The Newsletter of the
Section on Transportation Science & Logistics

Summer 2004

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EDITOR'S CORNER

Welcome to another issue of the TSL Newsletter, which until recently was also called the TSS Newsletter. If ongoing discussions with the Section on Aviation Applications and the Railroad Applications Special Interest Group regarding a possible merger between TSL and these sections are successful, then soon the name of our newsletter may change again. For more news on INFORMS Subdivision issues see http://www.informs.org/subdiv/news.html. In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments regarding TSL, special interest groups (SIGs), possible mergers, or change from a section to a society, please get in touch with our President Anton Kleywegt, (anton@isye.gatech.edu).

Message from the TSL President

I enjoyed very much seeing many people in the Transportation Science community at the TRISTAN V conference in Guadeloupe. Of course, the fantastic island setting helped to have a lot of fun while we talked about our latest research. I hope everybody will enjoy the TRISTAN V pictures in this newsletter as much as I do. I am already looking forward to the TRISTAN VI conference in Sri Lanka.

At the TSL business meeting in Atlanta last year we celebrated the merger between the Transportation Science Section and the Section on Logistics, to form the current Section on Transportation Science and Logistics. There was a discussion of possible mergers with two other INFORMS sections, namely the Section on Aviation Applications and the Railroad Applications Special Interest Group. At that stage informal discussions with the officials of these two sections had taken place. There was interest in principle, but there were also some reservations, and no formal agreements had been reached. Since this time, the Railroad Applications SIG

(RASIG) has decided not to merge with TSL to form a society.

While the timing of the decision to apply for society status remains up in the air, the decision was made to move forward with revising the bylaws along the lines that would have been required to form a society, focusing in particular on a reorganization of the special interest groups. The new bylaws will be better suited to facilitate possible future mergers.

The bylaws have been rewritten by Bernard Gendron, Anton Kleywegt, Warren Powell and Ron Tibben-Lembke. The draft will be sent by email to the TSL mailing list and will be placed on the TSL web page. Discussion and comments will be welcomed.

Anton Kleywegt
TSL President

Additional news can be found on page 2.

The new TSL mailing list is <*transci-logistics-section@list.informs.org*>. If you do not receive email sent to transci-logistics-section@list.informs.org, please let me know at elisemh@umd.edu. News to report, conferences to announce, products or books to promote? Send a message to Elise Miller-Hooks, TSL Secretary/Treasurer, at elisemh@umd.edu.

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TSL News and Notes

In Memory of a Dear Friend and Colleague

On April 11, 2004 Stefano Pallottino unexpectedly and immaturely passed away. Professor of Operations Research at Pisa University, internationally reknown, Stefano was one of the leading researchers in the area of transportation models and algorithms. A wonderful and gentle person, he will be missed by all who were lucky enough to collaborate with him and who had the great privilege to have him as a friend. [Giorgio Gallo]

Fall 2004 INFORMS National Meeting

The Fall 2004 INFORMS National Meeting will be held in Denver, from October 24, 2004 to October 27, 2004. To submit a session, please send your session information either to the TSL coordinators listed on the TSL web site at http://transportation.section.informs.org/ or send it directly to the TSL sponsored cluster chairs Ann Campbell at ann-campbell@uiowa.edu or Barry Thomas at barrett-thomas@uiowa.edu. Session information should include the following: Session Title; Session Chair; 3-4 Abstracts with Author Names, Addresses, Phone #s, e-mail addresses and INFORMS membership status (yes/no).

Update on the New TSL By-Laws

A committee formed by Bernard Gendron, Anton Kleywegt, Warren Powell and Ron Tibben-Lembke has explored ways to make SIG activities more prominent in our Bylaws in a way that will reflect our current practice, while allowing a smooth integration of other transportation/logistics groups within INFORMS. The results of this exercise will be reported in

Fall.

New SIG on the Block
The Transportation Science and Logistics Section added a new special interest group (SIG) since the last meeting in Atlanta. The new SIG's name is Facility Logistics. Facility Logistics encompasses facility design and internal logistics for manufacturing, distribution, and service facilities. Research topics in this area include both design and operational aspects of material and information flow within facilities to improve productivity and performance. Specific topics include facility layout, material handling, storage/retrieval systems, order fulfillment, sensor deployment, and inventory tracking and control, among others. This SIG was formed by a group of a dozen INFORMS members that believe that TSL is a more natural fit for their research interests than the other societies and sections within INFORMS. These new TSL members look forward to active participation within the section and in the Transportation Science journal. If you want to know more about this SIG, contact Russ Meller at rmeller@vt.edu.

Hats Off to David Boyce
The book, "Urban and Regional Transportation Modeling: Essays in Honor of David Boyce," edited by Der-Horng Lee, has now been published by Edward Elgar Publishers in Cheltenham, England, as part of the New Dimensions in networks series. According to the publisher: "Honoring David Boyce for his legendary contributions to the fields of transportation modeling and regional science, the chapters in this festschrift highlight and analyze state-of-the-art and state-of-the-practice methodologies and theories in transportation modeling and regional and urban planning. Authors from academia and industry, all experts in planning, engineering, management, economics and related disciplines, provide important new contributions to this wide-ranging literature, as well as extensions of David Boyce's seminal work. This volume goes well beyond the traditional festschrift and stands as an important reference tool in its own right."

More information on the book can be found at: http://www.e-elgar.co.uk and at: http://supernet.som.umass.edu /Boycefestschrift.htm

Cheers to Linda and Women in the Field
We are proud to announce that Linda Nozick was promoted to Full Professor.

Reaching New Heights
Prof. James E. Moore, II will follow Prof. Randolph W. Hall as chair of the Daniel J. Epstein Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University of Southern California's

Viterbi School of Engineering. Prof. Hall, who also serves as the Viterbi School's Senior Associate Dean for Research, is the founding Director of and Principal Investigator for the Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events (CREATE), funded at USC by the USC Department of Homeland Security. USC Prof. Detlof von Winterfeldt, 2000 winner of the INFORMS Decision Analysis Society's Ramsey medal, serves as Co-Director and Co-PI. Prof. Moore joined the Epstein ISE Department in 2003. He was previously a faculty member in USC's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the School of Policy, Planning, and Development. He remains Director of the program in Transportation Engineering.

Transportation Science: Comments from the Editor
Transportation Science Paper Submission and Review goes Electronic
After a long process of development and testing, the Transportation Science editorial office is very pleased to announce the launch of its electronic manuscript submission and review system, Manuscript Central. This is database-driven software for the online submission and review of full-text manuscripts and graphics, and features automated reminders and flexible, easy-to-use peer review tracking. Submissions may be made at:
mc.manuscriptcentral.com/transci. Manuscripts are accepted as Word documents, PDF files, or LATEX files. Authors no longer have to worry about whether their paper has been received or not, and whether the Editor has initiated the review process. Referees no longer have to look under the piles on their desk for that manuscript that they are too embarrassed to admit they have misplaced, as they continue to promise the Associate Editor that it will be done in a week or so. The new system should cut down significantly on the refereeing time, and greatly improve the overall quality control of the process.
We would appreciate hearing your reactions as authors, AE's and referees, including suggestions to make the system more user-friendly and responsive.

Other Developments
The current year has seen an increase in the number of pages allocated for the Journal. This increase was necessary to help reduce the large backlog of accepted papers awaiting publication. With the publication of the forthcoming August issue, the remaining backlog of papers would stand at about four issues.

The November 2003 issue, guest-edited by Michael Ball, marked the 100th Anniversary of Flight, brought the Journal
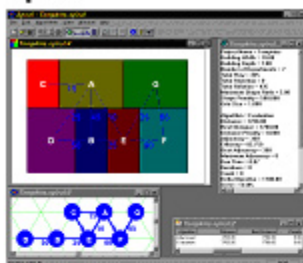
additional visibility and acclaim. The May issue of 2004 Journal was a special issue on freight transportation, which included the focus issue articles guest-edited by Teodor G. Crainic and Hans-Jürgen Sebastian, along with papers accepted through the regular submission process. Another focus issue, on real-time fleet management, guest edited by Michel Gendreau and Jean-Yves Potvin is now scheduled for the November 2004 issue.

Submissions continue at a healthy pace (approximately 10 to 12 per month), on a wide range of topics that include the usual areas of vehicle routing, scheduling, network modeling, with an increase in submissions on revenue management, traffic science and flow modeling, pedestrian and crowd dynamics, real-time problems, and logistics. Processing times still exhibit more variability than is desirable, with many initial rejections in the first few weeks (sometimes days) after submission based on active pre-screening by the Editor and Associate Editors. However, papers that undergo full-blown refereeing have been taking in some instances several months longer than desirable (and necessary). We hope that the new web-based submission and manuscript handling process will considerably reduce this variability by eliminating the need for physical shuffling of hard paper copies, and enabling easy sending of reminders to AE's and referees.

Educational Software Tools for Logistics Education
Education in logistics has always suffered from a lack of hands-on laboratory tools that allow students to explore and revisit at their own pace the logistics methods explained in class. Now three interactive software packages are available as educational resources in the logistics area. Each package allows students to create their own plan or to use built-in standard algorithms, see the results immediately evaluated and graphically displayed. Spiral creates a conceptual block layout for facility design based on the principles of Systematic Layout Planning (SLP). Tours demonstrates classical algorithms and principles for the uncapacitated Traveling Salesman Problem. Lineback designs vehicle routes for distribution systems and incorporates backhauling of goods to the distribution center. In each case, the electronic manual includes a complete example and an extensive interactive help system is provided. Required software is Microsoft Windows 2000 or XP and results can be easily incorporated in reports and presentations. To request further information on licensing conditions for educational and industrial use send an electronic mail request to marc_goetschalckx@yahoo.com.
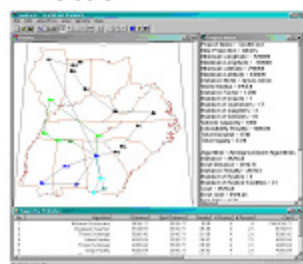
Spiral

Tours

Lineback

Announcements

Section on Transportation Science & Logistics (TSL) Best Paper Award

The TSL Best Paper Award will be given every year to an outstanding paper in the field of transportation science and logistics. The paper must have been published in a refereed journal and must present innovative approaches for solving complex problems in transportation and logistics with an emphasis on operations research and quantitative methods. A paper is eligible if it is written in English and if it has been published during the last three (3) years prior to the submission deadline. All topics related to the field of transportation science and logistics will be considered, including, but not being limited to:

* intelligent transportation systems;
* transportation and e-commerce;
* real-time fleet management;
* traffic assignment;
* logistics and supply chain management;
* distribution, location and network design;

* routing and dispatching;
* scheduling in transportation.

To submit a paper for the 2004 competition, one of the authors must send three copies of it, along with a short letter (maximum 2 pages) describing the merits of the paper, to the Chair of the TSL Best Paper Award Committee, before September 5, 2004, at the following address:

Michael Florian
Chair, TSL Best Paper Award Committee
Center for Research on Transportation
C.P. 6128, Succ. Centre-Ville
Montreal, Canada H3C 3J7

The other two members of the 2004 Competition Committee are Paolo Toth and Nigel Wilson. Any author must submit only one of his/her eligible papers, although (s)he can be a co-author of another submitted paper. A paper is eligible for the 2004 competition if: its main topic is related to the field of transportation science and logistics; and it is written in English; and it has been published in a refereed journal between July 1, 2001 and June 30, 2004. The winning paper will be announced at the TSL business meeting to be held during the next annual INFORMS conference in October 2004. The authors of the winning paper will share a prize of $800, and each will receive a certificate.

Conference on Computer-Aided Scheduling of Public Transport

The 9th International Conference on Computer-Aided Scheduling of Public Transport (CASPT) will be held August 9-11, 2004 in San Diego, California. This will be the ninth in a series of workshops and conferences, dating to 1975, presenting research and progress in computer-aided scheduling in passenger transport. The conference is addressed to individuals from transport operators, academic institutions and consulting firms who are involved in research, development or utilization of computer-aided scheduling methods in public transport. The topics for the conference include the following as they relate to passenger transport: information management; network and route planning; vehicle and crew scheduling / rostering; vehicle monitoring and management; and, practical experience with scheduling and transport planning methods. Deadline for extended abstracts has past, but additional details on the conference are available at http://fugazi.engr.arizona.edu/caspt/.

TSL Dissertation Prize Competition

Submissions are invited for the 2004 INFORMS Transportation Science and Logistics Dissertation Prize Competition. Submissions should be sent to Professor Patrick Jaillet at jaillet@mit.edu. The deadline for receipt of

submissions is July 31, 2004. More information is available at http://transportation.section.informs.org/ANNOUNCEMENTS /dissprize.html.

Aviation Applications Section of INFORMS Dissertation Prize Announcement (deadline past)

The Aviation Applications Section of INFORMS awards a prize for the best dissertation in any area related to aviation OR (air traffic management OR and airline OR). The winner will receive a plaque and an honorarium of five hundred dollars. Finalists will receive an honorable mention and a certificate. Doctoral dissertations meeting the following criteria are eligible for consideration: The dissertation must be completed and submitted after June 1 of the previous year and before May 31 of the current year. The dissertation must be in an area relevant to aviation research or practice. Application Process: The following documents in portable document format (PDF) had to have been sent via email to the committee chair before midnight on June 30: (1) the completed dissertation; (2) an extended abstract (4 to 5 pages) describing the work and its relevance; (3) a letter of nomination from the dissertation supervisor supporting the submission and highlighting the importance of the research; and (4) a short paper (20 to 25 pages, double spaced) that is based on the dissertation (if such a paper is available).
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For more details, please visit the AAS website at http://www.informs.org/Prizes/AAPrizes.html#Dissertation

Reminder: The new TSL mailing list is <*transci-logistics-section@list.informs.org*>. Members who do not get email sent to the TSL mailing list should let the TSL secretary, Elise Miller-Hooks, know at <*elisemh@umd.edu*>.

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