December 6, 2016

**WELCOME**

**William (Bill) Mayer** has joined the Transit Safety and Workforce Development team where he will be managing the T.R.I.P.S. program.

Since 1991, he worked for Volusia Transit Management (Votran) where he moved through the ranks. He held the positions of Bus Operator, Operations Supervisor, and Paratransit Operations Manager. For the last 19 years, he was the Operations Manager responsible for all street operations.

**Dori Creek** joined the TDM group as their Program Coordinator. She will be assisting with the Beyond Sidewalks, BikeWalk Tampa Bay, Key Messages, and the Safe Routes to School programs.

She was a Speech Language Assistant in the Hillsborough County Public School System for 11 years. She was ready for a change and went back to school to earn her Master’s degree in Public Administration in 2014.

Dori was raised in the Tampa Bay area and earned both her Bachelor's and Master’s at USF and she is excited to be back on campus. She lives in Brandon with her husband and two little girls, Olivia and Bridger.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to

*Kelly* and *Frank Leto*

on the birth of their daughter

*Samantha*

October 27, 2016

7 lb 8 oz

20.5 inches long

---

**December Birthdays**

Ibrahim Hinds
Pam LaPaugh
Martin Catala
Christine Epps
Jason Jackman
Makarand Gawade
Carlton Allen
Arunima Bagui

**December CUTR Anniversaries**

Steve Polzin—28 yrs
Michael Audino—13 yrs
Stephanie Lewis—9 yrs
Kelly Leto—7 yrs
David Fink—5 yrs
Zhenyu Wang—5 yrs
Michael Bato—4 yrs
Navid Farahbakhsh—3 yrs
Richard Lefebvre—3 yrs
Albert Baxter—2 yrs
Kim Koutnik—2 yrs
Erica Nelson—2 yrs
James Takacs—1 yr
UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dec 5—7  Social Marketing Transportation Certificate Workshop
- Dec 6  CUTR Managers’ Meeting, ENB105 (Dean’s Suite), 2:00 pm
- Dec 7  USF System President Judy Genshaft’s Holiday Open House 4:30 pm—6:30 pm, Lifsey House
- Dec 9  COE Holiday Breakfast, 9:00—10:30, Hall of Flags, All welcome
- Dec 15  CUTR Holiday Party, (12:00)and Gift Exchange (1:00), CUT102
- Dec 26—Jan 2  Holiday break

CUTR WEBCASTS AT 12:00 PM

- Dec 8  Dealing with Difficult Customer Situations in Public Transit, Joel Volinski, Director, NCTR at CUTR

NOTEWORTHY ACCOLADES

November 17th was Great American Teach In Day at participating Hillsborough County Schools. Jason Jackman presented to first grade students at Chiles Elementary School about his work with various pedestrian and bicycle safety programs at the University of South Florida’s Center for Urban Transportation Research. He provided safety tips for walking and biking, a helmet fitting demonstration, and a fun Q and A session that included many questions about transportation. He encouraged the students to do well in school so they can attend the University of South Florida one day.

Steve Polzin, was guest lecturer at the Lewis Center for Regional Policy Studies, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, on November 21st and presented, The Rise of Shared Mobility: Will it Incrementally Change or Transform Urban Travel in the Years Ahead?

There was a total of 417 food items weighing in at 317 pounds that were delivered to the Feeding Tampa Bay facility. The winning team was the January – June Team with 229 items! The July – December Team had 188 items! Thank you CUTR for making a difference in our local community; many families will be extremely grateful for your generosity.

CUTR adopted 20 children this year from Healthy Families Pasco!

For the 17th year, CUTR played Santa to a group of deserving children and hardworking family. Thank you — Ken Short, Kristine Williams, Jeanne Kean, Rob Gregg, Lucy Gonzalez, Lazara Stinnette, Melissa De Leon, Patricia Ball, Jason Jackman, Arunima Bagui, Ann Joslin, Sisinnio Concas, Stephanie Lewis, Steve Polzin, Seckin Ozkul, Roberta Yegidis, Nevine Georggi, Elzbieta Bialkowska-Jelinksa, Jose Zayas-Castro, Ed Bart, Carol Marrero-Placeres, and Sara Hendricks.

Timesheets Due

Pay period 12/02/16 to 12/15/16
AEGIS submission date is
Monday, December 12 by 10 am.

Pay period 12/16/16 to 12/30/16
AEGIS submission date is
Monday, December 19 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
On November 1, **Steve Reich** presented at the Hillsborough County MPO Board Meeting and updated the MPO on Tampa Bay Clean Cities Coalition activities. He also introduced the Workplace Charging Challenge initiative and upcoming event for employers in the region.

On November 10, the **Tampa Bay Clean Cities Coalition (TBCCC)** partnered with TECO Energy to host **Workplace Charging: What Employers Need to Know**, a half-day workshop that featured presentations from local and national electric vehicle (EV) experts. The event was held at TECO Energy’s downtown office.

Over 25 stakeholders from city and county governments and area businesses attended the workshop to learn about the logistics and advantages of providing EV charging stations for employees at the workplace.

Following an overview of electric vehicles and the different types of charging equipment, presenters from General Motors, NovaCharge, and REAL Building Consultants spoke on barriers to EV adoption, cost and site considerations, and the sustainability applications of EV installation. Employers and employees from local businesses and organizations shared their experiences and successes with implementing workplace charging. Attendees learned how they can benefit from participating in the national Workplace Charging Challenge, a Department of Energy initiative that aims to partner with 500 or more U.S. employers to provide workplace charging and support the growing market for plug-in electric vehicles.

**NOTEWORTHY ACCOLADES**

**Kristine Williams** and NITC livability scholar **Joshua Barber** presented their research findings to the Hillsborough MPO Technical Committee relative to integrating equity into regional transportation planning. The presentation addressed the GIS analysis for the Hillsborough MPO case study, which identified communities of concern, accessibility, safety, and affordability issues in Hillsborough County.

Graduate urban planning students in the Multimodal Transportation Planning class taught by Kristine Williams presented their final project on multimodal transportation recommendations for Palmetto to the Palmetto Commission and Mayor at a Commission workshop on November 21. The student project was well received and is being conducted as part of the USF Community Sustainability Partnership Program.
NOTEWORTHY ACCOLADES

On Saturday, November 19, *Bike/Walk Tampa Bay (BWTB)* hosted a **Traffic Skills 101 course**. The course was organized by **Julie Bond**, Senior Research Associate at CUTR and Program Director of BWTB, and taught by local League Cycling Instructor **Sharon Monahan**. **Brentin Mosher** of CUTR and **Craig Fox** of FDOT, who recently became League Cycling Instructors back in June, served as assistant coaches for the class.

Traffic Skills 101 teaches bicyclists valuable riding skills such as scanning and signaling before making a turn, smooth shifting of gears, and avoidance maneuvers such as the rock dodge and the emergency stop. In addition, attendees learned how to do an ABC Quick Check before getting on the bike (check the Air, Brakes, and Chain), and how to change a flat tire.

The course is a prerequisite for becoming a League Cycling Instructor, but is also great for any bicycle commuters who want to learn valuable skills for being safe on the road.

USF has been recognized as a **Bicycle Friendly University** by the **League of American Bicyclists** at the **Silver Level** thanks to **Julie Bond**, the **Bicycle Action Committee**, and **critical stakeholders**. The Bicycle Action Committee consists of many campus partners: Student Government, Campus Recreation, Student Housing, College of Public Health, Patel Center for Global Sustainability, USF World, USF Police Department, Facilities Management, Parking and Transportation Services, College of Engineering, the Center for Urban Transportation Research, New North Transportation Alliance and the USF Bicycle Club. One of the primary goals of the committee is to make the campus bicycle friendly. USF also recently installed a pilot bicycle locker project, providing a new parking option for employees who commute regularly to campus. More information can be found here:  

The 2016 CUTR Transportation Achievement Awards Event was held on **Tuesday, November 15th** at the USF Embassy Suites and was a success! Recognized as the award recipient was **Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer**. Florida Mayor Bob Buckhorn and Florida Senator Jack Latvala presented him with the CUTR Transportation Achievement award. This award is presented annually to an individual who has made significant contributions to the transportation field. This year’s guest speaker was FDOT District 7 Secretary, Paul Steinman.

**Trang Luong** was awarded the **2016 Georgia Brosch Memorial Transportation Scholarship**. She is a graduate student in the Civil and Environmental Engineering department and is the current President of the Institute for Transportation Engineers (ITE), USF Student Chapter. Trang has also been active with the USF Engineers for a Sustainable World, American Society of Civil Engineers and with the Engineering Senate. She will receive her USF MSCE in May 2017 and received her BSCE from USF in 2015, when she was named the USF System’s Outstanding Graduate. Trang is currently working as a graduate research assistant under Dr. Abdul Pinjari in the area of truck travel behavior. The $2,000 scholarship is awarded based on academic achievement, professional activities, and career goals.

The scholarship committee has also selected **Katrina Corcoran** to receive an Honorable Mention under the Georgia Brosch Memorial Transportation Scholarship umbrella. Katrina is pursuing her Master’s degree in the Urban and Regional Planning program.

**Austin Gibble** was awarded the **2016 CUTR National Center for Transit Research Student of the Year** award. This student represents excellence in academic achievement, research, and professional development. The award comes with financial support to attend the TRB Annual Meeting in Washington DC and an award of $1,000. All Students of the Year from as many as 50 universities will also be honored at the Council of University Transportation Centers Annual Awards Banquet. Austin is pursuing his Master’s degree in the Urban and Regional Planning Program.
Kimberlee DeBosier was recognized for her ten years of service as the CUTR Advisory Board Chair. Kim is Vice President at JMT (formerly Bayside Engineering) and is a Fellow of the National Society of Professional Engineers. Her civic leadership in the Tampa Bay Community is extensive, including terms with the Tampa-Hillsborough Expressway Authority (including serving as chair from 1999-2003), the Hillsborough County MPO, the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, the Development Committee of the Glazer Children’s Museum, the USF College of Engineering Board, the MacDonald Training Center, and the Mayor’s Beautification Program. Her leadership and guidance have been crucial to CUTR’s success.

Dennis Hinebaugh was recognized for his role as Interim Director of CUTR from March 2014 – August 2016. He served admirably in this role and went beyond the call of duty in overseeing CUTR's growth and positive evolution. Other photos from the awards event can be found here: https://www.flickr.com/photos/cutrusf/sets/72157673166043853/
The third annual Student Poster Competition was held on November 4, 2016 in the CUTR lobby. Students were able to present research that he or she performed with their advisor; however, advisors could not give feedback to the student in regards to the preparation of the poster. The competition judges, Dr. Robert Bertini, Dr. Pei-Sung Lin, Dr. Seckin Ozkul, Dr. Xiaopeng Li, Dr. Qing Lu, Jean Duncan, and Pete Yauch evaluated the student posters. There were monetary awards for the first, second, and third place poster winners in the amounts of $500, $350, and $250 respectively: First place—Amir Ghiasi, Speed Harmonization using Connected Autonomous Vehicles; second place — Chunfu Xin, Modeling Random Effects of Horizontal Curve Parameters on Injury Severity of Single-Motorcycle Crashes Using Mixed-Effects Logistic Model, and third place — Kaustav Chaudhury, A Guidance in Logistics Investments through Logistics Activity Center (LAC) Development Potential Analysis. The poster competition was engaging and informational. The other students taking part in the poster competition were: Divyakant Tahlyan, Suryaprasanna Kumar Balusu, Richard Driscoll, Kurt Lehmann, Joshua Barillas, and Vaibhav Agarwal. The posters were on display at the 14th Annual CUTR Transportation Achievement Awards event on November 15, 2016 at the USF Embassy Suites and the students were recognized at that time. Thank you to everyone who participated and made this year another successful event.
Two panels at the Florida Automated Vehicles Summit at the Marriott Tampa Waterside
November 27, 2016—November 30, 2016

TRANSPO 2016 West Palm Beach Hilton

CUTR's Founding Father and 1st Director of CUTR, Gary Brosch

Former CUTR alum — Mark Burris, Texas A&M Professor and Dr. Bertini

CUTR team at Florida Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Coalition

Dr. Chanyoung Lee, Program Director for Motorcycle Injury Prevention Institute at CUTR, gave an invited lecture at the National Transportation Safety Board in Washington, DC.
Egg Toss:
1st place team: Navid Farahbakhsh and Erica Nelson
2nd place team: Chanyoung Lee and Behzad Karimi

Basketball Toss:
1st: Achilleas Kourtellis - 11
2nd: Brian Pessaro - 10
3rd: Jeff Kramer - 9 (tied, then won the playoff with 10)

4 Corners:
1st place team – Jason Jackman, Jeff Kramer, Seckin Ozkul, Ken Short - 21 seconds
2nd place team – Jason Jackman, Pei-Sung Lin, Navid Farahbakhsh, Achilleas Kourtellis – 22.18 seconds
3rd place team: - Ibrahim Hinds, Kurt Lehmann, Richard Driscoll, Seckin Ozkul – 22.98 seconds

Kickball:
Notable: This year was the one big inning with a grand slam home run by Jason Jackman.

Winning Team:
Seckin Ozkul – his team won 7-1
Kurt Lehmann
Richard Driscoll
Jason Jackman
Ibrahim Hinds
Behzad Karimi
Achilleas Kourtellis
Pei-Sung Lin
Mark Mistretta
Donny Hayward
Mitch Spicer
Navid Farahbakhsh
### CONTRACTS

**Project** Strategic Plan Implementation-Dissemination Activity  
**Sponsor** Cadmus Group Inc.  
**PI(s)** Audino  
**Value** $5,980

### CUTR PROPOSALS

**Project:** Technical Assistance for GTFS Best Practices  
**Sponsor:** Trillium Solutions, Inc.  
**PI(s):** Barbeau  
**Value:** $5,000

**Project:** Transit Maintenance Analysis and Resource Center  
**Sponsor:** Fla Dept of Transportation  
**PI(s):** Bart  
**Value:** $360,000

**Project:** Transit Research Inspection Procurement Services Program  
**Sponsor:** Fla Dept of Transportation  
**PI(s):** Staes  
**Value:** $570,000

### 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.