

AHB50 – Traffic Control Devices (www.ahb50.com)

Annual Meeting – January 9, 2018, 8:00 – 10:45 AM

Marriott Marquis, Marquis Ballroom Salon 9

Timothy Gates and Paul Carlson, co-chairs

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome and introductions (Gates)
 - All were welcomed promptly at 8:00 am
 - Committee members, friends, and others in attendance introduced themselves
 - Attendance was documented and collected
 - The committee mission statement was reviewed
2. Section report (Bertini)
 - TRB definitely encourages collaboration between committees, and TCD has been doing a great job
 - The blue ribbon award was presented to our co-chairs at the time Tim and Paul
3. Paper review update (Gates)
 - 31 papers were reviewed this year
 - 2-4 reviews per members
 - 132 reviews completed
 - 25 papers will be presented
 - Up to 6 of those will be published in TRR; 3 have already been recommended; 6 remain under consideration for the last three slots
 - ***we are looking for volunteers to support the re-reviews
4. Committee membership status (Gates)
 - Every 3 years 1/3 of the committee membership must be rotated
 - This most recently occurred for our committee in early 2017, after the annual meeting.
 - 25 members; 4 young members; 3 international; 2 emeritus members
 - We have slots for 2 more international member
 - Best way to currently get involved is as a friend
5. Review of sponsored sessions (Gates/Knodler/Finley)
 - Event 127 – Doctoral Student Research in Operations & Control (W), Sun 9:00-12:00 (Knodler)
 - Another year, another great session
 - A few speakers had to cancel based on cancelled flights and other personal matters
 - Event 646 – TCD Challenge (P), Tues 1:30-3:15
 - Event 722 – TCD General Poster Session (P), Tues 3:45-5:30
 - Human Factors Workshop - Wrong-Way Drivers (W), Sun 9:00-5:00 (Finley)
6. Blue Ribbon Committee Award (Carlson)
 - 2018 – Traffic Control Devices for Wrong Way Driving
 - 2017 – Traffic Control Devices for CAVs
 - Martin Pietrucha pitched a student competition for several years with the Traffic Control Device Committee
 - The committee proposed several possible variations of how such a committee could work
 - The final successful version which functions in coordination with ATSSA
 - This year's participation
 - 23 submissions (up 50% from 2017)
 - 11 finalists present their ideas in a TRB Poster Session
 - Event 646, Tues 1:30 pm – 3:15 pm
 - Top 3 Teams receive cash awards at ATSSA Traffic Expo

7. 2nd Annual TCD Challenge (Carlson)
 - Paul Carlson gave an update
 - Seeking judges for poster session, Event 646, Tues 1:30 pm – 3:15 pm
 - See presentation slides for further information.
8. Committee research needs statements (Carlson/Katz/Lukasik)
 - Collaborations with other TRB committees (Lukasik)
 - Communicating real-time information to road users through in-vehicle or personal devices
 - NCHRP expressed that this is not a topic that would be supported as it is not within the preview of DOTs
 - Perhaps AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety or new behavioral safety research program
 - Wrong way driving
 - Likely the possibility to prepare one or more additional wrong way driving topics
 - NCUTCD (Carlson/Katz)
 - Understanding the Physical Highway Infrastructure Needs to Support AV Technologies (Carlson)
 - This is a topic that TCD and the NCUTCD have been trying to get funded for a few years; particularly with regards to how this might contribute to new MUTCD – funded by the NCHRP ID/IQ for 2 years at \$650,000
 - Related to markings, signs, signals, and so on that will support AV Technology
 - Discussion: TCD research needs and opportunities (Katz)
 - Bryan is the new research coordinator at the NCUTCD
 - They will continue coordinating with the TCD committee and will continue to focus on the development of funded problem statements
 - NCUTCD is considering the development of a new “journal” that would share and define best practices related to evaluation that might be easier for practitioners to apply the results in the field
 - Gene Hawkins solicited feedback from anyone interested in providing TCD related research topics
9. Future committee activities (Carlson & Gates)
 - Visibility Symposium – 2018
 - Carmine Dwyer from Signing and Marking Materials committee has proposed holding the TRB Visibility Symposium in Dubrovnik Croatia in partnership with the International Road Federation’s European Road Conference, October 22-24, 2018.
 - The affiliated TRB committees (TCD, Visibility, SMM) have been given session slots at the ERC.
 - Mid-Year meeting?
 - Midyear meeting will likely occur at the Visibility Symposium at another venue or via webinar.
 - TCD Website (www.ahb50.com)
 - Webinar ideas
 - Melisa & John will work on a joint webinar proposal, perhaps on Wrong Way driving
 - If you have any ideas please share them with Tim, Paul or David
 - New TCD committee Listserve (<http://mailman.egr.msu.edu/mailman/listinfo/ahb50>)
 - All members and current friends have been added
 - Please feel free to register - you do not need to be an official affiliate of the committee
 - Will be used for official committee communication only
 - Automated Vehicle Symposium (AVS)
 - San Francisco Hilton Union Square
 - AVS 2017, July 10-13 - Summary of TCD sponsored sessions
 - Session 15: Connected and Automated Vehicle (CAVs) Scenarios for High-Speed Controlled Access Facilities (Obenberger) ; Co-sponsored by TRB Freeway Operations, ITS, Managed Lanes, Highway Capacity and Quality of Service, and Traffic Control Device Committees
 - Session 18: Reading the Road Ahead: Infrastructure Readiness (Kuznicki)
 - AVS 2018, July 9-12
 - Evolving Idea: Reading the Road Ahead: Relevance and Readiness in Traffic Control

- Devices (Kuznicki). Understanding how TCDs can, should, or must change in order to provide for high reliability from self-driving transport machine vision systems
- Evolving Idea: How and when State DOTs and other agencies need to prepare for automated vehicles with traffic signals, signing, and pavement markings (Kuznicki)
- Co-sponsorship opportunity (freeway ops): How will OEMs and DOTs Successfully Deploy CAV Solutions Together? (Obenberger)

10. FHWA/NCHRP updates

- FHWA MUTCD Update (Kirschner)
 - No updates on the next addition to the MUTCD
 - If the rule making process could be minimal for a 3rd revision to the MUTCD
 - Part 9: Bicycle facility design is one of the sections that is a bit behind relative to the state of the practice; this would have some ancillary effects to promote minor changes on other parts
 - A couple of interim approvals will take place, temporary traffic signals; red color pavement for transit lanes
 - Currently operating in an environment of uncertainty
 - No update on RRFB
- NCHRP Update (Derr)
 - Review of research problem statement submission process
- Turner Fairbank Research Project - Infrastructure Initiatives to Apply Connected and Automated Vehicle Technology to Roadway Departures (Pape)
 - 15 minute presentation using slides
 - Roadway departures represent half of all highway fatalities
 - Vehicle failure is only about 4% - not much has changed in about 20 years
 - Effectiveness of low-level driving automation was less than predicted
 - Higher levels of automation are promising
- Turner Fairbank Update (Arnold)

11. Staff report (Cunard)

- Over 14,000 people pre-registered for the annual meeting
- Evening sessions were moved to a 6:00pm start time
- Over 6,000 papers were submitted, but only 5,700 manuscripts were reviewed
 - Plagiarized papers
 - Promotional content
 - Over length
 - Poor grammar
 - Line numbers
- Over 3,000 papers were accepted
- IF just under 0.6 – the highest yet
- Wi-Fi – Annual2018

12. Presentation of Committee Awards

- Committee Best Paper award [2018]
 - “Safety Effects of Flashing Yellow Arrows Used in Protected Permitted Phasing: Comparison of Full Bayes and Empirical Bayes Results”, by Justice Appiah, Frederick King, Michael Fontaine, Benjamin Cottrell, Virginia Transportation Research Council
- Best Young First Author Best Paper award for Operations Section [2017]
 - The 2017 committee best paper was awarded the best young first author for the operations section
 - “Signs of the Times: Empirical Assessment of Legibility of Highway Gothic and Clearview Signage Fonts” by Jonathan Dobres, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Susan Chrysler, Texas A&M Transportation Institute; Benjamin Wolfe, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Nadine Chahine, Monotype Imaging Inc.; Bryan Reimer, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Awards for sustained contributions to the TCD Committee
 - Paul Carlson (service as committee chair), Cole Fitzpatrick and Ian McKinnon (website development)

13. Adjourn (10:45 AM)