

UTCP FAST • FORWARD NEWS

FALL UNIVERSITY TRANSPORTATION CENTERS PROGRAM

1996



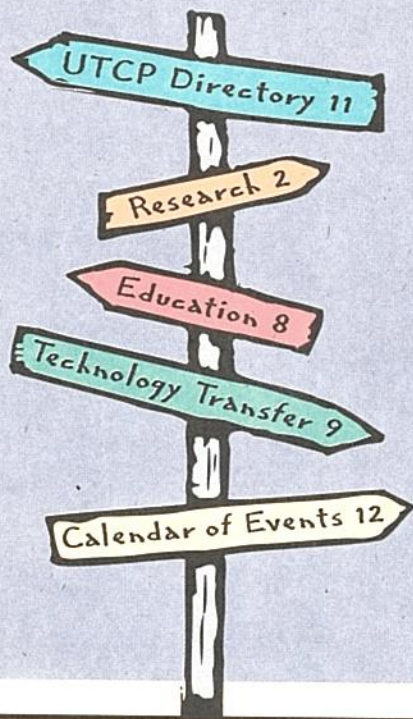
Whether it is fast-moving subways in New York, vanpools in Houston, or rural transportation systems in North Dakota, public transportation plays a critical role in providing mobility and access to jobs and services.

This issue of UTCP Fast Forward highlights several of the many projects and studies performed by UTCP researchers to help improve the effectiveness of the nation's transportation system. For example, Charles Lave, an economist at the University of California, Irvine, has examined transit and demographic data and has published many articles evaluating transit performance; however, in this issue of Fast Forward, he uses this data to take a light-hearted look at what he considers the myth of Californians' love affair with the car. In a more serious vein, Dr. Jose Gomez-Ibanez of Harvard University has examined past and recent attempts worldwide to estimate the full social cost of urban auto and transit use and makes recommendations on reliable methodologies that should be applied to this controversial task. Nearly all of the Centers in UTCP are conducting research on the applications of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technologies to transportation. In this issue, we report on work by University of Pennsylvania researchers to evaluate the effectiveness of flexible operating command and control systems now being used in Germany and how this innovation can be applied to transit systems in the United States. Researchers at the University of Washington are also studying ITS applications for providing real-time information to transit managers.

These are a few of the UTCP-sponsored research projects featured in this newsletter. If you would like more information about these or other UTCP-sponsored research programs, please contact the UTCP Clearinghouse (the address is listed on page 11).

James H. Miller

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Coordinator of UTCP Directors



DR. E. FENTON CAREY, JR., NAMED TO RSPA RESEARCH POST

Dr. E. Fenton Carey, Jr., has been appointed Associate Administrator for Research, Technology, and Analysis at the U.S. DOT's Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), effective July 8, 1996. As Associate Administrator, he is responsible for guiding the Department's intermodal and multimodal research and technology activities and for assisting the Office of the Secretary and the RSPA Administrator with forming national transportation research and development policies, priorities, plans, and programs.

Prior to reporting to the U.S. DOT, Dr. Carey served as director of technology policy in the Department of Energy and was responsible for formulating national and departmental research

and development policies related to energy, the environment, national security, and science and technology. While in the Department of Energy, he also served as managing director of the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board Task Force, as a member of the Department of Energy National Laboratories, and as director of the Office of Space. In addition, he was coordinator of the energy department's activities in the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program, a joint program of the Department of Defense, the Department of Energy, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Dr. Carey has written several articles on space and laser technology and was a contribut-

ing author of *Technology for National Security*, a 1988 report by the Commission on Integrated Long-Term Strategy. The recipient of numerous awards, he has been honored with the Defense Superior Service Medal and the Navy Meritorious Service Medal. He serves on the board of directors of the American Astronautics Society and is a member of several professional societies, including the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Sigma Xi, and Tau Beta Pi. Dr. Carey holds bachelor's and master's degrees in mechanical and aerospace engineering from the University of Delaware and a doctoral degree in aeronautical engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School.

UTCP SAYS FAREWELL TO THREE OUTSTANDING DIRECTORS

PROFESSOR MELVIN M. WEBBER



After serving eight years as the founding director of the University of California Transportation Center (UCTC), Professor Melvin M. Webber has decided it is time for a change in leadership. According to his colleagues, Professor Webber is a visionary who consistently demonstrated great integrity in his role as director, used the Center's research grants to enhance the university's education and research programs, and valued original, high-quality research.

Under his direction, UCTC produced more than 300 research papers, granted more than 1,000 student awards, and sponsored almost 300 research projects. Professor Webber says that he is especially pleased that, encouraged by UCTC's programs, the University of California's multicampus faculty has become a genuine collegium.

Professor Webber now plans to write a book on how modern electronic media will affect urbanization and transportation in the next decades. He will also continue assisting UCTC staff with the highly acclaimed magazine *Access*, which he founded.

Professor Martin Wachs has been named UCTC's new director, effective August 1996.

DR. E. WALTER LEFEVRE



On July 1, 1996, Dr. E. Walter LeFevre stepped down as director of the Mack-Blackwell National Rural Transportation Study Center to return to teaching and research. According to Dr. LeFevre, the Center's successful record is one of his proudest accomplishments. He has been active in national engineering organizations and has served as president of the National Society of Professional Engineers, vice president of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering, vice president of the American Society of Civil Engineers, a member of the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology board of directors, and as a member of the Arkansas Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Board. Dr. LeFevre has received recognition from many professional organizations for his efforts in promoting professional engineering accreditation and licensure.

Dr. LeFevre will officially retire from the University of Arkansas in December 1996.

Jack E. Buffington has been named Dr. LeFevre's replacement as director of the Center.

MR. THOMAS F. HUMPHREY



Thomas F. Humphrey, who has served as director of the New England University Transportation Center since 1987, retired from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) on August 31, 1996. After nearly two decades at MIT, Humphrey, a senior research associate and lecturer at the Center for Transportation Studies, will serve as a consultant to the U.S. Department of Transportation. In his new capacity, he will lead the DOT's efforts in implementing the Five-Year Strategic Plan for Professional Capacity Building for ITS Deployment. In that role, he will work closely with the Council of University Transportation Centers, state and local transportation agencies and professionals, professional transportation associations dealing with ITS deployment, and private-sector organizations that will be responsible for much of the ITS deployment activities in the future.

Effective September 1, 1996, the New England University Transportation Center will be managed by two interim co-directors, Professor Nigel H. M. Wilson and Dr. Joseph M. Sussman.



U.S. DOT Names UTCP Students of the Year

The U.S. DOT's commitment to ensuring that the future of transportation will be successful is readily apparent through the University Transportation Centers Program. UTCP gives students the opportunity to participate in transportation-related research projects, gain experience solving real-world transportation problems, and develop a solid foundation for entering a variety of transportation-related careers. In recognizing the importance of tomorrow's transportation leaders and professionals, the U.S. DOT recently presented UTCP Student of the Year awards to 13 individuals who best represent the promising future of our Nation's transportation system.

"The students we honor today have proven themselves to be exemplary in their chosen disciplines," said Secretary Peña at the awards ceremony in Washington, DC. "If students are the future of transportation, and they are, then our future is bright."

The UTCP Student of the Year awards are given to one student from each of the 13 UTCP Centers. Award winners are graduate-degree candidates selected for their technical merit, research contributions, academic performance, professionalism, and leadership. Each winner receives a cash award of \$1,000 and a certificate of achievement.

The UTCP Centers, which were established over the past nine years, are administered by the U.S. DOT's Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA). RSPA Administrator D. K. Sharma said: "The continued success of the UTC Program is due to the hard work and effort of the individual students who participate in the Program. It is my belief that all of us will benefit as these exceptional students put their education to work for the future safety and efficiency of the U.S. transportation system."



Blizzard conditions in January 1996 kept several students from participating in the 1995 UTCP Student of the Year awards ceremony in Washington, DC. Pictured with Secretary Federico Peña are student award winners and faculty advisers who were able to make it to the event.

THE 1995 UTCP STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNERS

REGION I

John L. Bowman
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology

REGION II

Jeffrey M. Casello
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

REGION III

Christopher M. Poe
Penn State

REGION IV

Jennifer J. Harper
University of Tennessee

REGION V

Gregory L. Ohl
University of Michigan

REGION VI

Elise D. Miller
University of Texas, Austin

REGION VII

Bryan A. Hartnagel
University of Missouri, Columbia

REGION VIII

Geoffrey C. Robinson
Colorado State University

REGION IX

Susan A. Shaheen
University of California, Davis

REGION X

Eric L. Jessup
Washington State University

MACK-BLACKWELL NATIONAL RURAL TRANSPORTATION STUDY CENTER

Quintin B. Watkins
University of Arkansas

NATIONAL CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTIVITY

Arlene R-M Willis
New Jersey Institute of Technology

NATIONAL CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT, RESEARCH, AND DEVELOPMENT

Danyell C. Beard
Morgan State University