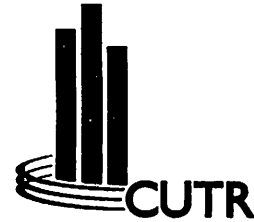


CUTR ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
October 25, 2006



MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 am by Board Chair John Beck. Self-introductions of participants were made, as follows:

Advisory Board Members

John Beck	Michael Blaylock	Kim DeBosier
Norman Mansour	Bill Sheppard	Sally Patrenos (for Jim Holton)
FDEP (Chris Stahl, by phone)		

CUTR

Ed Mierzejewski	Patricia Ball	Sean Barbeau
Raj Chaudhary	Dennis Hinebaugh	Pei-Sung Lin
Steve Polzin	Phil Winters	Joel Volinski

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A typographical error in the start time for the July 26 meeting was noted. Pending the correction, minutes of the July 2006 meeting were approved.

CHAIR'S REPORT: Mr. Beck recently met with Tyler Duvall, Policy Director of FHWA, and invited him to visit CUTR after the November election. Mr. Beck will follow up.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Dr. Mierzejewski presented a brief report on CUTR's activities since the last meeting:

- CUTR/USF recently was selected by USDOT as one of only 10 Tier I University Transportation Centers selected from a field of 36 in tough competition. Others receiving the designation included Georgia Tech, the University of Michigan, and the University of Southern California. The designation includes funding of \$1 million per year until 2011, with continued matching funds from our partners at FDOT.
Board Discussion/Action: It was moved and seconded that appreciation from the CUTR Advisory Board be passed on to CUTR's faculty and staff in recognition of the recent Tier I UTC designation.
- CUTR now has a fully executed contract with FDOT for a \$640,000 project included in SAFETEA-LU to evaluate and test a special rear vision video system for trucks.
- CUTR was the subject of a feature article on the front page of the Metro section of the October 13 *Tampa Tribune*. Response generally has been favorable; however, some Tampa Bay business members have expressed dismay about skepticism expressed by some CUTR researchers about Tampa Bay not being ready for rail transit.
Board Discussion/Action: Mr. Beck suggested that Mr. Mansour assist to set up a meeting with the Tampa mayor's office and Dr. Mierzejewski work with USF President Genshaft and the Tampa Bay Partnership to discuss how to better involve CUR in the formulation of transportation solutions for Tampa Bay.

- CUTR Program Director Steve Reich has made several appearances in the media and at workshops related to alternative fuels and other topics and also recently presented his toll agency performance report at the September FTC meeting.
- Dr. Huaguo Zhou of CUTR's ITS, Traffic Operations, and Safety Program recently published a paper in the *ITE Journal*.
- CUTR's TDM team was awarded a TRB IDEA program grant to further advance the "Travel Assistant Device" concept.
- At the request of Florida State Rep. Rich Glorioso, CUTR has been helping to draft portions of a transportation bill for the 2007 session of the Florida Legislature.
- The Florida Legislature's Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) is conducting a study on Florida public university institutes and centers, including CUTR. OPPAGA is seeking comments from each affected university's administration on the advantages of being in statute and the consequences of removal. USF Government Relations representatives Jeff Muir and Kathy Betancourt believe CUTR's legislation is safe, but the Board may be asked for help during the next legislative session.
- The December special session of the Florida Legislature rescinded the provision that contracts between State agencies and State universities be limited to 5% indirect. The State universities were unified their response by agreeing to a 25% indirect rate. Since then, this rate is being revisited, possibly being changed to 10%. Until a final decision is formally communicated with FDOT, it continues to complicate our negotiations on many contracts.
- Florida DOT's Research Office intends to make significant changes to the way they have done business in the past with universities. Notable among the changes is their intention to use only cost-reimbursable contracts, to require monthly progress reports and invoices as well as detailed student utilization plans on contracts, and to select research investigators through a request for proposals competition. While the reasons for these changes are understandable, there is no question it will be more difficult for CUTR and FDOT project managers to administer contracts. FDOT's Research Office has offered to hold a special meeting with CUTR to determine how we can meet their requirements with as little increase in administration as possible. The use of cost-reimbursable contracts, together with the university's inability to allow us to charge for hours over 40 in a week means that, in many cases, CUTR may not be able to fully recover actual effort expended on projects. We have once again asked USF to work with us on this dilemma, but success is doubtful. CUTR has earned a reputation that has allowed numerous FDOT project managers to contract directly with us for many projects; we have no doubt that we will do very well competing via RFPs, but it will increase our costs, and we are limited in our ability to cover those costs.

Board Discussion/Action: It was moved and seconded that CUTR ask USF to consider changes to accounting practices that will allow billable hours beyond 40 per week.

CUTR 2006 TRANSPORTATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD DINNER RECAP: The fourth annual dinner was a success, with nearly 250 attendees and 24 table sponsors. Net income from the dinner is anticipated to be more than \$25,000, a portion of which will go to the CUTR Scholarship Fund. It was noted that holding the FTC meeting, the CUTR Board meeting, and the award dinner over a two-day period was less strenuous for attendees. Appreciation was expressed to Board members for help in soliciting table sponsors for the dinner. Letters of appreciation to sponsors and members of the legislature who attended the dinner will be sent in the next few days (see attached copies).

CUTR PROJECT PRESENTATIONS: Updates on several CUTR projects were made as follows:

- CUTR's ITS Activities (*Pei-Sung Lin*)
- American Community Survey (*Steve Polzin*)
- Enhancing Transportation Safety and Security Via Scalable Location-Based Wireless Applications (Wi-Via (*Sean Barbeau*))
- Transfer of Knowledge: Netconferencing and Other Technology Transfer Approaches Used by CUTR (*Phil Winters*)
- Cost Effective Methods to Improve Security at Transit Operating/Maintenance Facilities and Passenger Stations (*Raj Chaudhary*)
- Program Status, National Bus Rapid Transit Institute (*Dennis Hinebaugh*)
- Summary and Results of UTC Competition (*Joel Volinski*)

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Blaylock noted the highly successful forum on transportation issues in Jacksonville on which CUTR assisted. He suggested CUTR may want to consider such an event in Tampa Bay.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

The next meeting of the CUTR Advisory Board will be held on **Wednesday, January 31, 2007**, at CUTR.