Aside from alleviating congestion, Chicago needs to eliminate bottlenecks through infrastructure improvements and applications of new technology. Although Mr. Roper called the freight infrastructure Chicago’s most valuable asset, it was clear in the breakout sessions that that infrastructure has been somewhat neglected. Roadway design was claimed to be circuitous, resulting in inefficient freight deliveries. Rail infrastructure was said to be antiquated, with too much conflict between passenger and freight traffic. These are problems that are believed to be resolvable through attention to National Freight Rail Policy and reforming the truck route system and local access rules.

Along with these needed improvements there was some excitement from the Mayor of Blue Island about the integration of the distribution industry in his community. Mayor Peloquin, who represents a traditionally blue collar manufacturing community, enthusiastically welcomes freight loading sites and intermodal centers, calling them the manufacturing jobs of the future. CMAP is determined to provide local agencies with the information that they need to place these intermodal centers in areas that are the best for the region. This kind of cooperation that extends to National Freight Rail Policy and reforming the truck route system and local access rules.

UTC Well Represented at AATT

The 9th International Conference on Applications of Advanced Technology in Transportation (AATT), sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers took place in downtown Chicago, August 14-16, 2006. UTC was one of the sponsors of the event. Former UTC director Sue McNeil was a co-chair. With four different tracks (Infrastructure Management & Operations, Advanced Operation Technologies, Transportation Modeling, and Transportation Planning), the technical program had a wide variety of presentations that covered innovative technologies, different modes, concepts, and applications.

UTC staff, students and affiliated faculty presented their research and moderated several sessions during the three-day event. Please see the presentations section on page 6 for a full listing of UTC presentationas at the 2006 AATT conference.

UTC Talks Space at the AAG Meeting in Chicago

The 102nd Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers (AAG) took place in Chicago, from March 7-11, 2006. The downtown conference was a wonderful opportunity for researchers at the Urban Transportation Center to learn about new developments in spatial science and to communicate their own research to peers in the geography discipline.

PhD Students Thrive at UTC

The UTC PhD forum is now in its third year and continues to generate strong discussions and participation. Every other week, PhD students associated with the UTC meet to hear a presentation on a colleague’s research and discuss ways in which it may be strengthened or how it may relate to other work currently ongoing. Presentations this term have covered a variety of topics, including Liang Long’s presentation entitled, “Exploratory Factor Analysis for the Pace Survey Data,” Taha Rashidi’s presentation on “Modeling Household Vehicle Transaction Behavior: A Competing Risk Duration Approach,” and Wenjing Pu’s discussion of “Trip Table Realization: Underlying Stochasticity and Their Impacts on Assigned Link Flows.” If you are interested in taking part in upcoming forum discussions, please contact Yan- dan Lu <ylu2@uic.edu> or Yong-Ping Zhang <yzhang31@uic.edu>.

UTC students Matthew Stratton and Yandan Lu help out at the Forum

UTC students Matthew Stratton and Yandan Lu help out at the Forum

UTC Talks Space at the AAG Meeting

Left to Right: Gidon Berman and Yong-Ping Zhang at the AAG Meeting

Continued on Page 7
**Publications**

UTC faculty and RAs in italics


**Presentations**


Lin, J. Visualization of Bus Schedule Adherence Using GIS.


Mishra, S. Visualization of Bus Schedule Adherence Using GIS.

Mohammadian, A. and S. Yagi. An Activity-Based Model of Travel Demand in the Jakarta Metropolitan Area.


Yagi, S. and A. Mohammadian. Modeling Tour Mode and Destination Choice in the Jakarta Metropolitan Area.

Yagi, S. and A. Mohammadian. An Activity-Based Microsimulation Model of Travel Demand in the Jakarta Metropolitan Area.

Zhang, Y. and A. Mohammadian. An Exploratory Analysis of the Household Travel Behavior and Lifestyle Choices.

11th International Conference on Travel Behavior Research, Kyoto, Japan, August 16-20, 2006.

Thakuriah, P. An Examination of the Simultaneous Relationship between Transportation Expenditures and Household Incomes.

Yagi, S. and A. Mohammadian. Activity-Based Microsimulation Models of Travel Demand in Developing Countries: Jakarta Case Study.

GIS Day 2006, University of Illinois at Chicago, November 16, 2006


Sriraj, P.S., P. Thakuriah, G. Yanos. Housing Relocation Using Interactive GIS.

Other Conferences


**Student Projects and Theses**


beyond political boundaries is precisely what is needed for Chicago to maintain its competitive edge in the distribution industry.

Finally, even with improvements to Chicago’s infrastructure and organization, it still would not remain competitive without application of new technologies. Along with the integration of emerging technologies such as Vehicle-to-Vehicle and Vehicle-to-Roadway communication and integrated GPS there must be a general commitment to stay abreast with the newest technologies available. The most important technologies are not flashy maglev trains, but rather low-profile technologies such as GPS and transmitters that allow for free-flow tolling. To meet this goal Chicago will draw on its vast educational and advisory services, making Chicago not only the transportation hub of the nation, but a “smart hub” as well, applying every technology to answer today’s transportation problems.

The Global Supply Chain Forum holds promise of becoming an annual event because the stakeholders are convinced that an efficient transportation infrastructure will ensure a brighter future for Chicago. The private and public sector enthusiasm displayed at this year’s forum reflects a gathering momentum for change. It will be up to all those involved to see that that momentum leads us an improvement of Chicago’s national congestion rankings, a reduction in the amount of money lost each year to congestion and to the creation of a well integrated rail, truck, air and water freight transportation infrastructure.

Perhaps the main highlight of the tour began at the Howard El station, where tour participants boarded a train comprised of CTA’s two historic 4000 series El cars. The cars, originally delivered in 1923 by the Cincinnati Car Company, have been painstakingly restored. Among the historic touches included are period advertisements (“Heinz 57 Tomato Ketchup (contains no benzoate of soda)”, “Savon Cadum – The Great French Complexion Soap”), a 1930s era CTA brown and orange color scheme, and wooden ceilings and floors. Information and images of the history of Chicago’s elevated and surface transit systems line the upper walls of the cars, providing riders with a glimpse of the time in which these cars regularly traveled the CTA lines. The cars traveled along the Yellow “Skokie Swift” line from Howard to Skokie, and tour participants enjoyed the rare luxury of windows that opened, seats that could be positioned to face forward or backward, and a striking view of the line ahead or behind from the open vestibule.

After the Skokie tour, participants reboarded the charter train for the final leg of the journey back to Oak Park. Comments and conversation throughout the day indicated how fitting a tribute the transit tour was for the work encouraged by George Krambles, and how it reflected well the labor and energy put into the maintenance and expansion of Chicago’s transit system. Proceeds from the tour, sponsored by Parsons Brinckerhoff, McDonough & Associates and Continental Airport Express, will benefit the George Krambles Scholarship Fund.

Krambles Tour

entering careers in transportation, urban transit, urban planning, engineering and other related fields. This year’s first place winner was doctoral student Yong-Ping Zhang, with second place shared by master’s candidates Nicholas Christensen and Erica Interrante.
Still Supporting Chicago

CA&E and rapid transit trains used these elevated tracks at Peoria St. during the 1950s. To the left you can see the beginnings of the land clearing for the Eisenhower Expressway. The Form Fit building in the background was at the time a ladies undergarment manufacturer. Today it supports regional planning efforts by housing the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs of the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Upcoming Events

January 21-25, 2007
Transportation Research Board (TRB)
86th Annual Meeting
Washington, D.C.

For more information: <www.trb.org>
Check our website for more information on the schedule of UTC presenters at TRB, <http://www.utc.uic.edu>

January 23, 2007
UTC Reception at TRB
Hilton Hotel 5:30-7:30pm
for more information contact Lisa Maggio at 312-996-4820 or <lmaggi2@uic.edu>