



A Division of the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies

Quarterly Update

July 2006

Revised Program Schedule

July 2006
1st year research plan approved

September
RFPs issued

November
Proposals Due

January 2007
Contract awards announced

1st research contracts begin

SHRP II Funding Agreement Triggers Committee Meetings in Quick Succession

A funding agreement with the Federal Highway Administration, signed on March 24th, 2006, marked the effective start date of SHRP II program activities and provided about \$36 million for the first program year. Although the memorandum of understanding that officially established the program was signed in January 2006, initial activities were rescheduled until funding was in place. Since late March, members of the four [Technical Coordinating Committees](#) (TCCs) were selected, nominated, and confirmed and each committee has held its first meeting; the Renewal committee met in May and the Safety, Reliability, and Capacity committees all met in June.

An Ambitious New Schedule

Now that the four TCCs have held their first meetings, the Oversight Committee will meet in July to approve the research plan for the first year. Expert task groups, small committees whose members are selected for technical expertise, will meet in August to develop requests for proposals, which will be advertised in September. Proposals from contractors will be due in early November, and awards will be announced and contracts begun in January 2007.

SHRP II
500 Fifth Street NW
Keck 441
Washington, DC 20001

Phone:
202-334-1430

Fax:
202-334-3471

E-mail:
SHRPII@nas.edu

On the Web:
www.trb.org/shrpii

A Skillful Re-scoping

Technical Coordinating Committees were tasked with paring down the original research plans for their respective focus areas to meet funding levels under SAFETEA-LU. The agenda for each first TCC meeting called for committee members to identify essential research projects, define the scope of work, and formulate the first-year program. The committees proved to be informed, experienced, and inventive; their discussions and decisions resulted in recommended research plans that are focused on useful results and that consider and complement other research programs. The TCCs' recommended first-year plans will be presented to the Oversight Committee on July 19th for approval. The approved research plans will be posted on the SHRP II Web site when they are available.

New Staff Welcomed

We are delighted to welcome Stephen Andrle and Kenneth Campbell to the SHRP II staff as Senior Program Officers. Steve, who will head up the Capacity strategic focus area, was recently the Director of the Center for Transportation Research and Education at Iowa State University. Before returning to Iowa, his home state, Steve managed the Transit Cooperative Research Program here at TRB.

Ken, who will staff the Safety strategic focus area, comes to us from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, where he was head of the Survey and Analysis Division. Previously he spent 27 years at the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI) and was awarded the Emeritus Research Scientist title. While at UMTRI, he was the first Director of the Center for National Truck Statistics, which has been producing the Trucks Involved in Fatal Accidents (TIFA) data file since 1980.

The search continues for two more Senior Program Officers with appropriate expertise to manage the Reliability and Renewal focus areas.

In the meantime, we are very fortunate to be able to draw on talent within TRB on an interim basis. Walter Diewald and Robert Raab have stepped up to staff the Reliability and Renewal program areas, respectively, until the positions are filled on a permanent basis. Full descriptions of the available [positions](#) and the application procedures are on the National Academies Web site.

In other staffing news, Neil Hawks and Ann Brach, who have been serving as interim Director and Deputy Director, respectively, for SHRP II, have both been confirmed for those positions. Linda Mason has been named the Communications Officer and Connie Woldu the Administrative Assistant.

THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

Advisers to the Nation on Science, Engineering, and Medicine

The nation turns to the National Academies—National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine, and National Research Council—for independent, objective advice on issues that affect people's lives worldwide.

www.national-academies.org

SHRP II is a short-term program of focused, cross-discipline research that will be the foundation for accelerated solutions in highway safety, planning, development, construction, and operations.

SHRP II is administered by the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies, in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.