



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

June 28-29, 2023

National Academy of Sciences (NAS), Washington, DC

Wednesday, January 28, 2023

8:30 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements (Gutierrez-Scaccetti) Information

- a. Policy Statement on Preventing Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying was noted.
- b. Bias/Conflict of Interest Discussion – There were no conflicts of interest reported, except potentially Randall Iwasaki, who said he now is serving on the board of an organization that works on port issues.

8:46 a.m.

Recognition of Outgoing Members of the Executive Committee (Gutierrez-Scaccetti) Presentation

8:47 a.m.

Approval of the June 15-16, 2022 Minutes (Gutierrez-Scaccetti) Action

- The minutes were approved.

8:48 a.m.

Approval of Consent Agenda (Gutierrez-Scaccetti) Action

8:50 a.m.

Executive Director's Report (Sheehan) Information

- She is delighted that Dianne Gutierrez-Scaccetti was able to fill in and become Chair this year.
- One endeavor the Academies is undertaking is the Climate Crossroads that showcases what all parts of the organization are doing around climate change.
- The policy session this afternoon will focus on roadway safety and equity, in a partnership with the Academies' Health and Medical Division's (HMD) Board on Medical Health, with part of the project aimed at highlighting policies that have worked across the world.
- The latest update on Critical Issues will be given during this meeting.
- We have looked inwardly to make sure we can show all the checks and balances are in place that we can document correctly in the aftermath of New York Times articles criticizing the Academies' acceptance of Sackler funding.
- Goals and metrics for TRB are outlined on the path to better defining success.
- She has been doing a lot of hand's on work with CRP, with Chris Hedges' retirement as an opportunity to really understand that program well.

- There was a discussion on the trends we're seeing about less volunteerism at least partly because of other transportation workforce demands.

9:35 a.m.

TRB Division Committee Report (Febey) Information

- We still have a long way to go but participation in TRB by under-represented groups continues to improve.

9:40 a.m.

Technical Activities Update (Grimes, Brach) Information

- Another way people can volunteer for TRB is through the TRR journal editorial board, which has 220 members, and this opportunity is not in MyTRB so it needs to be added.
- We continue to look at ways that make it more possible for TRB meetings and conferences to have hybrid options.
- We continue to want to push the message that TRB's non-Annual Meeting conferences are other really good options for professionals throughout the year.
- In a typical year, international attendance at the Annual Meeting is between 15% and 17%. The past conference was 14%; in comparison, 2019 was 19%.
- The Annual Meeting is not unusually expensive. We are competitive with other related conferences. Two differences are that we have a lot more content and don't provide meals.

10:10 a.m.

Consensus and Advisory Studies Update (Menzies) Information

- Details were given about the latest TRB/Academies consensus reports, including one on offshore oil in the Gulf, and upcoming ones on equity metrics in surface transportation and recycling plastic waste in infrastructure, including some possibly first-ever TRB work with the National Science Foundation.

10:40 a.m.

Break

11:05 a.m.

Communications Update (Mackie) Information

- A report was given on how strategic communications fits in so importantly into the TRB Strategic Plan and some of the metrics were given on recent communications and promotional successes.

11:15 a.m.

Critical Issues in Transportation Update (Shaheen) Action

- An overview was given of the graphics, outline and next steps for the upcoming Critical Issues publication.
- The latest draft and direction of the upcoming publication was approved to move forward.

11:45 a.m.

TRB Strategic Plan (Sheehan) Discussion

- A plan overview was given.

12 p.m.

Lunch

1:15 p.m.

Policy Session on Traffic Safety (Lewis, Retting, Smither, Herbert, Bowman, Sonderup) Presentations

- Traffic fatalities disproportionately affect non-white people.
- TRB research on equity, equity improvements in data collection by OMB were detailed, a NHTSA study, tribal transportation safety efforts, and multicultural communications strategies were each detailed in presentations.

2:30 p.m.

Policy Session Discussion (Lewis/All) Discussion

3:20 p.m.

Break

3:40 p.m.

Future Policy Sessions (Houston) Action

- There may be a change in format for the policy sessions.

4:15 p.m.

Break for Evening Activities

Thursday, June 29, 2023

8:40 a.m.

Policy Session Follow Up (Lewis, All) Discussion

- Transportation agencies need more help on education for public about unsafe practices much more than help on engineering issues.
- The role of TRB is to report best practices.
- There is a culture of selfishness in the U.S., as well as a lack of knowledge about the seriousness of transportation fatalities, that is worth further research.
- These issues are potentially worth exploring with the Academies' HMD and DBASSE divisions.

9:25 a.m.

Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan (Hall) Information

- A report was given on the many DEI efforts of TRB.

9:40 a.m.

International Subcommittee (Iwasaki) Information

- TRB continues to look into possible international agreements with several transportation research-focused organizations around the world.

10:05 a.m.

Marine Board Update (Philip) Information

- An update was given of the Marine Board's activities.

10:15 a.m.

Break

10:40 a.m.

Young Member's Council (Kontou) Information

- The Young Members Coordinating Council (YMCC) has continued to develop and promote opportunities for involvement, resources, connections, and representation in all levels of TRB.

10:50 a.m.

Cooperative Research Program Update (Houston) Information

- A report was given on the CRP projects that are relevant to Critical Issues topical areas.

11 a.m.

Critical Issues Implementation (Sheehan) Action

- A potential interactive site is being discussed as a way to present the information if we can get a budget secured and determine if the timeframe is possible to make such an effort happen. A PowerPoint presentation and handout would be helpful, but a website could possibly be more flexible.
- It was suggested to do media outreach, so the Executive Committee would be helpful to have as spokespeople.

11:30 a.m.

Other Business (Sheehan, Houston)

- The committee was briefed on TRB award nomination processes.

11:40 a.m.

Adjourn

Full list of attendees:

CHAIRS

- Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti; Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Transportation
- Carol Lewis, Professor, Transportation Studies, Texas Southern University

MEMBERS

- Michael F. Ableson, CEO, Arrival Automotive-North America
- Carlos M. Braceras, Executive Director, Utah Department of Transportation
- Douglas C. Ceva, VP Customer Lead Solutions, Prologis, Inc.
- Nancy T. Daubenberger, Commissioner of Transportation, Minnesota Department of Transportation
- Marie Therese Dominguez, Commissioner, New York State Department of Transportation
- Ginger Evans, President, Tower Consulting, LLC
- Stephen W. Hargarten, Director, Injury Research Center, Associate Dean, Office of Global Health, Professor of Emergency Medicine, Medical College of Wisconsin
- Randall Iwasaki, President and CEO, Iwasaki Consulting Services

- Hani S. Mahmassani, W.A. Patterson Distinguished Chair in Transportation Director, Northwestern University
- Russell McMurry, Commissioner, Georgia Department of Transportation
- Craig Philip, Research Professor and Director, VECTOR, Department of CEE, Vanderbilt University
- Leslie S. Richards, General Manager, Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

- Michael R. Berube, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Sustainable Transportation, U.S. Department of Energy
- Tristan Brown, Deputy Administrator, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation
- Steven Cliff, Executive Officer, California Air Resources Board
- Nuria I. Fernandez, Administrator, Federal Transit Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation
- John T. Gray, Senior Vice President Policy and Economics Association of American Railroads
- Robert C. Hampshire, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology, U.S. Department of Transportation
- Tom Keane, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation (Substitute for Robin Hutcheson)
- Eleftheria (Ria) Kontou, Assistant Professor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Karl Simon, Director, Transportation and Climate Division, U.S. EPA Office of Transportation and Air Quality
- Jim Tymon, Executive Director, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials

Technical Activities Council Representatives

- George Avery Grimes, Chair, Technical Activities Council
- Tara Cavalline, Chair, Transportation Infrastructure Group
- William Eisele, Chair, Freight Systems Group
- Robert Hazlett, Chair, Data, Planning, and Analysis Group
- Eleftheria Kontou, Chair, Young Member Coordinating Council

VIRTUAL OBSERVERS

- William Anderson, Senior Program Officer, Transportation Research Board
- Nathaniel P. Ford, Chief Executive Officer, Jacksonville Transportation Authority
- Steve Godwin, Scholar, Transportation Research Board
- Tanisha Hall, Chair, TRB Special Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Stephen W. Hargarten, Director, Injury Research Center, Associate Dean Office of Global Health, Professor of Emergency Medicine, Medical College of Wisconsin
- Ashby Johnson, Executive Director, Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Joel M. Jundt, Secretary of Transportation, South Dakota Department of Transportation
- Scott Marler, Director Iowa Department of Transportation
- Paul Mackie, Director, Communications/Media, Transportation Research Board
- Michael R. McClellan, VP Strategic and Network Planning, Norfolk Southern Corporation
- Steward T.A. Pickett, Distinguished Senior Scientist, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies
- Susan Shaheen, Professor and Co-Director, TSRC, University of California, Berkeley

OTHER ATTENDEES

- Janet Frenkil, Federal Highway Administration
- Timothy Klein, Director, Technology, Policy, and Outreach, OST-R
- Mary Leary, Acting Associate Administrator, Office of Research, Demonstration, and Innovation, Federal Transit Administration
- Ricardo Martinez, Adjunct Professor, Emory University
- Kelly Regal, Associate Administrator for Research , Development, and Technology, Federal Highway Administration
- Connie Tang, Federal Highway Administration
- Matthew Welbes, Executive Director, Federal Transit Administration

TRB Staff

- Victoria Sheehan, Executive Director
- William Anderson, Senior Program Officer
- Ann M. Brach, Director, Technical Activities
- Scott Brotemarkle, Marine Board Program Director, Senior Program Officer
- Patrice Davenport, Deputy Director, TRB Program Development & Strategic Initiatives
- Karen S. Febey, Senior Report Review Officer
- Steve Godwin, Scholar
- Russell W. Houston, Associate Executive Director
- Katherine Kortum, Senior Program Officer
- Paul Mackie, Director, Communications/Media, Office of the Chief Communications Officer
- Stephen Maher, Deputy Division Director for Program Content, TRB Technical Activities Division
- Thomas Menzies, Director, Consensus and Advisory Studies
- Sierra Reffell, Executive Assistant
- Gary Walker, Senior Deputy Director, TRB Program Finance, Office of Chief Financial Office

Policy Session Speakers

- Norma Bowman, Deputy Division Director, Navajo Division of Transportation
- Gabrielle Herbert, Mathematical Statistician, NHTSA
- DeReece Smither, Research Psychologist, NHTSA
- Laura Sonderup, Managing Director, Heinrich Marketing, Inc.