



Rail Transportation Division Newsletter

Editor: Tom Guins

Summer 2013

Chair's Message



My first official comment as the new Chair of the Rail transportation Division is to thank all of our volunteers for a fantastic previous year! Thanks especially go to our outgoing chair, Matthew Dick, who did a wonderful job, and ushered the division through two successful conferences and showed tremendous leadership in navigating our division through some policy changes of our parent organization, the ASME.

Since 1920, the Rail Transportation Division has been an active participant in the rail industry making our division the longest serving division in the ASME! This fall, we are coming to Altoona, Pennsylvania. Altoona was once home to the largest locomotive shop in North America, and was the home of the first laboratory established primarily for railroad research in 1879. In 1883, sparks generated from testing of a locomotive at the laboratory carried to the nearby

locomotive shop, which burned to the ground. I guess that event provided the real estate for a newer and bigger locomotive shop! During the FTC, you will have an opportunity to visit the Locomotive shops of NS. Our after conference tour is of the world famous Horseshoe Curve. You will gain a deep respect for the innovative engineering of J. Edgar Thomson and his staff. Next year, the original Horseshoe Curve in Altoona will celebrate 160 years since its opening in 1854.

Next spring, Colorado Springs will host our Joint Rail Conference, the largest multidisciplinary railroad conference in North America. The JRC is a collaborative effort of ASME-RTD, IEEE, ASCE, APTA, AREMA, INFORM-RAS, TRB, and NURail. Every third year the ASME-RTD is the lead organizer (the intervening years are led by either the ASCE or IEEE). When the JRC has been held during an ASME-RTD lead year, we collaborate with the AAR Annual Technology Review, which means our conferences are during the same week, utilize the same facilities and our conference will enjoy a visit to the Transportation Technology Center in Pueblo. Since the Annual Review is held immediately before the JRC, you can attend both events in the same week. Remember to register separately for both events if you wish to attend both.

We have been very busy organizing these two conferences. Two years is our normal lead time to organize a conference, so we have also begun to work on our Joint Rail conference for 2014, Fall Technical Conference for 2014 and the Joint Rail Conference in 2015. You will hear more about these conferences later.

For those of you who have attended our conferences before, we thank you for your enduring support, and look forward to seeing our friends again. If you have never attended either of our conferences, we welcome you, and fervently hope your enjoyment of our efforts will bring you back again and again!

Steve Dedmon, Chair

Past Chair's Message



As with previous newsletters, I am happy to report that the Rail Transportation Division is continuing to do very well. We recently completed the 2013 Joint Rail Conference and are currently preparing for the 2013 RTD Fall Technical Conference.

On April 16-18, the RTD co-hosted the 2013 Joint Rail Conference in Knoxville TN with numerous partnering organizations. ASCE was the lead organization with IEEE, APTA, AREMA, INFORMS-RAS, and TRB contributing. Additionally, the 2013 JRC was the first conference with NURAIL participating on the organization committee. NURAIL is a consortium of universities focused on rail industry research and is led by Chris Barkan from the University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign. The 2013 JRC proved to be another successful conference with numerous papers, presentations, and posters from railroads, transits, suppliers, government, and academia. The dinner speaker was Wick Moorman, the Chairman, President, and CEO of Norfolk Southern. Mr. Moorman gave a very interesting and dynamic talk about Norfolk Southern's past, present, and future. Lastly, the conference hosted four technical tours, that included the Norfolk Southern John Sevier Yard, Knoxville Locomotive Works facility, Timken – Mascot Plant, and the Knoxville UTK Engineering buildings. We want to thank all the volunteers and authors that have dedicated countless hours making the conference a success. The JRC organizing committee is already working on the 2014 Joint Rail Conference, which will be held in Colorado following the AAR Annual Research Review..

As you can see, the RTD has a lot of exciting activities ahead of us. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming conferences.

Sincerely,

Fall Technical Conference 2013, Altoona, PA. October 15-17, 2013. Registration Information:

Registration Type	Early Bird Discount until 10-1-2013		Conf. Registration after 10-1-2013	
	Full Conference	Single Day	Full Conference	Single Day
Member or Chair	410	290	510	390
Non-Member	490	370	590	470
Student/Retiree	100	75	125	100
Life Member	100	75	125	100
Exhibitor Only	100	100	100	100
Conf. Tour	20	20	20	20
After Conf. Tour	20	20	20	20

Please note that meals are included with all registration types. Extra banquet tickets for those bringing guests are \$50 each. Hours and locations for on-site registration and badge pick-up are:

Monday at the Marriott Hotel from 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM;

Tuesday at the Conference Center 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM;

Wednesday at the Marriott Hotel 7:00 AM to 8:00 AM;

Wednesday to Penn State Campus 12:30 PM to 3:00 PM.

On-line registration will open soon and can be accessed from the ASME-RTD Conference website:

<http://www.asmeconferences.org/RTDF2013/ConfRegistration.cfm>

FUTURE MEETINGS

2013 - FTC: Altoona, PA, OCT 15-17, 2013

INFORMATION: www.asmeconferences.org/RTDF2013

2014 - JRC: Colorado Springs, CO, April 2-4, 2014

2014 – FTC: Tampa, FL - “Tentative,” Dates TBD

2015 - JRC: San Jose, CA, April 14-16, 2015

2015 - FTC: Venue & Dates TBD

Note that all dates and locations are subject to change as planning progresses.

ASME RAIL TRANSPORTATION DIVISION 2013 RTD FALL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE (FTC) Tour of Norfolk Southern Juniata Locomotive Shop

The Juniata Locomotive Shop in Altoona, PA, was originally constructed and operated by the Pennsylvania Railroad, a predecessor of Penn Central and Conrail. The first locomotive was constructed at the Altoona Works in 1866. Today the Juniata Locomotive Shop serves as the system locomotive repair and overhaul shop for Norfolk Southern. It is one of the largest locomotive shops in the world.

Walking tour will take approximately 1-1/2 hours.

Safety Equipment – Ear plugs, safety glasses and hard hats will be provided, if you do not bring your own. Steel toed shoes are preferred for the tour. If you do not have steel toes, shoes must be of sturdy construction, with definite heel, and preferably with ankle support. NO open toed shoes or sneakers are allowed.

The tour will begin in the “Model Room” at the Juniata Locomotive Shop with a safety briefing and tour overview, and then will proceed via walking in smaller groups to see the following areas:

- Truck Shop
- Traction Motor Shop
- Main Repair Bay
- Back Shop
- Capital Projects Line
- Overhaul Line
- Turntable
- Welding Shop
- Paint Shop – Weather Permitting

Keynote Speaker 2013 RTD Fall Technical Conference Dr. Lori J. Bechtel-Wherry



For more than twenty-nine years, Dr. Lori J. Bechtel-Wherry has been a proud member of the Penn State Altoona family. She is a professor of biobehavioral health and women's studies and a member of the University's graduate faculty. In 2005, Dr. Bechtel-Wherry was appointed as Penn State Altoona's Chancellor and Dean, the first woman to hold such a position in the college's history.

On July 1, 1997, the Penn State Altoona Campus became Penn State Altoona, a four-year baccalaureate degree-granting college of the University. As a senior member of the college's faculty, Dr. Bechtel-Wherry played a significant role in that transition and has continued to lead the college in its ongoing success. She served as the first head of the division of Education, Human Development, and Social Sciences, one of the college's four academic divisions. Later, she served as the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Interim CEO and Dean before taking on the role of Chancellor and Dean.

Dr. Bechtel-Wherry's research interests involve primary prevention, specifically substance abuse prevention, curriculum development, and comprehensive school health education. She has published nearly forty articles and manuscripts in refereed journals, authored one book and several book chapters, and has secured over two million dollars in external funding to support her research. Because of her academic research and experience as a college administrator and faculty member, Dr. Bechtel-Wherry has been invited to serve as a presenter, panel member, or keynote speaker at numerous conferences, meetings, and panel discussions.

Dr. Bechtel-Wherry's leadership and influence extend beyond the University as an active member of the Blair County community, working with numerous charitable, non-profit, and economic development organizations. She serves on the board of directors for the Altoona Blair County Development Corporation, the Blair County Arts Foundation, and the Blair County Chamber of Commerce, among others. She has served on various steering committees and as campaign chairs for Easter Seals of Blair County, the United Way of Blair County, and Junior Achievement.

Dr. Bechtel-Wherry has received a wide array of awards for her teaching, research, leadership, and community service including the university's George W. Atherton Award for Excellence in Teaching, the College of Health and Human Development's Dorothy Jones Barnes Teaching Award and Faculty Achievement Award, Penn State's Commission for Women Achieving Woman Award in two categories - faculty and administration, Lock Haven University's Distinguished Alumni Award, the Distinguished Service Award from the Pennsylvania School Health Association, the Volunteer of the Year Award from the American Cancer Society, the Blair County Chamber of Commerce Athena Award, and the YWCA Achieving Woman Award, among others.

**ASME RAIL TRANSPORTATION DIVISION
2013 RTD FALL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE (FTC)
OCTOBER 15-17, 2013 – ALTOONA, PA**

NEXT GENERATION RAILROADS, NEXT GENERATION RAILROADERS:

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2013:

7:30 am - 8:15 am Conference Continental Breakfast at Blair County Convention Center

RTD TECHNICAL SESSIONS – BLAIR COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER

8:30 am - 10:15 am Technical Session 1 -

10:30 am - 12:15 pm Technical Session 2 -

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Conference Luncheon at Convention Center – NO PROGRAM

1:45 pm - 3:30 pm Technical Session 3 -

3:45 pm - 5:30 pm Technical Session 4 -

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Conference Reception and Banquet at Convention Center

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2013:

CONFERENCE TECHNICAL TOUR AND LUNCH: (must be pre-registered, \$20 tour fee)

7:00 am - Continental breakfast at Marriott

7:45 am - Bus leaves Marriott to NS Juniata Loco Shop

10:30 pm - Bus leaves to PENN STATE ALTOONA DEVORRIS DOWNTOWN CENTER

11:00 am - 12:00 pm Lunch at PSU

RTD TECHNICAL SESSIONS – PENN STATE ALTOONA DEVORRIS DOWNTOWN CENTER

12:15 pm - 2:15 pm Technical Session 5 -

2:30 pm - 4:30 pm Technical Session 6 -

4:45 pm - Bus leaves to Reception

5:00 pm - 7:30 pm Conference Reception at Rail Roaders Memorial Museum

7:45 pm - Bus leaves for return to Marriott Hotel

END OF CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17 2013:

POST-CONFERENCE TOUR TO HORSESHOE CURVE: (must be pre-registered, \$20 fee)

7:30 am - 8:30 am Buffet Breakfast at Hotel

8:45 am - Bus leaves for Horseshoe Curve

11:30 am - Bus leaves for return to Hotel

Registration Desk Hours and Locations:

Monday - 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm at Marriott Hotel

Tuesday - 7:00 am - 5:00 pm at Convention Center

Wednesday - 7:00 am - 8:00 am at Marriott Hotel

12:30 pm - 3:00 pm at PSU

V. Terrey Hawthorne Memorial Scholarship Fund Activity Report

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Rail Transportation Division (RTD) continues to be a strong supporter of collegiate researchers, both professors and students, who play a vital role in the advancement of the rail industry. To this end, the ASME RTD offers the ASME RTD Graduate and Undergraduate Student Conference Scholarships, which give students the opportunity to network with rail professionals, present rail research publications, and exchange ideas on rail technological innovations and solutions at the world's premier rail industry conferences including the ASME Joint Rail Conference (JRC) and the ASME RTD Fall Technical Conference. Most importantly, the scholarships increase the awareness of the rail engineering discipline from both an academic and professional perspective.

At this year's ASME Joint Rail Conference in Knoxville, Tennessee, twelve graduate and five undergraduate student conference scholarships were awarded. Congratulations to the recipients and we would like to thank you for your interest and participation in the ASME Joint Rail Conference!

The ASME RTD will be offering graduate and undergraduate student conference scholarships in support of the ASME Rail Transportation Division Fall Technical Conference in Altoona, PA on October 15-17, 2013. The details of each scholarship are provided below.

ASME RTD Graduate Student Conference Scholarship

Purpose: Fund travel, lodging, and conference registration expenses for scholarship awardees selected to attend and present their research publication at the ASME Joint Rail Conference or ASME Rail Transportation Division Fall Technical Conference.

Award Amount: \$1,100.00 USD

Requirements:

- The student must submit an abstract and written paper for an ASME conference and have them both accepted through the papers submission and review process.
- The paper topic must be relevant to the rail industry.
- The student must be lead author of the accepted paper.
- The student must receive written notification from the ASME RTD indicating the award of the scholarship.
- The student must deliver an oral presentation of the paper in person at the conference.
- The student must be enrolled and attending a U.S. college or university.

ASME RTD Undergraduate Student Conference Scholarship

Purpose: Fund travel, lodging, and conference registration expenses for scholarship awardees selected to attend the ASME Joint Rail Conference or ASME Rail Transportation Division Fall Technical Conference.

Award Amount: \$850.00 USD

Requirements:

- The student must be of Junior or Senior status.
- The student must be enrolled in an undergraduate engineering program at their university, college, or technical college.
- The student must complete the application by the deadline indicated.
- The student must submit a maximum 750-word essay outlining why they should be selected to attend the conference and what they hope to gain through attendance (or what the student could contribute to the rail industry). Or, alternatively, a 750-word essay can be submitted that suggests a solution to a real-world rail industry problem.
- The student must be enrolled and attending a U.S. college or university.

If you, or anyone you may know, has an interest in the ASME RTD Graduate and/or Undergraduate Student Conference Scholarship or has questions regarding the V. Terrey Hawthorne Memorial Scholarship Fund, please contact Ms. Monique F. Stewart, ASME RTD Scholarship Program Chair, at FRA-RSEC.PMO@dot.gov.

FEATURED UNIVERSITY - PENN STATE ALTOONA



Rail Transportation Engineering (RTEAL)

The Rail Transportation Engineering degree at Penn State Altoona will provide an opportunity to participate in the worldwide resurgence of rail transportation. We have created a real engineering degree for serious students who see their future in an area that is drawing increasing public attention. Executives in the transit industry, project managers, consulting engineers, and government officials have all told us of their need to hire engineers with the kind of training that Penn State now offers at the Altoona campus. If you are interested in the role of railroads in protecting the environment or fighting highway congestion, this is the program for you. If you want to be a part of a developing passenger rail system in this country, you will need the training that Penn State Altoona now offers.

Program Highlights

Rail Transportation Engineering majors pursue a curriculum based upon Civil Engineering, but with added courses related specifically to transportation and rail.

Students will take three hands-on courses (which we call "practica") allowing them to work with real railroad equipment. One practicum relates to track, one to cars and locomotives, and one to the operation of trains. Students will use modern equipment to learn the fundamentals of train operations. They will work on the ground with real track and real locomotives, and will work to solve the real problems of active railroading.

At the same time, students will be learning how to use the advanced mathematical tools expected of all engineers, and they will experience the full range of basic engineering courses. Topics include materials science, statics, dynamics, structures, and an array of offerings designed to teach how and why things work.

Moreover, the Rail Transportation Engineering Program offers training in business fundamentals to enable the student to see how railroads connect with society at large and how and why railroads are useful. The student will take courses in the history and regulatory structure of railroads, accounting, and project management. Woven into these courses will be units on Labor Relations, the relationship between railroads and the federal, state, and local governments and an introduction to the real estate issues affecting railroads.

Altoona is a center of railroad activity, with major railroad shops as well as the widely-respected Altoona Railroader's Memorial Museum. In addition, the city is located at the foot of the famous Horseshoe Curve, where the main line from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh climbs the Allegheny escarpment. If you have strong academic credentials and an interest in the resurgent railroad field, consider joining us at Penn State Altoona to obtain your four-year degree in Rail Transportation Engineering.

New RTD Appointments

The ASME RTD is very excited to announce the following new appointments:

Appointment to the Executive Committee:

Cory Hogan (TUV Rheinland Rail Sciences, Inc.) has been appointed to be the Publicity Chair and serve on the Executive Committee. Cory has been a member of the RTD General Committee and served as Assistant Chair Publicity Committee.

Appointments to the General Committee:

- Kari Gonzales (TTCI) – Member at Large
- Bryan Schlake (Norfolk Southern) – Member at Large
- Brian Donohue (Parsons Brinkerhoff) – Member at Large
- Grace Madden (EMD) – Member at Large
 - Grace was recently appointed to the General Committee and now has accepted the position of Chair Locomotives on the Progress Reports Committee.
- Michael Burshtin (Amtrak) – Member at Large
 - Michael volunteered to be a member of the RTD History and Heritage Committee.



Rail Transportation Division Committee Meeting at the 2013 JRC in Knoxville.

**RTD thanks the following list of companies for their generous support.
These supporters make success of our technical conferences possible.
2013 JRC Knoxville**

Sponsors and Advertisers

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ENSCO, Inc.
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Penn State Altoona RTE
Progress Rail Services
RailAdvisor
Standard Steel, LLC
Strato, INC.
STV, Incorporated
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Tensar
TUV Rheinland Rail Sciences Inc.

Exhibitors

LB Foster
Rail Solution
RailAdvisor
Fugro Aerial & Mobile Mapping
URETEK
Knoxville Locomotive Works
GeoFabrics
University of Illinois - Urbana Champaign

Membership Report

There are 61 non-members who have paid the full non-member conference fee for the 2013 JRC in Knoxville. We are now inviting them to join ASME with a one-year free membership.

**ASME RAIL TRANSPORTATION DIVISION
COMMITTEE MEMBERS
JULY 1, 2013 -- JUNE 30, 2014**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (7)

Steve Dedmon - Chair
Michelle Muhlanger
Bob Irving
Jeff Gordon
Cory Hogan
Sam Williams
Nick Darien

ADVISORY COMMITTEE (5)

Matt Dick - Chair
Jason Reiling
David Tyrell
Jerry Anderson
Cameron Lonsdale

HONORARY MEMBERS (5)

Roger Sims
Dave Cackovic
Al Bieber
John Punwani
Leonard McLean

**GENERAL COMMITTEE-AT
LARGE (20)**

Steve Dedmon - Chair
Mehdi Ahmadian
Larry Biess
Michael L. Burshtin
Li Cheng
Brian Donohue
Kari Gonzales
Tom Guins
Ken Hesser
Yan Liu
Grace Madden
Rafael Maldonado
Corey Pasta
Anand Prabhakaren
Devin Rouse

Bryan Schlake
Tom Schlueter
Todd Snyder
Paul Steets
Monique Stewart
Gary Wolf

**RTD MEMBERS ON ASME
COMMITTEES:**

SPERRY BOARD:

S.K. (John) Punwani –
ASME Representative
Richard W. Dawson
(Honorary)

Phone: (630) 983-0262

Email:

dickdawson@comcast.net

Bernard J. Eck
(Honorary)

E. Thomas Harley
(Honorary)

Phone: (610) 265-5391

Email: harleypd@msn.com

Leonard McLean
(Honorary)

**ENVIRONMENT &
TRANSPORTATION
TECHNICAL**

**GROUP OPERATING
BOARD (E&TG):**

Samuel R. Williams –
Member at Large
Steve Dedmon – RTD
Chair

Michelle Muhlanger –
next RTD Chair

**CONFERENCE PLANNING
COMMITTEE (CPC):**

Samuel R. Williams –
Rep. from E&TG

**ASME CODES &
STANDARDS COMMITTEE
"RT" –**

**RAIL TRANSIT VEHICLE
STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

Michael L. Burshtin –
Vice Chair

ASME STAFF SUPPORT:

- Stephen Crane

Program Manager
ASME
2 Park Avenue, MS-7-2B
New York, NY 10016-5990

Phone: (212) 591-8258

FAX: (212) 591-7856

E-mail: cranes@asme.org

- LaShion Pettiford

Administrator, Technical Units
ASME
2 Park Avenue, MS 7-2B
New York, NY 10016-5990

Phone: (212) 591-7387

FAX: (212) 591-7671

E-mail: pettifordl@asme.org

-Stacey Cooper

Coordinator, Webtool &
Electronic Proceedings
Publishing
ASME International, MS 22S1
2 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10016-5990

Phone: (212) 591-7788

Fax: (212) 591-7292

Email: coopersl@asme.org Or:
toolboxhelp@asme.org

**ASME RAIL TRANSPORTATION DIVISION COMMITTEE MEMBERS
JULY 1, 2013 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2014**

**POSITION & CONTACT
INFORMATION**

**RTD CHAIR & CHAIR GENERAL
RR-2 &**

EXECUTIVE RR-1 COMMITTEES:

Steven L. Dedmon (E) (07/08)
Director – Technology and R & D
Standard Steel, LLC
500 North Walnut Street
Burnham, PA 17009

Phone: (717) 242-4972
Cell: (717) 348-8499
FAX: (717) 242-4680
Email:
sdedmon@standardsteel.com

SECRETARY-TREASURER:

Robert Irving (E) (07/09)
Staff Engineer
Kelso Technologies (USA), Inc.
1430 Texas Ave.
Bonham, TX 75418

Phone: (903) 583-9200
Cell: (630) 380-4947
E-mail: irving@kelsotech.com

**CHAIR TECHNICAL PROGRAM
RR-4:**

Michelle Muhlanger (E) (01/11)
Deputy Regional Administrator,
Region 1
Federal Railroad Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
John A. Volpe National
Transportation Systems Center
55 Broadway, Kendall Square
Cambridge, MA 02142-1093

Phone: (617) 494-2630
Cell: (617) 877-9763
Fax: (617) 494-2967
Email:
michelle.muhlanger@dot.gov

**CHAIR PUBLICITY RR-8, & CHAIR
ANNUAL LUNCHEON RR-9:**

Cory Hogan (G 01/12)
Director of Vehicle Dynamics and
Testing
Business Stream – Mobility
TUV Rheinland/ RSI Rail Sciences
7050 South 110th Street, Suite 200
La Vista, NE68128

Phone: (402) 827-9328
Cell: (402) 469-3333
FAX: (402) 827-9329
Email: cory@railsciences.com

ASST. CHAIR TECH. PROG. RR-4:

Jeffrey Gordon (E) (08/12)
US Department of Transportation
Federal Railroad Administration
55 Broadway
Cambridge, MA 02142

Phone: (617) 494-2303
Fax: (617) 494-2967
Email: jeffrey.gordon@dot.gov

ASST. CHAIR PUBLICITY RR-8:

“OPEN” Appoint in 2013.

**CHAIR HISTORY AND HERITAGE
RR-10:**

Allen C. Bieber (A-H 2009) [2003-04]
STV, Inc.
2580 Corvette Dr.
Erie, PA 16510-4026

Phone: (814) 825-5558
Email: abieber@velocity.net

**ASST. CHAIR HISTORY &
HERITAGE RR-10:**

Cameron P. Lonsdale (A-year 5)
[2008-09]
Vice President - R & D
Amsted Rail
2445 Sleepy Hollow Dr
State College, PA 16803-3373

Cell: (814) 574-5141
Email: clonsdale@amstedrail.com

CHAIR ADVISORY RR-3:

Matthew Dick, PE (A-year 1)
Staff Technical Manager
ENSCO, Inc.
923 Gardens Blvd.
Charlottesville, VA 22901

Phone: (703) 321-4515
Cell: (434) 906-7257
Email: dick.matthew@ensco.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR RR-8:

Thomas S. Guins (G)
Chief Economist
Transportation Technology Center,
Inc.
55500 DOT Road
PO Box 11130
Pueblo, CO 81001-0130

Phone: (719) 585-1893
Fax: (719) 585-1893
Email: tom_guins@aar.com

**CHAIR AUDIT AND ANNUAL
BUDGET:**

Roger D. Sims (A-H) [2006-07]
Sims Professional Engineers
2645 Ridge Road
Highland, IN 46322-1663

Phone: (219) 838-0011, x303
Cell: (219) 670-1694
Fax: (219) 838-0033
Email: rds@simspe.com

PROGRESS REPORTS RR-5:

**(1) CHAIR FREIGHT CARS:
S.K. (John) Punwani (A-H 2008)**
[2002-03]
Program Manager
Federal Railroad Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE,
MS-20, w36-405
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Phone: (202) 493-6369
Blackberry: (202) 689-4314
Fax: (202) 493-6333
Home phone: (703) 938-4996
Email: john.punwani@dot.gov

**ASME RAIL TRANSPORTATION DIVISION COMMITTEE MEMBERS
JULY 1, 2013 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2014**

(2) CHAIR LOCOMOTIVES:

Grace Madden (G 09/12)
Project Engineer
FEA/Noise/Vibration Group
Electro-Motive Diesel International
Corp.
USHQ
9301 W 55th St.
LaGrange, IL 60525

Phone: (708) 387-5035
Email: grace.madden@emdiesels.com

(3) CHAIR PASSENGER AND TRANSIT:

Kenneth R. Hesser (G)
LTK Engineering Services
100 West Butler Avenue
Ambler, PA 19002-5703

Phone: (215) 641-8817
Fax: (215) 540-8627
Email: khesser@ltk.com

CHAIR HONORS AND AWARDS

RR-7:

Li Cheng (G 07/07)
VP Business Development - Asia
Salient Systems, Inc.
4393-K Tuller Rd
Dublin, OH 43017-5106

Phone: (614) 210-4625
Cell: (614) 440-8080
FAX: (614) 792-5888
Email: lc@salientsystems.com

CHAIR MEMBERSHIP DEVEL. RR-6:

Yan Liu (G 07/09)
Manager - Modeling and
Simulation
Surface Transportation
National Research Council
Canada (NRC)
2320 Lester Road
Ottawa, ON K1V 1S2
Canada

Phone: (613) 991-5026
Cell: (613) 301-1612
FAX: (613) 957-0831
Email: yan.liu@nrc.ca

ASST. CHAIR MEMBERSHIP DEVEL.

RR-6:

Devin Rouse (G 07/09)
Federal Railroad Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
Third Floor West - Room W35-322
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Phone: (202) 493-6185
Cell: (202) 510-7426
Email: devin.rouse@dot.gov

CHAIR TERREY HAWTHORNE

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RR-11:

Monique Stewart (G)
Program Manager
Office of Research and
Development
Federal Railroad Administration
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE, MS-20,
Rm. W36-417
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Phone: (202) 493-6358
Cell: (202) 689-4313
Fax: (202) 493-6330
Email: monique.stewart@dot.gov

MGR. OF DIVISIONAL AFFAIRS

(2004):

Samuel R. Williams (E)
5759 Scotia Court
Dublin, OH 43016-3256

Phone: (614) 766-6970
Cell: (614) 570-9197
Fax: (614) 766-6970
Email: srwilliams@columbus.rr.com

CONFERENCE PLANNING MGR.

(2012)

Nicholas J. Darien (E) [2007-08]
8462 Sandalwood Ct.
Darien, IL 60561-1768

Phone: (630) 910-8552
Cell: (708) 334-9340
Email: ndarien@comcast.net

MEMBER:

Mehdi Ahmadian (G)
Professor and Director.
Center for Vehicle Systems & Safety
(CVeSS)
Railway Technologies Lab. (RTL)
Virginia Tech, MC-0901
3103 Commerce St.
Blacksburg, VA 24061-0238

Phone: (540) 231-4920 or -1408
Fax: (540) 231-0730
Email: ahmadian@vt.edu

MEMBER:

Larry Biess (G 08/08)
Director of Advanced Engineering
CSX Corporation
500 Water Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202-4423

Phone: (904) 359-7424
Cell: (904) 710-1697
Email: larry_biess@csx.com

MEMBER:

Jason Reiling (A-year 2) (07/07)
[2011-12]
Director - Design Engineering
Strato, Inc.
100 New England Avenue
Piscataway, NJ 08854

Phone: (732)-317-5440
Cell: (732)-718-8927
Fax: (732)-981-1222
Email: jreiling@stratoinc.com

MEMBER:

Gary Wolf (G)
President
Rail Sciences, Inc.
411 North Clarendon Avenue
Scottsdale, GA 30079-1308

Phone: (404) 294-5300
Fax: (404) 294-5423
Email: gwolf@rsi@gmail.com

**ASME RAIL TRANSPORTATION DIVISION COMMITTEE MEMBERS
JULY 1, 2013 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2014**

MEMBER:

Corey Pasta (G 07/09)
Director, Train Dynamics
BNSF Railway Company
920 SE Quincy
Topeka, KS 66612

Phone: (785) 435-6450
Email: corey.pasta@bnsf.com

MEMBER:

Tom Schlueter (G 07/09)
Director of Engineering
Progress Rail Services
4100 International Plaza, Suite 300
Fort Worth, TX 76109

Phone Direct: (817) 222-8065
Phone (817) 293-4220
FAX: (817) 551-5801
Email: tschlueter@progressrail.com

MEMBER:

Todd Snyder (G 09/07)
Dir. Advanced Frt. Car Engrg.
Union Pacific Railroad
1400 Douglas Street, MS-1050
Omaha, NE 68179-1000

Phone: (402) 544-3792
FAX : (402) 502-0401
Email: twsnyder@up.com

MEMBER:

Paul G. Steets (G)
Sr. Director Rolling Stock
Engineering
National Railroad Passenger Corp.
4001 Vandever Ave., Bldg. 12
Wilmington, DE 19802-4613

Phone: (302) 429-6370
Cell: (302) 388-6746
Fax: (302) 425-6235
Email: steetsp@amtrak.com

MEMBER:

Gerald B. Anderson (A-year 4)
[2009-10]
Senior Principal Investigator
Transportation Technology Center,
Inc.
55500 DOT Road
PO Box 11130
Pueblo, CO 81001-0130

Phone: (719) 584-0587
Cell: (719) 250-6113
Fax: (719) 585- 1898
Email: gerald_anderson@aar.com

MEMBER:

Leonard A. McLean (A-H) [1979-80]
1 Fleet Landing Blvd.
#784 Leeward Manor
Atlantic Beach, FL 32233

Phone: (904) 246-9900, x-784
No Email:

MEMBER:

David L. Cackovic (A-H 2010)
[2004-05]
Chief - Technical Standards
Transportation Technology Center,
Inc.
55500 DOT Road
PO Box 11130
Pueblo, CO 81001-0130

Phone: (719) 585-1880
Cell: (719) 251-6540
Fax: (719) 585-1895
Email: dave_cackovic@aar.com

MEMBER:

David Tyrell (A-year 3) [2010-11]
Senior Engineer
USDOT / Volpe Center
55 Broadway
Cambridge, MA 02142

Phone: (617) 494-2687
Cell: (617) 803-3094
Fax: (617) 494-3616
Email: david.c.tyrell@dot.gov

MEMBER:

Anand Prabhakaran (G 08/12)
Sharma & Associates, Inc.
29 W. Plainfield Road
Countryside, IL 60525

Phone: (708) 588-9871, x202
Fax: (708) 588-9874
Email: anand@sharma-associates.com

**MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP
COMMITTEE:**

Bryan Schlake (G 10/12)
General Foreman
Juniata Locomotive Shop
Norfolk Southern Corp.
200 N 4th Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601-6702

Phone: (814) 949-1305
Cell: (630) 254-6787
Email: bryan.schlake@nscorp.com

MEMBER:

Kari Gonzales (G 10/12)
Manager Equipment Engineering
Committee
Internal Research and
Development Program Manager
Transportation Technology Center,
Inc.
55500 DOT Road
PO Box 11130
Pueblo, CO 81001-0130

Phone: (719) 584-0723
Cell: (719) 251-3123
Email: kari_gonzales@aar.com

MEMBER HISTORY & HERITAGE

RR-10:

Michael L. Burshtin (G 11/12)
Program Director, Capital
Acquisitions
Amtrak – Rolling Stock Engineering
4001 Vandever Ave., Bldg. 12
Wilmington, DE 19802-4613

Phone: (302) 429-6373
Cell: (302) 528-5933
FAX: (302) 425-6236
Email: burshtm@amtrak.com

**ASME RAIL TRANSPORTATION DIVISION COMMITTEE MEMBERS
JULY 1, 2013 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2014**

MEMBER:

Brian Donohue (G 05/13)
Parsons Brinckerhoff, Inc.
1457 McIntosh Ave.
Broomfield, CO 80020

Cell: (720) 252-3195
Email: bridonohue@msn.com

MEMBER:

Rafael Maldonado (G 06/13)
Engineer
ENSCO, Inc.
923 Gardens Boulevard
Charlottesville, VA 22901

Phone: (703) 321-4603
Cell: (956) 493-2646
Email: maldonado.rafael@ensco.com

COMMITTEE TOTALS:

20 GC Members at Large (30 max.)
7 EC Members (5 + Mgr. of Div Affairs & Conf. Planning Mgr.)
10 AC Members (5 + 5 Honorary)

KEY:

(G) Member at Large, General Committee
(E) Member Executive Committee
(A) Member Advisory Committee
(A-H) Honorary Member Advisory Committee
[-] Year of Division Chairmanship
() Date appointed if known