

DRAFT MINUTES OF ABG40

Committee on Library and Information Science for Transportation

Tuesday, January 24, 2012

8:00am – 12:00pm

Washington Hilton, Kalorama Room

Web <http://trblist.org> | Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/trblist> | Twitter <http://twitter.com/trblist>

Scope: This committee serves as a forum for transportation librarians and the transportation research community on developments in information science and their applicability to transportation. The committee facilitates diffusion of national library and information science innovations throughout the transportation community by monitoring the use of new resources and tools in the transportation arena, defining critical research and training issues relating to their implementation, and promoting the benefits of these capabilities.

1. Attendance

Members:

Matthew Barrett – Los Angeles County MTA

Jennifer Boteler – MacroSys, LLC

Paul Burley – Northwestern University

Sandra Brady – Louisiana Transportation Research Center

John Cherney – Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Bob Cullen – American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials

Sheila Hatchell – Minnesota Department of Transportation

David Jared – Georgia Department of Transportation

Kendra K Levine – University of California, Berkeley

Arlene Mathison – University of Minnesota

Andrew Meier – ARRB Group Australia

Stephen Pepin – Massachusetts Department of Transportation

Brigitta Sandstedt – Swedish National Road and Transport Research Institute

Roberto Sarmiento – Northwestern University

Sue Sillick – Montana Department of Transportation

Mary Ellen Tucker – University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Sandra L. Tucker – Texas A&M University

Ken Winter – Virginia Department of Transportation

Visitors:

Nelda Bravo – FHWA Office of International Programs

Glynn Cavin – Louisiana Transportation Research Center

Jessica Fomalont – Transportation Research Board Library

Deborah Horton – Purdue University

Derek Hyde – Paine Communications

Patricia Kirkwood – University of Arkansas

George Kotsikos – Newcastle University

Timothy Krukowski – Paine Communications

Sena Loyd – Nevada Department of Transportation

Lynn Matis – Massachusetts Department of Transportation Library

Laurie McGinnis – University of Minnesota, Center for Transportation Studies

Mary Moulton – National Transportation Library

Bob Sweet – University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute
Andy Strassburg – Paine Communications
Dawn Vanlandingham – Federal Highway Administration
Amanda Wilson – National Transportation Library
Hank Zaletel – Iowa State University/Iowa State Department of Transportation
Lisa Loyo- Transportation Research Board

2. General Items for the Record/Announcements

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ken Winter at 7:58am.

Members of the ABG40 Committee and visitors were introduced by name and organizational affiliation.

The Chair discuss the many challenges facing libraries and information centers in transportation including strained budgets, digitization efforts, reductions in staffing, changes to systems, and efforts to increase efficiency with resource sharing, cataloging, shifting to digital access, reducing duplicative efforts and being more selective in acquisitions.

The Chair announced that Roberto Sarmiento, Northwestern University was nominated and has accepted the position of incoming ABG40 Committee Chair. The Chair then recognized the contributions of the membership during his tenure. Jennifer Boteler was thanked for her work organizing poster sessions. Amanda Wilson was thanked for organizing committee presentations. Lisa Loyo was recognized for helping organize a dinner with our guest speaker following the international reception. Rita Evans was thanked for her work as the committee's recording secretary. Kendra Levine was thanked for her work on the new LIST website(s). Sandy Tucker was thanked for her leadership on the Taxonomy Transportation Research Thesaurus Subcommittee. Mary Ellen Tucker was thanked for this year's program "Digitization Initiatives in Transportation Libraries and Information Centers: Where We Are and Where We're Going". Paul Burley was recognized for this paper, "Preliminary Report on the 2011 National Transportation Knowledge Network Cataloging and Metadata Initiative Survey". Roberto Sarmiento and Jennifer Boteler were recognized for their paper, "A Collection Development Policy Template Proposal for Transportation Libraries". And Roberto Sarmiento was also recognized for his paper, "Gifts Management for Transportation Libraries: Observations and Recommendations for Donors and Librarians". Papers are available on the ABG40 website <http://trblist.org/resources>. Sue Sillick was recognized for research coordination. Sandra Brady was thanked for her work with technical support. Certificates of appreciation were presented to Jennifer Boteler, Rita Evans and Sandy Tucker.

3. Approval of Minutes

The Chair asked for any motions to amend the minutes from the January 9, 2012 Committee conference call. http://trblist.org/sites/default/files/LIST%202012%2001%2009%20Minutes%20Draft_0.pdf

There were none. Motion to approve was seconded and the minutes received unanimous approval.

4. TRB Announcements

The item was tabled until later in the meeting.

5. New Chair Update

Incoming Chair Roberto Sarmiento appreciated the vote of confidence from his peers and is looking forward to pursuing new ideas from the membership. TRB is what one contributes. Bringing new initiatives forward and sharing them is one of best uses of our time. Chair Ken Winter also extended his appreciation for his predecessor Sandra Tucker who served two terms as Chair.

6. Triennial Strategic Planning

The Triennial Strategic Plan (TSP) is due in March 2012. The prior plan contains guiding principles and a mission statement. **Action Item:** Look at our future publishing opportunities and what is LIST within its scope to do to promote research publishing while remaining impartial. The Committee could be in a position to facilitate publishing to inform policy and decision makers. Is more or less material being cataloged? How much is duplicative? A variety of reports are possible, small, large, E-Circulars, TR News, and others to maintain our visibility. Ultimately, higher level research is needed. Problem statements for research are essential. Graduate students and others could be enlisted and may need a task force or subcommittee. Currently, LIST only gets a couple of papers for peer review per year, if even that. Some years there are no papers for review.

Discussion among the members ensued on various elements to consider in the TSP for publishing opportunities. Pursuing more peer reviews, position or white papers would raise the visibility of LIST, and developing our capacity to do more of that activity. It might require the formation of an ad hoc subcommittee. As librarians, we do this kind of work. It is an opportunity to involve others while moving our work forward. It is a way to document our accomplishments and contributions. Before asking for volunteers, such work would require some consideration of guidelines, establish some benchmarks for quality, a mechanism to support standards of excellence. A named and numbered series creates credibility and responsibility. Logo branding is important to signify that this work is coming from us. It was also suggested that an ISSN number could be applied to such work. **Action Item:** Kendra Levine, Paul Burley, John Cherney, Christopher Pringle, and Patricia Kirkwood are willing to serve on a publishing review group. It was suggested that we might team up with the Data sections that do similar work on the Transportation Research Record, collaboration is vital. Another possibility is the new Knowledge Management effort being pursued by Leni Olman. Sue Sillick is willing to be liaison with that group. Marketing ourselves through participation and support with other committees in a publishing process is essential. **Action Item:** Topic paper on case studies of uses of the Transportation Research Thesaurus (TRT) outside TRB. TRB is willing to provide editorial assistance with an E-Circular (on this and or/similar topics) but we must provide the content. **Action Item:** Issue a call for papers. Tom Palmerlee can assist with getting it published. As a goal, one should be to get a paper up, and another might be to get a collaborative team effort to be seen as a publishing partner. Another goal of the TSP discusses the collection of international information and we should continue to pursue that goal while looking at national information availability issues.

Another element of the TSP should be formalizing relationship with other committees. Do small projects with them that bring information science to them e.g the Traffic Flow committee, and the Waste Management, advice during the creation of research needs statements.

Working with Data and Metadata committees is also vital over the next 5 – 7 years as more info is discovered with metadata. We need to become more familiar with those issue e.g. standard notation, quality, reliability, and metadata for data sets. We should be anticipating data sets coming into the library catalog and ways to describe and archive data sets. **Action Item:** Bring someone in to explain where these two worlds intersect and how to curate and describe them, either through programming or a webinar. Data management is part of grant requirements in academic settings. Many centers for data are

created outside the library. LIST should be supportive of pushing back against others doing what we do better. With data repositories, Federal CIOs are overseeing metadata standards. During a presentation on digital data, librarians only had two spots on the program, stewardship and storage. **Action Item:** the Chair asked Kendra Levine and Roberto Sarmiento to look at the issue of collaboration on data/metadata. Arlene Mathison noted that Minnesota libraries have taken lead on data management plans. It was suggested that a webinar would allow all members to attend.

Outreach to other committees was again highlighted. Members should volunteer to sit in on other committees to promote the services we can provide. The question was raised as to whether that should be formalized. It was suggested that we focus on one committee as a pilot and then publish the outcomes. It should be committee that we have natural affinities for, be there and report. Brand our committee and find partnerships to move forward on this. Good outreach addresses their information needs. Think of one committee and make contact.

Action Item: More TSP ideas will be discussed in a February 2012 conference call. TRB is looking at cross collaboration. TSP is due March 1st, 2012 but our committee may need more time to complete it based on our current progress. Requested an extension to March 15th, 2012.

7. Update on TRB Information Services

Lisa Loyo gave an update on TRB Information Services and TRID via this PowerPoint Presentation <https://docs.google.com/open?id=10BAteIQSvtskNQdF7kSX2scXWY13Fu8AfFmF-dGWeh2XolPaUhdSuR-DHnL>

Members asked what the status is with TRB Annual Meeting DVDs. Lisa provided them to members. They also asked if the new TRB collection development policy was available online yet, Lisa stated it would be soon.

4. TRB Announcements (postponed from earlier on the agenda)

Laurie McGinnis gave an update on section activities. TSPs are the main focus now, support for fulfilling committees' goals. It is important to recognize good works and best practices of committees. There are new awards for the Blue Ribbon Committee: Communications, Contributions, Community Building, and Advancing Research. Kendra K. Levine was recognized and thanked for her work with young attendees to TRB. Ken Winter was recognized and thanked for LIST Committee chairmanship.

Jennifer Rosales announced that there were over 600 sessions and 4300 papers presented. New/Young members council presented three sessions. A new service, a daily email newsletter of annual meeting activities is available to all attendees. There is a new tool, research related to committee scopes. Action Item: Arlene Mathison agreed to review. July 8-10, 2012 is scheduled for the Summer Meeting and peer exchange in Irvine California. Next year's annual meeting theme is "Deploying Transportation Research: Doing things faster, better, and cheaper".

8. Update on VTI/NUTL Digitization Project

Discussion tabled for lack of time.

9. Committee Website Update

Website content has been migrated and committee members are invited to use <http://trblist.org>

10. NTL Updates

Amanda Wilson reported on the latest developments at the National Transportation Library.

11. NTL Research Hub

Alisdair Cain, USDOT Research and Innovative Technologies Administration gave a PowerPoint presentation on the new USDOT Research Hub.

<https://docs.google.com/open?id=1OqD50sO67qP3QsCcwZF4W69Z6Ao0OQKUPKcimz-Qs5QEsXhiSlbYGPwn87is>

Break 10:05am – 10:15am

Committee business reconvened at 10:19am

12. Committee Research Coordinator

Sue Sillick reported on the back to basics initiative. Tech Transfer and Conduct of Research have a robust portfolio of research needs. Each committee is to assign a Research Coordinator and update the research needs database. Met to discuss improvements to Research Needs Database, archiving, and co-sponsorships. LIST has three research items: 1) Expand TRT (done) 2) ID Transportation Research Centers and Libraries (done) and 3) Best Practices in Metadata (not done). **Action Item:** Kendra Levine volunteered to bring this research needs statement to the Metadata Committee. Committee members commented that there could be issues with the scope being overly broad. Kendra will circulate a revised version for review. The new TRB LIST website has the tools for a vetting process. It can facilitate review, voting, and more. Sue Sillick would like to develop guidelines for shepherding research needs statements through the process and is seeking volunteers to work on it. **Action Item:** Ken Winter offered to help review a document Sue is preparing with Leni Oman on the process review from Research Needs Statement, to Research in Progress, to publication in TRID.

13. Program Ideas and Brainstorming Session for TRB Annual 2013.

Sandy Tucker sought input for future programming. We are now past the 10th anniversary of the Midwest Transportation Knowledge Network (created December 2001). There could be an assessment or review session on what lessons we can apply to improve MTKN and similar networks. Discussion included getting an outsiders point of view, and an international comparison. A poster session on open data for transportation - young TRB members have a strong interest in this topic. **Action Item:** Kendra Levine is willing to coordinate. Archiving and accessing legacy content was also raised as potential programming. What's there, what belongs there, and how do we get it there. It could be a technical session on practices. It could be a paper, poster, or a panel/speakers discussion. The Pooled Fund toolkit for transportation libraries and ROI could be programming. Impact libraries provide, opportunities for international participation – discuss input versus outcomes. The direction depends on the strategic plan and the Annual pooled fund meeting in September. Storytelling and the impacts of libraries to levels above and networks – giving explicit examples. Federal efforts with open data initiatives, specifically BTS would make a good topic, as would managing and archiving data. Data management and archiving plans, California's Digital Archives Project were also mentioned as programming ideas. Federal science and technology librarians are working with the Library of Congress on managing interoperability of data,

and archiving data used in research. Library of Congress is also developing a toolkit to evaluate the health of their archive and a taxonomy for data sets. Also an effort to create standards for the interoperability of data repositories.

Ideas were recapped: Assessing Knowledge Networks, Poster Session on Open Data, Archiving Legacy Reports, Toolkit for the Value of Libraries, Data.gov speaker, Tags for Data, Data Portals, Webinar for Data Management Plans and possible speakers on this topic. **Action Item:** Mary Moulton and Sandy Tucker will work on a speaker session for Data Management Plans.

14. Project HERMES: Aims, Activities, Expected Outcomes

Dr. George Kotsikos, School of Mechanical & Systems Engineering, Newcastle University gave a PowerPoint presentation on Project HERMES. "Establishing a Comprehensive Transport Research Information Management and Exchange System".

https://docs.google.com/open?id=1w8A7-QRRdrQKKzKM7DApBuJ_1Be9K0doo9qB4CulfCEaxvWumTbAyijF_c_F

15. Other Business

Hank Zalatel is retiring from the University of Iowa/Iowa Department of Transportation. The committee thanked him for his long career of service to the transportation library and information center community.

Izmir University in Turkey has a transportation library. We should do some outreach, develop a relationship with them and invite them to participate in the transportation library community.

16. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:46am