Dr. Bruce Magid is MTI’s newest trustee. Before taking the reins at the College of Business in July, he served as the executive director of MSU Global, “an academic business unit that, via the Internet, connects working professionals and individuals seeking personal enrichment to the quality faculty, academic programs and other learning opportunities at Michigan State University” (MSU). Dr. Magid was also an adjunct faculty member of MSU’s Department of Finance.

By fostering a collaborative relationship with MSU’s major colleges to develop new online graduate-level programs, certificates, and continuing education activities, Dr. Magid was able to increase MSU Global enrollment from 800 to 10,000 and raise the number of programs from eight to 30 during his five-year tenure.

Dr. Magid also has experience in another area of great interest to MTI. He was the co-founder and co-executive director of the Global Community Security Institute, offering programs and certificates related to emergency management and homeland security. In that role, he developed and presented white papers to the Department of Homeland Security supporting MSU capabilities.

From 1977 to 1998, Dr. Magid was employed by the Bank of America. As a managing director and one of the top 200 senior executives (Key 200), he was responsible for major corporate strategy and development and corporate finance activities in Latin America, directing $2.5 billion of investment banking activities.
Ten new research projects are now underway, as outlined in the last issue of World in Motion. Eight are from our spring 2004 selection cycle; one is funded by FTA; and one is our BRT Handbook project for Caltrans. With the passage of the transportation reauthorization bill that funds MTI’s basic grant, research is rapidly returning to the pace we had when I first arrived at MTI six years ago. That period also marked the beginning of a new funding grant after a period of cautious funding. We had research from three funding cycles within 15 months, and I dubbed the 30 projects in progress as the “pig in the python.” We are perhaps looking at a piglet this time, but it will still be a significant increase in research activity.

Lining up are the two remaining projects selected in the spring of 2004, a new security/counter-terror programming study focusing on major terrorist incidents since 9-11 and the changing nature of terrorists, and a major study of transportation funding options for the state of California. We will also be completing another round of selections from responses to the new RFP (currently planned for early September release) before the next edition of this newsletter. That would mean well over 20 research projects in process. The timing of the next research RFP will depend on the results of the pending competition in spring 2006.

To prepare for all this activity, the MTI Board of Trustees has submitted potential study topics, and I have attended several meetings with various Caltrans groups discussing research needs and opportunities. I also scan for federal resource priorities and review other research in progress. Our research associates are encouraged to propose research directly requested in the RFP, but their proposals can also respond to Emphasis Areas outlined in MTI’s strategic plan. Ultimately, the Research Associates Policy Oversight Committee (RAPOC) and the representatives of Caltrans and U.S. DOT will select proposals that score well, based on set criteria. These are:

1. Is the project of practical and timely value to transportation decision makers and professionals?
2. Does it address one or more of MTI’s Emphasis Areas or respond to a specific RFP topic?
3. Does the project represent original research and identify how it expands upon previous research on the subject?
4. Does the proposed research team possess the expertise to conduct the research?
5. Does the proposed approach to the project demonstrate sound methodology?
6. Can the project be accomplished within the proposed budget and timeline?

Of course, every proposal must involve SJSU faculty and students since an important goal of the research program is to develop transportation expertise at SJSU. Descriptions of research in progress can be found on TransWeb at [http://transweb.sjsu.edu/proj.htm](http://transweb.sjsu.edu/proj.htm).
Call for Entries – 2006 Garrett A. Morgan Sustainable Transportation Symposium

It is time to recruit your local middle school to participate in the 2006 Garrett Morgan Sustainable Transportation Symposium. Line up your school now so that teachers can work the program into this year’s teaching and testing schedules.

The Garrett Morgan program is especially useful for middle schools in underserved areas because it increases student awareness of transportation careers and encourages them to study math and science in high school so they can pursue engineering and management degrees in college.

Teachers appreciate the proven, ready-made curriculum. They get motivated, excited students, a gift certificate for supplies, and a chance to win $500 for their school. Students get a field trip to a transportation facility, a videoconference experience with the U.S. Secretary of Transportation (in late March 2006), and a chance to win an expense-paid trip to California for the MTI Awards Banquet in June.

The student and teacher workbooks can be ordered from MTI or downloaded from the MTI website. (http://transweb.mti.sjsu.edu/education/mti_gm.htm)

For more information, contact MTI Project Manager Jim Swofford at 408-924-7569 or swofford@mti.sjsu.edu.

TransWeb

TransWeb’s revamped education section, which includes MTI’s graduate, middle school, and high school programs, has been launched just in time for the start of the school year. The site has a new look and feel with expanded features. The layout has easier navigation to get to desired content faster. Access to graduate capstone papers and alumni news is now one click away. Additional content is planned over the next quarter for even greater function.

The main site is undergoing revision as well. The direction has changed due to a deeper analysis of the web statistics along with monitoring how our end users have been using the site. TransWeb has a wealth of information available and the future design will enable faster access to this information. We have made it a priority to make your visit to TransWeb successful, resourceful, and efficient. Any suggestions for the site should be sent to me at webmaster@mti.sjsu.edu.
14th Annual Board of Trustees Awards Banquet on June 25th featured the graduation of eight students from the Master of Science in Transportation Management program and four recipients of the graduate Certificate in Transportation Management. The evening’s festivities began with a wine tasting reception generously hosted by Fortino, Guglielmo, J. Lohr, and Solis wineries.

The banquet raises scholarship money for students enrolled in MTI’s unique graduate transportation management program. MTI students have won prestigious national awards, such as the Eno Leadership, APTA Foundation, and Krambles scholarships. City of San Jose Transportation Director Jim Helmer and San Joaquin Regional Transit District General Manager Donna Kelsay are among the program’s distinguished alumni; they attended the pre-reception alumni meeting where Mr. Helmer was elected to replace Ms. Kelsay as president of the alumni association.

Representatives from Kemps Landing Magnet School from Virginia Beach, VA, the winners of MTI’s 5th Garrett Morgan Sustainable Transportation contest for middle school students, were flown in for the occasion. Fourteen-year-old team member Krista O’Connell wowed the crowd with her poise during her brief description of the team project before accepting the $500 prize.
Keynote speaker Will Kempton, Director of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) addressed an audience that included the graduates and their families, transportation professionals, and elected officials. Many of MTI’s 25-member Board of Trustees, all national transportation leaders, were in attendance. Mr. Kempton added to the celebratory mood as he shared the good news that California will be investing more than $4 billion in construction projects during the next fiscal year.

MTI greatly appreciates all the banquet sponsors for making the dinner and scholarships possible.
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MSTM Program Graduates Eight at Annual Banquet

The faculty and staff of MTI and the College of Business at SJSU were proud to present the graduating class of 2005 at the 14th Annual MTI Board of Trustees Awards Banquet on June 25, 2005. Eight students earned their Master of Science in Transportation Management degree. Graduates were “hooded” by SJSU College of Business Acting Dean Nancie Fimble, while Caltrans Director Will Kempton congratulated each. The dedication of these students, each of whom completed 30 hours of coursework – including an individual research project – while meeting the duties of full-time professional employment, is admirable. We wish every success to the class of 2005!

MSTM graduates included:

Nicholas Deal       Edujie Imoisili
Gregory Kausch     Michael Lewis
Wishing John Lima   Joseph Rye
William Sutherland Florante Tanada

In addition to our MSTM graduates, the following students received the graduate Certificate in Transportation Management:

Robert Bach         Alejandro Esparza
Phyllis Walker      Christina Watson

MSTM Alumni Association Meets

The MSTM Alumni Association conducted its second annual meeting shortly before the MTI Board of Trustees Awards Banquet on June 25, 2005. Caltrans Director Will Kempton stopped by to express his support, and MTI Board of Trustees member David L. Turney (CEO, Digital Recorders, Inc.) made a donation of $500 to help get the Association rolling. James Helmer (MSTM ’04), Director of the San Jose Department of Transportation was elected to the office of president, while Sarah Picker (Caltrans District 4) received the nod for vice president. Jeffrey Spencer (MSTM, ’02), Caltrans HQ) was selected as secretary and newsletter liaison, while Meshack Okpala (MSTM, ‘02) was elected treasurer.
Second National Transportation Security Summit: MTI's National Transportation Security Center (NTSC) will present this second national summit focused on rail systems security on September 29, following the APTA annual meeting in Dallas. Cosponsors include: AAR, AASHTO, Amtrak, APTA, U.S. DHS/TSA, U.S. DOT/FRA and FTA, NARP and others. Morning speakers include MTI's NTSC Director Brian Michael Jenkins on the changing character of the threat, former FTA Deputy Administrator and current TSA Deputy Administrator nominee Robert Jamison on evolving rail security systems, DHS Director of Border and Transportation Security Portfolio Jeanne Lin on mass transit security strategies, NTSC Emergency Response Specialist Dr. Frances Edwards on the NIMS compliance requirements, and former U.S. DOT Undersecretary now PB Consult's Chair Mort Downey on business continuity. The afternoon business continuity roundtable discussion, moderated by Mort Downey, will include as panelists NYCTA President Larry Reuter, NARP Chairman George Chilton, APTA Security Director Greg Hull, and recovery representatives of state and national DHS programs with new insights from the New Orleans experience.

MTI Executive Round Table with General Barry McCaffrey: On September 7th, MTI hosted local rail transit executives and security leaders for an afternoon discussion with international security expert General Barry McCaffrey, now chair of HNTB’s federal programs. Executives from BART, CalTrain, Caltrans, FTA, Samtrans, SF Bay Area MTC, San Jose DOT, TSA, VTA, and private organizations shared an in-depth dialogue on the evolving terrorist threat and programs in development to improve security. A desensitized summary of the discussion will be available on MTI’s website.