

# World in Motion

Volume 10, No. 2

**S**tephanie Pinson joined Gilbert Tweed Associates in 1981 and now serves as president of the organization. She has served as a member of the faculty of a major state university in New Jersey, is listed in "Who's Who Among American Women," and was a past chair of the Business Member Board of Governors of the American Public Transit Association. In 2002, she was selected as APTA's Business Member of the Year and, most recently, she has served on the APTA Executive Committee, the association's governing committee. Presently, she is a director of the American Public Transportation Foundation and co-chairs the Workforce Development Initiative Task Force of APTA.

Ms. Pinson is also a member of the board of directors of Gilbert Tweed Associates and Digital Recorders, Inc. located in Dallas, Texas and Research Triangle Park, North Carolina.

Ms. Pinson directs Gilbert Tweed's Public Sector Practice and is a co-director of the Female and Minority Practice and the Not-for-profit Practice. She has conducted many administrative, academic and medical searches as well as successful searches for public transit authorities. She has served on the board of a community hospital and is an officer as well as a frequent speaker for the American Public Transportation Authority. Additionally, Ms. Pinson has a significant corporate search practice and has worked extensively to recruit CEOs and general management.

Ms. Pinson has considerable experience in senior searches for transit, educational, healthcare and corporate technology



Profile of  
**Stephanie L. Pinson**  
 Mineta Transportation Institute  
 Board of Trustees and  
 President and COO  
 Gilbert Tweed Associates

clients. She has recruited presidents for SUNY campuses, general managers for public transit authorities and airports, and administrative and clinical heads for medical facilities. She is accustomed to working with boards of directors, mayors and city administrators and has a strong track record for success in all sectors.

Ms. Pinson graduated from Rutgers University Magna Cum Laude with both Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in English Literature, and she qualified for the Ph.D. at the same institution. When not working, she and her husband can be found on the tennis court, golf course, or ski slopes.

## Inside

- *Research Update*
- *Education Program*
- *Annual Banquet*
- *Information Transfer*
- *Directions*



Norman Y. Mineta  
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 Surface Transportation  
 Policy Studies

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# Research Update

by Trixie Johnson, Research Director



Trixie Johnson

The new research projects, as reported in the last issue of *World in Motion*, will begin when the new federal transportation bill is passed, along with an action to appropriate funds. As I write this, the prospects for passage prior to the end of the federal fiscal year are looking dimmer by the day. If there is some kind of continuing resolution or short-term bill, MTI will assess whether the funding

is sufficiently secure to sign contracts with the new research teams. With passage of the California budget now on the horizon, and a new contract well on its way, the matching funds should be available whenever the federal funds are released.

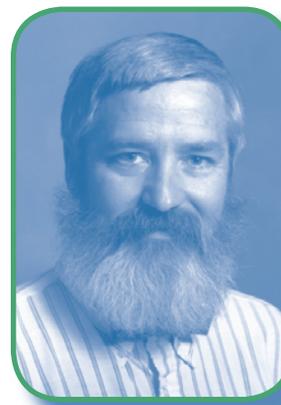
In the meantime, we are continuing the projects already underway. Brian Taylor's team is conducting interviews in France, London, and Japan (thanks to students who are combining the work with their travels). The study, System Design for Transit Security, has surveyed many U.S. transit systems, and with the inclusion of the international information, will have a rich base of information about the best physical and system design approaches for more secure transit facilities.



Ken Gehrt

Ken Gehrt and Mahesh Rajan (A Consumer Logistics Framework for Understanding Preferences for High-Speed Rail Transportation), along with their student assistant, Miho Tomura, are currently conducting surveys at Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport. The airport administration provided access so that passengers could be approached for the survey as they waited to board. After

some experimentation, Ms. Tomura focused her efforts in the very early morning hours when the passenger count is high and travelers have become accustomed to arriving early for the longer security lines. The team is interviewing passengers bound for airports serving the region that will also be served by California's prospective high-speed rail system to determine what services and amenities would help them choose rail for a trip comparable to the flight they are taking.



Robert Johnston

Robert Johnston and his Ph.D. students, Michael Clay and Shengyi Gao, are making the final tweaks in the urban model that has been making long and tortuous progress toward completion. This very complex computer model will be run side-by-side with the more traditional transportation model used by the Sacramento Council of Governments (SACOG) for

their new regional transportation plan. It is rare that an academic product moves into real word use so quickly, quick being a relative term. This project began in 2001, but complications in the development of the model and then the delays required to coordinate development with the agency slowed it down. But already the runs are showing results that could affect transportation choices for the next regional plan, including the potential effects of proposed new freeways compared to more smart growth alternatives.

These are just three of the projects making their way to draft reports. They illustrate the practical nature of the research MTI selects for funding. Each of these teams is also committed to preparing papers for journals and conference presentation to be sure that practitioners have access to their results.



# Education Program

by Dr. Peter J. Haas, Education Director

## Graduation

We are proud to recognize the 17 MSTM graduates of 2004:

Jacob Armstrong  
Kathleen Bergeron  
O'Donna Blackstock  
David Bloom  
Melanie Choy  
Richard Erickson  
George Fernandez  
Hailey Ford  
Paul Scott Graham

Faiz Khan  
Rodolfo Lemus  
Htwe (Sandy) Ma  
Maureen Murphy  
John Naylor  
Erica Rankins  
Lee Rennacker  
Melina Takahashi



The following students earned the Certificate in Transportation Management in 2004:

Blanche DeLeon

Siew Mei Tan

## MSTM Alumni Association Formed



With a record number of new graduates completing the MSTM program in each of the last three years, it was an auspicious time to form

a new alumni association. Seventeen graduates met before the annual scholarship banquet to elect officers and pass a set of organizational by-laws. Donna Kelsey ('01), General Manager/CEO of the San Joaquin Regional Transit District was elected President and James Helmer ('03), Director of the City of San José's Department of Transportation, was elected Vice President. Kathleen Bergeron ('04) with the FHWA will serve as Vice President for Marketing and Rich Erickson ('04) with Parsons Brinckerhoff will be Treasurer. The Alumni Association will publish a newsletter on the MTI website and sponsor professional development activities for the benefit of its members and current students.

### Education Director Speaks at Caltrans "Planning Horizons"

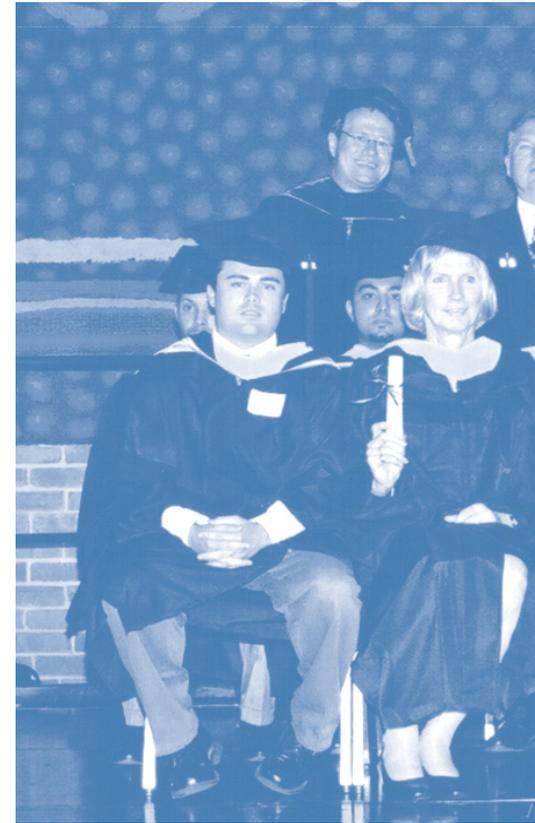
On July 13, MTI Education Director Peter Haas spoke to a statewide audience of transportation planners at Caltrans' "Planning Horizons" professional development series. Haas spoke about the MSTM and CTM programs at the meeting at Caltrans headquarters in Sacramento, and his remarks were transmitted via webcasting to Caltrans districts statewide. Haas made a similar presentation to Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) employees in May.

# MTI Banquet

On June 26, the Mineta Transportation Institute celebrated the graduation of seventeen students from its Master of Science in Transportation Management program at a banquet held in their honor. The celebration, held at the San Jose State University student union, was the culmination of several years of hard work for the students.



*Banquet guests*



*Congressman Oberstar with Argyle Middle School students and teacher.*

Congressman James Oberstar, the ranking member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and California Department of Transportation Acting Director Tony Hill delivered the evening's keynote addresses to an audience of 350, including the graduates and their families, transportation professionals, and elected officials alike. The speeches were well-received by the graduates and the rest of the large assemblage.



*KINKISHARYO guests*

The banquet raised scholarship money for students enrolled in MTI's unusual graduate transportation management program. The HNTB Corporation and KINKISHARYO International, L.L.C., both contributed \$10,000 at the event, acknowledging the importance of a curriculum focused on policy and management issues.



*Congressman Oberstar with HNTB Executives*

Similarly impressed with the program's goals and techniques were Parsons Brinckerhoff and AAA of Northern California, Nevada, and Utah, who each donated \$5,000 to the cause. Another 26 organizations sponsored tables at \$2,000 each, contributing valuably to the educations of many future students. MTI Executive Director Rod Diridon, Sr., commented: "The strong support generated by this event indicates just how vital MTI's program is for the transportation industry."



*MTI Executive*

*"The generated indicates MTI's program is for the transportation industry."*

# et 2004



2004 MSTM Graduates



ive Director Rod Diridon, Sr.

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The winners of the 4th Garrett Morgan Sustainable Transportation contest were also in attendance. Southwest Airlines flew in the four Argyle Middle School students and their teacher from Silver Spring, MD. The students gave a brief description of their project, a Maglev train that would run in a vacuum tube, and collected a \$500 check.

MTI considers this event a huge success. From the keynote speakers to the 2004 graduating class of the MSTM program to the brilliant project of a middle school class, the



Argyle Middle School's Trevis Smith

evening went off without a hitch. The only conceivable problem is how to improve upon the event for next year.

*MTI greatly appreciates  
the following Banquet  
Sponsors:*

## *Benefactor*

- California Department of Transportation
- HNTB Corporation
- KINKISHARYO International, L.L.C.
- U.S. Department of Transportation

## *Patron*

- AAA of Northern California, Nevada and Utah
- Parsons Brinckerhoff

## *Scholarship*

- Adobe Systems, Inc.
  - ARUP
  - BART
- Bechtel Infrastructure Corporation
- Bombardier Transportation
  - Carter & Burgess
  - CH2M HILL
  - City of San José
- Copeland, Lowery, Jacquez, Denton, & Shockey
  - DMJM+HARRIS
  - Gillig Corporation
- Granite Construction Inc.
- Greater Bay Bancorp/SJNB
  - Hatch Mott MacDonald
- LTK Engineering Services
  - Parsons Corporation
  - Public Financial Management, Inc.
- SamTrans/VTA Partnership
- San Joaquin Regional Transit
  - Shea Homes
- Sobrato Development Cos.
- Southern California Edison
  - Southwest Airlines
  - STV Incorporated
- Sumitomo Corporation of America
  - URS Corporation

# Information Transfer

by Trixie Johnson, Research Director

## Information Transfer

by Sonya Cardenas



*Dr. Linda O. Valenty,*



*Kenneth Schreiber*

We are proud to announce the Mineta Transportation Institute's latest research publications.

*The Future of Transportation Education: A Needs Assessment of the Transportation Management Program at San José State University; Dr. Linda O. Valenty, Principal Investigator*

This research provides a comprehensive assessment of needs for the Graduate Transportation Management Program at San José State University. The study was commissioned by the Mineta Transportation Institute to examine the current graduate program in Transportation Management, including a Master of Science in Transportation Management and a Graduate Certificate in Transportation Management. The comprehensive needs assessment report investigates the best course for the future of the transportation management program at SJSU and provides advice regarding the manner by which the SJSU program may best proceed to meet the graduate education needs of transportation professionals.

*Higher-Density Plans: Tools for Community Engagement; Kenneth Schreiber, Principal Investigator*

This study focuses on the strategies, methods, techniques, and tools that can be used in working with community residents and other stakeholders to increase the intensity of land use—specifically to gain community acceptance of higher-density residential and mixed-use development. This report provides information that local, regional, and state agencies, planning professionals, and project and plan proponents can use to develop and implement the type of collaborative efforts that involve residents in planning the futures of their communities. Higher intensity development is a key ingredient in many smart growth strategies, especially in planning for increased transit service by rail and bus rapid transit.

# Information Transfer

by Trixie Johnson, Research Director

## *TransWeb*

by Barney Murray

The MTI website continues to serve as a primary conduit for disseminating research and for serving our graduate students. Each year the various measurements of site usage have shown very respectable growth.

When a new research report is issued, there is usually a targeted publicity release to alert potential users and the appropriate press. I can track the number of visitors opening the new report, and those reports released after MTI started this new publicity approach are seeing much more attention than earlier releases.

This June *TransWeb* averaged 1140 pages viewed every day, with the median length of a visit hovering just above 19 minutes.

## ***TransWeb* by the Numbers**

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<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Number of Hits</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>01-02</b>	<b>1,185,758</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>02-03</b>	<b>1,318,247</b>	<b>+ 11%</b>
<b>03-04</b>	<b>1,489,074</b>	<b>+ 13%</b>

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<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Total Visitors</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>01-02</b>	<b>160,072</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>02-03</b>	<b>202,267</b>	<b>+ 26%</b>
<b>03-04</b>	<b>236,785</b>	<b>+ 17%</b>

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<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Unique Visitors</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>01-02</b>	<b>68,698</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>02-03</b>	<b>85,451</b>	<b>+ 24%</b>
<b>03-04</b>	<b>101,065</b>	<b>+ 18%</b>

# Directions

by Rod Diridon, Sr., Executive Director

**MTI's 13th Annual Trustees' Meeting and Scholarship Banquet:** Three new Trustees and new leadership were elected during this year's Board meeting and banquet. AASHTO Executive Director and former U.S. DOT Deputy Assistant Secretary **John Horsley** succeeded outgoing Chair **Mike Townes** as Chair of the MTI Board. Mike continues as President/CEO of Hampton Roads Transit and is the current TRB Board Chair. Former APTA Business Member Board of Governors' Chair **David Turney**, Chair/President/CEO of Digital Recorders, was elected MTI Board Vice Chair. The following new Trustees were seated: **Ron Barnes**, Deputy Director of Miami-Dade Transit and nominee for APTA First Vice Chair, **Mort Downey**, former U.S. DOT Assistant Secretary and President of PB Consult Inc., and **Stephanie Pinson**, President/COO of Gilbert Tweed Associates and Past APTA Business Member Board of Governors' Chair. During the scholarship banquet, over 30 sponsors, who donated almost \$100,000 for scholarships, were joined by more than 350 leaders of the national transportation community to congratulate valedictorian **Hailey Ford** and the other 16 new MTI Master of Science in Transportation Management recipients who were hooded by SJSU College of Business Associate Dean **Nancie Fimbel**. Compliments to MTI Education Director **Dr. Peter Haas** on our largest graduating class.

**National Rail Security Symposia:** MTI will conduct two National Rail Security Symposia, one in Washington, D. C. and the other in California. Co-sponsors include AAR, AASHTO, APTA, FRA, NARP, Amtrak and others. Co-sponsors' liaisons are working with MTI Research Director **Trixie Johnson** and MTI's National Transportation Security Center Director **Brian Michael Jenkins** to plan this timely and important program. Attendance will be by invitation only. Drop Trixie a line at [Johnson@mti.sjsu.edu](mailto:Johnson@mti.sjsu.edu) to nominate attendees.

**Annual Report:** MTI's Annual Report has been mailed and has received critical acclaim from U.S. DOT and others. Compliments to MTI Communications Director **Leslee Hamilton** for developing an informative and readable document. Copies are available on request from the MTI office.

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