University Transportation Centers

15th Annual Outstanding Student of the Year Awards

Transportation Research Board
85th Annual Meeting

Omni Shoreham Hotel,
Washington, DC

January 21, 2006

U.S. Department of Transportation
Research and Innovative Technology Administration

WELCOME

Welcome to 15th Annual Outstanding Student of the Year Awards ceremony, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Each year at the annual winter meeting of the Transportation Research Board, the Department honors the most outstanding student from each participating University Transportation Center for his/her achievements and promise for future contributions to the transportation field. Students of the Year are selected based on their accomplishments in such areas as technical merit and research, academic performance, professionalism, and leadership.

The University Transportation Centers program is administered by the Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA), with funding from the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. This year, continuing the tradition of One DOT, the Department will also honor an awardee from the Air Transportation Centers of Excellence, sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration.

University Transportation Centers Program

Developments in transportation technology over the decades have caused the world to expand, not in dimension, but in terms of accessibility. Transportation has always played a major role in society. The degree of efficiency in getting people or goods from one point to another plays a pivotal role in determining the health of an economy and the general well-being of a nation.

Recognizing the need to encourage efficient movement in all transportation sectors of the country, the U.S. Department of Transportation established the University Transportation Centers (UTC) Program in 1987 (Title 49, U.S. Code Appendix 1607 c), to establish and operate 10 transportation centers, one for each of the federal regions.

Since that time, the UTC Program expanded to include 33 centers, as authorized by the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), enacted by Congress on June 9, 1998. TEA-21 authorized up to $194.8 million for grants to establish and operate up to 33 UTCs throughout the U.S. in FY 1998-2003.

The mission of the UTCs is to advance U.S. technology and expertise in transportation through education, research, and technology transfer.

TEA-21 also established education as one of the primary objectives of a UTC, institutionalized the use of strategic planning in university grant management, and reinforced the program's focus on multi-modal transportation. All UTCs are required to match federal funds dollar-for-dollar.

Federal Aviation Administration
Air Transportation Centers of Excellence

Under the authority provided in Public Law 101-508, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) establishes Air Transportation Centers of Excellence (COEs) to create cost-sharing partnerships with academia, industry, and government, focusing on long-term critical aviation related topics. Supporting FAA and the requirements of the aviation community, Air Transportation COEs perform basic research through engineering development and prototyping, education, and training.

The purpose of these competitive partnerships is to forge a union between the public sector (FAA, airport authorities, state/local governments, etc.), private sector (airlines, manufacturers, etc.), and academic institutions. Through COEs, the FAA helps in the creation of world-class consortia focused on identifying solutions for existing and anticipated aviation problems, and supports the education of a pool of scientists for the next generation.

Since 1992, the FAA has established eight COE partnerships with more than 60 universities throughout the U.S., and supported over 500 research projects and 950 students. Critical research outcomes are documented in over 2,000 publications, reports, and doctoral theses. FAA COEs now reflect a level of effort exceeding $210M, funded through federal contracts and grants, and matching funds provided by academia and industry.

University Transportation Centers

Outstanding Students of the Year

Andrew Thomas Desautels
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Brenda M. Cruz
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Richard Jon Porter
Pennsylvania State University

Scott Beaird
University of Tennessee

Andrea Bill
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Kenneth P. Brown
Texas Southern University

Hillary N. Isebrands
Iowa State University

Alan Dybing
North Dakota State University

Daniel Chatman
University of California-Berkeley

Michael Blackmore Lowry
University of Washington

Jeffrey Wilson
University of Alabama

Minh Q. Le
University of Arkansas

Noor El-Mitiny
University of Central Florida

Ryan Funk
Virginia Polytechnic and State University

Nathan Bradbury
University of Idaho

Chandra Inglis-Smith
Marshall University

Shawn Brovold
University of Minnesota

Gary G. Greene, Jr.
University of Missouri-Rolla

Laura Stanley
Montana State University-Bozeman

David T. Nartey
Morgan State University

Liza Runey
North Carolina State University

Mark Sadsarin
North Carolina A&T State University

Clifford Price
New Jersey Institute of Technology

Brandon Hughes
Northwestern University

Jessica Sick
University of Rhode Island

Matthew Zeller
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Wajahat Nyaz
San Jose State University

Alex Delrick Geiger
South Carolina State University

Jennifer M. Flynn
University of South Florida

Alison Linder
University of Southern California

Zachary C. Grasley
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

New England University Transportation Center (Region1)

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY W/CONSORTIUM

ANDREW THOMAS DESAUTELS is a native of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and is currently pursuing a master's degree in transportation at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). He is researching innovative bus dispatching strategies that could be used to improve intermodal transfer connectivity in large transit networks. Andrew was a 2004 recipient of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Graduate Fellowship, and is currently the teaching assistant for MIT's Transportation Flow Systems subject.

Immediately prior to attending MIT, Andrew earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Arizona, where he served as president of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) student chapter and as design captain of the Concrete Canoe Team for the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) student chapter. During his time at the University of Arizona, Andrew received a number of transportation-related honors, including the 2003 Arizona Society of Civil Engineers Scholarship and the 2003 Southern Arizona Transportation Council Engineering Scholarship. Andrew also hosted two weekly talk shows, *The Sports Nerds* and *Talkin' Baseball* on KAMP radio.

As a complement to his academic pursuits, Andrew has held internships with a wide variety of transportation firms, including the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), the San Francisco Municipal Railway, and MMLA, Inc. Andrew is a registered Engineer-In-Training in the state of Arizona.

Andrew was selected based upon a competitive process that included all eligible students who received financial support from the New England University Transportation Center. The awards Andrew received coupled with his undergraduate and graduate grade point performance contributed to his selection as our nominee. Also, his already substantial experience in the public and private sectors coupled with his leadership skills, as exemplified in many of his affiliations with transportation organizations, show a clear promise of future leadership and contribution to the field of transportation. The New England Region Transportation Center is proud to select Andrew Desautels as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

University Transportation Research Center (Region2)

CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK W/CONSORTIUM

BRENDA M. CRUZ graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez in May 2002, with a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering. She was employed as a Planner for a Johnson & Johnson Company, where she developed her skills and knowledge in supply chain management. In December 2002, this company acknowledged her exceptional performance by giving Brenda the Rookie of the Year Award. Her interests in logistics motivated Brenda to pursue an advanced degree in transportation. In the spring of 2004, Brenda began her master's degree program at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York. Brenda gained valuable experience as a Research Assistant in a project sponsored by the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), which aimed to define comprehensive policies to foster off-peak freight deliveries by commercial trucks to New York City. As a graduate student, she was a scholar of the Advanced Institute for Transportation Education Program, granted by the University Transportation Research Center (Region 2). In addition, she received the George A. Gecowets Scholarship in April 2005, granted by the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals.

Brenda received a master's degree in transportation engineering in August 2005. She is co-author of several technical papers that have been published and/or presented in the proceedings of the XIII Pan-American Conference, the 84th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board, and the Fourth International Conference on City Logistics. Brenda is currently a member of the NYSDOT staff, where she works as a Junior Engineer for the Statewide Transportation Policy and Strategy Division. Brenda has continued to work with Dr. Jose Holguin-Veras, her master's advisor, on a number of important papers that are expected to become standard references on the subject of her research.

The University Transportation Research Center (Region 2) is proud to select Brenda M. Cruz as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Mid-Atlantic Universities Transportation Center (Region 3)

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY W/CONSORTIUM

RICHARD JON PORTER is a full-time research assistant at the Pennsylvania Transportation Institute and a Ph.D. candidate in civil engineering at Pennsylvania State University. He was class valedictorian of Bethlehem Center High School in 1995.

Richard received a bachelor of science in civil engineering in May 1999 with highest honors and a master of science in civil engineering in December 2000, both from Penn State. As an undergraduate, he was vice president of Chi-Epsilon and student-faculty liaison of Tau Beta Pi, where he was involved in tutoring, Special Olympics, and Habitat for Humanity. He was a member of the student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and the Penn State ASCE Concrete Canoe Team.

Richard's current research ranges from night driving issues to improving geometric design practices; other interests include advanced statistical techniques and human behavior and decision-making models for improved transportation safety. He has participated in numerous projects for National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), and is an active member of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Committee on Operational Effects of Geometrics (AHB65). Richard is a Fellow of the Eno Transportation Foundation, an honor awarded to the top transportation graduate students in the country.

Richard excels in athletics as well as academics. A six-time varsity letterman and regional award winner in high school, his play in national and local amateur golf tournaments has earned several championships. His recent performance in the U.S. Amateur Public Links qualifier made him the subject of articles in the Centre Daily Times and Penn State Engineering Magazine. Richard was the first in the family of a long line of proud coal miners to pursue a college degree.

Richard was chosen for this award because of his high professional, academic, and personal achievements. The Mid-Atlantic University Transportation Center is pleased to select Richard Jon Porter as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Southeastern Transportation Center (Region 4)

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE W/CONSORTIUM

SCOTT BEAIRD has been selected as the Southeastern Transportation Center Outstanding Student of the Year because of his wide-ranging involvement in education, research, and professional activities. Scott was awarded a master of science in civil engineering from the University of Tennessee in May 2005. Prior to his return to school, Scott worked for 2 years at Kittelson & Associates, Inc., a transportation planning and traffic engineering firm in Portland, Oregon. Scott graduated from Northern Arizona University in May 2001 with a bachelor of science in civil engineering.

While at the University of Tennessee, Scott's primary research emphasis was in the area of traffic signal operations. Specifically, he was involved in the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) 3-66 research project. Titled *Traffic Signal State Transition Logic Using Enhanced Sensor Information*, this project seeks to improve state transition logic and integration of new sensor information into the traffic signal control problem. In support of his research, Scott was selected as a 2004-2005 recipient of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Graduate Fellowship.

Scott has also been actively involved in professional activities. He is a member of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) and served as Secretary of the ITE student chapter at the University of Tennessee. Additionally, Scott is involved in the activities of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) as a friend of the Traffic Signal Systems Committee. Scott has returned to work for Kittelson & Associates as an Engineering Associate.

The Southeast Transportation Center is proud to select Scott Beaird as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Midwest Regional University Transportation Center (Region 5)

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON W/CONSORTIUM

ANDREA BILL is currently a graduate student and research/teaching assistant at the University of Wisconsin-Madison pursuing a Ph.D. in civil and environmental engineering, with an emphasis in traffic engineering and safety. Andrea researches various transportation safety topics, most recently, issues related to young driver crashes. Currently, Andrea serves as president of the University of Wisconsin-Madison student chapter of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). Andrea was recently awarded a Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Dwight D. Eisenhower Graduate Fellowship. She is also a member of Chi-Epsilon (National Civil Engineering Honor Society) and Sigma Pi Sigma (National Honorary Physics Society). Prior to enrolling at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Andrea was an associate researcher at the Massachusetts Traffic Safety Research Program for 2 years where she researched crash safety statistics and the effects of crash countermeasures. Andrea received a bachelor of science in civil engineering from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in 2002 and a bachelor of arts in physics and classics from Mount Holyoke College in 2001. When not in class or at the office, Andrea is an avid horseback rider who has won several national awards and enjoys giving horse riding lessons to beginner and advanced students.

The Midwest Regional University Transportation Center is proud to select Andrea Bill as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Southwest Region University Transportation Center (Region 6)

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY W/CONSORTIUM

KENNETH P. BROWN is enrolled in a master of science program at Texas Southern University, and is set to graduate in May of 2006 with a degree in transportation planning and management. In May 2004, Kenneth received a bachelor of science in electrical engineering technology from South Carolina State University. Last year, Kenneth was selected from a competitive pool of applicants to serve as a graduate research assistant in the Center of Transportation Training and Research. This year, he was the recipient of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Graduate Fellowship. Kenneth has acquired many technical skills through his undergraduate degree work in electronic engineering technology and his participation in a series of important research projects while conducting graduate studies. These include an examination of the spending for the CMAQ and STP portions of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, and data collection for a survey of state DOTs.

Kenneth's area of research interest is Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). He has completed research in this area with an emphasis on homeland security. His thesis builds on this initial research, coupled with his summer internship experience at the Federal Maritime Administration to examine the expanded use of ITS in the maritime industry. The work completed on his thesis will be displayed in a poster exhibit at the Dwight D. Eisenhower forum at the 2006 Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting. His undergraduate degree, coupled with his master's degree in transportation planning and management, will provide a solid foundation for Kenneth's career interests.

Kenneth is involved in a number of activities on campus and is currently serving as president of the student chapter of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). Under his leadership, the chapter built a Web site and began regular Web information dissemination to chapter members. Kenneth has also been active in a number of events held at the Center for Transportation Training and Research, and is always willing to assist when there is a need.

The Southwest Region University Transportation Center is proud to select Kenneth P. Brown as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Midwestern Transportation Consortium (Region 7)

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY W/CONSORTIUM

HILLARY N. ISEBRANDS received a bachelor of science in civil engineering from Iowa State University in 1997. She was employed in an engineering consulting firm in Wisconsin for 6 years before entering graduate school at Iowa State University in 2003. Hillary earned a master of science in civil engineering with an emphasis on transportation in 2004 from Iowa State University, and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in civil engineering. In addition to her graduate study work, she conducts research at the Iowa State Center for Transportation Research and Education (CTRE).

Hillary is currently working on seven research projects at CTRE, as well as her dissertation research. She has taken the lead on many of these projects and oversees the work of other graduate students. Hillary actively prepares and assists with project proposals for new research initiatives at CTRE, and has been successful in finding funding for her dissertation research on modern roundabouts. She published her first journal paper this past year and will be presenting two papers at the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting.

Through the Department of Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering at Iowa State University, Hillary guest lectures regularly in the undergraduate highway design course. She also assists with providing course content in the graduate level traffic engineering and advanced highway design courses.

Hillary strives to contribute to the transportation profession as a researcher and practitioner and looks forward to an exciting, successful, and rewarding career in the transportation field.

The Midwestern Transportation Consortium is proud to select Hillary Isebrands as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Mountain-Plains Consortium (Region 8)

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

ALAN DYBING earned his master of science in agribusiness and applied economics from North Dakota State University in December 2002, and a bachelor of science in December 1999. He is completing his work on a Ph.D. with an expected graduation date of 2006. Alan was a graduate research assistant for the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute at North Dakota State University from 2002 through mid-2005, and now holds the position of associate research fellow. Alan is co-principal investigator on a statewide Highway Economic Requirements System analysis for the North Dakota Department of Transportation, which includes an analysis of the regional economic effects of recommended improvements. He is also co-principal investigator of a project to update the North Dakota State Rail Plan, and co-principal investigator of a study for the North Dakota Legislature to determine the economic benefits of transportation in the state.

In his master's thesis, Alan developed a multimodal demand model for grain transportation, in which he quantified the effects of rates, service levels, distances, and other factors on truck and rail traffic shares. A report on that research garnered him an honorable mention in the Canadian Transportation Research Forum paper competition. Alan is co-author of a paper on methods of estimating deliveries by truck to shuttle train elevators, which has been accepted for presentation at the Transportation Research Board's 2006 Annual Meeting.

Alan also taught an undergraduate course in microeconomics and macroeconomics for the Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics. Alan was a research assistant in that department for 2 years before coming to the transportation institute.

In addition to his academic and research accomplishments, Alan has been involved with the Big Brother/Big Sister program for the last 2 years and also served as president of the Fargo Masonic Lodge, raising more than $1,500 for local charities.

His instructors have recognized Alan for his high intellect, strong work ethic, and motivation. When coupled with his academic and research accomplishments, these factors will make him a successful transportation professional and a leader in the transportation field. The Mountain Plains Consortium is proud to select Alan Dybing as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

University of California Transportation Center (Region 9)

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA - BERKELEY

DANIEL CHATMAN has focused his research interests on transportation and land use policies. He has conducted several empirical studies on how the built environment influences travel, including a survey of workers and residents in transit-oriented developments in California, funded by the California Department of Transportation. In his dissertation, Daniel proposes a more complete theory of how urban form influences travel, and empirically demonstrates the significant effects of automobile infrastructure on walking, biking, and transit use. Prior to entering the doctoral program in urban planning at UCLA, he was a vocational specialist for developmentally disabled adolescents. He has also worked as an English teacher with the Peace Corps in Botswana, was an intern with a small-town planning department, and an economic consultant to cities and counties in California and Arizona. Daniel completed his Ph.D. in June 2005, and is now Assistant Professor of urban planning and public policy at Rutgers University, and director of research for the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center. Daniel is married with two children, Lola (4), and Beckett (1).

The University of California Transportation Center is proud to select Daniel Chatman as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Transportation Northwest (Region 10)

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON W/CONSORTIUM

MICHAEL BLACKMORE LOWRY is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in civil engineering at the University of Washington. As part of his dissertation, Michael is involved in research exploring innovative ways to enhance public participation in transportation decision making. The project is sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) in collaboration with doctoral students from the departments of geography, mathematics, and information systems. This group is developing a Web-based, multi-criteria decision tool intended for decisions concerning the allocation of transportation funds, such as the creation of a Transportation Improvement Program.

Prior to this work, Michael participated in a number of other exciting research projects. As part of his master's thesis at Brigham Young University, he helped develop a computer-aided approach to city and regional planning. The new approach employed a genetic algorithm to design optimal land use and transportation plans. Michael presented the results at the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting in 2004 and published the work in TRR 1831. In 2004, he prepared a report for the Utah Department of Transportation (DOT) outlining guidelines and warrants for roundabout implementation. In 2005, Michael prepared a report for the Washington state DOT dealing with the evaluation of user benefits from ATIS. At the TRB Annual Meeting in 2006, Michael will present his research involving WSDOT's traffic Web site.

Michael strives to immerse himself in the transportation field beyond his academic pursuits. He interned as a surveyor for transportation projects with Burns & McDonnell in Chicago, Illinois. He also worked as a teaching assistant for a graduate transportation class, and was elected president of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) student chapter. Michael was elected vice-president of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) student chapter in 2003, and is currently serving as president of the ITE student chapter. He regularly attends transportation seminars and public meetings held locally and regionally. Michael is currently serving as the student representative for the TRB Committee on Programming, Planning & Systems Evaluation.

Transportation Northwest is proud to select Michael Blackmore Lowry as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

University Transportation Center for Alabama

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

JEFFREY WILSON has been a transportation graduate student at the University of Alabama for 2 years. During this time, he developed and documented a pavement management system for county engineers to improve infrastructure management, completed numerous courses related to transportation engineering, and completed a thesis and University Transportation Center for Alabama (UTCA) project report related to his work on the pavement management system. In addition, Jeffrey successfully competed with graduate students on all three campuses and was selected as a student presenter for the UTCA Research Symposium, once for his undergraduate research and most recently as the best graduate student presenter from the University of Alabama. He is now completing coursework towards a Ph.D. in transportation engineering and is conducting exploratory research in the field of freight flow modeling, attempting to apply a system dynamics approach to better capture external influences on freight transportation. He is currently supported as a graduate teaching assistant for students enrolled in the University of Alabama's undergraduate survey course.

The University Transportation Center for Alabama is proud to select Jeffrey Wilson as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Mack-Blackwell National Rural Transportation Study Center

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

MINH Q. LE came to the United States with his parents when he was 4 years old. He received his bachelor of science in civil engineering from the University of Minnesota in 1997. Shortly thereafter he began working for Metroplan, the central Arkansas metropolitan planning organization. His responsibilities at Metroplan have included developing short- and long-range transportation plans, modeling travel demand, conducting travel-time surveys, developing roadway cross section standards, reviewing roadway design plans, and estimating project costs.

In 2005, Minh took a leave of absence from Metroplan to pursue a master of science in civil engineering at the University of Arkansas, with an emphasis in transportation. With the experience and perspective Minh has gained at Metroplan, he has an advantage over most students, in that he can better relate and apply the class material to real-world situations. He has demonstrated through both attitude and performance that he is dedicated to completing his graduate education and conducting his research well.

Minh is currently conducting research funded by the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department and the Mack-Blackwell Transportation Center to examine correlations between factors that if not taken into account, may skew or distort the analysis of the safety effects of various multilane roadway cross section designs. The findings are expected to help in comparing the relative safety of four-lane, five-lane, and raised/depressed median arterial roadways. He is expected to complete his master's degree in 2006.

In addition to his academic pursuits, Minh is married and has a 1-year old child. The Mack-Blackwell Rural Transportation Center is proud to select Minh Q. Le as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Center for Advanced Transportation Systems Simulation

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

NOOR EL-MITINY is currently pursuing a master of science in transportation systems from the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Central Florida (UCF). He has been employed as a research assistant with the Center for Advanced Transportation Systems Simulation at UCF. His graduate thesis is sponsored by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and is aimed at developing simulation and management assessment of evacuating transit buses and personnel under emergency scenarios for the LYNX transit agency in Orlando, Florida. In 2003, he received a bachelor of science in civil engineering with honors from Cairo University, Egypt. Prior to joining UCF, he served as a teaching assistant at the Construction Engineering Department, American University in Cairo and was also employed as a research assistant at the National Egyptian Institute for Transportation, the research arm of the Ministry of Transport in Egypt. In 1999, he was awarded the Student of the Year by the Civil Engineering Department of Cairo University. He also received the Cairo University Student Fellowship during his 5-year study.

Noor was selected as the Outstanding Student of the Year recipient this year because of his academic achievements. He has excelled in his course work in the undergraduate degree and graduate courses at the University of Central Florida. His research activities on the utilization of traffic simulation to assess emergency evacuation plans for a transit agency in Orlando have been well received.

The Center for Advanced Transportation Systems Simulation at the University of Central Florida is proud to select Noor El-Mitiny as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

National Center for ITS Implementation Research

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY W/CONSORTIUM

RYAN FUNK received a bachelor of science in criminal justice from Western Carolina University and he held a graduate assistantship for the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) Center for Technology Deployment, while working on his master's degree in accounting and computer information systems from Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

While working for VTTI, Ryan implemented a Geographic Information System (GIS) map of Virginia, utilizing the ERSI ArcView GIS software with GIS data he received from numerous sources including Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), Virginia Geographic Information Network (VGIN), and the Virginia Planning Commission. This data consisted of various centerline road data, waterways, county, city, and town boundaries of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The data was processed and converted using Microsoft Access and ERSI conversion utilities. The GIS map image was then exported into Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) and Portable Network Graphics (PNG) formats for digital image processing, to be included on the VDOT 511 data clearinghouse Web site–for the purpose of placing incident data throughout the state. This digital processing included PNG compression and digital map data modification using Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Image Ready.

He also assisted faculty members in converting (x, y) image values, for roadway events to geographic latitude and longitude coordinates using user-defined functions within the JavaScript programming language. Once the latitude/longitude points were calculated, the data was then stored in a backend database for placing incidents on the 511 Virginia Web site (www.511Virginia.org).

Ryan's ability to collect data from various sources, process the information, and produce a high quality software program was a vital element in the successful statewide launch of 511 Virginia. Without his skills and knowledge the VTTI data clearinghouse would not be as an effective and efficient data collection center.

The National Center for ITS Implementation Research is proud to select Ryan Funk as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

National Institute for Advanced Transportation Technology

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

NATHAN BRADBURY, a first-generation college student at the University of Idaho, will soon graduate with a master of science in mechanical engineering. After entering the University of Idaho, he received an undergraduate work-study position supported by the National Institute for Advanced Transportation Technology (NIATT), and began his involvement with the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) Clean Snowmobile Challenge (CSC) in 2001. As a member and team leader of the University of Idaho CSC team, Nathan led efforts to engineer a clean and quiet snowmobile using a four-stroke engine. With that four-stroke platform, the University of Idaho team captured first place in both the 2002 and 2003 competitions.

During the 2002-2003 school year, Nathan received a NIATT undergraduate internship to assist in the research and testing of a gasoline/electric hybrid snowmobile. In the summer of 2003, he received a grant from the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) to research technologies, which improve the fuel economy and reduce emissions of two-stroke engines. As a graduating senior in 2004, Nathan received both the Mechanical Engineering Department Outstanding Senior award and the University of Idaho College of Engineering Inspirational Student award.

As a graduate student, Nathan is now working to produce a turbocharged and direct-injected two-stroke engine for use in snowmobile applications. His technical knowledge, leadership, teaching skills, and high standards have set an excellent example for numerous younger students in engine development.

The National Institute for Advanced Transportation Technology is proud to select Nathan Bradbury as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Nick J. Rahall II Appalachian Transportation Institute

MARSHALL UNIVERSITY

CHANDRA INGLIS-SMITH'S career as a Geographic Information System (GIS) Analyst began with a passion for archaeology. After completing a bachelor of science in anthropology from Mercyhurst College in 1997, Chandra worked as a Research Assistant for the Rochester Museum and Science Center in Rochester, New York. Chandra was presented with the opportunity to come to West Virginia as an archaeologist for the West Virginia Division of Highways (WVDOH). She expanded her areas of expertise by taking advantage of the training offered at the WVDOH in the environmental section for natural and cultural resources.

GIS technology was almost a side note. If the technology was used at all, it was a separate tool, used in the rarest of incidents by consultants. Chandra's vision enabled her to see the importance and impact GIS could have on the DOH. Chandra's self-directed attitude enabled her to change directions and she entered graduate school at Marshall University. As a graduate assistant at Marshall University with the Rahall Transportation Institute, she was a key member in the design and implementation of GIS training for the West Virginia Department of Transportation. She was also involved in the planning and implementation of the data conversion of WV Tax Parcel maps and survey data from computer aided design (CAD) to a Geodatabase.

Chandra's experience and learning as a graduate assistant with the Rahall Transportation Institute provided her with extraordinary opportunities. After graduating in May 2006 with a master's degree in geo-biophysical modeling, Chandra will pursue full-time employment that embodies her attitude and work ethic. She will be looking for a position that will enable her to apply her GIS knowledge in a self-directed environment, with the opportunity for continuous, engaged learning.

The Nick J. Rahall II Appalachian Transportation Institute is proud to select Chandra Inglis-Smith as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Intelligent Transportation Systems Institute

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

SHAWN BROVOLD is a current student at the University of Minnesota working to obtain a master of science in mechanical engineering. He received his bachelor of science in civil engineering with high honors from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Shawn's current research focuses on teen driving. He is working to develop a Teen Driver Support System which aims to address the primary contributing factors associated with a majority of teen driver fatal crashes, including speeding, aggressive driving, seat-belt use, and alcohol use. This is accomplished through the use of a combination of in-vehicle technologies that provide forcing, feedback, and reporting functions to prevent the behavioral mechanisms that often lead to teen driver fatalities. If implemented, the system could demonstrate a novel method to significantly decrease the number of teenagers killed in traffic crashes.

Shawn was selected for this award for a number of reasons. He has maintained a 3.87 grade point average in his graduate studies, has won several awards throughout his undergraduate and graduate career, served as the 2005 team leader for the University of Minnesota's Intelligent Ground Vehicle robotics team, and has various publications to his credit. Shawn's advisors have noted that he is most deserving of this award and that without his support the Teen Driver Support System would not be where it is today.

The Intelligent Transportation Systems Institute is proud to select Shawn Brovold as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

University Transportation Center

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ROLLA

GARY G. GREENE, JR. obtained a bachelor of science in civil engineering with Summa Cum Laude honors from the University of Missouri-Rolla in December 1996, a master of science in civil engineering from the University of Missouri-Rolla in August 2005, and is currently working toward a Ph.D. in civil engineering at the University of Missouri-Rolla. During his undergraduate career, Gary was involved in a number of academic organizations including the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), the Steel Bridge team, Tau Beta Pi National Engineering Honor Society, Chi Epsilon National Civil Engineering Honor Society, and the Honor Society Phi Kappa Phi. He was also a member of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity for which he served as vice president, treasurer, and guide. After graduating with a bachelor of science, he worked in St. Louis for 3 years as a design engineer with Nooter Fabricators, and then for 2 years as a structural design engineer with Horner & Shifrin. He received his P.E. in the state of Missouri in 2002. In January 2002, he received a GAANN Fellowship from the U.S. Department of Education and returned to the University of Missouri-Rolla as a graduate student. Since then, Gary has been a member of the Timber Bridge team, the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute's Big Beam Contest team, and is a national member of the American Concrete Institute (ACI). He also received the Outstanding Graduate Student Award from the Council of Graduate Students and the Missouri ACI Graduate Scholarship. As a Ph.D. candidate, Gary has been involved in the testing of full-scale reinforced concrete box girders under cyclic torsion combined with shear. The objective of this research is to investigate the cyclic behavior of members under torsional stresses, and to develop a model to predict the load-deformation behavior of such members. Dr. Abdeldjelil Belarbi has been Gary's graduate advisor.

Gary was selected for this award because of his outstanding academic performance, the technical merit of his scholarly work, and his service to the University of Missouri-Rolla and the surrounding community. The University Transportation Center at the University of Missouri-Rolla is proud to select Gary G. Greene as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Western Transportation Institute

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN

LAURA STANLEY is a native of Abingdon, Virginia and is currently a Ph.D. candidate in industrial engineering at Montana State University studying human factors, transportation engineering, and applied statistics. Laura received a bachelor of science in industrial and systems engineering from Virginia Tech and a master of science in industrial and management engineering from Montana State University. She is also a recipient of the Western Transportation Institute's Professional Fellowship Award, where she conducts research in the area of human factors. Laura's academic interests also include Web development applications. Her recent conference papers include *Driver Responses to Enhanced Wildlife Advisories in a Simulated Environment* to be presented at the 2006 Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting, and *Driver Performance While Interacting with the 511 Travel Information System in Urban and Rural Traffic*, presented at the Third International Driving Symposium on Human Factors in Driver Assessment Training and Vehicle Design Proceedings held in June 2005 in Rockport, Maine. Other papers and presentations include *Development of a Web-Based Household Travel Survey*, presented at the 2005 Institute of Transportation Engineers District 6 Meeting, and *Assessing Opinions, Experiences, and Perspectives of Female Engineers Nationwide Via a Web-Based Questionnaire*, presented at the Women in Engineering Programs & Advocates Networks (WEPAN) 2004 Conference.

Laura is an active member of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) student chapter at MSU, a young member of the TRB Vehicle User Characteristics Committee, and she was selected as an Eno Fellow in 2005. Laura's past work experience includes working as a cost engineer/manager at IBM in Raleigh, North Carolina and as a research assistant at the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute in Blacksburg, Virginia.

The Western Transportation Institute is proud to select Laura Stanley as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

National Center for Transportation Management, Research and Development

MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

DAVID T. NARTEY is a candidate for a master of science in transportation at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland. He currently resides in Germantown, Maryland. David received his bachelor of science in construction technology at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana, Africa. After graduating in 1996, he was employed as a construction engineer in the real estate industry until 2003.

In the spring of 2004, David enrolled in the master of science program in transportation at Morgan State University. He is currently a second-year graduate assistant at the Institute for Transportation. He assists with research projects and is in charge of the IFT research/computer laboratory. David has been involved in research work with faculty members since he joined the program.

During the summer of 2005, David assisted Dr. Anthony Saka with his research project titled *GIS-Based Decision Support System For Coordinating Rideshare Services.* David also assisted Dr. Young-Jae Lee with his research project titled *Durability Study On Waterborne Paint Pavement Markings.* The Maryland State Highway Administration and the National Transportation Center supported the latter project. David also worked with Dr. Randal Reed with his research project titled *Travel Patterns of People of Color* in the summer of 2004.

Upon completion of the master of science program at Morgan State University, David hopes to be employed in the field of transportation, and would like to pursue a doctorate degree. The National Center for Transportation Management, Research and Development is proud to select David T. Nartey as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Center for Transportation and the Environment

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

LIZA RUNEY joined North Carolina State University's (NCSU) Institute for Transportation Research and Education in 2004 as an intern, and worked on the Triangle Regional Model. She assisted with the development of this North Carolina travel demand model and became ITRE's resident expert on coding and managing transit networks. Liza also took the initiative to spearhead enhancement of the transportation model. She evaluated employee and passenger survey data collected at Raleigh-Durham International Airport and developed a submodel to represent this special travel market.

Liza is a Charleston native, and she earned her bachelor of science in civil engineering from NCSU in May 2004. As an undergraduate, Liza made the dean's list every semester. She will complete her master's degree in transportation planning at NCSU in the spring of 2006. Her thesis continues her research involving the Raleigh-Durham International Airport and will enhance the Triangle Regional Model.

Liza's previous awards include American Public Works Association, American Society of Civil Engineers, American Society of Highway Engineers Scholarship, NCSU Civil Engineering Departmental Scholarship, Erlanger Prestige, Institute of Traffic Engineers scholarships, the Transportation Founders Fund North Carolina Research Fellowship, the Chi Epsilon National Civil Engineering Honor, and membership in the Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society.

The Center for Transportation and the Environment is proud to select Liza Runey as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Transportation Institute

NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY

MARK SADSARIN is a senior transportation and supply chain management major. Like many students who select transportation as a major, he transferred from the management program. Mark transferred to take advantage of the many activities that exist in the UTI and because of the excellent career opportunities in logistics. Since his transfer, he has been an outstanding leader and student. His many activities include: historian for the transportation fraternity Delta Nu Alpha, a member of the Economics Club, and student government association events staff coordinator. Mark is also a volunteer with the Big Brother/Big Sister program of Greater Greensboro. Mark is on the dean's list and is an Alumni scholar, Chancellor's scholar, and a recipient of the Southeastern Transportation Center (STC) Education Award.

Professionally, Mark has served as a research assistant for Drs. Obeng and Ugboro in their work in assessing the effectiveness of public transit boards of directors, which was later published in the Transportation Journal (2005). He was responsible for coding and analyzing data from transit agencies. During the summer of 2005, he interned with Marathon Petroleum in Ashland, Ohio. As an operations and logistics intern, Mark was a product movement scheduler and was responsible for the execution and continuous improvement of the scheduling process. He also coordinated pipeline flows and managed shipper inventories to optimize tank farm use.

Each year, students are expected to participate in experiential learning activities other than an internship. Mark has attended several conferences that have assisted in shaping his perspective of the transportation industry. Among the conferences attended were the 2005 Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting, Delta Nu Alpha Transportation Education Conference, and the 2005 International Truck and Bus Safety and Security Symposium. Mark has found that conference participation has broadened his areas of interest in transportation and has helped him develop a network of industry professionals. Mark expects to enter the professional transportation workplace upon graduation in May.

The Transportation Institute at North Carolina A&T State University is proud to have Mark Sadsarin as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

The National Center for Transportation and Industrial Productivity

NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

CLIFFORD PRICE is pursing a Ph.D. in transportation at the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT). He completed his master's degree in transportation engineering, also at NJIT, in 2004 while working full-time with the New Jersey Turnpike Authority in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Cliff earned a bachelor of science in civil engineering from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Following this, he obtained a master's degree in civil engineering/water resources from Villanova University in Villanova, Pennsylvania. He started his career as a consultant working in such areas as municipal, sanitary, and highway engineering. As a consultant, Cliff has been involved in transportation studies and conducted numerous roadway design projects ranging from local single-lane highways to multi-lane arterials and interstate systems.

After over 25 years as a consultant, Cliff joined the New Jersey Turnpike Authority's Operation Department where he has been employed for several years. In his current Turnpike position of Assistant Traffic Engineer, Cliff is responsible for roadway signing, vehicular flow, and traffic safety on one of the most heavily traveled roadways in the country.

The National Center for Transportation and Industrial Productivity is proud to select Clifford Price as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Infrastructure Technology Institute

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

BRANDON HUGHES is a native of Hobart, Indiana. He received a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from Purdue University-Calubet, in December 2003. At Purdue, Brandon worked with Professor George Nnanna to design and build a refrigerant-based system for cooling high-density electronics. While pursuing his bachelor's degree, Brandon worked as an intern at Thatcher Engineering Corporation, where he performed field-testing and was involved in construction project management. Thatcher Engineering Corporation designs and constructs temporary support systems and deep foundations critical for construction and maintenance of the transportation infrastructure.

Brandon is currently working on research with Professor Charles Dowding with support from the Infrastructure Technology Institute (ITI) while earning a master of science in geotechnical engineering. His research, conducted with the assistance of ITI, concentrates on technology transfer of autonomous crack monitoring, which demonstrates the likely source of cracking in buildings near aggregate quarrying or other infrastructure construction activities. Brandon's research has included both lab and field-testing of commercial systems. During testing, Brandon has worked closely with ITI research engineers to successfully validate the commercial autonomous crack monitoring systems.

Currently, Brandon is working with Professor Dowding and Civil Data Systems, a company started by ITI, on the installation of a commercial crack monitoring device. This project includes the implementation of a remote controlled and Internet-viewable commercial crack monitoring device, validated through his research.

After completing his master of science at Northwestern University, Brandon plans to work for Thatcher Engineering Corporation in the Chicago region. He hopes to continue his career as a geotechnical engineer focusing on deep foundation and braced excavation design.

The Infrastructure Technology Institute at Northwestern University is proud to select Brandon Hughes as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

University of Rhode Island Transportation Center

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

JESSICA SICK is currently working toward a master of community planning at the University of Rhode Island (URI). She earned her bachelor's degree in environmental studies and political science from Alfred University in 2002. Her work experience includes her current position as Assistant Project Manager for The Community Builders, Inc., and previous positions as zoning administrator and planning intern for the town of Cumberland, Rhode Island.

Jessica is conducting her graduate research on a URI Transportation Center-sponsored project titled *Developing Intermodal Transportation Projects: A Public-Private Partnership Approach* and will be presenting a paper on this topic at this year's Transportation Research Board Annual (TRB) Meeting. The focus of her graduate work is researching a method to rank proposed transit stations in Rhode Island, in terms of appropriateness for transit-oriented development.

Jessica was selected for the 2005 URITC Outstanding Student of the Year award because of her excellent performance in the Community Planning graduate program, where she ranks in the top 5 percent of the graduate students. Jessica will be an outstanding young professional planner.

The University of Rhode Island Transportation Center is proud to select Jessica Sick as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Center for Advanced Infrastructure & Transportation

RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY

MATTHEW ZELLER was born in New York and raised in central New Jersey. He graduated from the School of Engineering at Rutgers University in 2003 with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. After graduating, he continued his education at Rutgers University and received his master's degree in civil engineering with an emphasis in transportation engineering in 2005.

While at Rutgers, Matthew joined the Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation (CAIT) in 2001. As an undergraduate researcher he worked on various projects, including business activities at the Center. He was also an active member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), and Chi Epsilon chapters, and served as an Engineering Ambassador. After graduation, he continued with CAIT as a graduate assistant working on the Development of an Aircraft Obstruction Identification System for the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT). He also took an active role in the business side of the Center. In 2004, while a graduate assistant, Matthew accepted a full-time position with the Transportation Safety Resource Center (TSRC). The newly formed TSRC was a partnership between CAIT, NJDOT, and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). He played an integral role managing TSRC financial, technical, and outreach activities, in addition to working at the NJDOT and with other state and local transportation agencies.

Presently, Matthew is an area engineer for the New Jersey Division of the FHWA, a position he accepted in the fall of 2005. As an area engineer, he provides support for the federal-aid program by authorizing projects, reviewing and approving plans, environmental processes, construction issues, as well as conducting field inspections and performing many collateral duties for the Division.

The Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation at Rutgers University is proud to select Matthew Zeller as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Norman Y. Mineta International Institute for Surface Transportation Policy Studies

SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY

WAJAHAT NYAZ is a Senior Transportation Engineer with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). He has worked in the transportation industry as a civil engineer for the past 15 years, and currently leads a team of engineers responsible for geotechnical design on a variety of challenging highway infrastructure projects in the San Francisco Bay Area. Wajahat's projects include the Devil's Slide tunnel on Highway 1, I-880/Route 92 interchange reconstruction, and the Pigeon Pass realignment on Route 84.

A student with a strong sense of community, Wajahat volunteers as a science and math tutor at the local community center near his home in Milpitas, California. The community center offers free tutoring services to children from less fortunate families. He is also actively involved in fundraising activities for the recent earthquake victims in Pakistan.

Wajahat is working toward completion of a master of science in transportation management at the Mineta Transportation Institute at San José Sate University. He has excelled in the program, maintaining an "A" average during his first year of coursework. His instructors praise his well crafted written work and his verbal communication skills. Wajahat's primary interest is in the area of transportation project delivery and funding, and he plans to do his thesis on the innovative project delivery methods involving public-private partnership. Through this work, he hopes to assist Caltrans' top management in relieving the chronic funding shortage for transportation projects in California. To date, Wajahat has compiled an outstanding academic record that complements his professional accomplishments.

The Norman Y. Mineta International Institute for Surface Transportation Policy Studies is proud to select Wajahat Nyaz as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

University Transportation Center

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

ALEX DELRICK GEIGER was born in Brooklyn, New York and lived in Jamaica, Queens, New York for 12 years. During his time in high school, Alex was a member of the National Honor Society, the marching and concert bands, as well as the jazz band.

After graduating from high school, Alex attended Claflin University and majored in civil engineering and applied math. This particular dual-degree program is conducted by Claflin University with the cooperation of two other colleges; South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, South Carolina, and Clemson University in Clemson, South Carolina. Alex participated in a variety of activities and received numerous honors for his efforts while attending Claflin University. Alex was involved in tutoring and community services, focused primarily toward the youth of the community. Alex was also a member of the Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated, and the Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society. He was listed in Who's Who Among America's Colleges and Universities, the dean's list and the National dean's list, Honor Roll, and he also received the Presidential Scholar Award.

After completing his undergraduate tenure at South Carolina State University, Alex received a bachelor of science in applied math from Claflin University and a bachelor of science in civil engineering technology from South Carolina State University.

Currently, Alex is enrolled in the Transportation Program at South Carolina State University and is pursuing a master of science in transportation planning. He has successfully completed internships with Camp Dresser Mckee Engineering and Consulting as well as Grice and Associates Inc. in Atlanta, Georgia. Alex conducted research with Geometric of Columbia, South Carolina titled *Pavement Management Systems (PMS)*. This research was designed to understand the reason why some roads are not properly paved and what techniques are employed by the government and its subsidiaries to test and rate pavement.

Alex was selected for this recognition because of his academic achievements and his contributions to research in the transportation industry. The University Transportation Center at South Carolina State University is proud to select Alex Delrick Geiger as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

National Center for Transit Research Student of the Year 2005

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

JENNIFER M. FLYNN earned a bachelor's degree in June of 2002, while maintaining a 3.9 grade point average in urban geography at the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of South Florida (USF). Upon graduation, she was employed as a graduate research assistant at the Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR). Her work includes various projects for the National Center for Transit Research (NCTR), the Florida DOT, and county-funded research. Jennifer is skilled in spatial data analysis using Geographic Information Systems (GIS), thematic map design, database development and management, research and promotional writing, and surveying. She has also served as liaison for several outreach and educational initiatives at CUTR.

While working at CUTR, Jennifer is pursuing a master's degree in geography with an emphasis in urban and transportation planning. Her research interests include GIS, transit market analysis, women's transportation issues, and the community impacts of planning policy.

The University of South Florida is proud to present Jennifer M. Flynn as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

National Center for Metropolitan Transportation Research (METRANS)

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

ALISON LINDER is a second year Ph.D. student in the School of Planning, Policy, and Development at the University of Southern California (USC). She has a strong interest in transportation, particularly the connection between transportation, land use, and environmental quality. Since enrolling at USC, Alison has done research with the METRANS transportation center, the Center for Sustainable Cities, and the USC Sea Grant Center. As a research assistant for METRANS, Alison worked to evaluate the impacts of the 2002 port closure on goods movement and transportation in Los Angeles.

While working with the Center for Sustainable Cities, Alison co-managed a team of seven undergraduate research assistants to conduct an inventory of Los Angeles parks and recreation facilities. This data will be used to analyze the supply of parks and recreation facilities in Los Angeles, and instruct the regional planning process on areas of strength and weakness.

Prior to attending school at USC, Alison worked as a program assistant for the Pennsylvania Environmental Council in Philadelphia, where she educated municipalities about land use planning and helped those groups form committees to improve the environmental quality in their communities. Alison has a bachelor of arts in communications and a master of arts in conservation biology, both from the University of Pennsylvania.

The National Center for Metropolitan Transportation Research is proud to select Alison Linder as its 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

FAA Centers of Excellence
William J. Hughes Technical Center
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

ZACHARY C. GRASLEY graduated Summa Cum Laude from Michigan Technological University in 2001 with a bachelor of science in civil engineering. He earned his master of science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) in 2003, and is expected to complete his Ph.D. in civil engineering at UIUC in 2006. Zach is performing research on the behavior of concrete for use in airport pavements and structures. His work has contributed to the Federal Aviation Administration COE project on Moisture Curling of Concrete Slabs for Airfield Pavements by identifying basic driving forces behind shrinkage of concrete and measurements of gradients that create curling of slabs. The curling phenomenon is a prime cause of slab cracking that afflicts airport pavements, and effective countermeasures to this problem will lead to longer-lasting pavements. Zach's thesis advisor is Professor David A. Lange.

Zach has demonstrated strong leadership skills; one example is his role as 2005 president of the ACI-UIUC Student Chapter. He has received numerous honors, including the 2004 Dwight David Eisenhower Graduate Transportation Fellowship, the National Science Foundation (NSF) Travel Fellowship for the 5th International Ph.D. Symposium in Civil Engineering at Delft Technical University in the Netherlands, and the 2004 Harvey Hagge Concrete Scholarship at UIUC.

In summary, Zach is a standout scholar, engineer, and practitioner. Through his academic career, Zach has maintained a near perfect grade point average. He has been a licensed residential builder since 1997. Zach has already authored seven archival journal articles, many other conference and magazine articles, as well as a book chapter. Zach has presented his research to at least 10 national and international conferences.

The FAA Centers for Excellence are proud to select Zachary C. Grasley as their 2005 Outstanding Student of the Year.

Regional University Transportation Centers and Consortium Members

REGION 1: Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts
Harvard University, University of Connecticut, University of Maine, University of Massachusetts, University of New Hampshire, University of Rhode Island, University of Vermont

REGION 2: City University of New York
New York, New York
Cornell University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, New York University, Polytechnic University, Princeton University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Rutgers University, SUNY, Stevens Institute of Technology, University of Puerto Rico

REGION 3: Pennsylvania State University
State College, Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania, University of Virginia, Virginia Polytechnic, West Virginia University

REGION 4: University of Tennessee
Knoxville, Tennessee
Duke University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, North Carolina A&T University, North Carolina State University, University of Florida, University of Kentucky, University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill), University of South Florida, Vanderbilt University

REGION 5: University of Wisconsin-Madison
Madison, Wisconsin
Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College, Marquette University, Northwestern University, Richard J. Daley College, University of Cincinnati, University of Chicago, University of Wisconsin (Milwaukee)

REGION 6: Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas
Texas Southern University, University of Texas (Austin)

REGION 7: Iowa State University
Ames, Iowa
Lincoln University, University of Missouri (Columbia), University of Missouri (Kansas City), University of Missouri (St. Louis), University of Northern Iowa

REGION 8: North Dakota State University
Fargo, North Dakota
Colorado State University, University of Utah, University of Wyoming

REGION 9: University of California-Berkeley
Berkeley, California
University of California (Davis), University of California (Irvine), University of California (Los Angeles), University of California (Riverside), University of California (Santa Barbara), University of California (San Francisco), University of California (Santa Cruz), University of California (San Diego)

REGION 10: University of Washington
Seattle, Washington
Oregon State University, Portland State University, University of Alaska (Fairbanks), University of Idaho, Washington State University

University Transportation Centers

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Pennsylvania State University
University of Tennessee
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Texas Southern University
George Mason University
Iowa State University
North Dakota State University
University of California-Berkeley
University of Washington
University of Alabama
University of Arkansas
University of Central Florida
Virginia Polytechnic and State University
University of Idaho
Marshall University
University of Minnesota
University of Missouri-Rolla
Montana State University-Bozeman
Morgan State University
North Carolina State University
North Carolina A&T State University
New Jersey Institute of Technology
Northwestern University
University of Rhode Island
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
San Jose State University
South Carolina State University
University of South Florida
University of Southern California
FAA Centers of Excellence