

Transportation Research Board

Committee on Library and Information Science for Transportation - ABG40 (LIST)

Committee Meeting

Monday, January 11, 2010

8:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

Hilton Washington – L'Enfant

In attendance:

Members: Jennifer Boteler, John Cherney, Bob Cullen, Rita Evans (Recorder), Kendra Levine, Arlene Mathison, Leni Oman, Chris Pringle, Sue Sillick (by phone), Ann Sweeney, Amanda Wilson, Ken Winter (Chair)

TRB Staff Representative: Tom Palmerlee

Friends and Guests: Sandy Brady, Nelda Bravo, Paul Burley, Bill Carr, Pat Conroy, Frances Harrison, Wes Lum, Lynne Matis, Anthony May, Barbara Post, Birgitta Sandstedt, Sandy Tucker, Bob Sweet, Hank Zaletel

1. Welcome from Ken Winter

Ken expressed his thanks to committee members for their assistance during the past year:

Amanda Wilson – Analytics session

Jennifer Boteler – Poster session

John Cherney – Communications

Birgitta, Nelda Bravo – Paper reviews

Arlene Mathison – New and Young Attendees

Tom Palmerlee, Wes Lum, Bill Carr – coordination with TRB

2. Approve minutes from December 4, 2009,

Minutes were approved without changes.

3. LIST Committee Updates and Need for Task Groups

Looking for volunteers in variety of areas:

Committee Membership and response to Committee Friend request – There is a growing interest in membership on LIST and we need to comply with TRB's requirements for committee make-up. Each committee has a required turnover of one-third of its members every three years, and committee members may not continue for more than three consecutive three-year terms if other individuals wish to join. Membership on each standing committee is limited to 25 individuals. In addition, five International Members from outside the US and two Young Members aged 35 years or younger may be appointed. Ken doesn't want to be sole person deciding who should be on the committee.

Action: Arlene Mathison and Sue Sillick volunteered to assist Ken with membership.

Poster session – Ken would like LIST to sponsor a poster session for 2011 to follow on successful sessions in 2009 and 2010.

Action: Jennifer Boteler volunteered to coordinate session again in 2011.

Research Needs Statements – Leni Oman suggested that we feed proposals into the RNS system to prepare better for next round and avoid scrambling to submit statements by the deadline.

Action: Rita Evans, Leni Oman, Sandy Tucker and Kendra Levine volunteered.

Knowledge Management – Leni Oman asked what would be involved in forming a Knowledge Management Subcommittee. Tom Palmerlee suggested that Ken contact other interested chairs about forming a subcommittee. He said this would be much easier than forming a Task Force since that requires formal approval.

4. Update from Wes Lum and Bill Carr, Research and Education Section (ABG00) Chairs and Tom Palmerlee, TRB Staff Liaison to LIST

Wes said that TRB wants to appeal to those unable to attend annual and mid-year meetings through electronic presentations. Some video and audio of presenters will be posted on the TRB website. The 2011 Spotlight is “Transportation Livability and Economic Development in a Changing World.” TRB wants us to emphasize international involvement and collaboration this year, and Wes noted that LIST doing a good job already. TRB sponsors have access to TRISWorld and its international content.

Bill said that the Research and Education Section wants us to consider our own priorities in addition to TRB’s priorities.

Tom said that LIST can propose TRB webinars and it can hold web conferences for committee and subcommittee meetings. He noted that LIST provides tremendously valuable services without generating many papers, and this is very different from most other committees.

5. Update from Paul Burley, Northwestern University Transportation Library

NU-TL’s pilot project to provide free document delivery to all TKN members will be permanent; OCLC members must make requests through OCLC.

NU-TL, in conjunction with the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI), has digitized 289 reports, periodicals and monographs produced by or for the Chicago Transit Authority or the Regional Transit Authority. There is considerable interest in this material and NU-TL wants to have records in TRIS. Researchers interested in transportation in Chicago and the surrounding region will be able to access these electronic materials through the Northwestern University Library's catalog, <http://nucatl.library.northwestern.edu/>.

6. Update from Barbara Post, TRB Information Services

- TRISWorld is available to all TRB sponsors.
- RSS feeds are now available for TRIS.

- Definitions for some of the terms in the Transportation Research Thesaurus (TRT) have been added under NCHRP 20-75.

7. Update from Amanda Wilson, NTL

- A new federated search tool is being developed using ExLibris Primo. NTL is working with TRB to include RNS and RiP in the new tool and hopes to have a demo by April.
- National TKN meeting – The three short-term and three long-term projects have languished, but transportationresearch.gov is now available and NTL is ready to move on all the projects.
- Thanks to Bob Cullen for moderating the monthly Transportation Librarians Roundtables.
- NTL is completing its merger with the USDOT Library and integrating the two staffs.
- NTL is making good contacts with new RITA Administrator Peter Appel and Deputy Administrator Robert Bertini.
- NTL is working with Turkey and South Africa DOTs to develop digital libraries.
- Leni Oman asked for assistance from NTL for state DOTs looking at digitizing collections. Sandy Tucker suggested this be a program topic for 2011.

9. NCHRP Report 643, Implementing Transportation Knowledge Networks, Frances Harrison

There was a suggestion to take the 10 points and start moving on them even before real funding is in place.

NCHRP 20-75A completed a web-based directory of transportation libraries and information centers, really want this to be kept up-to-date and maintained as a dynamic tool.

Leni distributed a draft of a Transportation Knowledge brochure developed by Ron Curb.

Action Item: Review page 27 of report, and hold conference call

Research Needs Statements – Leni described the process. She noted the need to vet ideas with other committees or groups so they understand exactly why this is needed. Statements are more likely to be approved if there are multiple sponsors.

10. Facilitating Use of European Transport Research: The Transport Research Knowledge Centre Dr. Anthony May

Dr. May described the work of Transport Research Knowledge Centre (TKRC) in promoting and disseminating research results from European Research Area. TKRC captures information about EU-funded programs and projects in 32 countries. They are not trying to be comprehensive for national groups. Transport research comprises studies, technical development and demonstrations concerning passenger or freight.

To organize the information, TKRC has developed 30 themes under four dimensions (Sectors, Modes, Sustainability Policy Objectives, Tools). They collect on projects, which produce written

reports, and programs, which usually do not, with about 300 programs and 6000 projects covered to date. TKRC aims to tie research together with policy. They do analysis of the research information and the top level involves thematic analysis and policy priority analysis. Research Compendium are produced by topic and provide an introductory guide to research; they include country-by-country description of research efforts.

Main achievements to date include extensive coverage of projects and results which have significant implications for European policy-making process and a streamlined approach to looking at programs and projects. Challenges include covering national research consistently, the potential to integrate with other international databases, the need to do more technology transfer (research into practice), and the need for better links with education and training.

Discussion followed. Wes Lum described the TKRC approach as a potential gold mine. He said it would be a good topic for a Transportation Librarians Roundtable or TRB webinar. Wes would like to see us move on this before next annual meeting. Dr. May was asked how to get research results into the hands of policy makers. He said it depends primarily on national participants, presentations at meetings and conferences are essential. This is difficult, ongoing problem and it helps to have officer on commission who is interested and understands the issue. Nelda Bravo expressed interest in any tips our European colleagues can share on how to approach policy makers. Leni noted this is an example of what is actually working now – could this be tied into an AASHTO meeting planned for next year?

Action items:

Leni asked that copies of sample documents be sent to Sue Sillick.

Wes volunteered to serve as primary contact with Dr May

11. Program brainstorming session

Committee strategic plan points distributed to start brainstorming

How to digitize existing collections, how do you handle new born-digital collections for research reports; use of document management systems; access; need for central collection within a library; university libraries developed large digital archival collections, and we may be able to learn from these existing efforts; cost of not being able to access existing research; could tie in to data access and preservation

Include standards for data preservation

Translating research into knowledge – how to package, how the library community adds value
Leni – poster session potential? Take information analytics idea to another level. Or a workshop?

Frances – partner with another committee and show how we can provide information./content related to a specific topic

Birgitta – focus on libraries' contributions and how we help package information

Opportunity to partner with data visualization groups

Data.gov

12. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Rita Evans, Secretary