



How To Get Involved In A TRB Standing Committee: Secrets From The Pros - Part 2 November 9, 2017

TRB Survival – Operations Section Perspective

Robert L. Bertini
University of South Florida
rbertini@usf.edu

NA CoE

**Transportation Research Board
97th Annual Meeting**

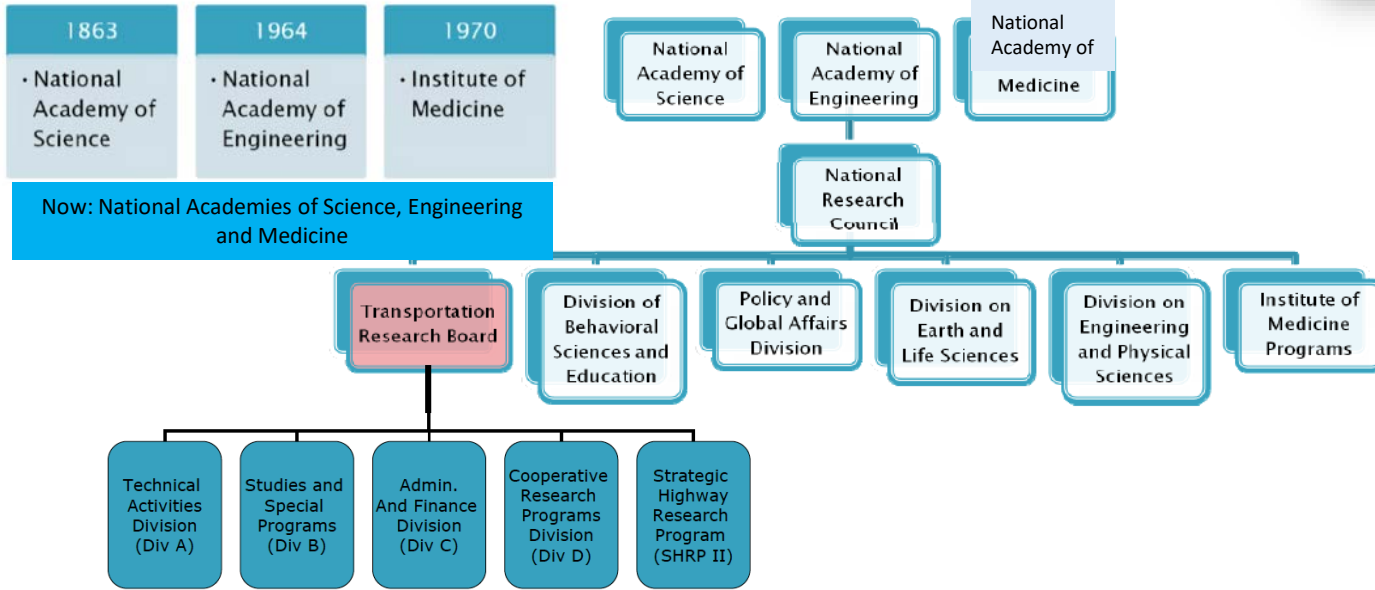
January 7–11, 2018 • Washington, D.C.



25 Years of TRB



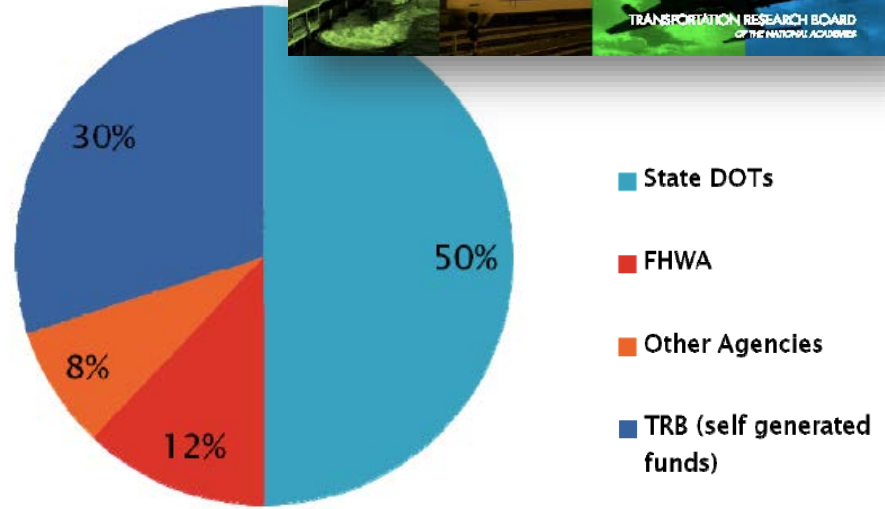
What is TRB?



1920
Advisory Board on Highway Research
1974
HRB → TRB

What is TRB?

- Private/non-profit
- Managing research (Cooperative Research Programs NCHRP, TRCP, ACRP, FCRP, HMCRP, and SHRP2)
- Delivering policy analysis and advice
- Providing tools for researchers and practitioners
- Bringing the transportation community together
- \$100 M annual budget



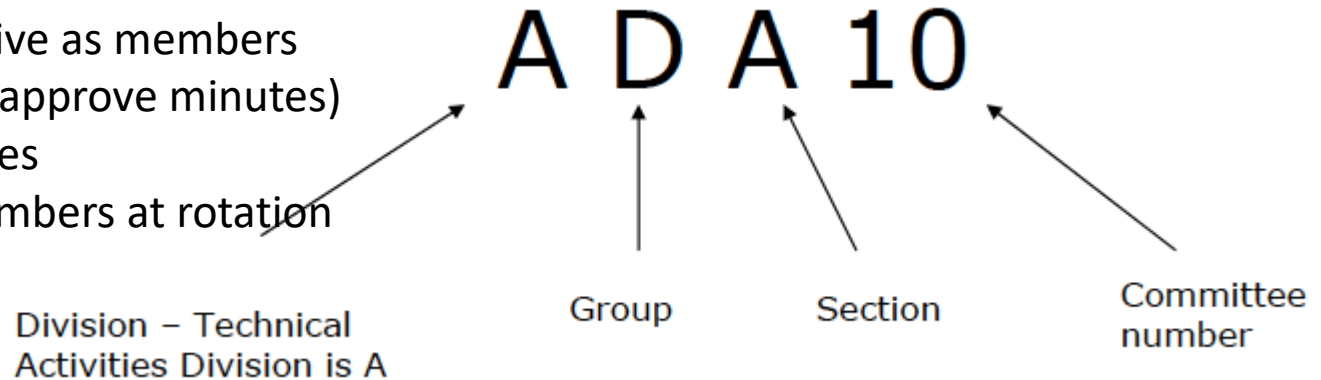
What is the TRB Annual Meeting

- All aspects of transportation and all modes—highway, rail, freight, water, and air.
- 13,000 people
- Interact with Federal and State agencies, private sector and trade associations; international professionals; academic researchers; professors; and students.
- Papers and presentations generally aim to be more applied, some are singled out as “Practice Ready”
- 500 workshops & sessions; 3500+ presentations; 350 TRB committee meetings; 150 other meetings
- Increase your professional expertise,
- Interact with recognized professionals throughout the industry
- Get involved in committee activities
- ***Network, network, network.***



Committee Decoder

- 25 members (rotated every 3 years)
- 4 young members (35 years of age or younger)
- 5 international members
- 2 State DOT members
- Total: 36
- Friends
 - Can be as active as members
 - Can't vote to approve minutes)
 - Subcommittees
 - Source of members at rotation



AHB00 Operations Section

Committee Name	Chair
AHB00 Section Operations	Dr. Robert Bertini
AHB10 Regional Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TRSMO)	Mr. Leslie N. Jacobson
AHB15 Intelligent Transportation Systems	Mr. Greg Krueger
AHB20 Freeway Operations	Mr. Jon T. Obenberger
AHB25 Traffic Signal Systems	Mr. Peter J. V. Koonce
AHB30 Vehicle Highway Automation	Dr. Steven E. Shladover
AHB35 Managed Lanes	Mr. Charles Fuhs/Mr. Casey Emoto
AHB40 Highway Capacity and Quality of Service	Mr. Tom Creasey
AHB45 Traffic Flow Theory and Characteristics	Dr. Soyoung Ahn
AHB50 Traffic Control Devices	Dr. Paul J. Carlson/Dr. Timothy Gates
AHB55 Work Zone Traffic Control	Mr. Timothy B. Baughman
AHB60 Highway/Rail Grade Crossings	Dr. Aemal Khattak
AHB65 Operational Effects of Geometrics	Dr. Timothy Gates
AHB70 Access Management	Mr. Marc A. Butorac
AHB80T Simulation Task Force	Mr. Calvin Leggett

Committees – So What?

- **What do Committees Do?**

- Identify research needs—NCHRP research funding process, pooled fund process (state DOTs)
- Encourage needed research
- Sponsor sessions, conferences, and/or meetings
- Develop technical material to advance the profession
- Disseminate information

- **What Can Members and Friends Do?**

- Review papers
- Maintain Committee's Research Problem Statements
- Help organize annual meeting sessions
- Help organize summer conferences or meetings
- Work on a committee project
- Communication Coordinator newsletter, website, and other media)
- Make a presentation or preside at a session
- New attendees: respond to committee interest survey

Committee Opportunities

- Webmaster
- Chair a subcommittee (research conference planning, a technical topic, or other)
- Paper review coordinator
- Annual meeting session coordinator
- Liaison chair
- Committee secretary
- Communication Coordinator
- Young Member Council Liaison
- Start a young member interest group



TRB Research Tools

- Completed research – TRID (TRIS + ITRD): trid.trb.org
- Research in Progress – RiP: rip.trb.org
- Research Needs Statements – RNS: rns.trb.org
- Advice on how to apply for research funding: <http://www.trb.org/ResearchFunding/ResearchFunding.aspx>



What Happens at TRB?

- **Workshops:** Most on Sunday, most are free.
- **Paper Lectern Sessions:** 4-5 peer reviewed papers recommended for presentation by sponsoring TRB committee.
- **Conference Sessions:** 4 to 5 invited presentations, peer reviewed papers. Current or emerging topics
- **“Meet the Author” Poster Sessions:** Great opportunity to talk to leading researchers in your field.
- **Exhibit Hall:** at Marriott, worth walking through. Closes Tuesday 16:00.
- **Spotlight Sessions:** sessions related to annual topic of interest
- **Technical Activities Standing Committee Meetings:** More than 200 committees study and report on topics and practices in their particular areas. Members represent Federal, State, and international transportation agencies, private sector companies, transportation-related associations, consultants, and academia. Meetings may include invited/paper presentations, networking and information sharing opportunities, and routine committee business. **Hint: sign in at these meetings!**
- **Section and Group Meetings:** usually invitation only, some are open.
- **Other TRB-Sponsored Events:** Chairman’s Lunch, Deen Lecture, New and Young Attendees Welcome Session on Sunday afternoon, International Reception
- **Non-TRB Events:** many receptions and other meetings.
- **Washington, D.C.:** see it!
- Use online program and mobile app (no printed program); AMOnline for papers/PPTs

TRB Grid

	Sunday January 7	Monday January 8	Tuesday January 9	Wednesday January 10	Thursday January 11
8 a.m.		WORKSHOPS 8:00-9:00 AM 9:00-10:00 AM 10:00-11:00 AM	EXHIBITS 8:00-9:00 AM 9:00-10:00 AM 10:00-11:00 AM	EXHIBITS 8:00-9:00 AM 9:00-10:00 AM 10:00-11:00 AM	WORKSHOPS 8:00-9:00 AM 9:00-10:00 AM 10:00-11:00 AM
9 a.m.		WORKSHOPS	EXHIBITS	EXHIBITS	WORKSHOPS
10 a.m.		WORKSHOPS	EXHIBITS	EXHIBITS	WORKSHOPS
11 a.m.	Careers in Motion Networking Fair	WORKSHOPS	EXHIBITS	EXHIBITS	WORKSHOPS
Noon				Chairman's Luncheon	
1 p.m.					
2 p.m.		WORKSHOPS	EXHIBITS		
3 p.m.	Welcome & Attendee Orientation	WORKSHOPS	EXHIBITS		
4 p.m.		WORKSHOPS	EXHIBITS		
5 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Opening and Reception				
6 p.m.					
7 p.m.		Deen Lecture			
8 p.m.					
9 p.m.	Young Professional Reception				
10 p.m.					
11 p.m.					

TRB Grid

	Sunday January 7	Monday January 8	Tuesday January 9	Wednesday January 10	Thursday January 11
8 a.m.		REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION
9 a.m.		WORKSHOPS	EXHIBITS	EXHIBITS	WORKSHOPS
10 a.m.		REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION
11 a.m.	Careers in Motion Networking Fair	REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION
Noon		EXHIBITS	EXHIBITS	Chairman's Luncheon	
1 p.m.					
2 p.m.		WORKSHOPS	EXHIBITS		
3 p.m.	Welcome & Attendee Orientation	REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION	
4 p.m.		REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION	
5 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Opening	REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION	
6 p.m.	Receptions Free Food!				
7 p.m.					
8 p.m.					
9 p.m.					
10 p.m.					
11 p.m.					

How to Prepare

- Program <http://www.trb.org/AnnualMeeting>
- Create your itinerary
- Remember that you will have access to all papers and presentations!
- <http://amonline.trb.org/>
- Take a look at committees:
<http://www.trb.org/CommitteeandPanels/CommitteeGroupsSections.aspx> --many have websites and chair email addresses
- Student Travel Funding Ideas
 - Your ITE Student Chapter
 - Campus wide travel grants (especially if you are presenting a paper)
 - Private or transportation center sponsorship
 - Your professor if you are working on a project

How to Get Involved

- Ask (good) questions!
- Be visible
- Circulate!
- Introduce yourself to leadership (nametags)!
- Sign in at committee meetings
 - All committees have slots for young and international members
 - Subcommittees are open to anyone
 - Volunteer for something!
- Ask for business cards
 - Use your student status to your advantage
 - Follow up
- Avoid moving as a “cluster” – spread out!
- Check out the Young Member Council: <http://ymc.groupsites.com/>

FAQ for Committee Involvement

- *How do I apply to be a member of the xx Committee?*
- *Do I need to be a Member in order to be an active volunteer with the xx Committee?*
- *How many members does the xx Committee have?*
- *Who reviews papers for the xx Committee?*
- *I am a student or young professional--is there any way to get involved in the xx Committee?*
- *How often does the xx Committee rotate its membership?*
- *How did you (Bertini) become a member of the committee?*
- <http://tft.eng.usf.edu/faq.htm>



Other Helpful Hints

- Dress code: more formal (suit/tie)
- Temperature: cold outside, too warm inside
- Speak up
- Cell phones off, suggest not leaving during a presentation
- Hotel food expensive (receptions)
- Employment opportunities room– bring resumes and view opportunities
- Support your colleagues by attending their sessions
- Split your time
(sessions/posters/committees/receptions/tourism)

Remember – Pace Yourself!



Washington, D.C.

- Served by three airports:
 - Reagan National (DCA) - 4 mi from DC: Metro Yellow and Blue Lines
 - Dulles (IAD) – 26 mi from DC: Washington Flyer coach service to West Falls Church Metro Station (\$10) – Orange Line
 - Baltimore (BWI) – 45 mi from DC: BWI Express Metrobus to Greenbelt Metro Station (Green Line) or Amtrak/MARC to Union Station, change to Metro Red Line
- Ground transportation
 - Metro
 - DC Circulator
 - Capitol Bike Share



DC Sightseeing

Monuments/Memorials

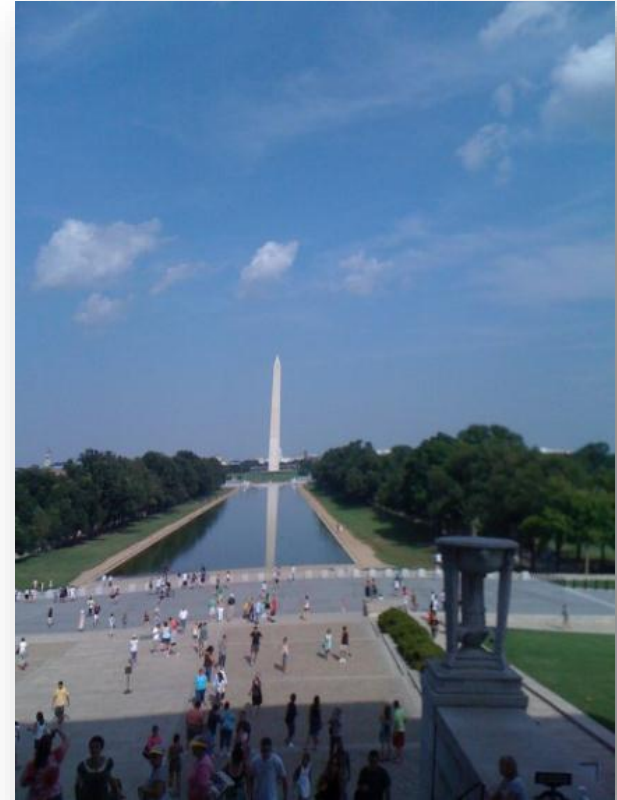
- Martin Luther King
- Lincoln/Washington/WWII
- Vietnam/Korea
- Jefferson/FDR

Other Major Sights

- Library of Congress
- National Archives
- U.S. Capitol
- White House
- Georgetown
- Verizon Center – sports events

Museums

- Air and Space Museum
- American History Museum
- National Gallery of Art
- Natural History Museum
- National Building Museum
- National Portrait Gallery
- Newseum
- Phillips Collection
- African American History Museum



Thank you for your attention!



rbertini@usf.edu

http://bertini.eng.usf.edu/trb_survival.htm