

# Student news

## MTC scholar of the year



Jamie Luedtke

Each year, the MTC selects one outstanding student from its member schools as the MTC Scholar of the Year. Jamie Luedtke, an Iowa State University graduate, received this honor for 2003.

She received an award of \$1,000 and an all-expenses-paid trip to attend the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. where she was recognized along with scholars from other regions by the U.S. Department of Transportation for her outstanding contributions to the field of transportation.

The selection is made on several criteria: scholarship,

research, activities, and academics.

Luedtke was involved with the plan for the Mississippi River Trail, the Clinton U.S. 30 bridge multimodal study, and the I-394 access management study. Her thesis analyzed the commercial land value impacts of access management.

She presented at the Mid-Continent Research Symposium this year and at the MTC Student Paper Competition. While in graduate school, she won AASHTO's Francis Francois Graduate Fellowship and an engineering leadership

award from the ISU Engineering Council. She was also president of the Transportation Student Association when it won several local and regional awards.

Luedtke earned a master's degree in the interdisciplinary transportation program from Iowa State University in December 2003; she earned her bachelor's in 2002 from Iowa State in community and regional planning.

Luedtke recently began working as a planner for Snyder & Associates, Inc., an Iowa-based engineering consulting firm.

## Transportation scholars conference

Nine students presented papers at the MTC Transportation Scholars Conference on November 7, 2003, at Iowa State University.

Elizabeth Kash, graduate student in the Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering Department at Iowa State University, won the \$1,000 award for her paper, "The Mechanisms of Corrosion and Utilizing Fiber Reinforced Polymers as a Chloride Barrier."

The other papers (all from students at Iowa State University) are as follows:

- Heat of Hydration of the Blended Cement (Zhi Ge)
- Ethos, Pathos, Logos and the NTSB (Brett Hansen)
- Using Moisture Sensor to Monitor Fresh Concrete Uniformity (Jiong Hu)
- Evaluation of Corrosion-Resistant Steel Reinforcement (Milan J. Jolley)
- Construction and Evaluation of the First Modified Beam-in-Slab Bridge (Travis Konda)
- Measuring Commercial Land Value Impacts of Access Management Techniques (Jamie Luedtke)
- Corridor Management: Identifying Corridors with Access Problems and Applying Access Management Treatments, A U.S. 20 Study (Jon Rees)
- Design of a Steel Free Bridge Deck System (Van Robbins)

All these papers are available on the MTC's website at [www.ctre.iastate.edu/mtc/papers/index.htm](http://www.ctre.iastate.edu/mtc/papers/index.htm).



Elizabeth Kash

## TSA wins several awards

The Transportation Student Association (TSA) at Iowa State University, started in 1997 by MTC students, earned the Outstanding Student Chapter Award in their section and their district in 2003. The district award was presented in October 2003 to the students during the annual meeting of the Missouri Valley Section in Springfield, Missouri.

ISU was selected from among 19 universities in 11 states. Student chapters are judged for the activities and contributions to the transportation profession and the community. Among the activities of the ISU chapter were the following:

- presenting a safety education program at a local high school

- teaching middle school students about planning urban infrastructure
- participating in Engineering Day.

The two awards equaled \$1,100.

In August 2003, the chapter also won the Missouri Valley student chapter competition for a proposal to enhance student participation at the annual meetings. This \$500 award and the other two awards were used to support ongoing programs and help defray expenses for students attending the Transportation Research Board meeting in Washington, D.C.

## Student TRB trip reports

### Manish Agarwal

It was great to know how different methodologies are adopted to address the same transportation issues and how researchers explain and share the knowledge with others. Even though we can always get information from publications and the Internet, it makes more sense for me to interact with authors.

### Kim Mueller

Through TRB, I have been able to contact professors at other universities with similar research interests. In fact, one professor from the University of Wisconsin-Madison contacted me at TRB about my research project because the project is related to his research.

### Dominique Ingram

The TRB conference allowed me to take a small look into tunnel design and future security measures against terrorists' attacks. It was also a great opportunity to see course material in action.

### Hillary Isebrands

I was fortunate enough to participate in a TRB sub-committee meeting on roundabouts. I left TRB with a pocketful of business cards and a notebook full of new ideas and resources for my research.

### Ryan Tenges

The best session I attended was on access management where David Plazak and Dale Harrington spoke. It was very interesting to see how many different states were having similar issues with access management.



Front from left: Jonathan Rees, Krishna Kallam, Dominique Ingram, Debbie Witt, Xudong Chai, Manish Agarwal, Justin Doornink, Byung-Ik Chang, Yoon-Si Lee. Back from left: Elizabeth Kash, Stephen Lamptey, Garrett Burchett, Paula Lemke, Todd Knox, Hillary Isebrands, Tom Welch (Iowa DOT), Travis Hosteng, Mark Dunn (Iowa DOT).

### Paula Lemke

Conferences such as this are great for us who have concentrated so long on our field of study we often fail to notice how professionals in other fields affect transportation. I'm thankful we could learn more about the various professions that impact our transportation system.

### Leif Garnass

In addition to the sessions I attended, I left several resumes in the employment opportunities room. Because of this, I am scheduled for an interview with Kimley-Horn and Associates in February.