

**Committee on Travel Survey Methods (ABJ40)**  
**Annual Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, January 26, 2011**  
**Washington, DC**

**Welcome and Introduction of Meeting Participants**

Committee Chair, Guy Rousseau, thanked everyone for all their hard work with the committee over the past year. Overall, a grand total of 80 participants signed in the attendance roster, which will be posted on [www.travelsurveymethods.org](http://www.travelsurveymethods.org). Guy presented Kara with a certificate of appreciation for outstanding service as Chair of ABJ40 from 2007 to 2010 and with the data section (and complimented her on her ability to make things happen, such as gathering volunteers for the update of the travel survey manual in a wiki format on [www.travelsurveymanual.org](http://www.travelsurveymanual.org)).

**Committee Business**

BTS Advisory Council, Highlights & Mission – Kara Kockelman, UT-Austin  
[https://2bts.rita.dot.gov/programs/advisory\\_council\\_on\\_transportation\\_statistics/](https://2bts.rita.dot.gov/programs/advisory_council_on_transportation_statistics/)

ABJ40 Member Kara Kockelman is a member of the BTS's Advisory Council on Transportation Statistics (ACTS). Along with 9 others, she was appointed in March 2020, by U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood. She noted that the ACTS is to advise the BTS on data and statistical matters, including reliability & relevance of transportation data & statistics distributed by the US DOT. The new members come from the Missouri DOT, SANDAG, ATA, AASHOT, AAR, ITDB, UC Berkeley, George Mason University, Georgia Tech, and UT Austin. The ACTS's Chair is Georgia Tech associate professor of aerospace engineering John-Paul Clarke.

BTS's annual budget is about \$27 million, with about \$11M for freight statistics (including the Commodity Flow Survey), \$2.4M for the National Transportation Library, and \$4M for airline statistics (which are fully reimbursable via the FAA). The BTS has held a variety of meetings with broad groups of stakeholders, who say they wish to see improved airline data, the VIUSurvey funded again, CFS data enhanced, international freight data improved, safety data expanded, and local/intraregional truck data obtained.

Kara reported that CFS2007 enjoys double the sample size of CFS2002 (100k vs 50k establishments), & will use AmericanFact Finder software for easier dissemination/use by others. It also offers more data on freight 'gateways' (ports & border crossings) & hazmats, plus answers to several 3rd party logistics questions. Joy Sharp has told Kara that "noise" has been added to the very spatially aggregate CFS data sets reported (something like 123 zones to represent the entire US & its halo zones), in an effort to publish a greater number of data cells (while preserving great anonymity to firms who trade in a region).

Kara indicated that she & other Council members would love to hear everyone's suggestions for enhancing BTS products & services, for research & application. Jimmy Armoogum and Guy Rousseau suggested that it'd be great to see the BTS bring back the Journal of Transportation Statistics, since that served a nice niche of paper types. And Promok Chandhok suggested reviving the \$500,000/year grants programs, for BTS-related research activities. *Please email Kara at [kkockelm@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:kkockelm@mail.utexas.edu) with your own suggestions.*

*Paper Review Results – Kouros Mohammadian (with Rebekah Anderson and Jimmy Armoogum)*

Kouros thanked all reviewers for the paper reviews. The Committee accepted 20/33 papers (60%) that were assigned to ABJ40 for presentation. The Committee also considered 8/33 papers (24%) for re-review and possible publication. The Committee has created two podium sessions and two poster sessions (both poster sessions were scheduled at the same time/location) and assigned all 20 papers to these sessions. Kouros and Kara thanked the subcommittee chairs for helping to find appropriate reviewers. The Committee also sponsored a workshop on external travel surveys, which was held on Sunday afternoon, and chaired by Ed Hard.

*Data Section and Other TRB News – Reginald Souleyrette and Tom Palmerlee*

Tom & Reg reminded the committee that one year from now, the triennial strategic plan will need to be updated. Connections with policy groups and gaps identification are strongly encouraged, as well as trying to figure out where we want to be 3 years from now. Tom also announced that this year's TRB annual meeting attendance was 10,900.

*Mid-Year Meeting* – The Committee is not required to have a mid-year meeting but we try to every year. Guy aims to stage our mid-year meeting during the NHTS conference. A zoomerang survey will be sent to committee members and friends of the committee in order to get a feel for the level of interest to attend, and determine the need to have a go-to-meeting line available for people unable to attend. (Note: TRB mid-year meeting will be in Boston this July.)

**TRB 2012 Annual Meeting**

The Committee is pleased and thrilled to have Kouros, Rebekah and Jimmy as returning paper review coordinators for the 2012 cycle. About 40 papers come into the Committee for review. Kouros Mohammadian, Jimmy Armoogum, and Rebekah Anderson volunteered to take this on again for 2012.

Guy has alerted the subcommittee chairs with regards to putting out Calls for Papers for the 2012 Meeting. Guy hopes to see Calls for Papers from all sub-committees (& any others who are interested in encouraging research topics) and would like to see each subcommittee prepare at least one Call, by the end of April. Once submitted, please plan on circulating the Calls through the Committee website, professional contacts, and listservs. There were a few suggestions. Elaine Murakami, New Technologies Subcommittee, is considering putting together a Call for gaming and cyber-mining, similar to the one in 2010. Stacey Bricka is thinking about one on the use of social media applications to surveys.

The deadline for the submission of sponsored workshops is June 1<sup>st</sup>. The Committee members and friends provided a few suggestions for Workshops and/or calls for papers:

- Methods, sampling and design of longitudinal and panel surveys – suggested by Mark McCourt

Committee Rotation: Guy made a power presentation on committee rotation, it can be found on [www.travelsurveymethods.org](http://www.travelsurveymethods.org).

**Travel Surveys Manual – Lei Zhang**

Lei provided an update on the wiki-editable Travel Survey Manual which can be accessed at [www.travelsurveymanual.org](http://www.travelsurveymanual.org).

The Manual is a living document which will be updated as new information, new practices, new tools, and new approaches come about. If there are any good ideas on the best methods for keeping this active and updated, please let Lei Zhang know. There is a cost to host, and Cambridge Systematics with Wilbur Smith, have offered to cover that, thanks to Krishnan Viswanathan, now with Wilbur Smith. In terms of how to handle access to edit the Travel Surveys Manual, for now, interested editors can contact Krishnan or Lei for update suggestions.

#### **Transportation Secure Data Center TSDC – Jeff Gonder, NREL**

[www.nrel.gov/vehiclesandfuels/secure\\_transportation\\_data.html](http://www.nrel.gov/vehiclesandfuels/secure_transportation_data.html)

Jeff made a power point presentation, which can be found at [www.travelsurveymethods.org](http://www.travelsurveymethods.org).

An advisory group is working on protocols and agreements for data providers. Interesting conversations, discussions and questions came up. Kay commented on social data archives experiences around the world. Questions also were asked in terms of how this relates to the household travel survey archive that is hosted by Dr David Levinson at the University of Minnesota. Please contact Jeff Gonder for more information: [Jeff.gonder@nrel.gov](mailto:Jeff.gonder@nrel.gov).

#### **Presentation: The Ryuichi Kitamura Fund**

Fund to support young travel behavior scholars and to promote exchange of ideas between the East and West [www.its.ucdavis.edu/give/index.php](http://www.its.ucdavis.edu/give/index.php) – Pat Mokhtarian, UC Davis

#### **Presentation: AAPOR, Cell Phone Task Force: New Considerations for Survey Researchers When Planning & Conducting RDD Telephone Surveys With Respondents Reached via Cell Phone**

[www.aapor.org/Cell\\_Phone\\_Task\\_Force.htm](http://www.aapor.org/Cell_Phone_Task_Force.htm) -- Courtney Kennedy, SRBI  
Courtney's presentation can be found on [www.travelsurveymethods.org](http://www.travelsurveymethods.org).

#### **Texas DOT Travel Survey Program**

Presentation of Texas DOT's funding for surveys for MPOs – Stacey Bricka & Ed Hard, TTI  
Ed and Stacey's presentation can be found on [www.travelsurveymethods.org](http://www.travelsurveymethods.org)

#### **Travel Forecasting Resource (Travel Surveys)**

[www.trb.org/CommitteeandPanels/OnlineDirectory.aspx#DetailsType=Committee&ID=3709](http://www.trb.org/CommitteeandPanels/OnlineDirectory.aspx#DetailsType=Committee&ID=3709) and [www.tfresource.org](http://www.tfresource.org) – Guy made a power point presentation, which can be found on [www.travelsurveymethods.org](http://www.travelsurveymethods.org)

#### **Strategies for Improved Passenger & Freight Travel Survey Data**

<http://www8.nationalacademies.org/cp/projectview.aspx?key=49163> – Joe Schofer, Northwestern U.  
Joe provided a brief update on this policy study, currently under an embargo, but to have results released soon, once the report is finalized. For details, see website above.

#### **Subcommittee and Liaison Reports (key highlights)**

*Freight Surveys – Krishnan Viswanathan and Chris Simek*

Good meeting with great presentations on the commodity flow survey, FAF3 disaggregation, the Cross-Hudson freight market, and GPS fleet data.

*Household Travel Surveys – Jimmy Armoogum & Stacey Bricka*

30 persons attended. Presentations were made to the subcommittee, and they can be found at [www.travelsurvey,ethods.org](http://www.travelsurvey,ethods.org)

*New Technologies – Elaine Murakami and Kouros Mohammadian*

45 persons attended. This one featured the following power point presentations:  
Data collection using smart phones for Utah DOT & HUD random moments studies, Stephen Lawe, RSG  
GPS travel time database available through a web interface, Nick Cohn, TomTom  
An update on GPS-based prompted recal studies in NYC and Jersusalem, Jean Wolk, GeoStats

*Stated Response – John Rose & Eric Molin*

15 persons attended. Notes from the meeting will be posted on the subcommittee website (<http://www.travelsurveymethods.org/SP.asp>).

*Transit Travel Surveys – Kevin Tierney & Mark McCourt*

This one featured a main presentation by Jesse Simon, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, on origin/destination applications from smart card data

**ISCTSC – Martin Lee-Gosselin**

The 2011 conference is on track & will be in November in Chile, see [www.isctsc.cl](http://www.isctsc.cl)

**Committee Liaison Highlights**

Mark Bradley provided a brief update on ADB40. Guy reminded the audience of upcoming conferences, including one on using census data for transportation applications, October 25-27, Beckman Center, Irvine California

**Open Floor Announcements**

Adella Santos provided a brief update on NHTS, and reminded folks of an upcoming NHTS conference in Washington DC, June 6-7, Keck Center.

Daniel Bergeron of AMT Montreal talked about his survey efforts, previously featured at the household travel survey subcommittee meeting

Mark Friedman of Westat talked about the national truck driver survey conducted at truck stops

Bob Griffiths of MWCOG talked about an upcoming series of surveys focused on activity centers and specific geographic areas to supplement their previously completed regional household travel survey

Elaine Murakami reminded the group about an upcoming conference in Reno NV on transportation planning, where there will be workshops on CTPP and LEHD

Mark Friedman of Westat talked about NCHRP 08-79

Jesse Casas of NuStats talked about the statewide California household travel survey  
Laurie Wargelin of SRBI talked about the Minnesota statewide travel survey effort, and with Peter Stopher, talked about the Cincinnati GPS-only household travel survey