February 7, 2017

NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear colleagues:

As you know February is Black Heritage Month. Diversity is one of the most important values under the umbrella of CUTR’s strategic plan. Many African Americans have made important contributions to the transportation community. There is a presentation on display in the lobby and it is also posted here: African American Transportation. I hope you will view it when you have a chance.

USF has a wide range of activities to commemorate the “importance of the history and significance of the Black culture.” CUTR recently participated in the Tampa Bay Black Heritage Festival. Pam Lapaugh has been involved for many years on the committee that puts on this event. The purpose of this event is to offer the community of Tampa Bay a unique blend of African and African American culture and history, therefore serving as a conduit for promoting and perpetuating the art, culture and history of African Americans and African people for the benefit of all Tampa Bay residents and tourists to the Tampa Bay area. It exists to support the culturally rich and diverse Tampa Bay community by ensuring all events are inclusive of the entire community.

For the past two years, the Alert Today Florida represented CUTR by distributing information to let everyone know the importance of safety as a pedestrian, bicyclist, and driver. Let’s embrace diversity by making time this month to reflect on the contributions that the African American community has made to society, transportation, USF and to CUTR.

Thank you and warm regards,

Rob

February Birthdays

Jennifer Flynn
Michael Audino
Cecil Carter
Donald Hayward
Erica Nelson

February CUTR Anniversaries

Donna Everhart-Reno—22 yrs
Jeff Kramer — 18 yrs
Wendy Teague — 18 yrs
Mark Mistretta — 16 yrs
Karen Seggerman — 14 yrs
LaToya Fipps — 5 yrs
John Fletcher — 2 yrs
WELCOME

Dr. Cong Chen has recently joined the ITS, Traffic Operation and Safety Program as a Post-doctoral Fellow. He received his Ph.D. degree in transportation engineering from the University of New Mexico in 2015, and his research focuses on traffic crash modeling and safety analysis, advanced traffic safety model development, traffic congestion and operation analysis, intelligent transportation systems, and transportation infrastructure monitoring and management. Since 2012, he has published 12 peer-reviewed journal articles in multiple peer-reviewed journals and has delivered 20 presentations at the TRB Annual Meeting and other transportation conferences.

Dr. Chen currently serves as an Editorial Board Member of the Heighpubs Journal of Civil and Environmental Engineering, an Editorial Board Member of the International Journal of Vehicular Telematics and Infotainment Systems (IJVTIS), a member of Research Needs Statements Subcommittee for TRB ANB20 Safety Data, Analysis and Evaluation Committee, and a member of the Predictive Methods Subcommittee for the TRB ANB25 Highway Safety Performance Standing Committee. He has also served as a referee for more than 10 peer-reviewed transportation journals and international conferences, and completed more than 100 instructive paper reviews.

Dr. Chen was awarded the New Mexico Governor’s Exempt Fellowship and served as an intern at New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) in 2014. He is a registered Engineer in Training (EIT) in the State of New Mexico.

Dean Kirkland-McMillan was recently hired as a Lead Bus System Safety and Security Reviewer. Prior to joining CUTR, she was the Director of Safety, Security, and Operations support for Citrus Connection Transit System. Dean has been in transit for over 30 years and has extensive experience in safety, security, training, and maintaining updates on regulatory and compliance issues. The knowledge Dean brings with her will be an asset in her current role. Dean holds certificates in accident investigation, fatigue awareness, transit safety and security, transit management, and emergency management. She is also certified through the World Safety Organization as a Certified Safety Security Director (WSO-CSSD).

Timesheets Due

Pay period 02/10/17 to 02/23/17
AEGIS submission date is Tuesday, February 21 by 10 am.

Pay period 2/24/17 to 3/09/17
AEGIS submission date is Tuesday, March 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.

GO BULLS!!!
Alma Mater Days:

- March 3
- April 7
- May 5
- June 2
Gennaro “Rino” Saliceto was recently hired as a Bus System Safety and Security Reviewer. Prior to joining CUTR, Rino was the Safety, Security, and Training Coordinator for Space Coast Area Transit.

He has almost twenty years of experience in safety, security, and training. He started his career as a Lieutenant in the Italian Army, where he was responsible for safety, security and training for the transportation department in his battalion.

Once honorably discharged from the Army, he moved to Spain where he continued to work in the transportation field as a consultant in safety, security, and training for Public Transport in Valencia. There he was appointed as the Director of the Transportation Center that provided consultant services. In 2009, Rino moved to the U.S. where he continued his career as the Transportation Supervisor for Key West Transit in Key West, Florida.

Kent Smith was recently hired as a Bus System Safety and Security Reviewer. Prior to joining CUTR, he was the Safety and Security Officer with LYNX in Orlando, Florida. His areas of concentration are system safety, security, emergency management, and training. Kent is a retired Sergeant from the Montgomery County Police Department in Maryland where he first taught transit security. After retiring he continued his transit work writing threat and vulnerability assessments for several large mass transit agencies.

Kent has a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland. He also earned his Transit Safety and Security Program certificate from Transportation Safety Institute (TSI) and holds World Safety Organization-Certified Safety Specialist (WSO-CSS) and Certified Safety/Security Director (WSO-CSSD) certificates. In addition, he is a Senior Associate Instructor for TSI.

Prudhvi Kadiyala is pursuing his Master’s in Civil Engineering with a concentration in Transportation at USF. His primary interest lies in GIS analysis. He previously served as a Teaching Assistant for the Transportation Planning and Economics class. He pursued his undergraduate degree in Civil Engineering at BITS, Pilani, India. His previous research work includes Improving Accessibility in Rural Areas and Asset Management. He will be working on the Motorcycle Program Evaluation and Analysis project with Dr. Chanyoung Lee. He is a student member of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). He represented CUTR at the annual TRB meeting at their exhibit. He will be graduating in May 2017 and is seeking full time opportunities after graduation. He also plans to gain his Professional Engineer license.

Miao Zhang is a Ph.D student in the Smart Grid Power System Lab (http://power.eng.usf.edu) in the Department of Electrical Engineering at USF. He graduated in the Fall 2016 with his Master’s degree from USF in Electrical Engineering with a concentration on power systems. He started his Ph.D. study supervised by Professor Zhixin Miao in the USF EE Department in the Spring of 2017. His research experience includes smart grid data analytics.

His work will consist of compiling data analysis on the Pedestrian Program Evaluation project with Dr. Pei-Sung Lin and Dr. Achilleas Kourtellis. He is expected to graduate in December 2019.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 7  
CUTR Managers’ Meeting, 1:30 pm, CUTR Boardroom

Feb 10—12  
League Cycling Instructor Certification Seminar, CUT102

Feb 13—17  
TSI Instructors Course, 8:00 am, CUT102

Feb 14  
Valentine’s Day

Feb 17  
CUTR Advisory Board, 1:30 pm, Boardroom

Feb 17-19  
College of Engineering EXPO

CUTR WEBCASTS AT 12:00 PM

Feb 16  
A Holistic Approach to Incident Investigation and Analysis
  Presented by: CUTR — Steve Berry and Roberta Yegidis

March 2  
TBEST—presented by Rodney Bunner, ServiceEdge

NOTEWORTHY ACCOLADES

SeeClickFix is honored to have partnered with the University of South Florida’s Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR) and HART for this project. With SeeClickFix, the OneBusAway Tampa app’s latest feature allows riders to report issues, provide suggestions to HART in real time, receive status updates, and monitor the progress and resolutions. For more information:

If you are interested in learning about sustainable multimodal transportation and creating a truly livable community, join us for USF in the Netherlands: Sustainable Urban Mobility. This is a two-week course where you would experience first-hand how the pedestrian, bicycle, public transportation, water and auto modes can work together to sustainable urban mobility while immersing yourself in Netherlands. Click on the brochure and find out more about this course.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Robert Bertini: rbertini@usf.edu.

The deadline to apply is February 15, 2017:

Details to info on application

FUNDRAISING COMPETITION TO SEND STUDENT MEMBERS TO APA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Student Planning Organization (SPO) at USF is entering a fundraising competition to send our student members to the American Planning Association National Conference in NYC from May 6-9.

The APA National Conference is a great way for our students to learn about planning, grow their professional networks, and have an experience of a lifetime!

APA National will match the funds raised (up to $500) for the top 5 schools that raise the most money. Please consider donating to our page to help support student lodging, meals, registration costs, and airfare. While a trip to NYC is fantastic, it is also very expensive for college students who are hard at work earning their degrees.

**How can you help? It's easy! Just share our campaign link on your social media pages and with any of your contacts.** The campaign will end Feb. 28. Here is the link to the campaign and its description:  [https://www.gofundme.com/spo-goes-to-nyc](https://www.gofundme.com/spo-goes-to-nyc)

**Phone:** 813-974-2347

**Email:** corcoran1@cutr.usf.edu
The University of South Florida (USF) and the Center for Urban Transportation (CUTR) are on the list of 231 companies who have been named the 2017 Best Workplaces for Commuters! We are on the cutting edge of a national movement,” said Julie Bond, Program Manager, Best Workplaces for Commuters. “They have listened to their employees’ challenges with traffic congestion and their concerns over reducing emissions. By offering a range of commuter benefits such as subsiding bus fares, carpooling programs and access to Emergency Ride Home programs, USF and CUTR give its employees the support they need to get to and from work so they can be at their best. These benefits are good for the company and its employees.” Click here for more information.

TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD (TRB) ANNUAL MEETING IN JANUARY 2017
CUTR Advisory Board members on a panel at the recent TEAM FL and Florida Transportation Commission meeting in Orlando: Thornton Williams, Chair, Sonny Holtzman, Senator Sebesta, and Joe Waggoner.

Visit by Professor Keechoo Choi of Ajou University, Korea (center) (L) Dr. Rob Bertini (R) Dr. Chanyoung Lee

Austin Gibble and his parents with Dr. Rob Bertini at the CUTC meeting in D.C. where Austin received the Student of the Year Award from USDOT

Dr. Rob Bertini presented a 2017 Transit Forecast to the Central Pinellas Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Rob Bertini and CUTR Advisory Board member and FTC Commissioner—Senator Jim Sebesta

CUTR students volunteered to feed the homeless neighbors. (L-R) Qiong Chen, Navid Farahbakhsh, Erica Nelson
Nevine Georggi, Senior Research Associate, retired from CUTR from the Transportation Demand Management team after 23 years of service to pursue her doctorate degree in Civil Engineering. CUTR got together to wish her the best! Congratulations!

(Left to Right): TDM team: Philip Winters, Nevine, Sara Hendricks, Christine Epps, Brentin Mosher, Julie Bond, and Lucy Gonzalez-Barr.

CUTR got together to wish Kelly Leto, Research Support Specialist in the ITS, Traffic Operations and Safety group the best as she departs from CUTR after 8 years. She will be a stay at home Mom, aka CEO of the household, as she takes care of her daughter, Samantha. Enjoy!

Sharon Pinson, Senior Unit Research Administrator was CUTR’s go to person to get all proposals out the door. She worked at USF for 10 years. We wish her the best as she starts her new chapter of her life in Los Angeles!
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<th>Project</th>
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<td>Evaluation of a Mobile Fare Payment Pilot at a Florida Transit Agency</td>
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INFORMATION

**General information on CUTR procedures:**

Have a question, check out the wiki site to find your answer: [https://wiki.cutr.usf.edu/](https://wiki.cutr.usf.edu/)

Hiring a new employee? The wiki site is the place to find the form and submit it electronically:
[https://wiki.cutr.usf.edu/admin/forms/hiring](https://wiki.cutr.usf.edu/admin/forms/hiring)

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.