

NEWS



TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

500 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

For Immediate Release
Press Release

Date: January 22, 2006
Contact: Russell Houston
(202) 334-3252
rhouston@nas.edu

BRIDGE EXPERT ABBA LICHTENSTEIN HONORED WITH 2006 THOMAS B. DEEN DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIP

Abba Lichtenstein, the former President and Chairman of the Board of A.G. Lichtenstein and Associates, Consulting Engineers, New Jersey, is the 2006 recipient of the Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lectureship. His lecture, "*Preservation of Historic Transportation Facilities*," will be delivered on Monday, January 23, 2006, at the Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lecture and Presentation of Awards for Outstanding Papers during the Transportation Research Board (TRB) 85th Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. The lecture will be available on the Annual Meeting Compendium of Papers CD-ROM and published in a forthcoming *Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board*.

The Deen Distinguished Lectureship recognizes the career contributions and achievements of an individual in one of the areas covered by the Board's Technical Activities Division. Originally known as the Transportation Research Board Distinguished Lectureship, the award was renamed in 2002 in honor of the Board's eighth Executive Director, who served with distinction from 1980 to 1994. Honorees are invited to present overviews of their technical areas, including the evolution, the present status, and the prospects for the future.

Lichtenstein has more than 45 years of experience in the design, inspection, and rating of bridges. He helped develop national standards for the inspection and rating of all types of bridges, and was principal investigator for the research that led to revisions to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' *Manual for the Condition Evaluation of Highway Bridges* (1994 edition). Lichtenstein also led a team of engineers in developing a manual for rating bridges through nondestructive testing techniques.

In 1986 Lichtenstein turned over ownership of the firm he founded in 1963 to his associates so that he could devote more time to the preservation and rehabilitation of historic bridges and canals. In 1992 he started a national one-man consulting practice in these fields, through which he has made an enduring contribution to the preservation and rehabilitation of the nation's historic bridges.

An Honorary Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Lichtenstein has received the ASCE History and Heritage Award. He also received the state of New Jersey's Lindbergh Transportation Award as well as the Presidential and Federal Design Awards for his

work and that of his firm on the rehabilitation of the Roebling Aqueduct Bridge in Lackawaxen, Pennsylvania. A gifted teacher and lecturer, Lichtenstein has held appointments as a visiting professor at many universities. He is a civil engineering graduate of Ohio State University, which has granted him an honorary degree, established a chair in his name devoted to infrastructure and historic structures, and inaugurated a distinguished lecture series in his honor.

Active in TRB for 25 years, Lichtenstein is an Emeritus Member of the Committee on Historic and Archeological Preservation in Transportation. He also has served on TRB standing committees on Steel Bridges, Fabrication and Inspection of Metal Structures, and Dynamics and Field Testing of Bridges, and on the National Cooperative Highway Research Program project panel on Load Capacity of Bridges.

More than 9,500 policy makers, administrators, practitioners, researchers, and representatives of government, industry, and academic institutions are expected to attend the Transportation Research Board (TRB) 85th Annual Meeting, in Washington, DC, January 22-26, 2006. The meeting, held at the Marriott Wardman Park, Omni Shoreham, and Hilton Washington hotels, includes more than 2,500 presentations in 500 sessions, 65 workshops, and 350 TRB committee meetings covering all aspects of transportation.

TRB's mission is to promote innovation and progress in transportation through research. In an objective and interdisciplinary setting, TRB facilitates the sharing of information on transportation practice and policy by researchers and practitioners; stimulates research and offers research management services that promote technical excellence; provides expert advice on transportation policy and programs; and disseminates research results broadly and encourages their implementation. A major focal point of TRB's activities, the Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for transportation professionals from all over the world to exchange information of common interest.

Organized in 1920, TRB is a division of the National Academies, which include the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine, and National Research Council. The nation turns to the National Academies for independent, objective advice on issues that affect people's lives worldwide.

###

DIST LECTURE/85