

# Transportation Tidbits



February 2016

Welcome to the February issue of the Transportation Tidbits Newsletter! This issue features the latest happenings within the transportation industry along with a list of upcoming transportation conferences and webinars. You can also find some of the latest news from our faculty and students! If you have any questions or comments about this month's issue, please [let us know](#). Enjoy!

## Important Dates for NDSU Students

**2/1:** Last Day to Submit Requests to Audit

**2/5:** Undergraduate/Professional Spring Degree Application Due

**2/8:** Last Day to Add Full Semester Classes

**2/15: Holiday-**  
Presidents' Day (No Classes Offices Closed)

## Winter Cycling Congress

North Dakota State University Transportation and Logistics PhD student Ali Rahim Taleqani will be attending Winter Cycling Congress' three-day conference February 2-4, 2016. The conference is a professional development event intended on uniting a diverse international group of people with a shared interest in increasing bicycling and walking during the winter season. Now in its fourth year, Congress is bringing together people from all types of winter climates in hopes for the exchange of academic research, practical experience and best practices. The project is aimed at delivering solutions for winter cycling in a season when there are real barriers and concerns preventing people from utilizing the many benefits of cycling year round, an issue that for those at North Dakota State University, hits close to home. Taleqani's study recognizes that



**2/22:** Last Day to Withdraw to Zero Credits at 75% refund

**2/26:** Graduate Student Spring Intent to Graduate Forms Due

## Recent News Updates

[For the FAA, a Year of Safety and Continued Modernization](#)

[If you made a New Year's Health Resolution, Start with Transit](#)

[DOT, Automakers Agree on Proactive Safety Principles](#)

[Opportunity Belt Students Learn About Maritime Careers from SLSDC](#)

[Job seekers, Employees need better Accessible Transportation Technology](#)

[2015 likely to have broken record for vehicles mile traveled](#)

cycling is difficult during winter due to low temperatures, ice and snow. Taleqani will present the results of his research at the Winter Cycling Conference in Minneapolis. Tom Smith, a member of Fargo's Great Ride's Bike Share Board, looks forward to seeing the results of this study at the upcoming conference. Smith says there are three main hurdles that might make a Bike Share winter extension difficult to accomplish. First mother nature would really take a toll on the bikes. Another obstacle would be powering the docking stations, as the stations run on solar power. Lastly safety concerns must also be met in creating a winter extension; the barriers make the task a difficult one to undertake. This year's participants will have a chance to learn and experience winter cycling in a place where the season is celebrated and winter cycling is on the rise. Minneapolis St. Paul celebrates and embraces the winter climates and is one of America's most bicycle-friendly communities.

The Winter Cycling Congress is a project that was established by the Winter Cycling Federation in 2013. Oulu, Finland President, Timo Perala, established the Federation in the aftermath of the first Winter Cycling Congress to continue the improvement of winter cycling. The mission of Winter Cycling Federation is to promote winter cycling around the world.

## Webinars

Check out this list of upcoming [webinars](#) offered by the Transportation Research Board. All participants must register at least 24 hours in advance of the webinar. If you missed a webinar and would like to know more about it [click here](#) for further instructions.

- **February 3, 2016** - [Transportation Security Awareness and All-Hazards Emergency Training](#)
- **February 4, 2016** - [Understanding Transportation Safety Risks on Tribal Lands: Learning from a Collaborative Research Project with American Indian Communities in Minnesota](#)
- **February 10, 2016** - [Improving the Earthquake Performance of Bridges Using Seismic Isolation](#)
- **February 11, 2016** - [Implementing Energy Efficient Technologies for Cost-Savings at Airports](#)
- **February 18, 2016** - [Improved Test Methods for Specific Gravity and Absorption of Coarse and Fine Aggregate](#)
- **February 22, 2016** - [Tools for Optimizing Performance of Airport Operations and Maintenance](#)
- **February 25, 2016** - [Environmental Protection Agency's Revised Ozone Standard](#)

## UGPTI in the Spotlight

Developing A Methodology to Inspect and Assess Conditions of Short Span Structures on County Roads in Wyoming

Gap on the Map: Sparse Midwest Transit Options Between Canada and the United States

Predicting Fatigue Service Life Extension of RC Bridges with Externally Bonded CFRP Repairs

NDLTAP Safety Talk- Are you Prepared for an Emergency

Monthly Grain Industry Reports Updated

- **February 29, 2016 - [A Sampling of Winter Maintenance Best Practices in Europe](#)**

## Upcoming Conferences

- **Lifesavers Conference**
  - April 3-5, 2016
  - Long Beach, California
- **2016 World Steel Bridge Symposium**
  - April 13-16, 2016
  - Orlando, Florida
- **2016 Ferry Safety and Technology Conference**
  - April 14-15, 2016
  - New York, New York
- **2016 World Tunnel Congress**
  - April 22-28, 2016
  - San Francisco, California
- **2016 International Conference on Winter Maintenance and Surface Transportation Weather**
  - April 25-27, 2016
  - Fort Collins, Colorado
- **6th Transportation Research Board Conference on Innovations in Travel Modeling**
  - April 25-27, 2016
  - Denver, Colorado
- **15th International Conference on Managed Lanes**
  - May 4-6, 2016
  - Miami, Florida
- **2016 International Symposium on Enhancing Highway Performance**
  - June 14-16, 2016
  - Berlin, Germany
- **8th International Conference on Bridge Maintenance, Safety and Management**
  - June 23-30, 2016
  - Foz do Iguacu, Brazil

- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) 2016 International Conference
  - June 26-29, 2016
  - Houston, Texas
- 2016 National Equipment Fleet Management Conference
  - June 27-30
  - Columbus, OH

## Workshops/ Meetings

No workshops or meetings for February. Check back in March!

## New Student Biography

**Babak Mirzazadeh** is from Tehran, Iran and holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Tabriz. He earned his master's degree in civil engineering with an emphasis in highway and pavement from Sharif University of Technology. As a current PhD student pursuing a degree in transportation and logistics, Mirzazadeh is interested in conducting research in travel demand analysis, intersection and highway capacity analysis, asset management and ITS. In his spare time, Mirzazadeh enjoys hiking, camping, fishing, watching movies, and hanging out with friends. Looking towards the future, Mirzazadeh is interested in conducting research and becoming a faculty member.





**Vera Matthews** is pursuing a master's degree in Transportation and Urban Systems. Originally from Anton, Texas, Matthews attended Lubbock Christian University in Lubbock, Texas where she earned her bachelor's degree. She became interested in her field of study by working in transit as a manager for nine years. Matthews is currently involved in the Florida Public Transit

Association. In her spare time she enjoys baking and making stained glass pieces. Matthews' future goals and plans are focused around advancing in her current career at McDonald Transit Associates.

## A Pep Talk from Kid President to You



A Pep Talk from Kid President to You

**NDSU** UPPER GREAT PLAINS  
TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE



If you have items that you would like to submit for our next monthly Transportation Tidbits newsletter, please email Makenzie Schmidt at [makenzie.lee.schmidt@ndsu.edu](mailto:makenzie.lee.schmidt@ndsu.edu) by the 15th of the month.

UGPTI-NDSU, 430 QBB Building, Dept. 2880, P.O. Box 6050,  
North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND 58108-6050