

**Transportation Research Board
Library and Information Science for Transportation Committee (ABG40)**

**TRIENNIAL SELF-EVALUATION OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES
February 2004**

Please complete the entire form. It is understood that all committees are not equally involved in all possible activities and there may be “not applicable” sections. Diversity amongst committees is valuable. Other committees in Group 1 will be able to learn from your shared experiences.

COMMITTEE NAME AND NUMBER:

Library and Information Science for Transportation (LIST) A5017, ABG40

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON:

Sandra Tucker

DATE:

February 29, 2004

1. **Committee Scope:** *This area should include the statement from the TRB Directory.*

Scope: This committee serves as a forum for transportation librarians and the transportation research community on developments in information science and their applicability to transportation. The committee facilitates diffusion of national library and information science innovations throughout the transportation community by monitoring the use of new resources and tools in the transportation arena, defining critical research and training issues relating to their implementation, and promoting the benefits of these capabilities.

A. Date that committee last considered scope? January 2003

B. Does the current scope statement accurately reflect the committee’s activities? Yes
Should the scope be modified? Yes

C. What changes are proposed and why are these changes necessary? See recommended changes below. The changes are primarily to make the language more clear.

This committee serves as a forum for transportation librarians and the transportation research community on developments in information science and their applicability to transportation. The committee facilitates dissemination of library and information science innovations throughout the transportation field, facilitates international access to transportation information, defines critical research needs, and promotes the use of information resources through education and training.

New version with changes marked

This committee serves as a forum for transportation librarians and the transportation research community on developments in information science and their applicability to transportation. The committee facilitates ~~diffusion~~ dissemination of national library and information science innovations throughout the transportation community ~~by monitoring the use of new resources and tools in the transportation arena, defining critical research and training issues relating to their implementation, and promoting the benefits of these capabilities.~~ field, facilitates international

access to transportation information, defines critical research needs, and promotes the use of information resources through education and training.

2. Committee Goals

A. Current Goals as numbered in the LIST strategic plan.

- 5.1. Update and educate transportation professionals on new information resources and tools.
- 5.2. Promote and provide support for the National Transportation Library (NTL) and other repositories of transportation information.
- 5.3. Improve transportation professionals' access to international information.
- 5.4. Identify and develop institutional partnerships and alliances with groups that share mutual concerns.
- 5.5. Advocate and publicize effective information handling as a means to an improved business process.
- 5.6. Identify information science research that is applicable to transportation and specify needs for future research.

B. Identify planned (up to 2 years) activities to achieve stated goals. Numbers reflect goal numbers in the LIST strategic plan.

- 5.1.1 Continue to offer programs at TRB meetings on transportation resources and tools
- 5.1.2 Offer a workshop on using the Transportation Research Thesaurus (TRT) when the TRT becomes available on the Internet (or sooner?) [Note: The TRT was developed under the National Cooperative Highway Research Program and is the official vocabulary used by TRB for assigning index terms to records in the TRIS database and by the National Transportation Library for assigning index terms to the electronic documents that it posts on the Internet.]
- 5.1.3 Explore developing programs on the topics of
 - search engines
 - libraries of spatial information
 - data resources
 - document management
- 5.2.1 Write position papers that other organizations can use to garner political support for the National Transportation Library
- 5.2.2 Assist the National Transportation Library in developing programs that foster cooperation among transportation libraries
- 5.3.1 Review a list of the 240 publication series that are indexed by the International Transport Research Documentation (ITRD) group of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. Determine which are held by North American libraries. Circulate a list of the titles not held and encourage libraries to purchase subscriptions.
- 5.3.2 Support efforts by TRB and/or U.S. DOT to host meetings of international transportation librarians
- 5.4.1 Form a subcommittee that develops and maintains a formal structure/operation for LIST liaisons/liaison activities
- 5.4.2 Appoint official liaisons to committees
- 5.4.3 Present to the Council of University Transportation Centers (CUTC) the results of a survey of directors of CUTC member organization concerning the library services that the centers provide in-house, what library resources the directors use in their own research, and what they consider to be appropriate roles for a national transportation library.
- 5.4.4 Work with the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) to promote development of libraries within state DOTs

- 5.4.5 Hold a joint mid-year meeting with the Conduct of Research and Technology Transfer committees in 2004
- 5.4.6 Collaborate with TRB and/or AASHTO committees in developing some of the programs mentioned above
- 5.4.7 Conduct research to determine which libraries have large holdings in transportation subject areas and invite their librarians to network with other transportation librarians as friends of the LIST committee and as subscribers to the Special Libraries Association (SLA) Transportation Division e-mail list, Tranlib.
- 5.4.8 Work on joint projects with the Transportation Division of the Special Libraries Association
- 5.5.1 Work with leaders in AASHTO and the Council of University Transportation Centers on projects that might be of interest to them
- 5.5.2 Sponsor a program at the Annual Meeting on the topic of knowledge management.
- 5.5.3 See 5.1.3 above.

C. Identify possible new goals and strategies

1. Add a goal related to information science and research: 5.6 Define critical research issues related to information science and dissemination of transportation research information.
2. Articulate criteria for developing liaison relationships with other TRB committees. Here are proposed criteria to describe the partner committees:
 - a. Interest in or focus on research processes, including for example, literature or data identification, technology transfer, dissemination of results, and reduction of duplication of research effort
 - b. Interest in or focus on information and data access, availability, archiving, preservation, sharing, or other aspects of data and information
 - c. Concentration on international research results access and availability
 - d. Focus on a topic area that would promote committee member's skills in identifying and accessing information

D. Identify envisioned (3 -5 years) activities to achieve stated goals.

1. Continue with activities to a. inform transportation professionals of information tools and resources, b. promote and provide support for the NTL, c. improve the exchange/flow of international information, d. develop institutional partnerships and alliances, and e. advocate information handling as a means to an improved business process.
2. Pursue programming related to information science and research.
3. Support activity 5.5 by developing programs related to the information technologies used for organizing and delivering information content
4. Develop formal liaison relationships with several TRB committees

3. Committee Organization and Membership

A. Number of members at current time? 22

B. Geographical distribution (how current membership is distributed across the nation and worldwide).

- AZ – 1
- CA – 3
- DC – 6
- KS – 1
- MA – 1

MD – 1
MN – 3
PA – 1
TX – 1
VA – 1
France – 1
UK - 1

C. Professional category distribution (how current membership is distributed across professional affiliations).

Association staff - 2
Librarian consultant – 2
Librarian international organization – 1
Librarian federal government - 3
Librarian academic – 4
Librarian state or regional agency – 4
Engineer – 3
Publisher - 1
Transportation consultant - 2

D. Number of friends listed as associated with the committee? Approximately 20

E. Level of individual member involvement (high, medium, low). Many at high, some at medium, some at low

F. Committee morale (high, medium low). High to medium-high

G. List subcommittees and their chairs.

1. Strategic Planning (includes activities related to establishing liaison relationships with other committees), Barbara Harder
2. International Activities, Bonnie Osif
3. Programs for TRB Meetings, Nelda Bravo and Joyce Koeneman
4. Project to identify libraries with large transportation holdings (new for 2004), Dan Krummes
5. Reviewing Library Science Research (new for 2004), Roberto Sarmiento

4. **Paper Review:** Please list number of papers reviewed by committee during the past 2 years. 3

5. **Interaction with Other TRB Committees and Technical Societies**

A. List other TRB committees with which your committee maintains a formal liaison representation.

No formalized relationships but one or more LIST members also are members of the Technology Transfer, Conduct of Research, Transportation History, and other committees

B. List outside organizations with which your committee maintains ongoing liaison representation.

No formalized relationships, but LIST representatives have attended the last two national meetings of the AASHTO Research Advisory Committee (RAC) and several regional RAC meetings as well. Several LIST members are also active in the Transportation Division of the

Special Libraries Association, the Midwest Transportation Knowledge Network, and the TRB Information Services Committee (B0002).

C. Shared activities during the past year (examples should include co-sponsoring sessions, information exchange, research, etc.).

1. Conducting a survey of directors of CUTC member organizations as a joint project with CUTC.
2. Co-sponsoring a session on metadata at the 2004 annual meeting with several data committees
3. Co-sponsoring a session on knowledge management at the 2004 annual meeting with the Conduct of Research committee
4. Making a presentation on electronic publishing at the Technology Transfer committee meeting (Arlene Mathison and Nelda Bravo).
5. Conducting a workshop at the 2004 annual meeting on accessibility of electronic documents with funding from the FHWA Research and Technology Services
6. Met in Portland as part of the 2003 TRB Joint Summer Meeting of the Planning, Economics, Finance, Freight, Management, and Environmental Committees
7. Presented a session on information resources at the 2003 Joint Summer Meeting
8. Issued a call for papers on preservation and conservation of scholarly and other materials in 2002 and 2003 together with the Transportation History and Conduct of Research Committees

6. Business Meeting Attendance

A. Annual business meeting attendance: 2004	__15__ Members	__26__ Guests
. Annual business meeting attendance: 2003	__17__ Members	__17__ Guests
. Annual business meeting attendance: 2002	__17__ Members	__4__ Guests
B. Summer business meeting attendance: 2003	__7__ Members	__4__ Guests
Summer business meeting attendance: 2002	__7__ Members	__6__ Guests
Summer business meeting attendance: 2001	__12__ Members	__4__ Guests

7. Annual Meeting Sessions Sponsored

A. Number of annual meeting paper sessions sponsored?
None

B. Number of annual meeting conference sessions sponsored?
2004 – 3 conference sessions and 1 workshop and one paper presentation at the committee meeting

1. Your Reports in the Electronic Age: Making Information Accessible (workshop)
2. Critical Issues in Transportation: Information Resources for Decision Makers (conference session)
3. Information Bridge Across the Organization: Knowledge Management and Human Resources (co-sponsored conference)
4. Metadata: Perspectives of Various Transportation Communities (co-sponsored conference session)
5. What's in a Transportation Consultant's Library (paper presentation at committee meeting)

2003 – 2 conference sessions

1. Transportation Information Issues: Metadata and Section 508 Access (conference session)
2. Midwestern Transportation Library Consortium (conference session)

2002 – 1 conference session and 1 poster session

1. Strategic Information Management for Transportation Executives (conference session)
2. The Transportation Resource Exchange Center (T-REX) Website: A Case Study (poster session)

8. Identify Additional Activities Sponsored During the Past Three Years.

2003

1. Presentation on information resources at the 2003 Joint Summer Meeting
2. Survey, described above, of directors of CUTC member organizations

2002

Held summer meeting in conjunction with the Midwest Conference on Library and Information Services for Transportation, August 14-16, 2002, Madison, Wisconsin, hosted by the Midwest Regional University Transportation Center (MRUTC). Many LIST members made presentations at the conference.

2001

Sponsored the conference Accessing International Transportation Information Resources Worldwide. The conference was a part of the larger International Symposium on Transportation Technology Transfer held in St. Petersburg, Florida, July 29-31, 2001. LIST committee members planned sessions, contacted speakers, made presentation and acted as hosts for librarians and documentalists from 55 different countries.

9. Identify Additional Activities Scheduled for the Next Year.

- A. Participate with the Technology Transfer and Conduct of Research committees in a joint summer meeting in 2004
- B. Develop a conference session related to information technologies
- C. Conduct research to determine which libraries have large holdings in transportation subject areas and invite their librarians to network with other transportation librarians as friends of LIST and as subscribers to the SLA Transportation Division e-mail list, tranlib
- D. Establish a subcommittee to review library and information science research
- E. Assist the NTL and the National Highway Institute in pilot testing a new web-based course on transportation information resources.

10. Technology Transfer

- A. Is the committee planning to publish documents within the next two years?
A *TR Circular* that includes presentations made at LIST's Information Resources session at the TRB 2003 Joint Summer Meeting in Portland – anticipate publication in 2004
- B. Workshops proposed.
Using the Transportation Research Thesaurus (see above for more detail)
- C. Conferences Proposed.

11. Research Needs (Developing Area in Group 1)

- A. Please list your most recent submissions of Research Problem Statements (RPS). Issued a call for papers on preservation and conservation of scholarly and other materials in 2002 and 2003

together with the Transportation History and Conduct of Research Committees Received no responses

B. Number of Research Problem Statements developed in the last year? None

C. Number of Research Problem Statements under development? None

D. Number of Research Problem Statements funded during last three years? None

12. Please Detail the Proposed General Committee Directions for the Next Three Years

Retain current direction but add more activity related to information science research. A subcommittee will begin reviewing the library and information science research literature and will perhaps write brief synopses to share with the committee. Eventual goal will be to bring speakers to committee meetings and/or present conference sessions. See also 9B and 9C above concerning programming related to information technologies and efforts to identify libraries with large holdings in transportation subject areas. Another direction will be to strengthen ties to other TRB committees.

13. General Remarks and Comments Offered by the Committee

A. Should your committee continue in its present form with its present title?
Yes, but I'd like to see us do a little more to involve information science in our activities.

B. Should it be reoriented, restructured, or retitled? No

C. Should it be merged with one or more other committees? No

D. Does the existing Section under which the committee is organized consist of the proper committees and is its title appropriate? Yes

E. Any other comments considered appropriate by the committee.