



## National LTAP/TTAP Association Annual Report July 2013 - June 2014

NLTAPA Members,

The NLTAPA Officers and Executive Committee members are pleased to provide you with this annual report for the period of July 2013 through June 2014.

### 2013/2014 NLTAPA OFFICERS

**President:** Renée Railsback, CO LTAP  
**President-Elect:** Valerie Pitts, KY LTAP  
*(Chair of 2014 Conference Planning Committee)*  
**Vice President:** John Valet, Eastern TTAP  
*(Chair of the Partnership Workgroup)*  
**Treasurer:** Victoria Beale, OH LTAP  
**Secretary:** Janet Leli, NJ LTAP

### REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

**Region 1:** Janet Leli, NJ LTAP  
*(Co-Chair of the Joint Safety Workgroup)*  
**Region 2:** Byron Bluehorse, Alaska TTAP  
**Region 3:** Earl "Rusty" Lee, DE LTAP  
*(Chair of the Joint Professional Development Workgroup)*  
**Region 4:** Garry Havron, AL LTAP  
*(Co-Chair of the Communications Workgroup)*  
**Region 5:** Victoria Beale, OH LTAP  
*(Chair of the Training Resources Workgroup)*  
**Region 6:** Laura Carter, AR LTAP  
**Region 7:** Denise Brown, ND LTAP  
**Region 9:** Matthew Enders, WA LTAP  
*(Co-Chair of the Joint Safety Workgroup)*

### LIAISONS TO PARTNERS

**AASHTO:** Vacant  
**APWA:** Martha Horseman, KY LTAP  
**NACE:** Lisa Harris, KS LTAP

### FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT

*Renée Railsback, Colorado LTAP  
 2013/2014 NLTAPA President*

To my NLTAPA Friends and Family,

Valerie and I have the distinct pleasure of bidding you well as Outgoing Presidents at each of our own Region's hosted National LTAP/TTAP Conferences. That is special to me. Region 7 welcomes you to St. Louis and we know you'll have a great time at this year's annual meeting!

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to partake on this journey. Like the mountains of Colorado, it has had its ups and downs. But similar to being chased by a pack of mountain goats, I shall persevere.

Thanks to Lindsay - who 3 years ago said, "It will never be the best time, something will always come up, and this is something you've wanted to do - so do it now!"

I appreciate the responsibility you bestowed upon me to serve the organization; and I am proud to have participated in the success of NLTAPA this year. Highlights of our accomplishments include:

- Finalizing the NLTAPA Operations Manual which was initiated in 2010
- Migrating and redesigning the nltapa.org Web site under NLTAPA management



- Reestablishing legal Association incorporation
- Undertaking full LTAP/TTAP Conference finance management
- Comprehensive review and update of the NLTAPA Constitution & Bylaws
- Development of the Joint Professional Development Program Document and EC Orientation Manual
- Training Center staff and locals in the NHI Instructor Development Course
- Establishing new contacts with AASHTO
- Influencing states in the development of their Toward Zero Deaths and Strategic Highway Safety Plans

Please join me in welcoming the newest EC member from Region 4 – Jaime Carreon, FL LTAP. Jaime has also graciously accepted the responsibility of becoming the new Communications Workgroup Chair, and is eager to reestablish the group as a major marketing and communications tool for the Association. I look forward to continuing efforts with the EC under the leadership of Valerie – we are in good hands.

My participation on National activities was recognized and respected by many DOT and FHWA members throughout my state. I would like to thank all the supporters of the Colorado LTAP Center for their help and flexibility in the last year as we struggled through new historic responsibilities, while serving my Presidency.

“I am fairly certain that given a cape and a nice tiara, I could save the world.”

-Curly Girl Designs

Best Wishes,  
Renée Railsback  
2013/2014 NLTAPA President

## **NLTAPA WORKGROUP UPDATES**

The Association’s main objectives are to build awareness about LTAP in the transportation community, assist FHWA with developing strategies for the Program, and build the capacity of each Center to best meet the needs of its customers. The Association manages six workgroups to help accomplish this goal.

### ***PARTNERSHIPS***

NLTAPA formally partners with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), American Public Works Association (APWA) and the National Association of County Engineers (NACE). In 2013/2014, the Partnerships Workgroup has continued active development and strengthening of these partnerships

through fulfillment of formal agreements, participation in joint programs and activities, and establishing connections with new partner representatives.

This spring the NLTAPA EC meeting took place at the NACE conference in Louisiana, where NLTAPA officers attended NACE leadership meetings and a roundtable. Lisa Harris (KS LTAP) led the NACE partnership and provided NACE leadership with an overview of NLTAPA and LTAP/TTAP efforts. NACE committed to participation in the annual NLTAPA meeting in St. Louis and maintains strong relationships at both the chapter and leadership levels.

Martha Horseman (KY LTAP) helped strengthen the APWA partnership by leading the effort to support David Orr (NY LTAP) as a speaker at the annual APWA conference. David will give a presentation on preventive maintenance, which is a good example of the benefits APWA members gain from LTAP/TTAP experience. APWA also invited Renée Railsback, NLTAPA President, to their annual congress. Peter King, APWA Executive Director, will attend the NLTAPA annual meeting and participate in both the partner and the poster sessions.

AASHTO continues to work with LTAPs and TTAPs through several committees and maintains strong support for our association and the LTAP/TTAP mission. Tim Colling (MI LTAP) is partnering with AASHTO on several safety initiatives and is unofficially serving as the AASHTO liaison. Tim is helping reconnect AASHTO with NLTAPA at the leadership level, which we will build into a revised partnering agreement.

As reauthorization efforts continue in Washington, we expect to hear more from our partners and will benefit from the strong partnerships that continue at the national level, and especially from the individual efforts at the local level. As always, we encourage LTAP/TTAP staff to participate in committees from our partner organizations and to look for new ways to help our partners and NLTAPA to cooperate and benefit from each other’s common goal of improving our nation’s roads and reducing traffic-related fatalities and injuries.

### ***TRAINING RESOURCES***

Your Training Resources Workgroup (TRWG) has been focused and productive over the 2013/2014 year. The TRWG team completed many needed tasks, including a Center needs assessment, in order to better focus the workgroup’s efforts in the years to come.

The Center needs assessment begun in the prior year was completed and distributed to Centers at the NLTAPA Winter Meeting at TRB. An online copy is available at <http://www.nltapa.org/nltapa/workgroups/>

training-resources (scroll to the bottom of the screen to view the report links). The assessment's top requested needs were for resources in the areas of Culverts, Safety, Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), Asset Management, Drainage, Pavement Management, and Roadway Management. TRWG utilized the assessment information to create its work plan for calendar year 2014 and will provide the membership two new resource syntheses by the close of 2014.

The TRWG also continued a strong partnership with the National Highway Institute (NHI) during 2013/2014. The safety course review process was updated from a scheduled review of predetermined courses to an on-call review of NHI safety courses as they are updated by the FHWA Resource Center staff. This change moves the review process to a just-in-time methodology, better addressing current training needs. TRWG also worked to schedule three NHI Instructor Development Courses (IDC) in the summer of 2014. The sessions have been held or will still be held this summer in Houghton, MI, Arlington, VA or Baton Rouge, LA. The session scheduling occurred under the terms of the NLTAPA / TPP / NHI MOU where participants are able to attend IDC training sessions at no registration cost. The training sessions' intent is to grow the pool of instructors for NHI safety related courses with individuals who can teach these courses for local audiences. LTAP Centers utilizing instructors trained under the MOU may offer the NHI sessions taught by those instructors at little or no charge by opting to print the course materials themselves. TRWG and NLTAPA greatly appreciate the excellent partnership with NHI!

During 2013 to 2014, TRWG also continued its partnership with the Transportation Coordination Curriculum Council (TC3), which has now transitioned into AASHTO as a part of their organization. TC3 has developed a suite of online training courses available to learners at no cost via the NHI Web site. TRWG has begun a review of the online courses in order to create quick, at-a-glance information for LTAP Centers on the various TC3 courses' contents, intended audience, level of difficulty and general applicability for local audiences. TRWG was also fortunate to have the direct support of the South Carolina LTAP Center in having Erin McChristian, a Center staffer, attend the inaugural TC3 meeting with AASHTO in early 2014. Be on the lookout for more great TC3 courses and Center focused information from TRWG on TC3 course applicability for LTAP audiences.

TRWG has also continued its partnerships with the National Transportation Training Directors (NTTD) Association and the Technology Transfer Ad-Hoc group from FHWA. TRWG has formed a new partnership with the TRB Training and Education

Resources Workgroup (ABG20), and will be looking for synergistic opportunities to leverage resources between the two groups, including possible national webinars on topics of joint interest.

2013/2014 was a very busy year for TRWG. It completed needed tasks, utilized information obtained to plan proactively for the future and established or strengthened strategic partnerships. We look forward to another productive year in 2014/2015 by continuing to serve your Center needs as your Training Resources Workgroup!

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

This past year has been a year of change for the Communications Workgroup. The biggest change has been finalizing the transition of the NLTAPA Web site from Purdue to Michigan Tech University (MTU). Chris Delreal and the team at MTU have done an outstanding job overseeing the transition and overhaul of the site, and on behalf of NLTAPA, we offer our sincere thanks and gratitude.

In addition to the constant job of maintaining and updating the Web site, the Communications Workgroup is looking to better define its role within NLTAPA, and to determine how best we can serve the membership. Over the next few months, the group will begin to reform itself and retool the mission and vision for its existence. Some of the items being reviewed are:

- Placing continued emphasis on improving and maintaining the NLTAPA Web site and making it as user-friendly and useful as possible.
- Improve NLTAPA's Communications and Marketing Tools and ensure members are aware of the materials available.
- Document processes pertaining to the NLTAPA Web site and other communication tools.
- Considering how to best market NLTAPA's activities and efforts across all workgroups.
- Posting workgroup Minutes and Meetings on the NLTAPA Web site in a timely manner.

Any feedback or comments about the Web site and the direction of the Communications Workgroup is greatly appreciated, and we are always looking for willing and eager participants to join the group. We will be scheduling a conference call to occur shortly after the National Meeting in St. Louis to begin discussing the process of re-forming the group.

If you are interesting in joining and participating in the Communications Workgroup, please contact Jaime Carreon at [jacarreon@ufl.edu](mailto:jacarreon@ufl.edu) and join us on Wednesday, July 23rd from 5:00pm - 6:00pm in Salon B.



## **JOINT NLTAPA/FHWA PROGRAMS**

NLTAPA coordinates with FHWA on two joint programs.

### ***JOINT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM***

The Joint Professional Development Workgroup has had a very busy year and has delivered some key documents in the past few months. The formal program description has been published as well as an EC orientation manual. The annual meeting in St. Louis will have a five and a half hour pre-conference session called LTAP U. The session will cover 11 topics and feature a wide variety of speakers. The sessions are designed for all levels of experience in the LTAP program from the newest Center staff to the most senior of our members. Topics will include the FHWA Clearinghouse, popular training topics, transition plans, and communications. On behalf of the entire workgroup I would like to thank Kim Carr for the work she has done in developing the topics list and finding the speakers and moderators. We hope this will become a regular part of the summer meeting. The winter meeting saw another new professional development session, with an open discussion during lunch. The session provided an opportunity for new staff to ask questions, exchange ideas and learn from their counterparts in other Centers. This will also become a regular part of that meeting.

Work has also begun on the replacement to the LTAP Academy. While the name of the replacement to the Academy has not been chosen, there have been meetings, phone calls, and emails to begin framing the topics and materials which will comprise this resource. It is expected that some of the new academy will be ready for rollout by the winter meeting. The workgroup is always looking for new members of any experience level with the LTAP/TTAP programs.

### ***JOINT SAFETY PROGRAM***

The Joint Safety Program Workgroup continued to work diligently to promote safety within the LTAP/TTAP universe. After the summer conference in Boise, Idaho, the Joint Safety Leadership Team spent some time evaluating the workgroup's activities and the fluctuating level of participation from NLTAPA member Centers. At that time, the workgroup chairs and their partners from FHWA TPP agreed to transition the monthly workgroup conference calls to a webinar style format. We decided to set a goal of conducting six webinar type calls throughout the year, with each one focusing on a specific topic area, and with the intent of providing direct benefits to Centers in the form of information or resources. Each webinar was designed to have several presentations from the LTAP/TTAP community and complimentary

presentations from other organizations and partners when applicable.

The new Joint Safety Program Workgroup webinars have been successful. In the past several months we have shared many best practices with other Centers, including how individual programs participate in road safety audits in their states, how Centers have used FHWA Accelerating Safety Activities Program (ASAP) funds, and making sense of MAP-21 data requirements. The recordings and PowerPoint files from most of these presentations are available on the nltapa.org Web site. Please check the workgroup page (as well as the Safety Forum on the ltap.org Web site) to find upcoming webinar announcements and other pertinent safety information. If you have a suggestion for a future webinar topic, please let us know!

Much of what we do is educational in nature, and in keeping with that mission, we share knowledge with each other. Last year's LTAP/TTAP annual summer meeting included a day-long program on Safety Analysis in a Data Limited, Local Environment that was attended by more than 50 people. Across the country, we had safety components at each of the 2014 regional meetings. Most regions had a session on the Systemic Safety Project Selection Tool. Multiple representatives from the FHWA spent time with the different regions to help LTAP/TTAP personnel understand how the systemic tool could be a resource for their locals. The 2014 annual summer meeting will feature a train the trainer program on Tools, Training & Technical Assistance for the Local Rural and Tribal Road Practitioners Safety Toolkit. There is also a Safety track throughout the program sharing information on securing additional funds for your Center to include safety activities, what types of safety activities can be successfully undertaken by Centers, and how to promote a safety culture with your Center and your stakeholders. If anyone from the community has recommendations for future programs, whether for the region or national meetings, please feel free to share those with us.

NLTAPA and its safety interests were also represented at several national meetings in the safety arena. Matthew Enders and Marie Walsh attended the AASHTO Safety Management Subcommittee (SMS) meeting; Tim Colling attended the TRB safety performance committee (ANB 25) midyear meeting; Marie Walsh attended the AASHTO Standing Committee on Highway Traffic Safety (SCOHTS) meeting; and several members attended the NACE annual meeting.

The Joint Safety Program is also focused on building safety partnerships with NACE and APWA at the affiliate/chapter level for LTAP/TTAP Centers. We have had conversations with APWA safety committee leadership, we are beginning to talk to the new safety

committee chair for NACE, and we are searching for successful Center partnerships with local NACE and APWA groups. If your Center has successfully partnered with a local NACE or APWA affiliate or chapter in the arena of safety, please share that information with the Joint Safety Program team.

If you are interested in joining the Joint Safety Program Workgroup and getting more active in the area of safety, please let us know.

## **NLTAPA REGION UPDATES**

### ***REGION 1***

This year, Region One (CT, NH, MA, ME, NJ, NY, RI, & VT) met in Claremont, New Hampshire during May 5-7 and was hosted by the University of New Hampshire Technology Transfer Center. More than 20 attendees convened in a renovated historic mill along the Sugar River; all but one of the states in the region was represented. Among the attendees were two new staff members from the Connecticut Technology Transfer Center- Safety Circuit Rider, Anthony Lorenzetti and Program Assistant, Nicole Creaturo.



The meeting agenda kicked off with updates from both FHWA, including the LTAP/TTAP Clearinghouse and the National Local Technical Assistance Program Association (NLTAPA). During this time, Jeff Zaharewicz from FHWA provided a “state of the program” overview and Janet Leli, NLTAPA Region Representative gave a summary report of the current activities of the NLTAPA workgroups and executive committee. About one half day was devoted to safety activities and a learning opportunity for the LTAP personnel. The FHWA Office of Safety presented the Systemic Safety Project Tool, which was well received by the group. We also looked back at the 2012 Local Road Safety Peer Exchange and re-visited some of the issues discussed at that time, and any changes made in our home states since then. In a related discussion, we looked at the 2013 Program Assessment Report (PAR)

results from the global LTAP/TTAP community and shared some of the new safety activities our Centers are conducting.

Some of the highlights from the group discussions included learning about Connecticut’s new Safety Circuit Rider program, finding out that some of our states have been invited to participate in their state Strategic Highway Safety Plan process, variations in how our Centers are conducting LPA support, and discussing how some of us are working with our states in deploying the SHRP 2 Traffic Incident Management training for first responders.

While most of us were looking ahead to the LTAP/TTAP summer conference in St. Louis, MO, this was the last region meeting for our colleague Erik Wells from the Vermont Local Roads Program. Erik is pursuing a career as the Human Resources Coordinator with the town of Milton, VT and he will be missed by us!

### ***REGION 2***

This year six of the seven TTAP Centers, Alaska LTAP, FHWA TPP, and Federal partners met in Anchorage, Alaska for the TTAP Region (NLTAPA Region 2) meeting. The TTAP Region meeting began with a communications workshop to teach TTAP staff more about digital photography, electronic newsletters, email campaigns, and web-based media. On day two, TTAPs gave Center reports, followed by the FHWA TPP Part 1 report, reports from Federal partners, and a presentation on the Rural Dust Initiative in Alaska. Day two finished up with part one of a project management workshop. The TTAP Region meeting wrapped up on day three with a presentation on the FHWA “Systemic Safety Project Tool,” Part 2 of the FHWA TPP report, discussion on the LTAP/TTAP Strategic Plan, the Clearinghouse report, and part two of the project management workshop.

Part of the region meeting included planning for the 17th Annual National Tribal Transportation Conference (NTTC), scheduled for September 22-25, 2014 at the Hilton Anchorage. The NTTC provides tribes an opportunity to exchange best practices and learn about programs and technologies from partners and colleagues. This conference is an excellent opportunity to learn about the Tribal Transportation Program (TTP, not to be confused with TPP). Any state, federal, or private agency looking to improve cooperation with tribal governments can gain from attending the NTTC, and LTAPs are strongly encouraged to participate as guests or presenters. Contact Byron Bluehorse (bdbbluehorse@alaska.edu) if you would like to be a presenter, or visit the conference Web site at <http://www.ttapnttc.com/> to register or submit a presentation proposal. The last NTTC was held in October 2013 in Prior Lake, Minnesota and attended by over 500 tribal, federal,

state, local, and private agency representatives. The Minnesota conference provided a chance for our clients to take part in workshops and sessions on Federal Updates, Planning, Safety Training, and much more. It also included tours to the 3M facility and Caterpillar Paving Training Center.

The TTAPs have been very busy hosting Safety Summits, conducting Road Safety Audits, developing course material for new courses, hosting advisory committee meetings, developing partnerships with State Safety Offices and holding various workshops and webinars. The Centers have also been collaborating on projects such as developing a new grant writing course and sharing resources like the mobile GIS lab.

Congratulations to Eastern Washington University, Michigan Technological University, and United Tribes Technical College on successful bids to continue TTAP cooperative agreements with FHWA. We are currently awaiting the award of the new Mountain West TTAP Center, formerly known as Colorado TTAP and hosted by Colorado State University.

The TTAP Region wishes success and a little time to relax in “retirement” to long standing TTAP colleagues and friends Dottie Fucetola - CSU TTAP, Ron Hall - CSU TTAP, and Richard Rolland - EWU TTAP. We wish you the very best in your new endeavors and anticipate seeing you soon, hopefully with a fishing pole instead of a presentation clicker in hand.

This spring the TTAPs bid farewell to Matt See Walker, our dear friend and colleague, who passed away after a long and successful career helping tribes in many capacities, the most recent as a Northern Plains TTAP staff member. We will remember your generosity, kindness, and wisdom, and we wish you eternal peace and happiness.

### **REGION 3**

After a great meeting in Boise, the region got together in Morgantown, WV in October for our regional meeting. The WV LTAP Center was a wonderful host and ran an excellent meeting. The WV Center’s advisory council was present for both days of the meeting, providing all of us with their insights and perspective. Outside of the discussions of Center operations, training, safety and technology, there was time for a tour of the first and only personal rapid transit (PRT) system in the US. All of the attendees were given a ride on the system as well as a visit to the control center and maintenance facility. And of course, there was time in the evening for the required socializing.

The region holds monthly conference calls which provide opportunities to exchange information, get a quick answer on something, and provide an opportunity to pass on information from the EC meetings. Also, the region was well represented in the annual Build a Better Mousetrap competition, with 3 of the 5 states in the region having entries. With this high participation rate, a regional winner is also being chosen and acknowledged with an award.

The next year will include the EDC 3 Kickoff event in DC in October, our next regional meeting to be hosted by the Maryland Center later that month and a systemic safety peer to peer exchange in November.

### **REGION 4**

Region 4, representing Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Puerto Rico, met for the 2014 Annual Meeting in historic St. Augustine, Florida, May 13 – 15, 2014. The meeting’s Agenda included topics on partnerships, safety, and K-12 workforce development programs.



During the meeting, each Center presented on their activities from the previous year in a Pecha Kucha format following in the footsteps of

the 2013 National Meeting in Boise. We realized that this format was not the best format for this type of presentation and next year will return to a more traditional format with plenty of time for questions and discussion. Craig Allred and Rosemarie Anderson from FHWA gave a presentation on the Systemic Safety Project Selection Tool, and Tony Young from the KY FHWA Division Office presented about the National Traffic Incident Management (TIMS) Training Program in Kentucky.

The meeting concluded with a discussion about the 2015 NLTAPA National Meeting being hosted by Region 4 in Savannah, GA. It was decided that the 2015 Regional Meeting will be held in the same location to view the hotel and get a feel for the way the National Meeting will be run.

Several states in our region were awarded ASAP grants from FHWA. Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, and North Carolina all received awards and will be using the funds for training and technical assistance projects in their states.



Region 4 also welcomed a new Center Director from Florida, Mr. Chris LeDew, P.E. Jaime Carreon from the Florida T2 Center was elected to the EC as the new Region 4 Representative.

## **REGION 5**

NLTAPA Region 5, containing Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio, held its Spring Regional Meeting in Columbus, OH, May 19 & 20, 2014. The Ohio LTAP Center hosted the meeting for the second year in a row. The event was structured as a Peer Exchange on Center Operations.

The Peer Exchange agenda included an overview of Center profiles with each Center leading a discussion on the following topics: choosing an instructor / developing training content, utilizing your advisory board / steering committee, effective needs assessments, Center newsletters and outreach, your Center's within with the department and larger organizations and working with partners in your state. Each topic segment began with a brief presentation by the Center leading the subject and then moved into a robust discussion of how Centers are handling the topics with an emphasis on sharing of best practices.

The regional meeting concluded with a half day presentation on the second day by the FHWA Office of Safety's designees, FHWA Indiana Division Safety Engineer Rick Drumm and FHWA Resource Center Safety and Design Team Engineer Jim Allen. They jointly presented on the new Systemic Safety Project Selection Tool. The information was well organized and helped to clarify the difference between Systematic Safety Improvements and Systemic Safety Improvements. The participants appreciated the opportunity to learn the information on this important new Safety Process firsthand in a small, participant-focused environment.

Region 5 also welcomed two new Center directors this past year – Robert McCullough as Indiana's new LTAP Director and Gwen Montgomery as Illinois's new LTAP Director. Both are a wonderful addition to Region 5's team of strong LTAP Center leadership.

Region 5 had a very productive Spring Regional Meeting and is looking forward to hosting the NLTAPA Summer Conference in 2016!

## **REGION 6**

The Region 6 annual meeting was a great opportunity for us to meet and learn from the other Centers. The meeting was held on March 13-14, 2014 in Texarkana, TX. Each participating Center reported on ongoing events in their States. We also received information concerning the Clearinghouse activities and our PAR reports.

## **Arkansas**

The Arkansas LTAP Center has been busy conducting training to our local partners throughout the State. In addition to our existing training, the Center launched



its ROADS Scholar Program which includes the following new courses: Asphalt Pavement Maintenance; Basis Pavement Management; Best Practices for Erosion on Unpaved Roads; and Stormwater Management which are taught by the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. These courses include effective technologies and techniques to extend the life span of our roadways. Training continues at various locations throughout the state at no charge to class participants.

## **Louisiana**

The Louisiana LTAP Center has led the development and statewide delivery of four LPA classes on the LA DOTD process for project application and development and management using federal aid funds. The partnership with the DOTD local programs and FHWA has been invaluable to improving the local/state and federal relationships.

The Center debuted and presented to 7 locations a class for supervisors entitled Creating a Safe Work Environment to great reviews. In addition to presenting our own work zone safety/traffic control classes, they coordinated two ATSSA Work Zone Safety Grant classes for the locals. Through FHWA, ITE, APWA, and TRB, they held 11 webinars with discussions.

The Center provided extensive support to formation of the new Regional Safety Coalition in the Capital Region (Baton Rouge area) and participated on the Statewide SHSP Implementation Team activities in all emphasis areas. They participated in the Infrastructure Teams for the five Regional Safety Coalitions in addition to our Local Road Safety Program (LRSP) outreach and project implementation activities. They are also developing a new Strategic Communication Plan for LTAP/LRSP to enhance outreach efforts.

The Center is working with LSU's Highway Safety Research Group to improve and institutionalize access to, and evaluation of, data for local agencies/MPO's/ Regional Safety Coalitions. The Center also

coordinated implementation and conducted training for a TAM Pilot project with three Louisiana agencies as part of a pilot project designed to evaluate asset management for pavement and sign inventories in local agencies using the Roadsoft software package.

### ***New Mexico***

The New Mexico LTAP Center has partnered with the Gravel Roads Academy to conduct a Basic of a Good Gravel Road and Soil Stabilization workshop for the County of Santa Fe. This was one of the many successes for NM LTAP. It was a great public and private partnership to work on a project where the collaboration and contribution of training funds, equipment, and staff culminated in a roadway project's goal of making a dirt road safer by stabilizing the base and suppressing dust. Another success was by improving how the Center became more involved with the stakeholders through the RTPO and MPO organizations, partnering with the New Mexico Association of Counties, Statewide Safety Committee, and developing relationships with the private sector to contribute to being able to offer a variety of training that quickly identify client needs and promptly adapt to meet their training requests.

The NM LTAP on-site heavy equipment instructor recently received an evaluation from a client that said, "NM LTAP's instructor Eric Garcia is the Chuck Norris of Heavy Equipment Instructors."

### ***Oklahoma***

The Oklahoma LTAP Center (OK LTAP) located at Oklahoma State University's, College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology's (CEAT), Center for Local Government Technology (CLGT) is having another successful year providing training and technical assistance for the municipal and county transportation departments of the state and for the tribal governments of the nation in conjunction with CLGT's Southern Plains Transportation Center. OK LTAP has conducted numerous classes of its Roads Scholar Program as well as other professional and vocational offerings. FHWA Every Day Counts (EDC) webinars are also being facilitated including morning sessions, prior to the national broadcast, that feature subject matter experts delivering presentations on state initiatives and experiences that relate to the subject at hand. CLGT continues to operate its Transportation Intern Program (TIP) that places students from transportation related degree programs in paid summer internships with local and tribal government transportation agencies. Over the five years this program has operated, these student interns have not only benefited from real world experiences that relate to their education and accomplished significant work for their hosting agencies, but they have also demonstrated many of the principles and practices

advocated by OKLTAP in its classes conducted for local government agencies.

### ***Texas***

The Texas Lone Star LTAP Center hosted a peer exchange which was conducted in San Antonio in April. Directors from seven Centers joined Texas for two days of in-depth discussion about ways for Centers to become more effective in identifying and developing service markets; acquisition, preparation, and use of curricula.

For the first time in recent memory the Texas Legislature appropriated special funding (\$225 M) for county roads. It is targeted for roads impacted by the extensive oil and gas production occurring across the state. Applications for use of these funds had to be submitted by early March, and had to include cost estimates for all proposed projects. In mid-December TxDOT tasked the Center with providing training on planning-level cost estimation. A half-day workshop was designed, and seven engineer-instructors were trained on the new materials. By the end of January, 21 sessions had been conducted at host locations scattered across the state. These workshops serviced 59 counties and 253 participants.

The Center initiated innovative schools in Motor Grader Proficiency. The one-day classroom session emphasizes how to use a motor grader to best advantage for making highest use of expensive materials, developing a proper crown, and managing drainage. This is followed with three or four days in the field providing at-the-controls instruction for three to four students per day.

### ***REGION 7***



Region 7 held their Annual Regional meeting in December in St. Louis, MO. Hilton at the Ballpark. The annual meeting was held in December to

begin planning the 2014 National LTAP/TTAP Annual Conference. The group toured several attractions in the area for the National LTAP/TTAP conference. In 2015 the Regional Meeting will be back on track to meet in May or June.



The Region 7 29th Annual Local Roads Conference will be held October 22-23, 2014 in Rapid City, SD. Registration for the conference will be available August 28, 2014. Book your rooms early at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel, as the hotel will fill up quickly. The NACE Board of Directors will meet during the Local Roads Conference.

Region 7 members voted on a new name for the Region. The new proposed name for Region 7 is North Central Region. This will go into effect if the proposed NLTAPA Bylaw changes are passed at the National LTAP/TTAP Conference.

### ***Colorado***

Colorado LTAP had a rocky start to the 2013/2014 fiscal year. Lindsay Marshall left the Center after 10 years as Training Coordinator to attend Graduate School in Kentucky. Lindsay was one of the Center's only 2.25 FTE. Colorado LTAP spent much of the fall helping local agencies recover from the historic devastating floods that consumed Northern Colorado in September. While frantically researching available resources for locals, Center operations were ceased for a week as the Center was located in the flood zone. Classes and conferences scheduled in the affected area were canceled and rescheduled. Through input from other Centers that have dealt with similar disasters, Renée developed a presentation titled, "Preparing Local Agencies for Natural Disasters," that has since been presented at several conferences and training courses. In addition to maintaining Center operations in state, Renée served as NLTAPA President, participated in two FHWA Safety Peer Exchanges in MN, participated on the Steering Committee for the state's SHSP update, served on the state's new STIC Advisory Committee, and was elected to the CO Chapter APWA Board of Directors. The Center welcomed a new Training Coordinator and Cassandra Guild jumped right in and tackled every obstacle thrown. Center staff is eagerly looking forward to the calm after the storm....

### ***Iowa***

Iowa LTAP is in a transition year and will have a full turnover of its entire staff in 2014. The focus will be to remain involved with critical and essential events and workshops during this year. Those efforts that can or should be taken on by collaborating partners will be shed and assistance provided to those partners as needed. Funding support has also changed and alternatives will need to be pursued. In addition, Iowa LTAP will be kicking off its redesigned Roads Scholar program, identifying and addressing research technology transfer efforts, investigating the idea of regional training collaborations, pursuing more diversity in its training planning committees, and, as

time allows, developing an Iowa LTAP local safety plan.

### ***Kansas***

Kansas LTAP has identified highway safety as a strong strategic priority, and we are involved with the State's SHSP in developing a strong local road safety component. LTAP has a representative on the state's Executive Safety Council and two staff members are on SHSP chapter teams (local roads, education and older drivers). Kansas LTAP is developing a Safety Circuit Rider program in cooperation with KDOT, and is in the process of developing a pilot short course on Acquisition and Use of Crash Data and Information to Reduce Crashes on Local Roads.

A new training series beginning later this summer will be on "Low-Cost GIS Solutions for Cities and Counties," a hands-on series that will train in data acquisition, managing and manipulating the data, and applying the data to asset management tasks with free or low-cost GIS tools. A webinar series on Right-of-Way Management is in development for launch in the fall.

Kansas continues its strong publication development with newsletter content, fact sheets and field guides. Visit the Kansas LTAP web site at <http://www.ksltap.org> for further information on these useful tools including their recently updated brochure on road stress due to heavy loads, Maintaining Crushed Road Roads Fact Sheet, and the Maintaining Sand Roads Fact Sheet. Additional publications under development are the Field Guide for Culverts and Streams, and a Field Guide on Roadside Safety for Local Roads.

Kansas continues its successful 3-level Roads Scholar program

Kansas's LTAP Director, Dr. Tom Mulinazzi, retired in May. He plans to continue to be a trainer for LTAP for safety courses now and then. Pat Weaver, LTAP Program Manager, is the new LTAP Director.

### ***Missouri***

Missouri LTAP experienced another strong year for training. The number of trainings offered increased, and the number of attendees per training increased slightly. Several partnership training opportunities were held around the state, which included a Gravel Roads Academy and Chip Seal Showcases in three locations held in partnership with the state DOT and FHWA division office. Missouri restructured their Show-Me Road Scholar Program to include a third level. The level 3 is focused on supervisory skills and workforce development, which was previously the second level. Level 2 is now focused on advanced

maintenance skills and advanced safety topics. Several new classes for level 2 have been developed. These include: Bucket Truck Operation & Safety, Confined Spaces, Construction Documents 101 (Reading Blueprints & Deciphering Specifications), Fall Protection & Personal Protective Equipment, Forklift Operation & Safety, Introduction to Materials (Concrete, Asphalt & General Materials), and Trenching & Shoring. Finally, the Missouri LTAP Web site was revamped to be housed on the university's server to be more secure.

### ***Montana***

Montana LTAP's biggest partnering effort during 2013 was with Daniel Alzamora, FHWA, regarding the Every Day Counts GRS-IBS Showcase at Dupuyer, Montana, along with Montana Department of Transportation and Montana FHWA office. MT LTAP focused on assisting several Public Works Directors (cities) this past year in establishing a pavement asset management program using PASER (Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating). All three spring Gravel Road seminars (mostly counties) were overfilled. Work with MDT on temporary traffic control courses continued. MDT sent two division reps to MT LTAP's Safety Congress to discuss their temporary traffic control pros and cons, getting everyone on the same page regarding safety in the work zone. Twenty-five Roads Scholars were awarded Level I along with two Road Masters – Level II, indicative of the interest in this program. Their live and recorded monthly safety webinars were used by local governments for their monthly safety meetings. Local governments received safety credits from their insurance providers when attending their webinars. They assisted MDT with broadcast announcements to local governments regarding TLN (Transportation Learning Network) training at the eleven Montana sites.

### ***Nebraska***

Nebraska LTAP continues to cultivate a strong relationship with NDOR and having the opportunity to offer locals an extensive training and support program. LTAP started planning with NDOR Transportation Incident Management, TIM, training, an EDC2 initiative from FHWA. Discussions started for LTAP to support the Board of Classifications and Standards and also the Board of Licensing for Highway Superintendent's. LTAP co-hosted the asphalt conference with NDOR and the concrete conference with Nebraska Concrete Paving Association.

In November LTAP's new director, Nicole Frankl, came on board. William Bivin became the rural transit coordinator in December.

### ***North Dakota***

North Dakota LTAP has experienced a change of leadership this past year. Darcy Rosendahl, resigned from the position of ND LTAP director as of September 1, 2013. Rosendahl returned to NDDOT as Deputy Director of Operations. The new ND LTAP Director – Dale Heglund was hired January 2014.

ND LTAP implemented a Truck-Weight and Education Program in 2013. NDDOT awarded ND LTAP with a grant to conduct 16 training sessions throughout North Dakota. The North Dakota Truck-Weight Education and Outreach Program addresses concerns from state, county, city and township transportation authorities regarding damage from heavy trucks. Explanations are provided which explain road weights during various times of the year.

ND LTAP continues to have a strong partnership with the Transportation Learning Network (TLN). Through TLN training is conducted via video conference and webinars. Approximately 43 training sessions were held 2013/2014

### ***South Dakota***

SD LTAP added service in three primary areas in the past year – (1) initiating more hands-on training in equipment operation (our number one customer request for service), (2) holding region workshops for managers, and (3) making a concentrated effort to reach the township level of government in SD. Operator training involved reshape of a county gravel road working with county motor grader operators. Another test of operator training was done in a township with operators and supervisors in attendance. This work was also complimented by three field demonstrations of chloride treatment of gravel using motorgraders, water trucks and compaction equipment.

Region management workshops were offered in Rapid City, Aberdeen and Sioux Falls. A two-day format covering four topics was used. Topics included Soil Stabilization and Geotextiles, Pavement Management, Bridge Management, and Sharing of Best Practices-Local Panels. Evaluations were excellent for these workshops.

In order to reach townships more effectively, county-wide meetings were held in 12 locations with all townships from the county invited. In one case, all townships from three counties were invited. Attendance was over 70 people which made this a very efficient way to provide training. With just over 900 organized townships in SD, it is very difficult to reach every individual township; however, SD LTAP reached nearly as many townships in 2013 as in the previous 10 years combined.

An opportunity came to work with two visiting senior engineering students from Malaysia last summer. The students provided assistance in gravel testing, analyzing subgrade and base strength on sample road sections and compiled life cycle cost outlines for four surface types that will be used to help our customers. It helped them understand local transportation in the USA and provided valuable support to our staff.

### ***Wyoming***

The Wyoming LTAP Center has been helping counties with their Pavement Management System (PMS). The effort to build a statewide PMS for county roads received a major boost this year. WYDOT and FHWA provided funding to initiate the program. This funding will allow us to collect pavement condition data on all county paved roads. The Center will then reduce it and summarize it for county use. In addition, GPR data will be collected. Such data will provide counties with pavement and bases thicknesses on all roads. The collected data will be hosted on the Wyoming LTAP web site. All counties will have access to the data set to do their own data analysis. In addition, the Wyoming LTAP will prepare a comprehensive report for all counties. Such report will be presented to the Wyoming legislature to justify the need for higher level of funding for local roads.

### ***REGION 9***

The Region 9 meeting this year was held in Sacramento, CA. This is the first time that all nine region states have been present at a region meeting! We also had one TTAP Center (Western TTAP) that was able to join us, for a total of 10 Centers at the meeting. With significant turnover in the Region over the past 2-3 years, our meeting focused on information that would be especially helpful to new Centers/directors. A few highlights from Region 9 Centers from the past year are:

### ***Alaska***

Has a new organizational structure within Alaska DOT. Undertook a major online training effort for OSHA required training (nearly doubling the number of LTAP participants for the year).

### ***Arizona***

Has an active 3-level Road Scholar program with over 2000 participants involved from nearly 70 local agencies.

### ***California***

Still developing new training program, including conducting annual needs assessments, building an instructor pool, and creating an advisory board.

### ***Hawaii***

Administration and management of Hawaii LTAP has been transferred back to the Hawaii Department of Transportation, Highways Division. New contact information: HDOT/HWY, 869 Punchbowl St, Honolulu HI 96813, c/o Robert Miyasaki, Engineering Program Manager.

### ***Idaho***

Hired a communications specialist to update Web sites, brochures, etc. The Center is currently in its first year of construction of local agency HSIP-funded projects.

### ***Nevada***

Has a new program manager (Randy Bowling). The Center completed the first NDOT Maintenance Academy in 5 years.

### ***Oregon***

Still undergoing transition with a new ODOT Research Manager, a new Center director, and a new program coordinator. The Center is hiring a new safety circuit rider and is also expanding its Road Scholar program to add a 2nd level.

### ***Utah***

Has just begun a new Road Scholar program. The Center has a strong partnership with the local APWA chapter, organizing and teaching one of the tracks for APWA conferences in the state.

### ***Washington***

Added one FTE to the Center staff to develop online training. The Center also provided crash data summaries to all counties for the first time this year.

Next year our Region 9 meeting will be hosted by the Washington State LTAP Center.

### ***FROM THE INCOMING PRESIDENT***

*Valerie Pitts, KY LTAP  
2014/2015 NTLAPA President*

Dear LTAP/TTAP Family,

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as your NLTAPA President for the upcoming year. I look forward to expanding upon the great work accomplished by Renée and the officers that have come before me. I am also excited to have a fantastic Executive Committee to work with for the next year.



Since joining the Executive Committee in 2009, I've served as Region 4 Representative and Secretary for the Association. During my time on the EC I've led or participated in a number of exciting projects to improve the way the Association serves its members, including refining our conference planning, updating the Constitution and Bylaws, and numerous other member driven efforts. Our Association is growing and I am excited to be a part of its future.

During my term I will focus on three key directives, the first of which is communication. The importance of communicating within our Association and with our partners is vital to continuing the growth and delivering industry trends, standards and best practices that will benefit all our constituents.

My second directive for the organization is increased learning and networking opportunities for our members through our Joint Professional Development Program with FHWA by



providing more resources and training opportunities for Center staff and opportunities to get greater involvement from Centers on the national level.

The third directive is participation. Volunteerism is the foundation of our organization. Whether you choose to join a workgroup or an Executive Committee position, with minimal time vested, you have the opportunity to impact the organization, our membership and our future. Our group is member driven – we are the ones that must engage one another and our partners to be successful and grow.

It is because of the wonderful relationships that I have gained with members all over the country that I value the opportunity to serve the Association as your President. Once again, thank you for your support and I look forward to a fabulous year!

Valerie Pitts  
Kentucky LTAP