

Revised 8/6/07

## **Transportation Research Board Charley V. Wootan Award**

In 2003, the Executive Committee established the Charley V. Wootan Award, which may be given annually for the outstanding paper published in the field of transportation policy and organization. It honors the 43rd Chairman of the Transportation Research Board and the Director and Director Emeritus of the Texas Transportation Institute, a part of the Texas A&M University System. Papers may be nominated from committees in any group.

### **Criteria**

Threshold criteria—A paper must focus on some aspect of transportation policy and organization to be considered for the Charley V. Wootan Award.

It is assumed that papers recommended by Committees for the Wootan Award reflect high standards of scientific and professional quality and utilize sound analysis methods, as TRB expects of all papers recommended for publication. While the following four criteria will be used in evaluating papers for the Wootan Award, Selection Committee members may add or deduct points for papers that are at the very high or very low end of scientific and professional quality or soundness of analysis methods, to ensure that papers reflect the highest standards.

Rating criteria—The following four criteria will be used for judging papers for the award:

1. **Innovation and Insight (40 percent)**: The paper should provide a significant insight into some aspect of transportation policy and organization or address innovative approaches to transportation policy and organization.
2. **Contribution to Transportation Policy and Organization (20 percent)**: The paper should make a contribution to addressing important and timely transportation policy and organizational issues.
3. **Excellence in Written and Visual Communication (20 percent)**: The paper should be clear in its presentation. It should be easily understood by peers of the author. It should not be intentionally written in academic or sophisticated jargon but should be written to ensure a clear understanding of the research. Use of graphical displays is highly encouraged. Graphics should be clear and effective in conveying key points.
4. **Breadth of Applicability (20 percent)**: The paper will be judged on the breadth of its applicability and usefulness to a broad range of transportation professionals. Often, research has been directed toward solving a unique problem with the result that it has extremely limited application. The paper will be judged on its contribution to problem solving on a broad basis.

**Nomination Process** Committees from all groups may nominate papers that address policy and organizational issues for consideration for the Charley V. Wootan Award. A paper must be recommended for publication to be nominated for the award.

**Selection Process** The selection committee will be chaired by a member of the Policy and Organization Group and will include three other members of the group. If papers are nominated from committees in another group, a member of that group will also serve on the selection committee.