



ITS PULSE

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ITS Heartland Third Annual Meeting

The ITS Heartland Chapter was pleased to have ITS America President Neil Schuster as the keynote speaker at the Third Annual Meeting held in Des Moines, Iowa, March 26 thru 28. Mr. Schuster spoke on how ITS is going to play a major role in post-September 11th transportation operations and how ITS will affect operations in general across the country.

Besides Mr. Schuster, speakers included outgoing chapter president, Tom Ryan, from the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and president-elect Matt Volz from the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). The Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Mike Freitas updated the chapter on what's happening in Washington D.C. Other public-sector state speakers were: Sandra Larson, Marty Sankey, and Pat Sell from the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT), Al Gerstner from the Kansas Department of



Pat Sell from the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) signs his message about ITS for the hearing impaired.

Revenue, Gary Steinmetz from MoDOT, Barb Blue from KDOT, and Bob Glantzberg from TRANSCOM. Public-sector local speakers included Gary Ruegg from Omaha's Metro Area Transit and Dan Schrad from Sioux City Transit. University speakers were Pat McCoy from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Dr. Yiannis Papelis from the University of Iowa. Private-sector speakers included Kathy Tell from Southwestern Bell and Mark Perington from Snyder and Associates.

Five major topics captured the attention of

all who attended. These topics were: September 11, 2001, 511 implementation in Heartland states, human factors associated with ITS deployments, ITS applications for transit, and ITS applications for work zones.

A special thank you is extended to Craig Markley and Jeff Stratton of IDOT, and Kathy Glenn and Roxie Earnest of the Mid-America Transportation Center for their tireless efforts to plan and execute this conference. Thanks also to vendor reception and pre-session lunch sponsor



ITS Heartland's "2002 Chapter of the Year" award presented at the ITSA annual meeting on April 30.

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Newly Elected President Foresees Busy Year

by Matt Volz, Kansas Department of Transportation

Welcome current members and new members to the first edition of the ITS Heartland Chapter newsletter!

This is really an exciting time for our chapter as we begin to reach out to more and more ITS professionals in our Heartland states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska, as well as across the country. This is going to be a very busy year for our chapter, but one that will show we deserved the ITS America Chapter of the Year Award.

The ITS Heartland Third Annual Meeting was a huge success and one of the most well organized conferences I have attended. Extra special thanks needs to go out to Craig Markley and Jeff Stratton of the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) for organizing the meeting; Kathy Glenn and Roxie Earnest of the Mid-America Transportation

Center (MATC) for their tireless support of this meeting; and the Annual Meeting Planning Committee. Great job!

At the March 28, 2002 ITS Heartland Chapter Business Meeting in Des Moines, I detailed some of the initiatives that our chapter will be moving forward on this year. They include:

Development of a Service Contract for Chapter Administration. Kathy Glenn of MATC has agreed to take on this role and is working to develop a contract. There is a need for this as Kathy's duties have exceeded what we can call volunteer work.

Expansion of Membership. A working group has been formed to expand membership within Heartland states as well as explore the possibility of other states joining Heartland.

Education and Training Coordination. In order to

make more efficient use of the training that is being offered in the Heartland region, communication about and coordination of training opportunities across the region is needed. Bruce Baldwin of the Kansas Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Office has agreed to take on that role.

Survey of Members. A survey is being prepared to determine how the ITS Heartland Chapter can best serve its members. I encourage everyone to fill this survey out and let us know what we can do to make the chapter more useful.

Better Use of State Chapters by ITS America. ITS Heartland is a large chapter and we do have a voice within ITS America. If there are

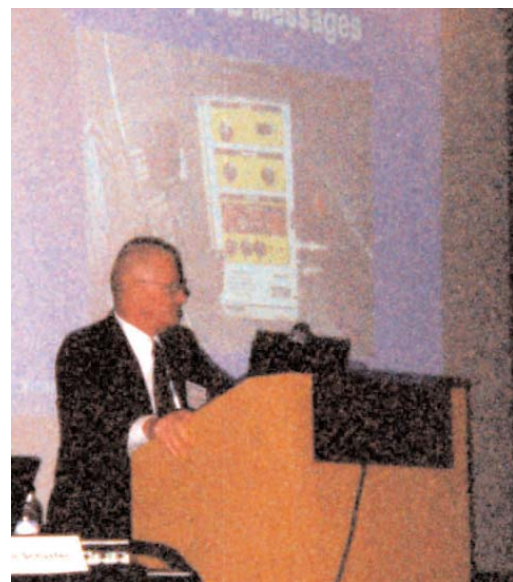
any issues of local or national significance that you would like communicated to the national level, ITS Heartland can do that. The chapter will be voicing its opinion on many issues in the future, especially as transportation reauthorization approaches.

Again, this is going to be a busy year for the chapter and one in which I hope we can serve our members well. Only with your input can we know how to do that. Please feel free to contact me anytime with questions or input.

Thanks and have a great summer!

Matt Volz
President

Smart Work Zone Systems



Pat McCoy, Mid-America Transportation Center (UNL), gives a presentation on the Midwest States Smart Work Zone Development Initiative at the ITS Heartland Third Annual Meeting in Des Moines, IA.

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Past President Identifies Commitment as Key

By Tom Ryan, Missouri Department of Transportation

In looking back over the development and organization of the ITS Heartland Chapter, one common theme is always present - the commitment of the membership. It began in a meeting at a hotel in St. Joseph, MO, when the four states of the former Federal Highway Association (FHWA) Region 7 decided that the sharing of information and support in the incorporation of technologies and telecommunications into our transportation systems would be a major benefit. Those assembled started this commitment and each year since we have only seen and experienced an increase in this commitment.

A memberships' commitment to goals and objectives of an organization are what makes it effective and beneficial. This fact was very evident from the

first meeting in St. Joseph to this year's meeting in Des Moines, IA. This commitment in building a quality chapter was recognized at this year's National ITS America Conference. It is another reflection on all of our members in making our chapter what it is today. We are all colleagues in the transportation community; however, I truly think we are all friends with a common goal of improving our transportation systems through technologies and telecommunications.

Our accomplishments have been many from regional to multi-state efforts that address needs ranging from Advanced Traveler Information to Commercial Vehicle Operations to Advanced Transportation Management. We have begun working with the transit and emergency response communities by



ITS Heartland Past President, Tom Ryan, welcomed participants to this year's annual meeting at the University Park Holiday Inn in West Des Moines, Iowa.

sharing information on the management and operation of our transportation systems. We have recognized the need to engage partners from private, education and public organizations in our quest to make the Heartland region's transportation systems the best. We share training opportunities and our experiences, both good and bad, in an effort to help out our

neighbors.

I really appreciated the wonderful opportunity to have served as President and now as Past President. It has been a pleasure representing and working with many different members in making our chapter successful. Thank you ITS Heartland Chapter members for your commitment to making our chapter work.

ITS Featured Program

University of Missouri-Columbia: Research, Education, and Outreach



By Carlos Sun,
University of Missouri-
Columbia

The Civil Engineering Department at the University of Missouri-Columbia is leading an active multi-disciplinary Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) program. This program is composed of complementary components of research, education, and outreach.

This research includes Advanced Transportation Management and Information Systems (ATMIS) efforts such as intelligent surveillance, data fusion, incident and traffic management, traffic simulation, image processing

and safety. Transportation Research Laboratory (TRANSLAB) and Remote Testing Facility (RTF) provide facilities for traffic data analysis, simulation, video image processing, instrumentation, and statistical analysis. Inter- and multi-disciplinary resources include GIS, remote sensing, logistics modeling, and transportation hardware and software.

The education program offers exposure to ITS at the undergraduate level, and concentration in ITS thesis topics at the graduate levels. The ITS program is active in the ITS Heartland chapter and partners with local agencies and companies in its research and education efforts.

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ITS Heartland board members convene at the Annual Meeting in Des Moines, Iowa to discuss Chapter business as well as discuss upcoming events for the chapter.

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ITS Standards Overview-New Millenium Outlook

The purpose of this module is to provide an overview of ITS standards to practicing transportation

professionals and policy-makers who are engaged in the deployment of ITS. This module will broaden their understanding of ITS, ITS standards and associated topics that impact operations of ITS systems. Information

will be provided on the various standards (i.e., NTCIP, ATC, ATIS, TMDD, IEEE IMDD, DSRC, CVO, TCIP and ITS data registry) that are being developed.

containing ITS acronyms and definitions as well as an ITS resource CD will be provided during this class module.

Information on the other ITS Standards courses can be viewed at: <http://www.ite.org/>

ITS Heartland Third Annual Meeting

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RouteMatch Software, breakfast sponsor PB Farradyne, lunch sponsor MG Squared, and break sponsors BRW/URS, Meridian, ITERIS, Iowa Safety Management System, Orbital TMS, and HNTB.

General event sponsors were IDOT, KDOT, MoDOT, Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR), ITS America, FHWA and Iowa Safety Management System. The meeting had a total of 251 attendees and 38 vendors.

Watch the ITS Heartland chapter website and the next newsletter edition for information on the 2003 Annual Meeting. Jim McGee from NDOR will be the program chair.

Third Annual Meeting in Des Moines, Iowa, Draws More than 250 Attendees and Vendors



The Kansas Department of Transportation was one of the public sector clients attending.



Meridian brought a booth that displayed their advanced weather forecasting systems.



Thirty-eight vendors attended this year's meeting.



The City of Sioux City, Iowa, brought their transit kiosk for attendees to view.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! The ITS Heartland Board of Directors takes this opportunity to acknowledge the extraordinary contributions of Kathy Glenn (Mid-America Transportation Center - UNL) and Dennis Kroeger (Center for Transportation Research and Education - ISU) to the success of the Heartland Chapter of ITS America. Kathy serves as chapter secretary and administrator. She has made communication between board members and with the membership seem effortless. Dennis is the ITS Heartland website administrator and has developed and maintained an informative and user-friendly website available to ITS Heartland and the ITS community in general. Be sure to express your appreciation to them next time you have opportunity.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING IN FUTURE EDITIONS OF ITS PULSE, CONTACT STEVE BAHLER AT SBALHER@OACONSULTING.COM

Just A Reminder...

The 2003 ITS 4th Annual Meeting will be held in Omaha. **More to come...**

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If you are a member of ITS Heartland and have an Internet website, please contact Dennis Kroeger (kroeger@iastate.edu) to create a link to your website from the ITS Heartland website. Just send him your URL.