

# UT-UTC UPDATE



Volume 2, Issue 2 – March 2008

The Newsletter of The University of Toledo University Transportation Center

## Governor Strickland Supportive of UTC Discusses Accomplishments with Director

Ohio Governor Strickland visited the Science and Technology Complex at the University of Toledo which houses the UTC. Director Martinko and Governor Strickland discussed the activities, accomplishments, and future initiatives of the University Transportation Center. Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH-9) and University President Lloyd Jacobs accompanied the Governor. In addition they saw demonstrations by the various alternative energy companies with offices in the building. The Governor and Congresswoman Kaptur were especially interested in the association of the UTC to alternate energy, which was the focus of the visit. The research papers and reports that have been generated by UTC projects and the Biodiesel Fuel Study which is part of the Intermodal Transportation Institute were also presented.



Director Martinko (left) talks with Ohio Governor Strickland (right) along with VP Frank Calzonetti

## ITI/UTC Leads Regional Development of Transportation Opportunity District Concept

On March 20<sup>th</sup> the Director of the Intermodal Transportation Institute and UT-UTC will host a transportation and economic development think tank, "Transportation and Logistics ... Driving Economic Development," to be held at the ITI offices in the Research and Technology Complex. Over 40 leaders from private industry, the utilities, government, and the public and private transportation sectors will participate. The purpose will be to focus on specific strategic development opportunities for the NW Ohio transportation and logistics sector and present a new concept: Transportation Opportunity Districts.

More to come in the next issue of UT-UTC Update.

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# UT-UTC UPDATE

## Student-of-the-Year Samir Dhar Honored at Banquet in Washington

Samir Dhar, a graduate student in the Department of Geography and Planning, was selected as the UT-UTC Student-of-the-Year. In addition to the \$1,000 award, Samir received a trip to Washington, D.C., to attend the Council of University Transportation Centers (CUTC) Award Banquet and registration and expenses for the Transportation Research Board conference which started the following day. Joining Samir at dinner was his wife, Madhavi, and UT-UTC assistant director, Christine Lonsway. Samir was one of the 46 students from across the country being recognized for their exceptional work in transportation. Keynote speaker at the dinner was the Honorable James Oberstar, Chairman of the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, who also received the CUTC Lifetime Achievement Award.



*Right to left: Former US DOT Secretary Norman Mineta, Samir with award, RITA Administrator Paul Brubaker, CUTC President Ron Diridon*

Samir Dhar was born in Mumbai, India. He received a BS in Chemistry & Bio-Chemistry and minor in Dyes & Drugs. His MBA focused on IT, but he augmented his skill set by also working toward a Masters in Transportation Planning/GIS in the Department of Geography and Planning.

His research has included work in developing and managing the GIS Data-Viewer for the Upper Midwest Freight Corridor Study, developing the Great Lakes Maritime Information Delivery System for the Great

Lakes Maritime Research Institute, and developing the GIS of all Ports/Docks in the Great Lakes region for the US Army Corps of Engineers. He has also worked on Location-Analysis for site selection for retail outlets and fire stations; developed the EMS routing between emergency centers and trauma centers; developed a detailed regional database of international air freight import/export volumes from the US to Europe, Asia and South America; and also worked on developing the GIS for the sewer system in the City of Toledo.

Samir was selected as Student of the Year because of the integral role he played in the successful completion of the Corridor Study and the combination of IT and academic rigor he brings to his research.

## UT Student Chris Schroeder Honored as MIOH-UTC Student-of-the-Year



Chris Schroeder, a graduate student in the College of Engineering at UT, was selected as the Student-of-the-Year by the Michigan-Ohio UTC and was honored at the Council of University Transportation Centers Award Banquet in Washington, D.C. Joining him at this special occasion was his proud father, Thomas Schroeder, and MIOH-UTC assistant director, Patricia Martinico.

Chris is working on the MIOH funded project

"Multipurpose Educational Modules to Teach Hydraulic Hybrid Vehicle Technologies." He is working with Dr. Mohammad Elahinia in the Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering on the project. (See story below.) Nominees were rated on the significance of their contribution to a MIOH funded project plus their academic performance, professionalism and leadership, and university and community service activities.

Chris received a \$1,000 award plus registration and expenses for the Transportation Research Board conference in Washington, D.C.

# UT-UTC UPDATE

## MIOH-UTC Tech Transfer Visit to UT Researchers & Students

On February 27<sup>th</sup>, the Michigan-Ohio UTC at the University of Detroit-Mercy visited partner institution, the University of Toledo, to review the projects they have funded. Joining in the visit was partner institution, Bowling Green State University.



*Graduate Student Chris Schroeder (right) and project member, Dr. Mohammad Elahinia (center) discuss with Roland Kibler of NextEnergy the module to teach hydraulic hybrid vehicle technologies during the MIOH visit to UT.*

The Director of the MIOH-UTC, Leo Hannifin, Assistant Director, Pat Martinico, faculty and students from UDM came for the presentations by UT Engineering faculty members Dr. Mohammad Elahinia and Dr. Eddie Chou, and BGSU researcher, Dr. Hokey Min. Richard Martinko, UT-UTC Director, welcomed the group along with Vice President Frank Calzonetti. Graduate students from the UT College of Engineering also participated in the lively discussions.

Following the presentations, Chris Schroeder led the group to view the test stand that is being developed as part of the MIOH funded project that will enable students to evaluate the performance of dual-function hydraulic pump/motors as the main components of hydraulic hybrid vehicles. Alternate energy is a focus area for both MIOH and the UT-UTC.

**FOCUS ON** is a new feature of the UT-UTC Update to highlight the researchers, students, educators and innovators who bring to us their talents.

## FOCUS ON Researcher Hokey Min of Partner BGSU

Dr. Hokey Min is the PI on the UT-UTC funded project "Combined Truck Routing and Driver Scheduling Problems Under Hours-of-Service Regulations." He has been the James R. Good Chair of Global Strategy at Bowling Green State University since 2006.



Dr. Min is a prolific researcher and authored or co-authored more than 110 articles in refereed journals. He has been one of the editors for the *International*

*Journal of Logistics: Research and Applications* and has been serving on the editorial review board of the *International Journal of Integrated Supply Management*. He has also been a guest editor of special issues of the international journals of *Information Technology and Management*, and *Service Technology Management*.

In addition to consulting for private companies, he has worked on public projects with the World Health Organization. While working with the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, he conducted case studies on the improvement of health-care logistics services to malaria patients in sub-Saharan Africa.

Dr. Min came to Bowling Green from the University of Louisville where he was the founding executive director of its Logistics and Distribution Institute of which the UPS Center for Worldwide Supply Chain Management was part. As director of the Center for Supply Chain Workforce Development, his contribution to Kentucky's Warehouse Workforce Development Program earned him a commission as a Kentucky Colonel from Governor Paul Patton.

Interesting thing to know about Dr. Min: He has a "secret" desire to become a professional artist, if he can find a time to moonlight.



# UT-UTC UPDATE

## 2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium and Workshop to be Held in Busan, South Korea

As a follow-up to the International Symposium and Workshop held at the University of Toledo last October, the second **International Symposium and Workshop on Global Supply Chain, Intermodal Transportation and Logistics** will be held in Busan, South Korea on May 29-30, 2008. This event is being presented by the UT-UTC and the Intermodal Transportation Institute, by partner Bowling Green State University, and by the Busan National University. The program chairs are Dr. Hokey Min of BGSU, Dr. Kaphwan Kim from Busan National University and Dr. Younghae Lee from Hanyang University in South Korea. Full details are available at

<http://www.utoledo.edu/business/BusanSCM/>

The objectives of the symposium and workshop are to:

- Involve world-class researchers and practitioners in identifying best practices; solve complex logistics, sourcing and other supply chain problems; and to communicate these solutions toward successful applications to real problems.
- Establish a global network of universities and centers of learning that work cooperatively to address critical worldwide needs in transportation, logistics, and supply chain management.
- Develop education and training programs for purchasing, logistics, and supply chain professionals around the world.

A call for papers invites contributions to the symposium. Abstracts are due by April 15, 2008. The best refereed full research papers will be considered for publication in a double special issue of the *International Journal of Logistics Systems and Management* and the *International Journal of Services and Operations Management*

## UT Collaborator with National UTC CFIRE

In a continuation of work started by the ITI, the University of Toledo will participate as a collaborator in the national UTC at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the Center for Freight and Infrastructure Research and Education – CFIRE. \$500,000 has been designated for the University over five years.

The involvement with CFIRE is a long-term investigation to continue to develop the regional transportation data

repository and related resources in the Midwest FreightView distributed GIS system. Data from these resources will then be incorporated in studies to trace economic linkages and their related commodity flows in the Midwestern economy through an input-output modeling approach. Former UTC director, Mark Vonderembse, and Peter Lindquist, director of the Center for Geographic Information Science & Applied Geographics, submitted the work plan for years one and two in which the study region will be limited to the ten states comprising the Mississippi Valley Freight Coalition. The linkages drawn from the input-output model will be compared to highway, rail and waterway traffic volumes on the region's transportation infrastructure and to county-level employment by those economic sectors used in the model. These findings will enable the project team to identify regional patterns in the flow of freight on the county level within the region, and in turn, to identify critical supply chain relationships—particularly in the manufacturing economy.

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