

TRB Committee on Truck & Bus Safety (ANB70)
Mid-year Meeting
October 23, 2012
Keck Center, Room 109
9:00 am – 12:30 pm

Members in Attendance:

Brenda Lantz, Chair
Bernardo Kleiner, TRB Staff Liaison
Rick Pain, TRB Staff Liaison
Andy Schaudt, Secretary
Joel Ticatch
George Soodoo
Deborah Freund
Abigail Morgan
Steven Smith
Maria Wright
Andrea Sequin (Phone)
Barbara Czech (Phone)
Bob Scopatz (Phone)
Dan Blower (Phone)
Dave Melton (Phone)
Gene Bergoffen (Phone)
Jeff Burns (Phone)
Jeff Hickman (Phone)
Karl Sieber (Phone)
Sal Hernandez (Phone)
Steve Keppler (Phone)
Roger Clarke (Phone)
Anne McCartt (Phone)
Rebecca Olson (Phone)
Mike Belzer (Phone)
Gerald Krueger (Phone)

OPENING DISCUSSION

At 9:00 am, Brenda Lantz called the meeting to order, welcomed members, and opened the floor for self-introductions. A sign in sheet and copies of the agenda were distributed by Bernardo Kleiner, new ANB70 TRB staff liaison.

REVIEW OF 2012 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Andy Schaudt quickly reviewed the draft annual meeting minutes for the committee and asked members for any changes or corrections. No changes or corrections were suggested, except that Bob Scopatz noted that he was in attendance.

2012 PAPER SUBMISSIONS

Brenda mentioned that this year the committee received 27 papers to review. Almost everyone finished their reviews (4 to 5 reviewers were assigned per paper). Eighteen of the papers were returned requesting edits prior to a re-review. Approximately 1/3 of those will most likely be accepted for publication. Nineteen of the submissions have already been accepted for poster presentation. Overall, the average review scores were:

- Average Publication Score – 2.8/3.2
- Average Presentation Score – 3.2/3.5

Anne McCartt requested some clarification on the process involved with accepting papers for presentation. Anne suggested that the committee chair needs to make it clearer what we should find acceptable. Anne also suggested that if a member marks one as poor, they should not be required to review it again in the future. Rick Pain agreed, if a reviewer rejects, the committee should take a very good look at this prior to granting a re-review. It was also suggested that the committee members be given a better understanding of the numbers used for rating papers. For example, is a score of 3 bad, or average? Also, expertise should be used when assigning papers (e.g. modeling papers are difficult for many to review).

Joel Ticatch mentioned that we do have a high number of posters, and we can adjust if the committee feels it is necessary. However, our committee casts a big net over a very broad area, so a wide variety of posters may be beneficial.

Debbie Freund stated that when reviewing papers she looks for lifetime quality. What does the data look like? Maybe conclusions haven't been presented, but the data and method presented as a poster gives others ideas for brainstorming new ways of using the data. Debbie mentioned that many of her submissions did not have line numbers which made the reviews difficult.

Mike Belzer mentioned that his committee has always had issues with double blind versus single blind reviews. Conferences and journals that use single blind review actually make it difficult for professors to seek tenure. Has a move toward double blind reviews been discussed in the past?

Rick described past discussions on double blind reviews; however, it is not likely TRB will be moving in that direction.

Dave Melton asked if there were any pre-review, quick scanning process currently in place within TRB? Rick said there is a small process in place, but suggested that committees also do it for redundancy purposes.

Mike Belzer asked about the potential of an all-yearlong submission process rather than a due date. Rick mentioned there is a proposal under review to move to that. However, that requires yearlong staffing and resources which may be difficult to execute.

Brenda mentioned that consideration of the 2013 theme (Deploying Research – Doing Things Smarter, Better, Faster) was given when deciding on papers. Papers that were noted as being “practice ready” by two or more reviewers were considered first. A podium session was then decided on with a theme of “Using GIS/geographic databases to identify locations of specific types of truck/bus crashes and exploring solutions to mitigate crashes (technology or highway design)”. When establishing poster sessions, seven papers naturally fit with a theme of “Understanding critical reasons for truck/bus crashes and developing effective countermeasures.” Six other papers will be included in a second poster session (broad array of topics). Two papers fit with the theme “Roundabouts design to accommodate large/heavy vehicles”. These two papers will be with other roundabout papers in a separate poster session.

For more detailed information on ANB70 sponsored sessions for the annual meeting, please see the attached handout (*TRB 2013 Annual Meeting_ANB70 Sponsored Sessions.pdf*).

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

According to TRB records, our committee currently has 22 (maybe 23) regular members. There has been some miscommunication with regards to young member status, which is most likely why the official membership count is off. This will be solved prior to the annual meeting. Also, membership rotation will be coming up in the spring of 2013. For those that have been a member of the committee for nine years, a written justification for continuance with the committee will be required.

ANB70 COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

The committee website is being constantly updated with new events, handouts, and other information that members may find useful. If anyone has any suggestions for modifications or improvements, please contact Brenda Lantz or Andy Schaudt. In addition, Brenda reminded subcommittee members that there are sections of the website dedicated to subcommittee content if needed.

Rebecca Olson reported on a webinar that she attended discussing potential areas for committees to improve their communication capabilities through electronic means. Some of these potential avenues available are:

- Create a Google account/page to use to track friends of the committee
 - Allow people to visit this page and request to be a friend, update contact information, or remove themselves as a friend
- Have some kind of content management system for the committee website (TRB recommends using Google sites)
 - Allow members to log into the committee website and create their own pages, events, upload documents, etc.

- Allow the committee to manage articles, webpages, documents, etc.
- Social networking
 - LinkedIn
 - Google+

Andy Schaudt discussed the committee's history with attempting to use some of these methods. The committee at this time agreed that current methods are fine as is. If any members would like to try any of the methods above, please contact Andy Schaudt and Rebecca Olson directly to discuss further (aschautd@vti.vt.edu and rolson@vti.vt.edu respectively).

PAPER AWARDS

Jerry Krueger reported on ANB70's activities involving the judging of papers from the 2012 annual meeting. Five papers were selected for judging. The paper chosen as the best TRB ANB70 paper was:

- 12-0607, Effects of Hours of Service and Driving Patterns on Motor Carrier Crashes, by Paul P. Jovanis, Kun-Feng Wu, and Chen Chen. Pennsylvania State University.

For information on the other 4 papers considered, please see the attached handout (*ANB70 Paper Award_2012.pdf*).

FMCSA UPDATES

Research Activities

Steve Smith (reporting for Martin Walker) gave a report on recent activities within FMCSA. Mr. Smith provided a quick update on FMCSA's role in the new two year transportation reauthorization bill titled "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century" (MAP-21). MAP-21 took effect on October 1, 2012. For more information on MAP-21, please go to FMCSA's website (<http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/about/what-we-do/MAP-21/Map21.aspx>).

Currently there is a "Rental Truck Accident Study" ongoing. The purpose of this study is to work with a motor carrier to look at the entire rental truck industry with regards to safety conditions which concern the fleet.

There is a new Hours of Service (HOS) study that will be kicking off shortly which already has one large motor carrier agreeing to participate.

A financial responsibility study has been developed that will help us understand what the proper level of insurance liability for a carrier is. The overall question being investigated - is the current level sufficient?

A new agricultural vehicle study is under way which will investigate the associated safety records and look at risk.

Steve mentioned that FMCSA developed a student challenge program. About six months ago the agency released an app for iPhones and iPads called “SaferBus”. It allows a member of the riding public to check the safety record of a carrier. The student challenge was developed so that students could come up with other uses of data to do similar things. Columbia University had done something like this with routing data and provided a mobile app to provide safety information and pick-up and drop-off points. The current challenge is open until end of December 2012, and info on the website www.studentsafetydata.challenge.gov or www.challenge.gov

Lastly, FMCSA is in the design stage of a new large truck crash causation study. Stay tuned for more information to follow at the annual meeting.

Policy Activities

Deborah Freund from the FMCSA Office of Policy gave a report on policy-related activities. For further detailed information on policy issues, please see the attached handout (*FMCSA Policy Report_October 2012.pdf*)

NHTSA REPORT

George Soodoo and Abigail Morgan from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) provided a summary of NHTSA activities. For further details, see the attached NHTSA report and PowerPoint slides (*NHTSA Report_October 2012.pdf*; *NHTSA Slides_October_2012.pdf*).

NTSB REPORT

Barbara Czech, Deputy Director, Investigations, Office of Highway Safety, National Transportation Safety Board, provided an update on recent truck and bus accident investigations. For further details, see the NTSB slides attached to these minutes (*NTSB Slides_October 2012.pdf*).

CVSA REPORT

Steve Keppler, Executive Director of CVSA, provided an update on recent activities within the agency. For further details, see the CVSA slides attached to these minutes (*CVSA Slides_October 2012.pdf*).

SUBCOMMITTEE/TASK FORCE REPORTS

Brief reports from the Chair of each subcommittee were provided:

- **Truck and Bus Operator Health and Wellness Subcommittee** – Gerald Krueger
 - Jerry Krueger reported on the progress of the subcommittee as well as other ongoing activities. Information in his report included an update on the Health & Wellness Conference proceedings, a discussion on the newly published National

Registry for Certified Medical Examiners (ME) rule, and finally presented information about sleep apnea activities in 2012. For further details please see the attached report (*Health_Wellness_Report_October 2012.pdf*).

- **Truck and Bus Data Subcommittee** – Bob Scopatz
 - Bob Scopatz thanked Brenda for getting the effort moving forward and thanked everyone who has contributed so far. The subcommittee has a list of known data sources which is quite extensive. The next step is to cross-reference the list of what is out there with what the actual needs for data are. The subcommittee will be meeting at the TRB annual meeting and this step will be discussed more thoroughly. In addition, a discussion to identify gaps in the data sources will be held. For example, there is a clear gap in available data for “exempt” industries and operations (this may be an ideal starting place). Using the Health and Wellness subcommittee as a positive example, our subcommittee will explore potential future initiatives; possibly sponsor a session at TRB in 2014, and could use some time for presentations, especially students.

- **Motorcoach Safety Organizational Subcommittee** – Norm Littler
 - No report.

- **Alternative Compliance Subcommittee** – Gene Bergoffen
 - The White Paper on Alternative Compliance has been approved and final editorial revisions are being made at this time. The Alternative Compliance Subcommittee will meet at the Annual Meeting to discuss updates on related events.

SSUG SECTION REPORT

Ron Knipling provided some comments on current activities of the SSUG Section & Committee Chairs, including items from the June 2012 Technical Activities Council (TAC) Meeting.

Brenda briefly discussed the triennial strategic plan; see the attached document (*Triennial Strategic Plan_October_2012.pdf*). Anyone interested in helping to update the plan, should contact Brenda (brenda.lantz@ndsu.edu). A revised draft will be made available to review at the Annual Meeting.

COMMERCIAL TRUCK & BUS SAFETY SYNTHESIS PROGRAM (CTBSSP)

Ron Knipling provided some comments on the current status of the CTBSSP. It has been dissolved. FMCSA decided to discontinue the program and felt that it had run its course.

RESEARCH NEEDS STATEMENTS

Roger Clarke reported that there has not been much recent activity to report on. Every subcommittee should continue developing a portfolio of research needs that are considered important to articulating problems and opportunities for research. There is no deadline for submitting them; it is an all-yearlong submission process. This should be available for Friends to

submit too. Some committees actually take this a bit further and become the main advocate for that research. In an effort to get “Back to the Basics,” two TRB-wide efforts have been proposed to move forward with Research Needs Statements: 1) evaluate the current database and look for potential improvement areas, and 2) endorse other research needs statements from other committees.

The committee has 13 posted Research Needs Statements up on TRB’s website. According to TRB procedures, the committee should revalidate its research needs statements at least every 3 years or they will be automatically removed.

2013 ANNUAL MEETING ACTIVITIES AND PLANS

Brenda presented an overview of upcoming activities for the 2013 annual meeting.

- Cross-cutting session on Health and Transportation - Jerry Krueger is our point of contact for this. This idea originally came from Johanna Zmud, Chair for Policy & Organization (AB000), with the following description:
 - Title: Public Health, How Is It Relevant for Transportation?
 - Description: Over the last decade we have been hearing more and more about health and transportation, health impact assessments and public health initiatives. For the transportation community, concepts of health can be somewhat daunting. They appear to be very broad yet the implications are far-reaching. Health is embedded in all aspects of transportation. Some professionals in the transportation community do not know how to deal explicitly with health. Some public health professionals may be unsure of how to get involved effectively in transportation issues. Health and transportation professionals come from different scientific backgrounds, have separate institutional structures, and tend to exist in parallel worlds. Fortunately, a common set of values, many of which are embedded in the TRB Critical Issues, can provide the basis for understanding. This session will bring public health and transportation experts and leaders together to begin to establish some common ground around topics like planning, project selection, safety and equity. The session will begin to demystify each other's terminology and to identify promising opportunities for further collaboration.
- Debbie suggested three possible FMCSA presenters for Subcommittee (and possibly full Committee) sessions. All are very knowledgeable and are strong speakers:
 - Loretta Bitner, Chief, Passenger Carrier Division, for the Motorcoach Safety Subcommittee
 - Bryan Price, Project Manager, CSA , for the Data Needs Subcommittee
 - Elaine Papp, Chief, Driver Physical Qualifications Division, for the Driver Health & Wellness Subcommittee
- Australian motor carrier safety – Lori Mooren
 - Recent (enforcement) crack downs in NSW focusing on speed limiter tampering - the process and implications for Chain of Responsibility enforcement.

- Also interesting developments in regulatory agencies and leaders in the trucking industry coming together to look for solutions to ridding the industry of rogue operators.
- The other thing that may of interest is the new Remunerations Tribunal. My colleague, Prof Ann Williamson, has been chosen to sit on this Tribunal – which only commenced on 1 July. There have not been any cases heard yet, but by the end of the year there may be something to report.
- Discussion of potential joint sessions to plan in 2013 for 2014 meeting?

The preliminary program for the ANB70 Annual Meeting activities was passed around. If anyone has any ideas for presentations, please send an email directly to Brenda (brenda.lantz@ndsu.edu).

OTHER BUSINESS

Ron Knipling discussed establishing a truck and bus safety society (TABS) of Washington, DC. If anyone is still interested, please contact Ron.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Debbie Freund stated that MAP-21 gave ability for safety oversight on transit agencies. For further information, check the FTA website and take a look at their activities.

Mike Belzer indicated that in the Public Policy and Planning Journal, a recent article on the cost due to increased crashes of truck diversion on the Ohio turnpike will have public policy implications, and recommended members to read it.

Andrea Sequin requested that a link to the TRB author guidelines be sent out. This guidelines document can be found on TRB's website here (<http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/AM/InfoForAuthors.pdf>).

Anne McCartt stated that IIHS recently investigated rear under-ride guards using multiple methods (e.g. crash tests) to identify the underlying problems. They then petitioned NHTSA on how to improve the regulation. She hopes to have some reportable findings in January.

Roger Clarke mentioned a cross-cutting section on fatigue management would be something he recommends for the upcoming TRB annual meeting.

Rick Pain announced that he will be slowly transitioning into retirement over the next six months and wanted to thank everyone on the committee for their years of involvement with TRB.

Adjournment @ 12:35 PM