

**Committee on User Information Systems**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, January 24, 2007**  
**Marriott Wardman Park Hotel**  
**WASHINGTON B1**

**In attendance:**

Beverly Kuhn, Chair*	Brooke Ullman	David C.Y. Yang*
Steven Levine, Secretary*	Chris Cluett	Kevin Balke
Gary Thomas*	Suzie Lee*	Asad J. Khattak*
Susan Chrysler	Steven Levine*	Samuel Morris
Art MacCarley	Richard van der Horst*	Bryan J. Katz
Helmut T. Zwahlen*	Brian Wolshon	
Carl Fischer		

\* Member of committee

I. Call to Order – Beverly Kuhn called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Beverly Kuhn called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**A. Self Introductions**

All those in attendance introduced themselves.

**B. Circulation of Attendance Roster**

The attendance roster was circulated for attendees to sign. Members were also asked to verify their contact information on the list of current members that was circulated.

II. TRB Staff Report – Rick Pain

TRB is evaluating alternative options to cost effectively review the increase in paper submittals. The key issue is that a significant percentage of the papers are submitted at the August 1 deadline and this place a significant load on the TRB website. The load created delays and necessitate an extension of the deadline. Most papers are submitted in word and then converted by TRB to pdf. Variable pricing and deadlines by topic are being considered. Rick also mentioned that funding for TRB has been reduced. He advised the committee that TRB would be allowing commercial exhibitors at the 2008 annual meeting.

III. General Committee Activities in 2006

- a. Committee Membership – There was some discussion on how to increase the membership of the committee by reaching out to the automotive industry.
- b. Committee Triennial Review – TRB conducts a review of all committees every three years and the User Information Systems Committee is being reviewed..
- c. Committee Scope and Strategic Initiatives - Beverly reviewed the purpose and scope of the committee as being the safe and efficient exchange of information with the user. .

IV. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Subcommittee on ATIS – Mohamed Abdel-Aty & Asad Khattak: Asad stated that the subcommittee meeting was not well attended. Discussion on whether the subcommittee should become a task force was deterred in light of TRB's budget cuts.
- b. Subcommittee on Conference Sessions – David Yang: David advised the group about the paper and poster sessions that were sponsored by the committee. There was discussion on topics related to advanced traveler information (ATIS). These included how to integrate multi-modal

and parking information to allow for real-time decisions by the driver. Also use of ATIS during incidents, weather and evacuations. Brian Wohlson who is the co-chair of the Task Force on Evacuation Planning, indicated that their group is looking for opportunities to partner with other committees such as the User Information Systems. Partnering with other committees allows the committee to leverage its allotment of “credits” with TRB, as there is a limit on the number of sessions that can be sponsored by one committee.

- c. Subcommittee on Paper Review – Bryan Katz: There were nine papers that were reviewed by the committee. Six were accepted for presentation and three were rejected. Five of the six papers were recommended for publication.
- d. Subcommittee on Website – Gary Thomas: Gary informed the group of the website (<http://trbuis.tamu.edu>). Since the website allows for posting of information, Susan suggested that the committee be notified by e-mail when information was posted.
- e. Subcommittee on Liaisons – Beverly Kuhn (Reports from Liaisons in Attendance)  
Beverly asked the group to identify what other committees should this committee liaison with and asked for reports from members and friends who also participate in other committees:
  - Freeway Operations – Steven Levine: Steve discussed that the Freeway Operations Committee was sponsoring [Freeway and Tolling Operations in the Americas, at the Omni Houston Hotel in Houston, TX, from May 20-23, 2007](#). This conference would be held in conjunction with the committee’s mid-year meeting.
  - Safety Data Analysis and Evaluation
  - ITS
  - Vehicle User Characteristics – Susan Chrysler: Susan reported that the committee met last night and conducted two poster sessions. There were three papers on use of graphics on Dynamic Message Signs.
  - Work Zone Traffic Control – Jerry Ullman: Jerry reported that there would be a work zone traffic control conference to be scheduled for 10/9 – 10/12.
  - Beverly mentioned that there was an AASHTO funded subcommittee on managed lanes.

#### V. Scheduled Committee Activities for 2007

- a. TRB 2007 Conference & Paper Sessions
  - i. Poster Session 541: *User Information and ATIS Research*
  - ii. Conference Session 703: *The “Next Generation” of Driver Information*
- b. Mid-Year Meeting: There was discussion about locations for holding a mid-year meeting. It was agreed to have it during the Freeway and Tolling Conference that will be held in May 20-23, 2007.
- c. Call for Papers for 2008 TRB Meeting: There was some discussion on a call for papers to be issued in advance of the 2008 conference. Transit user information was suggested. Truck staging was another.

#### VI. Other Business

- a. TRB’s 2007 Human Factors Workshop: There was a brief discussion by the meeting attendees who also attended the annual Sunday Workshop.
- b. TRB Strategic Plan Update: The TRB Strategic Plan was distributed to the committee for review and comment. Beverly asked the members to post any comments to the website.
- c. TRB Research Needs Statements Database: Beverly set up a research subcommittee with her being chair in the interim.
- d. Announcements of Interest to the Members of the Committee
  - i. Institute of Transportation Engineers
    - a. [Technical Conference and Exhibit: “Managing Congestion – Can We Do Better?” Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina, San Diego, CA, March 25 – 28, 2007](#)

- b. Annual Meeting: David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA, August 5-8, 2007
    - ii. Transportation Research Board
      - a. [18<sup>th</sup> Biennial Transportation Research Board Visibility Symposium, Annenberg Presidential Conference Center, College Station, TX, April 17-18, 2007](#)
      - b. [Freeway and Tolling Operations in the Americas, Omni Houston Hotel, Houston, TX, May 20-23, 2007](#)
    - iii. Human Factors and Ergonomic Society
      - a. Annual Meeting: Baltimore Waterfront Marriott Hotel, Baltimore, MD, October 1-5, 2007
    - iv. ITS America
      - a. [Annual Meeting: Palm Springs Convention Center, Palm Springs, CA, June 4-6, 2007](#)
    - e. Topics from the Floor

## VII. Adjournment