTL has offered to put together basic guidelines for reviewing and making decisions about terms. The TRT is being maintained using Data Harmony software.

5. LIST Summer Meeting – Sandy Tucker
Sandy asked for feedback on holding a LIST summer meeting in conjunction with SLA's Annual Conference in Seattle on June 14. An alternative would be a meeting in D.C. in late June or early. The group indicated support for a meeting in Seattle.

6. NTL – Amanda Wilson
NTL will publish an annual report for 2007 in February. NTL has added digital collections such as the NHSTA reports and they are in discussion with FHWA regarding some of their material.

Ken Winter is working on a project to digitize all VDOT reports, produce pdf files, and place an electronic copy in a digital repository at NTL. Ken offered to share his policy document should anyone else be interested in similar project and also is willing to share technical information. As Ken noted, "If we don't do it, someone else will do it badly and then sell it back to us." It is a good idea to create redundancy and avoid situations such as wondering "Where'd that server go?" when all of your links suddenly quit working.

Arlene Mathison asked how to send digitized reports to NTL; CDs are good. Reports are cataloged in OCLC and records will be going into TRIS Online. NTL is acting as a secure, long-term repository for content, while TRB, through TRIS, is serving as a secure, long-term repository for metadata. Sue Sillick asked if there could be standards for digital reports; the onus is on the content creator for rights compliance. If a file is scanned NTL would like to have an archival TIF files as well as a pdf.

In related scanning projects, Ann Sweeney said the University of Pittsburgh will be scanning EU documents going back to 1950s; Pitt has received the content of the European Delegation Library collection of depository documents. In addition to electronic copies, Ken said he is keeping a fairly complete hardcopy set of VDOT reports which he assembled a from several bound sets. FHWA uses HTML rather than pdf as standard format due to problems with tables and formulas.

In other NTL news:
- NTL Workroom is up and running.
- NTL developed a search interface for the digital NHSTA collection.
- New York State DOT Library is now in TLCat.
- Users searching Google will be able to find everything in NTL.
- NTL has a new web design as part of an agency-wide (RITA) re-do; there is now a consistent look throughout agency websites.
- NTL will be maintaining the TRT. USDOT Library and NTL are officially collaborating on projects including maintenance of the TRT.

- The Transportation Librarian Roundtables are being held every second Thursday at 2:00 ET; February's topic will be on ontologies, taxonomies, and the TRT.
- NTL is part of a new advisory board which will help chart the future for EPA.
- NTL is participating in the federal libraries digitization group.

NTL hopes to host a meeting of the Transportation Knowledge Networks (MTKN – Midwest Transportation Knowledge Network, ETKN – Eastern Transportation Knowledge Networks and WTKN – Western Transportation Knowledge Networks) and see what common issues will emerge.

For 2008, CUTC (Council on University Transportation Centers) has initiated a student papers journal which NTL will host as digital publication and Arlene is involved in this effort. This is a new role for NTL as a digital publisher. NTL wants to make its systems Z39.50 compliant to improve interoperability.

7. TRB – Barbara Post
TRIS is now 40 years old and TRB is developing a strategic plan for it. The TRIS survey spearheaded by Ken Winter and four input/focus groups conducted by a consultant will provide input for the plan. One focus group will be for students as TRB recognizes that this group approaches research differently than other users.

Northwestern University Transportation Library (NUTL) provided records for TRIS for 19,000 environmental impact statements with more than 4000 from FHWA. Rita Evans and Matt Barrett noted how valuable it is to have access to this information and said they used the records as soon as they were made available in TRIS.

A TLib meeting was held this summer with TRB, NUTL and the University of California, Berkeley's Institute of Transportation Studies Library (ITSL). NUTL and ITSL provide records for TRIS for articles and conference papers. Plans were discussed to provide records for theses. Despite budget cuts, 24,000 records added in 2007. *Transportation Research Records (TRRs)* have been made available electronically, and subscribers can access and download full-text *TRRs*. Links from TRIS records to Elsevier publications also allows full-text access for subscribers. There are many links to WorldCat for reports; about one-third of records in TRIS are for reports. RiP is becoming a clearinghouse for UTCs.

A training module has been developed for entering records into RiP and one for searching RiP will be available soon. A webinar will cover why you'd use RiP, how to input records, and how to search the database. The Research Needs Statements database (RNS) was launched and passwords given to all TRB committees. So far 750 records have been input Webinar from TRB on finding information in February 20 and will be advertised through TRB newsletter; Bonnie Osif and Barbara Post will produce it.

8. NCHRP 20-75 – Arlene Mathison reporting for Francis Harrison
Purpose of project is to implement TKNs as defined in Special Report. Process began with survey and interviews with 20 managers; both of these identified information needs

and problems regarding priorities. Francis developed business plan which was submitted to panel for review and is now undergoing revision. Next steps are approval of plan and outreach, with project to be completed in October. Outreach projects will include articles for newsletters and other journals, a ppt presentation.

9. TALENT – Arlene Mathison
A draft (confidential) document for a grassroots effort, "Statement in Support of the Development of a Sustainable National Transportation Information Infrastructure," was distributed. Matthew Barrett suggested that Arlene discuss this effort with Doug Newcomb, Chief Policy Officer with SLA.

10. Web 2.0 Program Idea for 2009 – Amanda Wilson and Joyce Koeneman
Joyce finds Second Life very exciting and doesn't see it as just a trend. She encouraged us to look at these technologies and how they're being used. Libraries in Second Life are empty, quiet and inscrutable but that's not what they should be; they need to have a live avatar at all times. You should be able to quickly assemble own collection as you would in a physical carrel. Sandy Tucker mentioned video from University of Delft with very interesting application. Somewhere down the road, these could be used for public meetings to discuss transportation alternatives.

11. Library Connectivity Pooled-Fund Study – Ann Pahnke
The Pooled Fund study should complement, not duplicate, other efforts. Ann said they want to coordinate and make sure their timing is right. The Pooled Fund is providing technical assistance to members. They hope to partner with NTL, CUTC, or TKNs on projects. Technical Advisory Committee members are busy reviewing previous reports. A *Transportation Librarians Toolkit* (http://www.libraryconnectivity.org/librarianresources_files/Toolkit_final1-5-08_WEB.pdf) has been produced. This how-to document is also appropriate for managers to whom the library reports. Leni Oman noted how grateful new transportation librarian was to get toolkit. Sponsorship level to join the Pooled Fund is $5000.

12. MTKN – John Cherney
MTKN, founded in 2000, held its eighth annual meeting in September. The MTKN website (www.mtkn.org), is being updated and they have posted all minutes and other MTKN documents. It includes collaborative workspace for which John thanked Amanda at NTL. The group is involved in TALENT and members are active participants in the monthly Transportation Librarians Roundtables. They are working on establishing performance measures for TKNs. MTKN wants Jerry Baldwin to write a history of the group.

13. ETKN – Ken Winter
ETKN (http://colab.cim3.net/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?EasternTransportationKnowledgeNetwork) was formed in 2007 with lots of help (listserv, workspace) from NTL. They are looking for more participants from Region 1 and 2. ETKN met in November. The group has no money but talented people, great ideas and a spirit of collaboration. Roberto asked if a

library can be member of more than one TKN and it was felt that libraries should join those networks make sense to them.

14. WTKN – Sue Sillick
WTKN (http://www.ctcandassociates.com/lpfblog/?page_id=225) is formed from libraries AASHTO Region 4 and most states in the region are represented. The first meeting was held in February with assistance from the Pooled Fund and NTL. WTKN has many solo members and several members who are new librarians. They hold monthly web-based meetings. WTKN has completed its bylaws and guiding principles.

15. AASHTO/FHWA – Barbara Harder
Barbara is conducting a Transportation Research Program Administration Scan. The primary themes are setting the research agenda; partnership models and joint research activities; conduct of research; and delivery. A draft report is due at the end of July and a final report should be completed before the end of 2008.

16. Sandy encouraged people to use LIST email list. She thanked everyone who has served on committee and said anyone interested in joining should contact her.

17 Meeting adjourned at 9:32pm

Respectfully submitted,
Rita Evans, Secretary