

# Rejuvenation Out of Disruption

## Envisioning a Transportation System for a Dynamic Future

**R**estaurant hosts knew. Metrorail riders knew—from the oversized badges hanging from attendees’ necks. Uber drivers certainly knew. “Are you here for the big transportation conference?” one asked. The word was out! More than 12,000 transportation professionals from around the world had converged on Washington, DC, for the 102nd TRB Annual Meeting, held January 8–12, 2023, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. Free

of last year’s COVID-19–imposed mask mandate, a near record number of participants gathered for committee meetings, poster and lectern sessions, award presentations, and a keynote address from National Transportation Safety Board Chair Jennifer Homendy.

Sessions and workshops addressed topics of interest to policy makers, administrators, practitioners, researchers, and students—many focused on decarbonization, automated and electric vehicles, and sus-

tainability. Managed lanes expert Charles Fuhs delivered the 2023 Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lecture, “Re-Envisioning Mobility on Urban Freeways: The Emerging and Evolving Roles of Managed Lanes.”

Taking the stage with TRB Executive Committee Chair Nathaniel Ford and Vice Chair Shawn Wilson, U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg and U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm discussed the federal government’s goal of reaching net-zero carbon emissions in the nation’s transportation sector by 2050.

Details and highlights appear on the following pages.

Annual Meeting photographs by  
Risdon Photography,  
except where indicated.

**1** The perfect backdrop, the giant TRB sign draws international attendees (*left to right*) **Roxani Gkavra**, **Yusak Susilo**, **Muhamad (Taki) Rizki**, and **Faza Bastarianto**—behind the camera—to grab a photo for sharing on social media.



**2** National Transportation Safety Board Chair **Jennifer Homendy** delivers the keynote address.



**3** At the Chair’s Plenary Session, U.S. Department of Energy Secretary **Jennifer Granholm** explains the need to add about 2000 gigawatts of energy to the nation’s electric grid to support President Biden’s goal of 100 percent clean energy by 2035 and the economywide goal of reaching net zero by 2050. On stage with her are (*left to right*) TRB Executive Committee Chair **Nathaniel Ford**, U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary **Pete Buttigieg**, and TRB Executive Committee Vice Chair **Shawn Wilson**. Ford and Wilson moderated the discussion.





## Intersections

**1** Convention Center staff in red jackets usher attendees into the Exhibit Hall, where transportation innovations from automated vehicles to mobile asphalt labs were on display.



**2** **HollyAnna Littlebull** (left) and **Amanda Nadjkovic** take a break during a Sunday workshop.

**4** **Marie Therese Dominguez** (left), Commissioner of the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT), pulls together a group of transportation leaders for an impromptu selfie at the Executive Committee Reception. They are (left to right) **Leslie Richards**, General Manager of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority; **Yassmin Gramian**, former Secretary of the Pennsylvania DOT; **Kristina Swallow**, former Director of the Nevada DOT; **Diane Guitierrez-Scaccetti**, Commissioner of the New Jersey DOT; **Victoria Sheehan**, TRB Executive Director; and **Julie Lorenz**, Secretary of the Kansas DOT.



**3** **Tracy Duval** (left) discusses her role in transportation during the Minority Student Fellows Career Panel. Joining her are (left to right) **Darryl Moses**, **Margarita Ordaz**, and **Ian Rowe**.

**5** Nineteen students from 14 schools attended the Annual Meeting as participants in the 2023 TRB Minority Student Fellows Program, with research backgrounds ranging from transportation and urban



infrastructure engineering to civil engineering to mechatronics and robotics. Pictured are (front row, left to right) **Karen Febey**, TRB senior report review program officer and Minority Student Fellows Program manager; **Ossiris Rodriguez**; **Leonor Reyes**; **David Castano**; **Armando Martinez**; **Elijah Bond-Hawkins**; **Diana Cortes**; **Hector Cruz**; **Eric Olaguir**; **Nicole Anderson**;







**Gabriella Cerna;** and **Latoya Jones**, FHWA's Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program manager. Shown back row (left to right) are **Quinton Butler;** **Anthony Forcades;** **Jeremiah Bailey;** **Sebastian Morales;** **Timothy Thiergart;** TRB Executive Director **Victoria Sheehan;** **Alonso Carrillo;** **Evan Taylor;**

**Edward Clay;** **Rueben Esteves;** and **Nathaniel Coley**, FHWA's Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program manager.

6 Overseeing the organization and activities of TRB's standing committees, the 2023 Technical Activities Council (TAC) are (front

row, left to right) **Pamela Keidel-Adams**, TRB Technical Activities Division Director **Ann Brach,** **Michael Griffith**, TRB Executive Director **Victoria Sheehan,** **Allison Yoh,** and **William Eisle.** Standing (left to right) are **Brendon Hemily,** **Jane Lin,** **Robert Bertini,** **Pasa Lautala,** **Jeff Borowiec,**

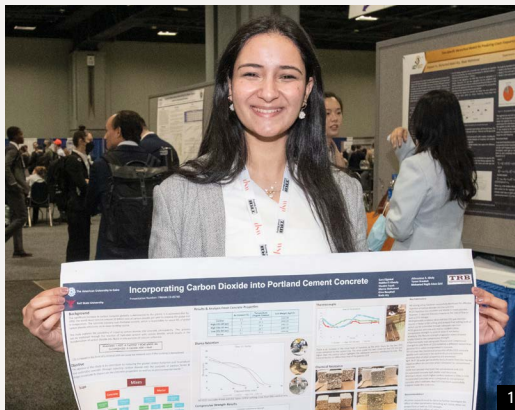
**Kathryn Zimmerman,** **Fred Wagner**, Technical Activities Division Deputy Director **Stephen Maher,** **Tara Cavalline,** and **Robert Hazlett.** Not pictured are TAC Chair **Avery Grimes,** **Eleftheria Kontou,** and **Tom Hickey.**

## Sessions & Workshops

1 **Sara El-Gamal** prepares to share her research on "Incorporating Carbon Dioxide into Portland Cement Concrete".

2 New attendee **Pelumi Abiodun**, Morgan State University, takes notes during a lecture session.

3 **Helmut Leodarta** (right) finds something to laugh about during the "3-Minute Thesis Competition: Successful Research Communication to a Broad Audience". Seatmates (left to right) **Eleanor Fauchel** and **Hugues Blache** get the humor.



Cassandra Franklin-Barbajosa



4 **Andrea Cristina Ruiz** takes part in the Post-It Note Scramble during the "Structuring a Long-Term Extreme Weather and Climate Resilience Research Agenda" workshop.

5 **Mike Rossi** leads a breakout session during the "Including Routine Asset Maintenance Costs in Transportation Asset Management Planning" workshop.



## Committees

**1 Alice Grossman**, member of the Standing Committee on Transit Management and Performance, takes the mic.

**2 Shannon McLeod** works with other members of the Standing Committee on Ports and Channels.



## Blue Ribbon for Best Practices

TAC member **Michael Griffith** presents Blue Ribbon Awards for best practices of outstanding technical activities committees in the following categories:

**1 Identifying and Advancing Ideas for Research:** Seismic Design and Performance of Bridges Committee, chaired by **Monique Head**; and

**2 Airfield and Airspace Performance Committee**, chaired by **Yu Zhang** (accepted by **Pamela Keidel-Adams**);

**3 Renewal: Attracting and Preparing the Next Generation of Professionals and Scholars in TRB:** Transportation-Related Noise and Vibration Committee, chaired by **Adam Alexander**;



**4 Implementation: Moving Research Ideas into Transportation Practice:** Freight Transportation Planning and Logistics Committee, chaired by **Sushant Sharma**;

**5 Leadership: Contributing to Improving the Management and Operation of TRB Committees:** Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Committee, chaired by **Douglas Eisinger**;

**6 Diversity: Increasing Committee Membership and Friends:** Freeway Operations Committee, chaired by **Beverly Thompson Kuhn** (accepted by **Robert Bertini**) (see Page 33); and

**7 Rail Transit Infrastructure Design and Maintenance Committee**, chaired by **Hugh J. Fuller**.



**3 Michael Bryant**, Texas DOT, comments at an open meeting of committees that address equity and environmental justice needs in transportation.



**4 Kristen Brown** (left) and **Matt Dean** participate in a networking activity during a Young Members Council on Sustainability and Resilience meeting.



**5 Frederic Fravel** shares insights with **Nina Stocker** (right) and other members of the Intercity Bus Transit Subcommittee.

## Paper Awards

The Fred Burggraf Award is presented to researchers under age 35. Flanked by TRB Executive Committee Chair **Nathaniel Ford** (left) and TRB Executive Director **Victoria Sheehan** (right), who presented the Paper Awards, recipients are shown from left to right.



**1 Michael Elwardany** and **David J. Mensching** received the Burggraf Award for *Evaluating the Sensitivity of Intermediate Temperature Tests to Multiple Loose Mixture Aging Temperatures Using the FHWA Accelerated Loading Facility's RAP/RAS Experiment*. Not pictured: **Varun Veginati**.



**2 Irfan Batur**, **Chandra R. Bhat**, **Tassio B. Magassy**, **Aupal Mondal**, **Katherine E. Asmussen**, and **Ram M. Pendyala** received the Pyke Johnson Award for *The Influence of Mode Use on Level of Satisfaction with Daily Travel Routine: A Focus on Automobile Driving in the United States*. Not pictured: **Sara Khoeini**.



## Paper Awards

(continued)

**3 Abubakr Ziedan, Candace Brakewood, Ashley Hightower, and Cassidy Crossland** received the William W. Millar Award for *Current Practices and Potential Rider Benefits of Fare-Capping Policies in the United States*.



**5 Suphanat Juengprasertsak and Douglas J. Gabauer** shared the K.B. Woods Award for *Evaluation of Current MASH Occupant Compartment Intrusion Limits Using Real-World Crash Data*.

**4 Gang-Len Chang, Yi-Ting Lin, and Yen-Lin Huang** received the D. Grant Mickle Award for *Extending the I-95 Rule-Based Incident Duration System with an Automated Knowledge Transferability Model*.



## Major Awards

**1** Principal of Chuck Fuhs, LLC, in Houston, Texas, **Charles A. Fuhs III** is the recipient of the 2023 Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lectureship. His public- and private-sector experience spans some 50 years, during which he has been involved in the planning, implementation, and operation of freeways throughout North America. He has directed—or been engaged by federal, state, and local transportation agencies to work on—more than 200 projects and studies representing more than \$20 billion in transportation investment in most U.S. metropolitan and Canadian cities. Fuhs is recognized for his contributions to the advancement



of congestion-management applications on urban freeways, with particular focus on managed lanes.

**2 Gongkang Fu**, professor of civil and architectural engineering at the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, is the 2022 recipient of the Roy W. Crum Distinguished Service



Award. Named for TRB's former director, who served from 1928 until his death in 1951, the award recognizes outstanding leadership in transportation research or research administration. Fu is recognized for his significant innovative, visionary, and practical contributions to bridge engineering research,

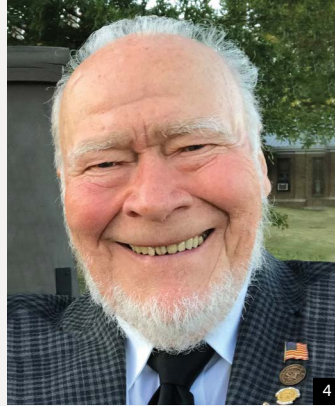


implemented in the practice of preserving and designing safer highway infrastructure in the United States and the world.

**3** Recognized for his outstanding service to TRB, **Neil J. Pedersen** is the 2022 recipient of the W.N. Carey, Jr., Distinguished Service Award. Pedersen retired in

December as TRB's Executive Director, a position he held since February 2015. He is recognized for more than 40 years of leadership service to TRB—more than 30 years as a TRB volunteer and more than 10 years as a TRB staff member—and for his integrity and continual pursuit of technical excellence. In 2022, the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials presented Pedersen with the President and CEO's Award for Excellence for "outstanding contributions to diversity, equity and inclusion, accessibility, innovation, and community engagement at a time of disruption to the transportation industry." He has also been honored with the George S. Bartlett Award and AASHTO's Thomas McDonald Memorial Award. The Carey Award is named for TRB's executive director from 1967 to 1980.

**4 Eugene (Gene) R. Russell, Sr.**, Professor Emeritus of civil engineering at Kansas State University, is the 2022 recipient of the Robert E. Skinner, Jr., Distinguished Transportation Research Management Award. Russell is recognized for the indelible mark he left on transportation for his 60 years of research management



at Iowa State University, Purdue University, and Kansas State University. His lifelong research and research management accomplishments have made substantial contributions in areas such as roundabout traffic operations, roundabout safety, and rail and highway grade crossing warning systems and safety. TRB's Executive Committee established the award—named for TRB's executive director from



1994 to 2015—to recognize outstanding achievement in the management, administration, promotion, fostering, and implementation of transportation research.

**5 Lillian Borrone**, a member of the National Academy of Engineering, former assistant executive director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, and past chair of the TRB

Executive Committee, is the 2023 recipient of the Frank Turner Medal for Lifetime Achievement in Transportation. She is recognized as a trailblazer for women in transportation and for her substantial professional and volunteer contributions to transportation policy, administration, and research that aided in the advancement of safer and more reliable mobility for people and goods during her lifetime. She has been a pathbreaker, based on her distinctive and highly effective blend of keen intellect, hard work, attention to detail, and gracious leadership. The award recognizes lifetime achievement demonstrated by a distinguished career in transportation, professional prominence, and a distinctive, widely recognized contribution to transportation policy, administration, or research.

**6 Thomas B. Deen (right)**, who served from 1980 to 1994 as TRB's eighth executive director, stands with **Charles A. Fuhs III**, recipient of the award named for him. The lectureship recognizes the career contributions and achievements of an individual in one of the areas covered by TRB's Technical Activities Division.

*"I encourage you as the current generation of practitioners to take prudent risks, test new technologies to manage traffic flow, improve customer interface, document findings, promote research, share experiences, and create greater sustainability in practice when addressing the many challenges and opportunities that lie ahead."*

**—Charles A. Fuhs III**

*Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lecture*



## New Executive Committee Leaders Take the Helm



**Shawn Wilson** (*left*), Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and 2022 vice chair of TRB's Executive Committee, was elected as the committee's 2023 chair during the Annual Meeting. However, shortly after the event, Wilson announced his plans to retire from the department, as well as to step down from the

TRB appointment. TRB is grateful for his many contributions and exemplary leadership as a member, vice chair, and chair of the Executive Committee.

Accepting the role as the 2023 chair is

**Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti** (*below*), commissioner of the New Jersey DOT. "It is an honor to be given the opportunity to assume a leadership role with such a well-respected organization that has international prominence," Gutierrez-Scaccetti stated. "I am grateful to the National Academies and to the Transportation Research Board for this recognition. The critical research conducted by TRB will help all [state] DOTs and partner agencies make more informed



decisions in the planning and execution of transportation projects and initiatives."

As commissioner, Gutierrez-Scaccetti is responsible for maintaining and operating the state's highway and public road system; planning and developing transportation policy; and assisting with rail, freight, and intermodal transportation issues. She is a member of the Board of Directors for AASHTO and serves as chair of its Committee on Transportation Communication. She is also a member

of the Board of Directors for the Northeast Association of State Transportation Officials.

Partnering with Gutierrez-Scaccetti as the 2023 TRB Executive Committee vice chair is **Carol Abel Lewis** (*left*), professor of transportation studies and Emeritus executive director of the Center for Transportation, Training, and Research at Texas Southern University in Houston.



She serves as chair of TRB's Inclusion and Diversity Committee and is a member of the Transit Research Advisory Committee.

**Nancy Daubenberger** and **Hani Mahmassani** are new members of the Executive Committee. Reappointed members are **Carlos Braceras**, **Nathaniel Ford**, **Marie Therese Dominguez**, and **Susan Shaheen**.

Each year, the TRB Executive Committee selects a topic worthy of deeper analysis to address in a policy session. The 2023 policy session topic was successful transportation megaprojects, with the panel of experts (*left to right*) **Jim Gray**, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet; **Jack Marchbanks**, Ohio DOT; **Susan Shaw**, Virginia DOT; and **Eric Shen**, Shen and Associates.







## Executive Committee

**1** 2022 TRB Executive Committee Chair Nathaniel Ford and National Transportation Safety Board Chair Jennifer Homendy make their way to the VIP Green Room ahead of the Chair's Plenary Session.

**2** New TRB Executive Director **Victoria Sheehan** praises Frank Turner Medal winner **Lillian Borrone** as a trailblazer for female transportation leadership.

Also participating in the Executive Committee's agenda and deliberations are

**3** **Nuria Fernandez**, Federal Transit Administration, and **Steven Cliff**, California Air Resources Board;

**4** **Shailen Bhatt**, FHWA;

**5** **Robert Hampshire**, U.S. DOT; and

**6** **Jim Tymon**, AASHTO.



## From Networking to Catnapping

As one excited attendee put it—just halfway through the Annual Meeting: “This is *overwhelming!*” And she’s right! The challenges over the four-and-a-half day event are formidable: pouring over an abundance of lectern sessions, workshops, poster sessions, committee meetings, and spotlight events; racing back and forth through the expansive Convention Center and the adjacent Marriott Marquis Hotel to get to those coveted sessions on time—and without getting lost; calming nerves before a first-time presentation; connecting with the right organization for career-enhancing opportunities; and so much more. Yet, regulars enjoy boasting about how many Annual Meetings they’ve attended, and—when all is said and done—new attendees can’t wait for next year.



**1** With pen and program in hand, an attendee prepares to outline his plan of participation—selecting among the hundreds of workshops on the agenda.

**2** Opportunities to network with other transportation professionals are a big draw for Annual Meeting attendees.

**3** The heavy schedule can be as exhausting as it is energizing, as evidenced by one attendee who gave in to the need for a nap.

