Happy New Year — 2017!

WELCOME

Ashutosh Modi is a Computer Science Master’s student at USF with interests in Machine Learning. He has 6 years of professional experience in application development and has a bachelor’s degree in Electronics and Telecommunication from India. He has worked on pattern recognition and GUI development projects mainly in C++ and MATLAB. Prior to joining USF he was working at Capgemini as a Senior Software Engineer.

He will be working on the project Understanding Interactions between Drivers and Pedestrian Features at Signalized Intersections, Phase II with Dr. Pei-Sung Lin and Dr. Zhenyu Wang. He is expected to graduate in May 2018.

KUDOS

Congratulations to Ibrahim Hinds for graduating with a Master’s in Civil Engineering and concentration in Transportation. Ibrahim has been at CUTR for one and a half years and has worked under Martin Catala. During his time at CUTR he has been involved with the ITE student chapter, most notably, with Traffic Bowl Team which won the state competition and represented us in California at the National Competition. In addition, Ibrahim has been employed as an intern at the Florida Department of Transportation within the Project Management office. He is a highly ambitious and motivated young man and plans to gain his Professional Engineering license and pursue a Ph.D. In January, his next step is to take his skillset to Arcadis and further develop into a competent and environmentally conscientious transportation engineer. We would like to wish Ibrahim all the best in his future endeavors and long-term success.

Please join me in congratulating the following students: Kaustav Chaudhury—Master’s in Business Analytics & Information Systems; Rupender Dahiya — Master’s in Civil & Environmental Engineering; Joseph Fields — Master’s in Computer Science; Saurabh Hinduja — Master’s in Computer Science; Raghavendra Reddy Nalla, Master’s in Mechanical Engineering. Best wishes on your new journey to success!

January

Birthdays

Pei-Sung Lin
Nevine Georggi
Todd Parsons
Rob Gregg
Kelly Douglass
Melissa De Leon
Karen Seggerman
Kristin Larsson

January

CUTR Anniversaries

Dennis Hinebaugh—24 yrs
Phil Winters — 24 yrs
Joel Volinski — 23 yrs
Martin Catala — 23 yrs
Ed Bart — 14 yrs
Sean Barbeau — 13 yrs
Kristin Larsson — 7 yrs
SiWon Jang — 3 yrs
Nour El Mehraz — 3 yrs
Christen Miller — 3 yrs
Ryan Wakefield — 3 yrs
David Hill — 2 yr
David Guzik — 2 yr
Matthew Kessler — 2 yr

12/6/16 – Navid F. said it’s his 5 year anniversary
UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 3     CUTR Managers’ Meeting, 1:30 pm, CUT207
Jan 8-12  TRB—Washington, DC
Jan 16    USF Holiday — Martin Luther King
Jan 17    CUTR Staff meeting, 9:00 am, CUT102
Jan 30-Feb 3  Fundamentals of Bus Collision Investigation, 8:00 am, CUT102

CUTR WEBCASTS AT 12:00 PM

Jan 19  Guidebooks for Estimating Total Transit Usage Through Extrapo-
        lating Incomplete Counts, Xuehao Chu, Ph.D., CUTR

NOTEWORTHY ACCOLADES

Steve Polzin was interviewed by E-commerce times (12/7/16) in regards to Uber and Autonomous Vehicles: http://www.ecommercetimes.com/story/Uber-Sees-Gold-in-Autonomous-Vehicle-Field-84147.html

Polzin contributed to Planetizen blog (12/7/16): All I Want for Christmas Is a Transportation Infrastructure Plan That Helps: http://www.planetizen.com/node/90127/all-i-want-christmas-transportation-infrastructure-plan-helps

Polzin gave the keynote speech (12/7/16) at the ITE Annual Awards Breakfast, Tampa, FL, Transportation’s Transformation - Is It Here and Are We Ready?

Joel Volinski served as the Chairman of the Organizational Awards for FPTA that select the Outstanding System Achievement Award and the Innovation and Creativity Award winners and he presented the winners at the FPTA Annual Conference in Jacksonville, Florida on December 12, 2016.

Volinski served as the Co-Chair of the FPTA Hall of Fame Committee that selects no more than one new person to be inducted into the FPTA Hall of Fame each year, and presented the award to Jay Goodwill (of CUTR) — Congratulations! at the FPTA Annual Conference in Jacksonville, Florida.

Volinski served as Chair of the Research, Education, and Training Reauthorization Committee (RETRC) for its presentation session with Congressional staff and members of Congress held on November 30, 2016 where staff from over 60 Congressional offices attended in Washington, DC

Kristine Williams was interviewed by ABC Action News in regards to a year-long CUTR project, which just uncovered that many people are having to walk or ride the bus more than 45 minutes just to get to work, and often in tough conditions. For more information: http://www.abcactionnews.com/news/local-news/usf-study-reveals-transportation-crisis-in-some-areas

Timesheets Due

Pay period 12/30/16 to 01/12/17
AEGIS submission date is Tuesday, January 10 by 10 am.

Pay period 1/12/17 to 2/09/17
AEGIS submission date is Tuesday, February 7 by 10 am.

Alma Mater Days

SHOW YOUR ALMA MATER
PRIDE: Wear your favorite college t-shirt, sweatshirt, and the like (must display the College’s logo or name) the first Friday of every month. Friendly banter on performance of affiliated sports teams or alumni news is also highly encouraged. If you want to add a banner or anything to your door, that’s great too. Dress code restrictions on sleeveless shirts, shorts or sandals will remain enforced. Jeans can, of course, be worn (with a reminder that a contribution ($1) is appreciated).

GO BULLS!!!

Alma Mater Days:

• January 6
• February 3
• March 3
• April 7
• May 5
• June 2
Congratulations to CUTR faculty member Jodi Godfrey who received the 2016 ITE Young Transportation Professional of the Year award at the TBITE Awards Breakfast!

CUTR was happy to host Michael Trentacoste, FHWA Associate Administrator for RD&T and Director of the Turner Fairbank Highway Research Lab.

Dr. Rob Bertini and Trang Luong, 2016 Georgia Brosch Transportation Scholarship recipient, are also in the photo.

We have fantastic students at CUTR - this amazing team volunteered to feed some of our homeless neighbors at the Trinity Cafe - thank you for your commitment to our community!

Left to Right: Qiong Chen, Karan Talreja, Michael Bato, and Navid Farahbakhsh
Congratulations to six students for earning their Traffic Skills 101 certification! Thanks to Sharon Penn Monahan and Drew Hunter for their help in teaching the class! USF working towards Gold BFU.

CUTRites who earned their certification:
Dr. Rob Bertini
Austin Gibble
Sara Hendricks

Congratulations to our newest Social Marketing certificate grads!

CUTRites who earned their certification:
Kaitlyn French
Lucy Gonzalez-Barr

The breakout groups will develop marketing approaches to transit, carpool/vanpool, bicycle, pedestrian, distracted driving and motorcycle safety.
The Buccaneers D-Line Delivered Christmas to over seventy five children this year with the help of Alert Today Florida. The families initially thought they were only getting a tour of One Buc Place, but then they were surprised with new bicycles and a shopping spree to Target. Alert Today Florida provided bicycle helmets and installed front and back bicycle lights on every bike! Certified helmet fitters from Alert Today Florida, St. Joseph’s All Children’s Hospital, More Health Inc., and Space Coast TPS made sure that each child had a properly fitted helmet. Buccaneers defensive tackle, #93 Gerald McCoy volunteered to demonstrate a helmet fitting tutorial in front of the families. Each child also received a bicycle safety bag with educational materials including tip cards and safety items provided by Alert Today Florida.
The Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR) at the University of South Florida (USF) is excited to participate at the Transportation Research Board (TRB) 2017 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC from Sunday, January 8 – Thursday, January 12.

It is our pleasure to invite you to our very first TRB Reception and Alumni Reunion on Sunday, January 8, 2017 from 6:00 pm -7:30 pm at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC at West Overlook. We hope you will be able to stop by and connect with us.

Our involvement with TRB:

33 CUTR/USF people on the program
15 lectern session speakers
2 workshop presenters
19 poster presenters
1 group chair, 1 section chair, 2 committee chairs, 1 task force chair
3 lectern session chairs, 1 poster session chair

Link to schedule:
Wreath Decorating Contest

1st Place Winner
Debbie Schultz

2nd Place Winner
Victoria Perk

3rd Place Winner
Katrina Corcoran

Honorable Mention
Austin Sipiora
CONTRACTS

Project  Calculating a ROI for TDM Programs
Sponsor Destination Sales & Marketing Group Ltd.
PI(s)  Winters/Lee/Concas
Value  $83,695

Project  Transit Research Inspection Procurement Services (TRIPS) Pro
Sponsor Florida Department of Transportation
PI(s)  Staes
Value  $570,000

Project  2016-17 Florida Transit Information & Performance Handbook
Sponsor Florida Department of Transportation
PI(s)  Perk
Value  $142,024

Project  Model Access Management Policies & Regulations
Sponsor FDOT Systems Planning Office
PI(s)  Williams
Value  $70,761

CUTR PROPOSALS

Project:  Advanced Public Transit Systems (APTS) Procurement Services
Sponsor:  Florida Department of Transportation
PI(s):  Pessaro/Gregg
Value:  $95,110

Project:  TBEST Tech support 2017
Sponsor:  Service Edge Solutions, LLC
PI(s):  Polzin
Value:  $6,331

Project:  FTA Standards Development and Technical Assistance Program
Sponsor:  Federal Transit Administration
PI(s):  Staes/Hinebaugh
Value:  $1,000,000
INFORMATION

**General information on CUTR procedures:**

Have a question, check out the wiki site to find your answer: [https://sites.google.com/site/cutwikisite/](https://sites.google.com/site/cutwikisite/)

Hiring a new employee? The wiki site is the place to find the form and submit it electronically:

[https://sites.google.com/site/cutwikisite/admin-group-page/ken-short/hr-tasks/hiring-new-people](https://sites.google.com/site/cutwikisite/admin-group-page/ken-short/hr-tasks/hiring-new-people)

If you are on FaceBook, Like Us at this link:

[https://www.facebook.com/pages/Center-for-Urban-Transportation-Research/318839614894743](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Center-for-Urban-Transportation-Research/318839614894743)

**NEED TO SUBMIT TO CUTR CONNECTIONS?**

If you have information that you would like to share and include in the monthly issue of the CUTRConnections—CUTR Employee Newsletter, please send an email with the information to **Grace Hunt** at hunt@cutr.usf.edu.