

MTI

Norman Y. Mineta International Institute for Surface Transportation Policy Studies

Created by Congress in 1991

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Edward Wytkind

The World In Motion

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Profile of **Edward Wytkind**

Mineta Transportation Institute
Board of Trustees Member
Executive Director
of Transportation Trades
Department, AFL-CIO



Edward Wytkind is the Executive Director of the Transportation Trades Department (TTD), a Washington, D.C.-based labor organization representing several million workers in the private and public sectors of the aviation, mass transit, rail, trucking, highway, longshore, maritime, and related industries. TTD is the transportation policy and legislative arm of the AFL-CIO, which represents more than 13 million workers in the United States. Prior to his appointment to this post in the fall of 1991, Wytkind served as TTD Assistant Executive Director.

Wytkind oversees TTD's daily legislative, public policy, and regulatory programs and initiatives, serving as transportation labor's chief spokesman. One of Wytkind's primary duties is to work with TTD's 35 affiliated unions to represent transportation labor's collective interests before Congress, the executive branch, and independent agencies of the federal government. Wytkind regularly testifies before Congress and provides a transportation labor perspective to conventions, conferences and other labor, industry, and government meetings. He has also been a guest lecturer at several universities.

Wytkind has spent most of his career in the labor movement, working in a number of areas including congressional affairs, public policy development, public and media affairs, strategic campaigns, organizing, and writing for the AFL-CIO, United Steelworkers of America, rail unions, Communications Workers of America, and TTD during the organization's early stages of development. Previously, he worked as a senior account executive for Conway and Company, a public affairs firm, and as a news reporter and associate editor covering radio and television business, labor, regulatory, and technology news.

Wytkind was appointed by the U.S. Trade Representative and Secretary of Labor to serve on the Labor Advisory Committee for Trade Negotiations and Trade Policy, which advises the President and Congress on trade policy issues, including proposed agreements and treaties. He is a voting member of the Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council, a body created by Congress. Previously, Wytkind served on the board of directors for the Transit Development Corporation and worked with public and private transit industry representatives to advance a strong federally supported transit research agenda.

Wytkind, 41, is a former union supermarket clerk from Los Angeles, California, and continues to hold membership in the United Food and Commercial Workers (Local 400, Landover, MD). He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1983 from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He is married to Lorrie McHugh-Wytkind. They reside in suburban Washington, D.C., with their son and daughter.

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New Caltrans Research Process

MTI strives to conduct research that is needed by practitioners in the field. As part of the needs assessment process, we have held annual meetings with representatives of the various Caltrans divisions, and we now include the problem statements they submit as an appendix to the RFP. In the coming year, we will be able to take advantage of Caltrans' new effort to coordinate their overall research program.

In the new process, Caltrans will work with both an outside advisory committee for the broad trends direction and over thirty technical advisory panels within the department that will review current and prior research and submit problem statements for the areas that still need to be covered. After screening by two additional panels at the office chief and division levels, the highest research priorities will be deployed to the most appropriate research path. University transportation centers are one of the seven possible paths to which the priorities can be assigned.

We will take those topics most appropriate for our center and include them in the RFP. The only change will probably be releasing the RFP and selecting the winning projects a bit earlier in the spring. This will allow the Caltrans Division of Research and Innovation to include in their own research program the important priorities that we don't fund before the end of their fiscal year.

Since our mission is to do research that is truly needed, the MTI research program should greatly benefit from this new Caltrans approach to coordinated research.

Research Events

Two outreach events will also relate to the research agenda. The first will be the culmination of an MTI project examining the research needed to understand and use technology in accomplishing the goals of the new California Transportation Plan. The other will be a symposium exploring the research potential in human behaviors. Caltrans Director Jeff Morales has raised the issue of meeting the mobility and accessibility needs created by the anticipated growth in the state, knowing that continued reliance on the single occupant vehicle will not be the answer. Yet, changing travel behavior will be a major challenge, one he hopes we can address through research. This symposium will seek to identify multiple directions for the entire research community, jump-starting the work on this critical issue.



MTI Request for Proposals Starts the 2003-2004 Year

Right on the heels of the delayed project selection for the current year, MTI returned to the normal schedule by issuing a spring RFP. Projects will be selected in May and should be under contract by early fall. As a result of completing two selection rounds in five months, we are almost back in the situation we called the "pig in the python" when we had three selection rounds in fifteen months. This is going to be a piglet, not a pig, but still a challenge.



Recent Alumni Accomplishments

- Donna Kelsey, who completed the MSTM program two years ago, was recently selected to participate in the 2003 International Transit Studies Program mission, "Excellence in Customer Service to Small to Medium-Sized Cities in Western Europe." She is now part of a study team consisting of representatives of transit properties from around the United States and will meet with transit agencies in Geneva (Switzerland), Leipzig (Germany), Prague (Czech Republic), and Helsinki (Finland). As part of the study team, she will prepare and submit a paper that will be published by the Transit Research Board.
- Carole Sanders, who completed her Master's degree last year, was recently promoted to Construction Senior at Caltrans.



Summer Transportation Institute Gearing Up

The Summer Transportation Institute, sponsored by MTI and the Federal Highway Administration, will again be held on the San Jose State University campus this July. The Institute connects area high school students to information about careers in transportation. Student participants receive lectures from transportation professionals, engage in handson activities related to the transportation industry, and visit area transportation sites (such as Caltrain and the Bay Bridge).







Recent Student Accomplishments

- Nina Krentz recently transferred positions within Caltrans District 7, fulfilling one of her career goals. She is now a Transportation Engineer in the Division of Planning, Office of Feasibility Studies. This position gives her the opportunity to apply transportation policy and management principles that she learned in the MSTM program to work situations; her group prepares project study reports describing alternatives for major transportation projects.
- Haile Ford, who is at Caltrans District 11 in San Diego, recently passed the Certified Project Management Professional (PMP) exam and is now officially a PMP.
- Bill Sutherland received a Superior Accomplishment Award signed by Caltrans Director Jeff Morales, along with a check for \$250.00.
- Maureen Murphy received a "Tranny Award" from the California Transportation Foundation for her efforts with Caltrans District 4 Summer Institute.





Education Director Haas Visits Latvia

Dr. Peter Haas, Education Director for MTI, taught and conducted research in Latvia this winter. His visit was sponsored by the Fulbright Foundation's Senior Specialist program, which links American academic experts to the needs of other nations. Haas taught a class in Policy Research at Vidzieme University in Valmiera, Latvia and also conducted research concerning performance evaluation and local government.

Information Transfer

Information Transfer

MTI Report 02-01 Making Growth Work for California's Communities

Principal Investigator: Kenneth Schreiber

The research in *Making Growth Work for California's Communities* is unique in its degree of integration of sustainable development, smart growth, and livable communities concepts, and in its assessment of the land use and transportation strategies being incorporated into both local plans and implementation activities. It is intended to help state officials, concerned professionals, and other stakeholders select and shape effective policies and programs to promote better management of California's future growth.

MTI Report S 01-04 California Transportation Security Summits

MTI, a leader in transportation security research since the mid-1990s, invited California transportation officials to two statewide summits on surface transportation security in the spring of 2002. Participants heard from MTI's expert team and were able to interact with some of the nation's foremost experts on the terrorist threats to transportation systems. The publication summarizes the northern and southern California summits.

MTI Report F 01-02 Regional Transportation Hot Spot Forum:

Marin/Sonoma 101 Corridor

On April 11, 2002, MTI cosponsored a regional transportation forum in Marin County, California. Co-sponsors were the Commonwealth Club of California, the California State Automobile Association, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, and the California Department of Transportation. Several representatives from key Marin County and Sonoma County transportation-related agencies and community organizations joined to discuss the corridor and the many possible actions that could provide alternatives and relieve congestion. The forum concluded with a set of recommendations for next steps.

These reports and others are accessible online at http://transweb.sjsu.edu/pubs.htm. Printed copies of these and other publications are also available; see *TransWeb* for ordering information.

Update

TRANSINBB

TransWeb, MTI's website, continues to pursue excellence in user experience and website content.

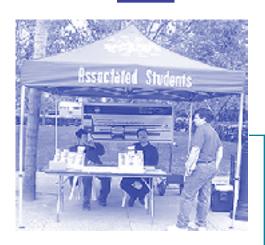
TransWeb was privileged to receive two awards in the first quarter of 2003. The "Critical Mass Award" and the "Gold Deco Award" from Britanic Technology. Based on a number of criteria, TransWeb was found to excel in all areas.

The website performance statistics for the first quarter of 2003 reflect that our users like the changes as well. In comparison to the first quarter of 2002, the number of hits has increased by 3.7%; the number of unique visitors has increased by 12%, and the number of all visitors has increased by a whooping 21.5% to a total of over 54,000 visitors for the first quarter of 2003.

These measurements of success not only tell us we are doing something right, they also encourage us to strive for more. Only continuing improvement and effort will assure that we are offering the latest in news and events, as well as our research publications. In an effort to increase efficiency and the overall user experience, we will make a short voluntary survey available online in the near future. We are asking that you take a few minutes to complete it and tell us what you think, so that we can serve you better.

Sustainable ransportation

May 16



SJSU Associated Students Transportation Solutions staff advised commuters on alternatives to driving to campus.



MTI Graphic Designer Emily Kruger zipped past an electricpowered roadster while riding an electric bicycle.

Kim Rogers of the Silicon Valley Electric Auto Association explained the working of her RAV4-EV's engine to interested SJSU students.



J.P. Maeder of ZEVCAT described his company's zero-emissions vehicles that use compressed-air technology.



MTI Executive Director Rod Diridon, Sr. took a spin on a Segway Human Transporter. Electric and hybrid-electric cars on display included a Honda Insight, Toyota Prius, Toyota Camry CNG, GM EV1, Tropica roadster, and several Toyota RAV4-EVs.





Welcome Anne Canby, President of the Surface Transportation Policy Project, and Steve Heminger, Executive Director of the San Francisco Bay Area Metropolitan Transportation Commission, to membership on the Mineta Transportation Institute's Board of Trustees! And congratulations to Chair/President/CEO of Digital Recorders Inc. David Turney on his re-election to the Board. Special appreciation to past MTI Board Chair Larry Dahms, a profound leader for MTI and the national transportation community, who is leaving the Board after an illustrious three terms. The MTI Trustees, SJSU administration, professors, student, staff, and over 400 national transportation leaders will welcome Anne and Steve and congratulate David and Larry at the 12th Annual Board of Trustees meeting and the Trustees' Awards Banquet on June 14 in San Jose. Contact Amy Yan (408-924-7561) for more information.

While the potential impact of the pending TEA-21 reauthorization absorbs a great part of our thinking, MTI continues with our primary tasks of conducting top quality, applicable policy research, presenting a creative and comprehensive Master of Science in Transportation Management (MSTM) and a Professional Certificate in Transportation Management (CTM), and communicating our research and education successes via a state-of-the-art information transfer network. Success in the congressionally-mandated 2002 University Transportation Center competition earned MTI the title of "Center of Excellence" and a 25% increase in funding, which was matched by the California legislature via the California Department of Transportation, with thanks to Caltrans Director Morales. The additional funding has been invested in more comprehensive research on additional topics identified as needed by research needs assessments with U.S. DOT, Caltrans, and the MTI Board of Trustees. The MSTM/CTM program expanded to nearly 100 students receiving courses not only throughout California via the Caltrans videoconference bridge but also across the nation via videostreaming. And, thanks to MTI Web Administrator Barney Murray, the award winning MTI web page "http://transweb.sjsu.edu" averages over 100,000 uses per month and over 1,000 down loads of MTI research reports PER WEEK! Indeed, MTI work is being used.

And congratulations to Jones Middle School in Hampton Rhodes, Virginia for winning this year's sustainable transportation project award during the MTI Garret Morgan Youth Videoconference Symposium. This electronic gathering of students from throughout the nation, greeted by Secretary Mineta from Washington, D. C., is designed to encourage youngsters to take the math and science in high school that allows them to seek the university degrees that lead to transportation careers. Thanks to Dr. "DK" Kong for organizing this year's symposium.

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