



TRB LIST Committee Mid-Year Meeting
August, 15, 2012

AGENDA

Moderator: Roberto Sarmiento

Recorder: Rita Evans

On the call: Sandy Brady, Paul Burley, Bob Cullen, Susan Dresley, Rita Evans, Sheila Hatchell, David Jared, Arlene Mathison, Mary Moulton, Roberto Sarmiento, Sue Sillick, Jarrett Stoltzfus, Sandy Tucker, Ken Winter

1) Welcome & Goals - RAS, 2 minutes

2) Chair's Update – RAS, 5 minutes

- Roberto is establishing an Adobe Connect Account and an email list for LIST meetings and subcommittees.
- Updated LIST website for committee communication – give Roberto feedback on content and organization; Kendra and Ken are migrating information about programs from past years to website.
- Glossaries and dictionaries for transportation now on LIST site – thanks to Matt Barrett for getting this underway.
- Sandy T inquired if mailing list for LIST (previously maintained by Paul Hernandez) is available; Action item: Sandy and Roberto to follow up.

3) Committee Triennial Strategic Plan (TSP) & Research – Sue Sillick, 10 minutes

David Jared and Sue Sillick are the LIST Research Coordinators.

Research is a key component of LIST and one Committee role is to identify research needs and develop Research Needs Statements. Sue and David can assist with drafting and posting to TRB's RNS database. Since David and Sue are from research side, they are relying on committee members to develop ideas and they can then assist with finding funding. There are currently three RNS in the database from LIST and two of those are underway as NCHRP 20-90. Best practices in metadata needs some attention.

Action item: Sue will contact Frances Harrison, Metadata Subcommittee Chair.

LIST then reviewed the TSP with highlighted areas for possible research statements which Sue had prepared.

Roberto – Three topics were identified in previous calls:

- 1) “No results” research topics where answers haven’t been found. Mary Ellen Tucker, who passed away several months ago, had volunteered. Sue is looking for a new lead. Roberto will contact committee members who had voiced interest on this project in the past.
- 2) Review of Transportation Knowledge Networks (TKNs) after ten years: how have they done, what can we learn, success stories. Any volunteers?
- 3) Grey literature and how to manage it. This topic was raised at the recent TRB Safety workshop where participants talked about the need to manage this type of information. Brief discussion of what constitutes grey literature and it is clear that different audiences (academics, researchers, practitioners) consider different things to be grey lit.

Sandy T – Updating TRT as potential topic. Developing uniform vocabulary could be a valuable contribution. Kendra noted that from the Safety workshop, it’s apparent that many states, agencies, organizations, individuals, etc. struggle with definitions such as “fatality” – can we help them to standardize approach? Roberto asked if the TRT Subcommittee could explore how thesauri can be developed, specific controlled vocabularies beyond just safety. Kendra and Sue both advocated for starting with a specific area as a potentially more productive approach and a pilot project. While a huge project involving the entire TRT would be exciting, a narrower scope might be more likely to be successful.

Action item: Sandy T. volunteered to take lead.

[Side note: Rita and Lisa Loyo of TRB met with Sandy T during the SLA Annual Conference in July to discuss drafting an RNS involving the TRT and/or controlled vocabulary. They agreed that trying to do it in this year’s round is not realistic and a really solid RNS could be developed for the next cycle.]

Action item: With time running out, Roberto asked Sue to highlight a few of the topics and send to committee to see if anyone is willing to take lead on any of the topics. –

- 4) TRB 2012 Programming
 - a. Introduction (RAS)

Wants to have 2-3 ideas for AM
 - b. Poster Session - Kendra Levine (5 minutes)

Call went out yesterday on topic of Open Data, want to get different viewpoints – government, state agencies, researchers, application developers. The call will go to the Data Section today and Kendra is reaching out to other groups for contributions. Jarrett mentioned an initiative for open transit data, although less enthusiasm following MAP-21, but he can identify potential contributors in transit areas where many interesting things being done. Most initiatives are coming from advocacy groups rather than change-resistant transit agencies. Jared will forward Call to selected individuals.
 - c. Discussion (All)
 - i. Susan Dresley’s submission (5 minutes)

New tool – email list was popular, but moved to Sharepoint where researchers can subscribe (21 categories) – can get updates daily or weekly. News stories geared to what Volpe is doing, wanted something with different capabilities than RSS feeds. Has 300 subscribers, average of four categories. Sue has feedback on how they're being used, some have involved sponsors, center's director (wanted alert on leadership and collaborative cultures). Although set up as discussion boards, not much discussion. Sue sees this as outreach and a way to help colleagues work smarter.

Sandy T – What about program on getting the word out with Susan, Matt Barrett, Bernie W (AASHTO).

Action item: Sandy T will send LIST information about the AASHTO Daily Transportation Update.

Action item: Bob to ask Bernie W at AASHTO about participating.

Action item: Roberto to ask Matt to speak.

Action item: Susan agreed to take lead, Paul to assist.

- ii. Data angle – S. Tucker, M. Moulton, K. Winter, posters
Ken has suggestion for speaker from UVA who has helped with development of CDL's DMPTool (<https://dmp.cdlib.org/> - California Digital Library Data Management Plan Tool). Way of getting researchers to think about bigger issues and potential for products beyond final report – datasets that you or others could use later.
Kendra – what would be scope of session? Do we want to focus on helping to educate researchers/research managers?
Mary – DOI for data, assigned by DataCite. Not yet considered a standard but may eventually be adopted government-wide. Also, what mandates exist or are coming along about making publicly funded research data available. Many examples of repositories being set up to help with this compliance. Rita suggested that the focus be on helping managers and researchers to comply, not where mandates came from or why they exist.
Kendra noted that DOI is not so much the big issue as what it is you're pointing to, especially since within transportation, we don't have a good place to put things.
Action item: Sandy T to take lead, Mary to assist with trying to define the scope and firm up ideas with feedback due to Roberto within two weeks.

- iii. Kendra – The Young Members Council is interested in a search skills and information management for young professionals workshop
Action item: Kendra to take lead.

- iv. Roberto said many non-librarians were talking about the TRT and related needs at the Safety workshop. There is a need for controlled vocabulary; one application would be index terms for Technical Report Documentation Pages (TDRP). Do researchers use TRT as part of work flow. Mary asked about derivatives of TRT where a section of the thesaurus is applied. Kendra said

something on the TRT and Sharepoint could be useful as Sharepoint uses taxonomy.

Action item: Mary will talk to Matt Barrett about possible program idea.

5) Wrap up & Future meeting