

**Transportation Research Board  
Library and Information Science for Transportation - ABG40 (LIST)  
Midyear Meeting/Conference Call**

**Monday, July 11, 2:00-5:45 p.m.  
Seaport Hotel, Boston, MA**

2:00 Welcome and thanks from the Chair (Ken Winter)  
Today's Minutes: (Rita Evans) Emphasis on action items.

In Boston: Matt Barrett (M), Susan Dresley (M), Frances Harrison, Lisa Loyo, Lynn Matis, Jennifer Rosales (TRB Liaison), Jack Stickel, Sandy Tucker (M), Amanda Wilson, Ken Winter (M-Chair)  
Remotely: Betty Ambler, Sean Barber, Sandy Brady (M), Darcy Bullock, John Cherney (M), Rita Evans (M-Secretary), Andy Everett, David Jared (M), Kendra Levine (M), Mark Newton, Leni Oman, Birgitta Sanstedt (M), Sue Sillick (M), Hong Yu  
Sheila Hatchell (M) unable to attend due to Minnesota state government shutdown  
M = Member of LIST Committee

Action Items from this meeting:

Website – Within next three weeks, Ken will call for volunteers, note need for scope note for website.

Website – John to look for artwork used for original LIST website.

LIST Committee – Ken to issue call for nominations for LIST Chair.

Digitization session – John and Mary Ellen to get description and speaker details entered into online planner by deadline.

Digitization session – Ken to contact other committees for co-sponsors

Digitization session – Phone conference for further discussion of topics to cover (Ken?)

Poster session – Jennifer to develop call for posters. Distribute widely to attract broad range of possible contributors.

Poster session – Jennifer and Rita to form task group to review submissions.

Poster session – Ken to try to schedule session at a good time to promote better attendance.

IP Workshop – Sandy to continue to work with Barbara Harder (Conduct of Research)

Data handling – Ken, a lot of interest on this topic, should we pursue a separate session, something else?

NTL, Transportation Data clearinghouse – Amanda will send committee link to beta version.

Telling effective stories – Ken to give Andrew Meier's (ARRB Group) contact information to Jack Stickel.

2:10 Introduce Jennifer Rosales, P.E. our new TRB Program Officer/Liaison (Ken Winter)

Jennifer Rosales started at TRB in September 2010 after working for PB. She is the liaison for all Research and Education Section committees. The 2012 TRB Summer Meeting will be the week of July 9 or 16 at the Beckman Center, Irvine, CA (LIST has been meeting in conjunction with the SLA Annual Conference in even-numbered years). The Call for Papers for the 2012 Annual Meeting has been posted. There were 10,900 attendees at 2011 AM. Sessions for new and younger members (defined as those under 35 years of age) were well attended. Although many people requested that DVDs with the AM papers be made available rather than accessing the papers through a link provided to attendees, only 90 were purchased. TRB's webinars attracted 10,000 participants, including 5000 from state DOTs. A review of the *Transportation Research Record* is underway.

2:20 Announcements (Open mic)

Sandy Tucker – Big batch of TRT terms have been approved and will be released soon. TRT reviewed on quarterly basis; NTL compiles and reviews terms on Sharepoint in advance of meetings. Also compiling collection of long-range transportation plans for Texas and four other states. Sandy hopes other regions will do something similar. UMTRI discontinued own thesaurus two years ago and adopted TRT. Working with TRT Subcommittee on suggested additional terms from old UMTRI thesaurus, most related to safety and vehicles, impact on humans.

Rita Evans – Funding cuts have resulted in layoff notices to two librarians. ITSL's capacity to catalog and process new publications will be very limited.

Matt Barrett – LACMTA is participating in the History Pin project as a way to tie historic photos to map locations. This initiative is from We Are What We Do and the website is [www.historypin.com](http://www.historypin.com).

2:30 Approve Minutes from May 11, 2011 conference call (Ken Winter)  
Motion to approve minutes seconded and passed.

2:35 LIST Web Site Redesign <http://trblist.org/> (Kendra Levine)  
LIST will soon have its own hosted websites. This more robust space will enable LIST to keep track of committee communications and will serve as a platform for collaborating with other committees. Kendra will work with John Cherney, webmaster of LIST's current site, to migrate content to new site. No content from the existing site will be discarded. Let Kendra know if you're interested in working on the website. Keep content focused on LIST concerns.

Action item – Within next three weeks, Ken will call for volunteers, note need for scope note for website.

Action item – John to look for artwork used for original LIST website.

2:45 LIST Chair Opening/Call for Nominations (Ken Winter)

Ken's term as chair is ending and he's stepping down. Discussion of LIST and open chair position ensued. Ken described challenges at VDOT past few years as staffing decreased drastically and where the library has been able to restore some positions. His LIST involvement has been demanding but also an asset during tough times. VTCIR is changing to a more multimodal focus and Ken's been asked to be involved in agency-wide changes. Issued open call for nominations, including self-nominations, during the next 30 days. Nominations can go to Ken or Jennifer. Best candidates will have willingness and capacity to carry out defined functions. Noted that TRB provides lots of support, and he'll be around to assist with transition. Looking for experience, leadership, availability to attend meetings, support from management. Co-chairs are a possibility. Ken said it was a great experience and he's benefitted from it in many ways.

Action Item – Ken to issue call for nominations.

3:00 **MEETING FOCAL POINT: LIST Program for TRB Annual, Washington, D.C., January 22-26, 2012**

Updates on Current Programming and Projects

1. Digitization Speaker Session (Mary Ellen Tucker/John Cherney)

John Cherney reported that the draft panel session title is, "Digitization Activities within Transportation Information Community: Where We Are and Where Are We Going". Need to provide abstract soon. Mary Ellen Tucker will moderate.

Speakers for panel:

- Amanda Wilson, NTL – NTKN Digitization Working Group came from NCHRP Report 643. An environmental scan will be issued within the next month and the presentation will report on that survey.
- Roberto Sarmiento, Northwestern University – Joint international project with Birgitta Sanstedt of VTI.
- Matt Barrett, LACMTA – Digitization of less-common formats and delivering content through social media.

Discussion ensued about whether to address standards, visualization, born digital material, digital audio, or preservation.

Action Items – John and Mary Ellen to get description and speaker details entered into online planner by deadline.

Action item – Ken to contact other committees for co-sponsors

Action item – Phone conference for further discussion of topics to cover

2. Digital Initiatives Poster Session (Jennifer Boteler and Rita Evans)

The poster session will complement the speaker session and will provide the opportunity to showcase innovative projects. Posters can explore specific aspects of digitization in detail, or in describe specific projects within transportation. Hank Zalatel offered to help with session, planning, etc.

Action item – Jennifer to develop call for posters. Distribute widely to attract broad range of possible contributors.

Action item – Jennifer and Rita to form task group to review submissions.

Action item – Ken to try to schedule session at a good time to promote better attendance. The Online Planner is open.

3. Copyright/IP Workshop (Sandy Tucker)

Session scheduled for Sunday, January 22, 9:00am-12:00pm; Hilton

There was a wide-ranging discussion of what topics to address in the workshop. Sandy mentioned:

- Issue of ownership and permission to share or use information
- Fair Use

- Copyright
- IP issues of particular interest to researchers
- Creative Commons would be a great topic; how much easier these issues would be if every state DOT would just put a CC license on all of its works.

Some other points from that discussion:

- How best to bring in state perspective on what are important issues
- Different states approach IP and copyright in different ways; who owns copyright will vary
- Researchers don't understand when they can reuse information, when permission is required
- problems with use of software developed under a project – who gets to use that in perpetuity
- International players and fair use
- Session 584 from 2011 AM had great cross-section of speakers on related topics
- Who owns the IP gathered by contractors working for agency? How about a release form for agency to facilitate ongoing access to data and other information that goes into reports?
- Who has permission to grant permission? When you click a permission box, how does anyone know whether you're authorized?
- Contractor may own IP depending on language in specific contracts (or lack thereof). What about a clearinghouse of data that cuts across domains?
- Cutting and pasting from TRID for a presentation – is this OK? Do most researchers know what attribution is required? Can abstracts be reused, and if so, for what?
- Kate Lawson and Urban Data Committee may be interested in some of these issues; potential workshop cosponsor? Kendra can help with contacting Kate.

Action item – Sandy to continue to work with Barbara Harder (Conduct of Research)

The discussion of content for the Copyright/IP Workshop segued into handling data. These points may be useful in planning a future program on that topic:

- Matt – More transit agencies are opening up data to see what interesting applications the public can develop.
- Kendra – It would be really good to promote what's already being done to manage big datasets. We need to find a sustainable way to move forward without developing a lot of individual archives.
- Leni – Findability is a key issue. Wouldn't it be great to have better way to access to data used in generating reports? Is there interest from creators of data in making it accessible? Probably not.
- Ken – Why don't libraries manage datasets? Why haven't our tools evolved to handle this type of information? Sandy – Huge datasets may need to be managed as part of the project which is using them.
- Ken – New NSF requirements for data access and preservation.
- Amanda – BTS being looked to as a clearinghouse (portal that points people to what they want) rather than archive (has actual copies on server to deliver to users). RITA is developing a data warehouse for USDOT's own data but there is potential for this to be expanded. Stakeholders are Congress, USDOT, transportation community and general public. BTS is pushing data for decision-making
- Lisa – TRB doesn't have a lot of datasets, especially large ones. Data stay with project researchers.

Action item – Ken – Clearly a lot of interest on this topic, should we pursue a separate session, something else?

Other Programming Ideas or Thoughts? (Open mic)

4:30 Library/transportation research initiatives at Purdue (Mark Newton/Darcy Bullock)

Purdue is reimagining report generation process. It is seen as a collaborative effort between researchers and libraries. Transfer of SPR funds, interested in how this is happening at other agencies. What does transportation library community see as important elements of the publication process? As the Joint Transportation Program Research Director, Darcy observed that JTRP was probably a bad steward of reports when he took on responsibility. He approached the library and university press to develop a better way of producing publications. SPR centers generally are staffed with engineers who probably aren't the best equipped to know how this information should be archived, disseminated and indexed, so they are looking to libraries/university press for guidance.

Comments about the publication process and how libraries can be involved:

- Sandy Tucker – TTI has a project management system that feeds into a database to create reports and deliverables. Enter information about authors, then metadata available to library when report is published. Librarians assign TRT terms to all reports. Said she would like to see a study on whether tech reports are

cited more often if they are put in a repository. Mark noted that an increase in citations could be a big selling point for getting researchers to participate.

- Ken – VTRC in 2005 talked to TTI about their system and used InMagic in a process of cataloging into OCLC. This was tied into a project to digitize older research reports. It relied very heavily on a talented programmer for proprietary work, which was big mistake when the programmer left. Left with a very non-automated system which requires a lot of work to maintain (lessons learned in what not to do!) Noted that most transportation libraries are doing much less cataloging of technical reports, and instead are relying on NTRL and TRID to provide access as needed. We do not have the capacity to anticipate what should be kept on the shelf.
- Leni – WashDOT uses two distribution lists for reports, one from FHWA and one from AASHTO related to format in which reports are preferred. Is there a broader model for looking at publications apart from technical reports? Any hope for a more automated process for distributing reports or other types of information, preferably with indexing and subject access? May be an application for DataOne.
- Kendra – If it's in TRID, is there really a need to catalog a report? We need to develop a TRT-friendly web taxonomy that's easy to import and use all over the place.
- Lisa – TRB spends a lot of time tracking down the state DOT reports. Made a plea to this group to make sure that links to reports are sent to TRB for processing so they end up in TRID. Every report should have two URLs, one from state and one from NTL when it's put in their digital repository.
- Sue – State reports of research conducted with SPR are required to be sent to Lisa at TRB. New guidance recently reinforced this.
- Lisa reviewed process for how a report which is submitted to TRB for TRID will be archived with NTL. Process is not as consistent as she'd like. Alasdair Cain at RITA working on project where all projects will be entered into RiP and TRID. Ken noted long-deferred project to have RiP project records automatically become TRID report records when a report is issued.

Mark and Darcy thanked the group for their comments which they deemed very helpful.

4:45 Updates from TRB (Lisa Loyo/Jennifer Rosales)

Jennifer – The Back to Basics initiative from the Technical Activities Division aims to foster research through such things as enhancements to the RNS database; ongoing training and guidance to committees; research coordinators similar to communication coordinators.

Lisa – Can limit results in TRID to full-text only. Signed agreement with ASCE so records will only need to have TRT terms assigned before going into TRID. The review of the *TRR* will include a survey of contributors; also considering survey or focus group of librarians for their perspective. Impact factor greatly improved in last year – 67% although TRB does not know what to attribute that to, it may be greater online availability.

5:00 Update from NTL (Amanda Wilson)

Mary Moulton is the new Digital Librarian. Roger Garren is now at the State Department. Discussing a workshop on TKNs to be held in Spring 2012. Lots of interest in TKNs, want to bring in data managers, GIS, ways to share core datasets. Want this to come out of Data for Decision-making workshop which will be held in December. LC is looking for off-site storage for 500,000 items off-site; USDOT is involved in the preliminary discussions and this, may be way to store print archives (they have one-day turnaround time). Transportation data clearinghouse beta has been developed as part of the digital repository; looking for better interface. The University Transportation Centers program is undergoing major changes. Very little detailed information is available at this time. Action item – Amanda will send link to beta version.

5:15 Other items to discuss? (Open mic)

Frances Harrison – Lots of dire talk at TRB Summer Meeting about loss of funding for research. Need to do a better job of describing what information is being used, how it's being used, how value is being realized. She noted the importance of defining your audience and choosing language appropriate for that audience. Figure out how to differentiate your services. We need to track how information is used in a systematic way; we can't just depend on anecdotes. We have poor feedback mechanisms, not measuring effectiveness. In developing clearinghouses for data, how can we deal with data which is privately held? How do we mine multiple datasets and analysis tools to make sure the user of the final information understands limitations and restrictions on the data? How to define data which needs to be exchanged across many systems. Hope to influence vendors to facilitate data exchange and developing schema for data exchange to help share information throughout life-cycle of facilities.

Jack Stickel – Representing data community as Chair of the Statewide Transportation Data and Information Systems Committee. He identified a need for: concise stories using effective visuals; ways to rank research papers to make best use of researchers' limited time; better ways to communicate. He is looking for cosponsors for session on effectively communicating policy issues; how do you sell your ideas? Ken noted message from Andrew Meier at AustRoads about following up on successful transaction – how much money or time was saved? Ways to tell success stories to demonstrate value. Matt gave example involving LACMTA, America Fast Forward, <http://americafastforward.org/>

Action item – Ken to give Andrew Meier's (ARRB Group) contact information to Jack Stickel.

Leni – TRB Joint Task Force on Knowledge Management was approved with Leni as chairing. She is soliciting members.

5:45 Adjourn