

# NEWS

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **JON A. EPPS HONORED BY TRB WITH THE 2019 THOMAS B. DEEN DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIP**

WASHINGTON -- Jon A. Epps, executive associate director, Texas A&M Transportation Institute, is the 2019 recipient of the Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lectureship. Epps will present the Deen Lecture, “Innovative Asphalt Pavement Technology: Paving the Way for the World’s Roadways,” on Monday evening, Jan. 14, 2019, at the 98th Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

Epps is a leading expert in the field of pavements and materials, including pavement maintenance management systems, pavement recycling, chip seals, and pavement economics. Epps has made significant contributions to the field of pavements and materials as highlighted by his role in developing the \$50 million asphalt research program under the Strategic Transportation Research Study (STRS) that led to the Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP). For more than five decades, Epps has helped guide the practical application of, and transportation research on, a wide variety of topics related to pavements and materials.

The 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 eighth TRB executive director, who served with distinction from 1980 to 1994. Honorees are invited to present overviews of their technical areas, including evolution, present status, and prospects for the future. TRB also publishes each lecture in a volume of the Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board.

Epps has a unique combination of academic and industry experience. He has spent more than 40 years in leadership positions in the academic sector at two land-grant universities — Texas A&M University and the University of Nevada, Reno. He spent 10 years in the private sector as recycling manager and engineering services manager for Granite Construction Inc., one of the largest transportation construction companies in the United States in project volume.

Since 1969, Epps has chaired or been a member of more than 20 TRB committees, sections, groups, panels, and task forces in the areas of asphalt materials, mixtures, and pavements; recycling; transportation energy; pavement design, maintenance, and operation; pavement construction; and others. He chaired the TRB committee that helped develop the definitive Hot Mix Asphalt Paving Handbook. Epps was also a member of the TRB policy study committee that explored approaches for increasing private-sector involvement in the highway innovation process, which foreshadowed the vast potential of private industry to provide the innovative products and services necessary to meet the growing and changing demands on the transportation

system. Epps is an emeritus member of the TRB Standing Technical Committee on Critical Issues and Emerging Technologies in Asphalt.

Epps is actively involved in public agency, industry, and academic associations. He is a member and past chair of the ASTM (originally known as the American Society for Testing and Materials) International Committee on Road and Paving Materials, and former member of the ASTM Board of Directors. He is also a past president and former member of the Board of Directors of the Association of Asphalt Paving Technologists and the International Society of Asphalt Pavements. He has received several honorary awards from the TRB, ASTM, the Association of Asphalt Paving Technologists, the National Asphalt Pavement Association, and Texas A&M University.

Epps earned his bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in civil engineering, all from the University of California, Berkeley. He is a licensed professional engineer in Texas.

TRB's [98th Annual Meeting](#) takes place Jan. 13-17, 2019, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, in Washington, D.C. The meeting covers all transportation issues, with 5,000 presentations in more than 800 sessions. A number of sessions and workshops will focus on the meeting's spotlight theme, Transportation for a Smart, Sustainable, and Equitable Future. The meeting is expected to attract more than 13,000 transportation professionals.

The mission of TRB is to provide leadership in transportation innovation and progress through research and information exchange, conducted within a setting that is objective, interdisciplinary, and multimodal. Its annual meeting -- a major focal point of TRB's activities -- provides an opportunity for transportation professionals from all over the world to exchange information of common interest.

TRB is a program unit of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine -- private, nonprofit institutions that provide independent, objective analysis and advice to the nation to solve complex problems and inform public policy decisions related to science, technology, and medicine. The Academies operate under an 1863 congressional charter to the National Academy of Sciences, signed by President Lincoln. For more information, visit <http://national-academies.org>.

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