In January of 2002, President Johnson reaffirmed the work that began in the local community more than three years ago as he announced the creation of the Intermodal Transportation Institute (ITI) at the University of Toledo. The decision to move forward was made easy by the strong support of the local community for such an Institute that builds upon the unique characteristics of the Toledo region. The Institute offers the potential for sustained external funding, it provides a vehicle to use the resources of the university in collaboration with government and private sector partners, and it can draw upon the strengths from across the university.

The ITI is an interdisciplinary center that supports transportation related research, educational programs, management training, and outreach efforts that increase the University’s competitive research programs in transportation, improve the quality and breadth of transportation-related academic programs, and support local industry and government agencies in their efforts to increase Toledo’s standing as a leader in intermodal transportation.

During 2002, the Intermodal Transportation Institute has made significant progress, which is outlined in the following summary. Additional details are available upon request.

- Established an Advisory Board
- Worked with Advisory Board to developed Vision Statement, Mission Statement, and Scope of Research
- Conducted focus groups to validate the Vision, Mission, and Scope of Research and to identify projects for the ITI to pursue
- ITI became a key element on the Legislative Agenda for Toledo/Northwest Ohio Transportation Coalition
- Worked with TMACOG on the Transportation Summit
- Project List:
  - Strategies and Innovative Procedures for Dynamic Partnering in the Forging Supply Chain; University of Toledo, College of Business Administration; Status, Funded by the Department of Defense through 2004 for $290,000.
  - Metropolitan Utility Link for Transportation to Industry; Benchmark Engineering, University of Toledo, and Bowling Green State University; Status, $400,000 proposal was not funded by Technology Action Fund. Plan to resubmit in Spring 2003.
  - Bio-Diesel Study; TARTA and ITI; Status, Proposal for $400,000 is still active, but funding may not be forthcoming this year.
  - Upper Midwest Freight Corridor Study (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin; University of Wisconsin at Madison,
University of Illinois at Chicago, and University of Toledo; Status, Funding for $400,000 is nearly in place.

- SEGWAY Technology Deployment; Port Authority, University of Toledo, and Bowling Green State University; Status, Rapping up trail.

- Economic Impact Study of Ohio Port Authorities; Proposal by ITI to Ohio Port Authority Council; Status, Pending $58,000 with additional information requested

- Assess Economic Impact of Passenger Rail Service in Northwest Ohio; TMACOG and ITI, Status, Waiting on information from AMTRAK

- Measure Alternate Energy Industry in Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan; ITI, Status, Funded for $10,000 by University of Toledo

- Pavement Management Software Development; University of Toledo; Status, Currently active

- Master of Science Global Supply Chain Management; University of Toledo; Status, Currently under development

- Developed and conducted Seminar Series: Information Systems Implementation for Supply Chain and Manufacturing Performance, Benchmark Engineering, Dana Corporation, and the ITI

- Associate Degree in Logistics and Supply Chain Management, University of Toledo; Status, Working with industry to develop a proposal

- Evaluate and recommend access and land use for U.S. 24; ITI; Status, Proposal for $60,000 submitted to ODOT

- U.S. DOT University Transportation Center

  - Chronology
    - Spring 2001: Government, industry & UT identify critical regional strengths & opportunities in transportation
    - Oct. 2001: President Johnson announces that UT will form Intermodal Transportation Institute (ITI)
    - May 2002: ITI identifies University Transportation Center as an opportunity to achieve its goals
    - July 2002: UT’s & BGSU’s Offices of Research meet and discussions with Representative Kaptur and her staff lead to the inclusion of alternate fuels
    - September and October 2002: Kickoff meeting involving UT, BGSU, government entities, and the private sector
    - November 2002: UT & BGSU Presidents pursue a UTC, jointly
    - Add Chronology for these activities.
    - Commitment from President Johnson at UT and President Ribeau at BGSU

  - Letter from Presidents Johnson and Ribeau to Congresswoman Kaptur define the focus of the UTC proposal. Letters of support from governments, agencies, and private industry