

**COMMITTEE ON USER INFORMATION SYSTEMS, A3B08
ANNUAL MEETING**

**HALL B-1
MARRIOTT HOTEL
WASHINGTON, D.C.
MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2002
8:00 A.M.**

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

I. Call to Order

Philip Garvey called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. All of the individuals in attendance introduced themselves, stating their name, organization, and their committee membership status. The current committee membership list was circulated for members to mark corrections, and the official meeting attendance roster was circulated as well. The minutes from the 2001 mid-year meeting, held at the 2001 Intelligent Transportation Society of America Annual Meeting, were approved by members in attendance with no corrections or changes.

II. TRB Staff Report

Rick Pain spoke to the assembled group and noted that few changes had been made to the annual meeting for 2002. He noted that 30 sessions dedicated to the topic of security were on the program as a result of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. He also shared with the group that the electronic review system used this year went fairly well. There were a few problems with this 2nd version of the system, and any reviewers are encouraged to provide TRB with comments, suggestions, or ways in which it can be improved.

Over 1700 papers were submitted, and attendance was anticipated to be on target with previous years. Over 7000 attendees pre-registered for the meeting, and total attendance was expected to reach the typical 8000. Attendees from overseas were down due to individuals having trouble obtaining visas to enter the country.

Rick also announced that TRB will be moving to the National Academy Building downtown in July 2002. The physical address will be 500 5th Street, but the mailing address and e-mail addresses should remain the same. No information is available regarding whether the phone numbers will change with the move.

One upcoming conference of interest to this committee include the Visualization Symposium. Someone asked for information on the next Traffic Safety on 2 Continents conference, which will be held in 2003 in Poland. The conference in 2005 will be held in the U.S. If any

members are interested in developing a session, please contact Rick Pain.

III. *Committee Activities in 2001*

A. *2001 Mid-Year Meeting*

As noted earlier, the 2001 Mid-Year Meeting was held at ITS America. Only a handful of members attended, but it was about as good a place as any to have the meeting.

B. *TRB Paper Reviews*

Gary Thomas served as the subcommittee chair for paper reviews for 2002, the report of which is noted below under Subcommittee Reports.

C. *TRR Circulars*

The committee has two TRR Circulars that are waiting to be published by TRB. The first, “Role of Commercial Signs in Wayfinding,” was based on a conference session held a few years ago at the TRB Annual Meeting. The second, “ATIS International,” was based on various papers over the past few years. Phil Garvey will notify the committee when they are published.

IV. *Scheduled Committee Activities for 2002*

A. *TRB Paper Reviews*

Gary Thomas will continue to serve as the subcommittee chair for the 2003 paper reviews.

B. *Mid-Year Meeting*

The group discussed when the 2002 Mid-Year Meeting should be held. Potential meetings include the Visualization Conference in April in Utah, the ITS America Annual Meeting in California in April, the HFES Annual Meeting in September in Pittsburgh, or the Visibility Symposium in June in Iowa. Phil will circulate the agenda prior to deciding the meeting location to see who might be interested in attending. He will notify the committee via the listserv when the meeting is set.

C. *Visibility Symposium*

Helmut Zhahlen reported that symposium is set for June 2-4, 2002 in Iowa City, Iowa. The abstract deadline for the Visibility Symposium has been extended to the end of January. Anyone interested in submitting an abstract is encouraged to do so. The abstract can be for research in progress and not necessarily for only a completed project. One hope is that the National Driving Simulator will be an attraction for attendees as it should be up and running with some demonstrations by that time.

D. Visualization Conference

Michale Manore reported that the conference is set for April 22-25, 2002 in Salt Lake City, Utah. The draft program will be up on the website soon at <http://www.dot.state.ut.us/ets/trb/default.htm>. About 40 presenters will be on the agenda, with a nice cross-section of topics, many of which target public involvement. The organizers would like to increase attendance. Several papers are on crisis management in response to September 11, 2001, especially with respect to pedestrians and airports. Hotel rooms will be \$75 per night, registration is \$350-\$400 for attendees and \$1000 for exhibitors. Social events are also planned. The proceedings will be published on CD-ROM, which will be put together afterwards.

V. *Other Business*

A. TRB's 2002 Human Factors Workshop

Various individuals reports on the workshops they attended. Ric Olsen attended the one on Pedestrian Facilities, which focused on the design for both the pedestrian and driver at once. The Netherlands is doing interesting things with pavement color, texture, and road narrowing with objects.

Helmut Zwahlen attended the workshop on Signal Detection and Railroad Crossings. The presenters had many good ideas. However, he would have liked to have had printouts of presentations during workshop.

B. FHWA's "International Human Factors Highway Guideline fo

This guidebook is from Sam Tignor's group at Turner Fairbank. NCHRP put out the RFP to get it off the ground, which was awarded to Westat. A3B08 was been asked as a committee to help give input to the RFP and on the project. The NCHRP panel is unconventional, but the makeup is unknown at this time. Phil Garvey will take the lead on the committee's participation.

C. Subcommittee Reports

1. Subcommittee on Visualization in Transportation - Michael Manore

See report on Visualization Conference above.

2. Subcommittee on ATIS – David Yang and Asad Khattak

David reported that the committee has not done much in the past year. David took over as chair from Y.B. Yim. The committee did manage to put together the TRR Circular based on 1999 and 2000 conference sessions. Their committee meeting will be held on Tuesday at TRB at 7:30 p.m. in conjunction with the ITS America ATIS committee meeting. The intent is to talk about ATIS from a research and project

implementation perspectives. They would like to reach a consensus on promoting ATIS. They drafted a scope statement in 1998, but would like to redefine it given these discussions. They would also like to find more people to volunteer and work with them on subcommittee activities.

3. *Subcommittee on Paper Review – Gary Thomas*

Gary Thomas served as the subcommittee chair for the 2002 reviews. The committee was given 15 papers that were reviewed by 27 members and friends. Each person reviewed between 2 and 3 papers. Nine of the papers were recommended for presentation, and 2 were recommended for publication. Four other papers required revisions prior to resubmission for publication. Sue Chrysler commented that it would be helpful to see what other reviewers had to say about papers, which can help reviewers determine if they are on target with their assessment of the paper.

Four papers were presented in Session 212 – Motorist Understanding of Freeway Signs and Work Zone Information), which was presided over by Gary Thomas. Approximately 150 people attended the session. Five papers were presented in Session 270 – Traffic Information Systems and Traveler Behavior, which was presided over by Phil Garvey and attended by approximately 40 meeting attendees.

C. *Announcements of Interest to the Members of the Committee*

The following announcements and upcoming meetings were discussed as being of particular interest to the committee.

1. *HFES Annual Meeting – Pittsburgh, PA, 23 – 27 September, 2002.* Sue Chrysler announced that she is the new chair of the Surface Transportation Technical Group of HFES, which is interested in gaining new members. Membership in HFES is not required to be a member of the technical group. The call for papers for this meeting is out and papers are due by 20 February 2002. The technical group sponsored 4 sessions at last year's meeting.
2. *ITS America Annual Meeting – Long Beach, CA, 29 April – 2 May, 2002.*
3. *Visibility Symposium – Iowa City, IA, 2-4 June 2002.*
4. Brian Wolshon is always looking for ideas and suggestions for the website. Please contact him if you have anything you would like to contribute to the development of this site.
5. Ken Opeila briefly mentioned the activities of the Work Zone Integrated Products Committee. Information regarding rulemaking associated with this committee will be available on the Federal Register at <http://www.federalregister.gov>.

E. Presentations

1. Federal Highway Administration Update on Research Activities – Tom Granda

Tom Granda gave a brief presentation on Human Centered Systems Research in Highway Safety and Operations at FHWA. His presentation addressed the facilities used by researchers; the operations program areas of travel management, transportation operations, and ITS; and past, present, and future research in these program areas.

VI. Adjournment