

# NEWS



TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

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For Immediate Release  
News Release

Date: January 9, 2009  
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## PORT OF LOS ANGELES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GERALDINE KNATZ HONORED WITH 2008 THOMAS B. DEEN DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIP

The 2009 recipient of the Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lectureship is Geraldine Knatz, Executive Director of the Port of Los Angeles, California. Her lecture, "*Local Seaport Initiatives Driving International Policy: Eliminating the Effects of Air Pollution and Drawing Up 'Green Prints' for Responsible Growth*," will be delivered on January 13, 2009, at the Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lecture and Presentation of Awards for Outstanding Papers during the Transportation Research Board (TRB) 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. The lecture will be 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, present status, and prospects for the future.

Geraldine Knatz became the Executive Director of the Port of Los Angeles in January 2006, the first woman to serve in this role, in which she oversees the daily operations and

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internal management of the nation's number one containerport. Her top priorities, which have been focused on responsible port growth and environmental leadership, include reducing air emissions, eliminating health risks, and expanding capital development programs to accommodate the Port's future growth. Knatz was instrumental in developing and implementing the landmark [San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan](#), which sets out a comprehensive strategy for reducing air emissions from port operations by roughly 50 percent over a period of five years.

Knatz began her maritime career as an environmental scientist at the Port of Los Angeles in 1977. She moved to the Port of Long Beach, California, in 1981, and ten years later became its managing director, overseeing a \$2.3 billion capital improvement program and spearheading a number of environmental initiatives, including development of the Green Port Policy.

The recipient of many honors and awards, Knatz was named the 2007 "Woman Executive of the Year" by the *Los Angeles Business Journal* and one of the "Outstanding Women in Transportation" by the *Journal of Commerce*. She was appointed by California Governor Schwarzenegger to the California Ocean Protection Council, which oversees and coordinates statewide policy for the protection and management of California's ocean and coastal resources. Knatz serves on the Eno Transportation Foundation's Board of Advisors, is a past Chair of TRB's Marine Board, and served on the TRB-National Research Council study committee that produced the report, *Landside Access to U.S. Ports*.

A part-time faculty member at the University of Southern California's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Knatz holds a B.A. in zoology from Rutgers University, and both a master of science degree in environmental engineering and a Ph.D. in biological science from the University of Southern California.

More than 10,000 policy makers, administrators, practitioners, researchers, and representatives of government, industry, and academic institutions are expected to attend the Transportation Research Board (TRB) 88th Annual Meeting, in Washington, DC, January 11-15, 2009. The meeting, held at the Marriott Wardman Park, Omni Shoreham, and Hilton Washington hotels, includes more than 3,500 presentations in 600 sessions and workshops covering all aspects of transportation.

The mission of the Transportation Research Board is to provide leadership in transportation innovation and progress through research and information exchange, conducted within a setting that is objective, interdisciplinary, and multimodal. 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.

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