

Transportation Library Connectivity Pooled Fund

Year Four Report—Fiscal Year 2009

RESOURCES FOR INNOVATION

Library and information services are increasingly being recognized as vital resources for state departments of transportation and other organizations that deliver sustainable transportation solutions to the public. New technologies and practices developed in one region can be quickly transferred across the country through the emerging Transportation Knowledge Network. Librarians who belong to the

Transportation Library Connectivity Pooled Fund worked together in 2009 to help advance this network through improved methods of information capture, storage, retrieval, synthesis and dissemination—in service to their customers. Transportation organizations are increasingly recognizing how this network will save time and money while bringing useful innovation to the transportation system.



National Network Launched at DC Meeting

The first-ever National Transportation Knowledge Network meeting, hosted by National Transportation Library Director Amanda J. Wilson, took place in Washington, D.C., June 18, 2009. Pooled fund Technical Advisory Committee members joined with other librarians from regional Transportation Knowledge Networks, state DOT research programs and university transportation centers to set strategic goals and select joint projects for the coming year. Peter H. Appel, U.S. DOT administrator for the Research and Innovative Technology Administration delivered the welcome address—emphasizing the need for accessible, reliable and timely information for decision making. Jeffrey Onizuk, RITA congressional liaison, gave an update on progress toward a new Surface Transportation Authorization bill. Dr. Edna Reid of Clarion University gave a presentation titled “Librarians as Analysts: Improving Services,” beginning a new dialogue on expectations versus resources within transportation libraries.

Librarians Meet with TRB Research Committee

Pooled fund librarians described their efforts and shared their expertise at the June meeting of the TRB [Conduct of Research Committee](#) in Washington, D.C. NTL Director Amanda J. Wilson discussed the growing momentum for establishing TKNs and invited other transportation librarians to share their thoughts with the committee. Maggie Sacco, consulting librarian for the Transportation Library Connectivity Pooled Fund, described the work of the study as a proof of concept for TKNs in its networking and special projects capability. Matthew Barrett, library administrator, Dorothy Peyton Gray Transportation Library, Los Angeles

County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, discussed services he provides to employees, the public, governments and research institutions. Kendra Levine, librarian, Harmer E. Davis Transportation Library, Institute of Transportation Studies, University of California, Berkeley, discussed the importance of emerging Internet social networking tools for documenting and sharing technical information. As a result of the presentations the TRB committee co-chair invited the librarians to collaborate in developing sessions on Web 2.0 for the January TRB Annual Meeting.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

Telling the Story to Stakeholders

Outreach and education are critical components of study members' vision for growing regional and national TKNs. To underscore the value of library and information services for every state DOT, study members and regional TKN members contributed seven articles to the [March-April 2009 edition](#) of the Transportation Research Board's *TR News*: Libraries in a Digital Age, The Argument for Libraries, The Momentum of Transportation Information, Libraries Edge Search Engines in TRIS User Survey, Virginia's Federated Search Tool, Making Transportation Libraries and Information Services a Priority, and Developing a Transportation Knowledge Network. Study members will continue to document and communicate

the impact of timely, targeted information services.

Research Advisory Committee TKN Task Force

The AASHTO Research Advisory Committee [TKN Task Force](#) advocates for rapid and efficient exchange of information resources among transportation policymakers and practitioners, academia, knowledge and research managers, transportation librarians and the public. Several pooled fund members on the task force help coordinate its activities with those of the regional TKNs and the pooled fund study, serving the CEOs of state transportation departments with their research and information services expertise.

TRB Poster Sessions Market Library Services

The pooled fund study collaborated with the TRB Committee on Library and Information Science for Transportation on a poster session at the TRB Annual Meeting in January 2009. The session, "Developments and Innovations in Transportation Libraries and Information Services," demonstrated that partnering with libraries for research is the way of

the future. The session was initiated through the pooled fund study and facilitated by Tom Palmerlee, TRB associate division director, Technical Activities, and by LIST Committee Chair Sandy Tucker of Texas A&M University. The posters were so well-received that a similar session is being planned for the TRB Annual Meeting in January 2010.



Librarian's Toolkit Expanded in Second Edition

[The Transportation Librarian's Toolkit](#) has been updated with revised and new content that reflects the dynamic nature of library and information services. New information on data management, Web 2.0 tools, library policies and space planning is presented in this edition. The learning curve in transportation can be steep, and study members hope the toolkit will continue to serve as a valuable guide for new transportation librarians and seasoned professionals alike.

Special Projects to Serve Members

The pooled fund study initiated several new special projects in 2009. Project funds are making possible the transfer of valuable historic ASTM standards from the Washington State Library and the Idaho Transportation Department to the FHWA Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center Library where they will be preserved and made available to researchers. The California Going, Going, Gone (G3) duplicate materials sharing program will be expanded to other states and managed through the [National TKN Resource Sharing Pilot Project](#) housed at NTL, already supported with study funds.



NETWORKING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Regional TKNs Take on Challenges

In 2009 study members Marie Manthe (Kansas DOT), Dale Steele (Arizona DOT) and Sandy Brady (Louisiana DOTD) became chairs, respectively, of MTKN, WTKN and ETKN. Their leadership is helping align the goals of the regional TKNs and leverage pooled fund resources to help support the networks. Consulting librarian Maggie Sacco participates in the three TKNs' monthly teleconferences and provides technical support to members. The Western TKN is pursuing a project to develop a complete list of serials held in member libraries, while the Midwestern TKN is busy collecting and synthesizing performance measurement data. The Eastern TKN launched a new Web site and is developing a digital repository of unique state publications.

Technology Webinars for Continuing Education

In 2009 quarterly teleconferences combined pooled fund study business with continuing education for members. In December members learned about the guiding principles of digitization for access and preservation through presentations about the Kansas DOT Electronic Library, Iowa DOT Photo Archive and the NTL Integrated Search and Library Catalog. In March members collaborated to develop the second edition of the Transportation Librarian's Toolkit. The June teleconference featured a guided tour of the Virginia DOT OneSearch tool, a federated search product that allows simultaneous searching of several databases and catalogs. Throughout the year study members were a part of the NTL's [Transportation Librarians Roundtable](#) as both participants and presenters. Topic-oriented

learning sessions will continue in 2010.

Networking through SLA

The pooled fund study facilitated professional development and networking through support of TAC member attendance at the June annual meeting of the Special Libraries Association [Transportation Division](#) in Washington, D.C. Study members participated in the meeting as part of the "Guide to the Players" panel that showcased noteworthy projects and programs in member libraries. Through active SLA Transportation Division involvement, TAC members are forming close ties with state DOT, federal, university, corporate and nonprofit transportation librarians around the country.

Transportation Libraries Catalog

Pooled fund study members continue to benefit from support for Online Computer Library Center subscription services. All members have access to essential OCLC subscriptions for cataloging and increased resource sharing. Participation in the world's largest bibliographic catalog gives member libraries unparalleled access to information to serve their customers. The study is pleased to support the continued growth of TLCat, the Transportation Libraries Catalog, a group catalog with holdings from 36 member libraries that helps transportation libraries share resources and tailor their collection development to their customers' needs.

Technical Support to Member Libraries

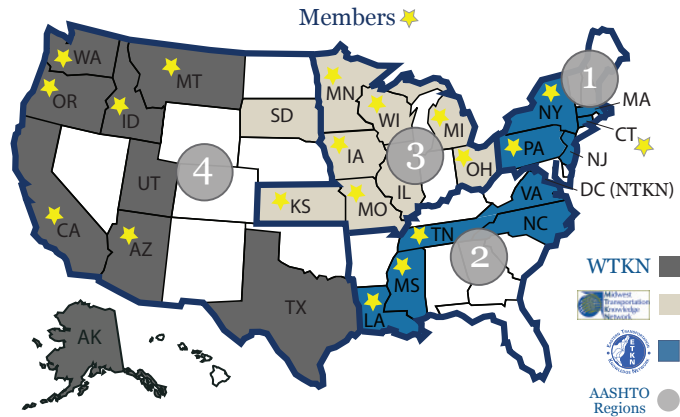
Maggie Sacco continued to provide technical support to the member libraries in 2009 on such issues as Integrated Library System software, OCLC subscription management, cataloging, copyright compliance and digitization project planning resources. Several member site visits are on the calendar for 2010. Reports of site visits to date are available on the study Web site.

New TAC Members

Pooled fund study membership has expanded and diversified in the past year to include 19 state DOTs, two university transportation centers, and a metropolitan transportation authority. Members share best practices and innovative approaches to providing needed information and library services to customers. New members of the Technical Advisory Committee in 2009 are Bonnie Fields, Pennsylvania DOT; Janet Coles, California DOT; Zona Kahkonen Keppler, Ohio DOT; Sandra Hoff, Tennessee DOT; Mara Campbell and A.J. Million, Missouri DOT; and Cindy Drake, Mississippi DOT.

Transportation Library Connectivity

Pooled Fund Study – TPF-5(105)



Ex Officio and Emeritus Members

The study has pursued closer relationships with stakeholders through inclusion of emeritus and ex officio TAC members. These include Jerry Baldwin, retired, Minnesota Department of Transportation Library; Amanda J. Wilson, NTL; Barbara Post, TRB Library; Bob Cullen, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials; Ken Winter (chair); and Sandy Tucker (past chair), TRB Library and Information Science for Transportation Committee.

Planning for 2010

The pooled fund study is planning for its fifth year of collaboration with a focus on helping achieve a vibrant NTKN. The study will continue to provide individualized library technical support, site visits, teleconferences, meetings and consultation to members while reaching out to stakeholders with a message of service and value. The study will continue to be flexible in the services it provides, emphasizing strong support for networking among members as NTL grows in its leadership role and uncertainties are resolved regarding TKN funding in the new Transportation Authorization bill.

Transportation Library Connectivity Pooled Fund TPF-5(105)

Technical Advisory Committee

This study was proposed by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation as the lead state for the Transportation Library Connectivity Pooled Fund Study, TPF-5(105). The work was guided by the Technical Advisory Committee chaired by Ann Pahnke, Wisconsin DOT. Other members of the TAC were Dale Steele, Arizona DOT; Janet Coles, California DOT; Betty Ambler, Connecticut DOT; Inez Hopkins, Idaho Transportation Department; Hank Zaletel, Iowa DOT; Marie Manthe, Kansas DOT; Matthew Barrett, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority; Sandy Brady, Louisiana Transportation Research Center; Alexandra Briseno, Michigan DOT; Sheila Hatchell, Minnesota DOT; James Watkins, Mississippi DOT; Mara Campbell and A.J. Million, Missouri DOT; Sue Sillick, Montana DOT; Jane Minotti, New York State DOT; Zona Kahkonen Keppler, Ohio DOT; Laura Wilt, Oregon DOT; Bonnie Fields, Pennsylvania DOT; Sandra Hoff, Tennessee DOT; Arlene Mathison, University of Minnesota Center for Transportation Studies; Kathy Szolomayer, Washington State DOT; John Cherney, Wisconsin DOT; and Jason Bittner, Wisconsin Transportation Center at UW-Madison.

Research Managers and Others

The research managers, administrators and others who assisted in the administrative oversight of this study included Daniel Yeh, Wisconsin DOT; Frank Darmiento, Arizona DOT; Christine Azevedo, California DOT; James Sime, Connecticut DOT; Ned Parrish, Idaho Transportation Department; Sandra Larson and Carol Culver, Iowa DOT; Dick McReynolds, Kansas DOT; Monica Del Toro, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority; Skip Paul and Glynn Cavin, Louisiana Transportation Research Center; Calvin Roberts, Michigan DOT; Linda Taylor and Deb Fick, Minnesota DOT; Randy Battey, Mississippi DOT; Mara Campbell, Missouri DOT; Sue Sillick, Montana DOT; Gary Frederick, New York State DOT; Monique Evans, Ohio DOT; Barnie Jones, Oregon DOT; Bonnie Fields, Pennsylvania DOT; Sandra Hoff, Tennessee DOT; Bob Johns, University of Minnesota Center for Transportation Studies; Leni Oman, Washington State DOT; Teresa Adams, Wisconsin Transportation Center at UW-Madison; and ex officio members Amanda J. Wilson, National Transportation Library; Barbara Post, Transportation Research Board; Bob Cullen, AASHTO; Jerry Baldwin, Minnesota DOT, retired; and Sandy Tucker, Texas A&M University and past chair of the TRB LIST Committee.

Consulting Librarian

The consulting librarian for the Transportation Library Connectivity Pooled Fund is Maggie Sacco of CTC & Associates LLC.