Welcome to the April 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**

4/4: Summer/Fall Registration begins online

4/8: Last day to drop classes with 'W' record

4/8: Last day to withdraw to zero credits for Spring

4/15: Graduate student initial

**ITS America 2016 Student Essay Competition**

ITS is an acronym for Intelligent Transportation Systems, they are advanced applications, which aim to provide services to different modes of transport and traffic management. This year ITS America is hosting their annual Student Essay Competition in San Jose, California, and will again be sponsored by Southwest Research Institute (SwRI). The contest is aimed at undergraduate and graduate-level students studying transportation, engineering and public policy. The annual prize will be awarded June 12 during the ITS America Board of Directors meeting, encouraging post secondary students to take a leadership role in advancing transportation technology, by sharing their own unique ideas. These ideas will be expressed through an original, self-authored 2,000 word essay.

As they are entering the fifth year of the essay competition, and directors say they are continually impressed by the creativity of the student essays. By taking an active role now students are smartly positioning themselves for ever greater academic and professional success.

Students' essays are to focus on either of these topics:

"How do you envision the city of the future will address transportation through the use of new innovative technologies? (10-year horizon)"
"How can existing and future ITS deployments benefit from the existence of Big Data and advancements in analytics?"

The winning student will receive a $1,000.00 cash prize, complimentary registration to the ITS America 2016 San Jose event, and expenses-paid air travel and hotel accommodations for the venue. Selection of the winning essay will be based on the intellect behind and the insights into the transportation industry.

To be eligible, students must be postsecondary graduate or undergraduate level enrolled full-time at an accredited college or university. Contestants' essays must be a Microsoft Word attachment formatted with one inch margins, single-spacing, and 12 point font submitted to ITSASStudentEssay@swri.org no later than May 6, 2016. The 2015 winning essays highlighted vehicle platooning, Bluetooth technology applied to roadways, and cooperative adaptive cruise control.

Recent News Updates

PHMSA, FAA Continue to Keep America’s Airlines Safe
Secret’s Out! Transportation is Missing Link on Path to Opportunity
Bringing Lifesaving Automatic Emergency Braking to More Cars and Trucks
Different Pathways Lead to Transportation Careers
Moving Forward in Partnership with India

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.

- April 6, 2016 - Effective Emergency Management Preparedness for Airports of all Sizes
- April 7, 2016 - Properties and Short-Term Laboratory Conditioning of Foamed Asphalt for Warm Mix Asphalt Applications
- April 11, 2016 - Using Asset Valuation as a Basis for Bridge Maintenance and Replacement Decisions
- April 13, 2016 - Resistivity Measurements in Concrete
Women on the Water Continue to Navigate the Future of Out Industry

UGPTI in the Spotlight

Research Report - Risk of Alkali-Silica Reaction when Using Recycled Concrete Aggregate in New Concrete

Research Report - Improving Rural Emergency Medical Services through Transportation System Enhancements

Safety Talk - Fighting Fatigue

Dry Bean Stock Report

Monthly Grain Industry Reports Updated

Emerging Issues in Transportation Seminar

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

- **WTS Annual Conference**
  - May 18-20, 2016
  - Austin, Texas

- **2016 International Symposium on Enhancing Highway Performance**
- **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, 2016
  - Columbus, OH

- **Transportation-Related Environmental Analysis, Ecology and Historic and Archaeological Preservation Summer Conference**
  - July 2016
  - Salt Lake City, UT

- **3rd International Conference on Access Management**
  - July 6-7, 2016
  - Pretoria, South Africa

- **11th National Conference on Transportation Asset Management**
  - July 10-12, 2016
  - Minneapolis, MN

- **International Conference on Transportation Infrastructure and Materials**
  - July 16-18, 2016
  - Xi’an, China

- **Transportation-Related Noise and Vibration Committee Summer Conference**
  - July 24-27, 2016
  - Missoula, Montana

- **GeoChina 2016 International Conference**
  - July 25-27, 2016
  - Shandong, China

- **Resource Conference and Recovery Summer Conference**
  - July 26-29, 2016
  - Asheville, NC

- **Transportation Planning and Air Quality Conference**
  - August 4-5, 2016
  - Minneapolis, Minnesota

- **Istanbul Bridge Conference: Early Registration Available Until June 1, 2016**
  - August 8-10, 2016
  - Istanbul, Turkey
No workshops or meetings for April. Check back in May!

New Student Biography

**Natasha Longpine** began her undergraduate education at Southwest Missouri State University where she earned her Bachelor's Degree in Community and Regional Planning. She furthered her education there by completing the Masters of Public Administration program. Longpine is currently earning a Certificate in Transportation and Urban Systems here at NDSU. In her spare time Longpine enjoys hanging out with family, gardening, photography, computers and reading. Longpine plans to continue working at the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to continue bringing more analysis to that level of work.

**Adam Courtight** is enrolled in the Managerial Logistics Program. Before NDSU he earned an AS in Electronic Media from Ohio University, and a BS in Commercial Aviation from the University of North Dakota. Currently Adam is a student in the Logistics Captains Career Course at the Army Logistics University. Adam anticipates graduating in December 2016.
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 by the 15th of the month.