

IRF FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

WAYNE McDANIEL

The International Road Federation (IRF) Fellowship Program for graduate engineers and other road transportation professionals has been a cornerstone activity of the International Road Federation program for 45 years. The 990 IRF Fellows from 103 countries are a skilled and productive group of experts who form an international network of transportation professionals.

Candidates for IRF Fellowship are chosen annually by host country sponsors on the basis of strong academic background, professional qualifications, and potential leadership ability. Preference in selection is given to applicants from developing countries. Candidates must also provide evidence of intent to return to their home countries when their study programs are completed. They are placed in the engineering schools of a number of participating universities, principally in the United States.

Each year IRF conducts a two-week professional orientation program for the new Fellows before they begin their studies. The program includes visits to public and private transportation-related organizations in the Washington, D.C., area and in other regions of the United States and Canada. The 1994–1995 group consists of Fellows chosen from 12 countries: Argentina, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Hungary, Jamaica, Japan, Lithuania, Mexico, Republic of China, South Africa, and Swaziland. They will be attending 17 universities: Georgia Institute of Technology, Lehigh University, Morgan State University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Ohio State University, Purdue University, Stanford University, University of Coventry (UK), University of Colorado, University of East London (UK), University of Florida,



1994–1995 IRF Fellows meet with Transportation Research Board staff before beginning their year of study.

University of Glamorgan (UK), University of Kentucky, University of Nevada at Reno, University of South Florida, University of Texas at Austin, and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

The Fellowship Program provides a one-time, fixed-amount grant that is applied toward the cost of university graduate study in a highway-related field. All additional financing required is provided by the student's sponsor or other non-IRF sources. In addition, IRF accepts qualified students who are fully financed by their governments or other sources such as the World Bank and other international lending institutions.

Grants are normally offered annually through national road associations affiliated with IRF and recipients are selected by these associations in cooperation with appropriate national highway authorities or their regional or municipal counterparts. Outstanding candidates from the private sector are also considered.

Starting in fall 1994, the award of fellowships was supported by the Future Fund, an endowment-style funding mechanism. In the past most fellowships have been funded through voluntary contributions from IRF members and other interested organizations. The Future Fund was established in 1991 by the International Road Educational Foundation (IREF) to complement the annual contribution program. In three years more than \$1.4 million has been pledged to the Future Fund and more than \$1.1 million has already been received. These funds are invested and only the earnings are applied to fellowships.

On the basis of current projections of investment earnings, IREF plans to award seven Future Fund-supported fellowships for the 1995–1996 academic year. It is anticipated that the Future Fund will become an increasingly important element in the financing of fellowships as the contribution total continues to grow. IREF is

continued on page 46

Wayne McDaniel is Director of Programs, International Road Federation.

Vehicle Emissions and Air Quality Symposium: A Forum on Prediction, Assessment, and Public Policy
July 26–28, 1995

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Sponsor Center for Transportation Studies, University of Minnesota

Subjects Emission inventories, federal policy impacts on private industry, effectiveness of vehicle emission control programs, new tools for predicting and measuring, and impacts of new technologies.

Contact Center for Transportation Studies, c/o Lori Graven, University of Minnesota, 315 Pillsbury Drive, S.E., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455-0139 (fax 612-626-1632, e-mail lgraven@maroon.tc.umn.edu).

XXth World Road Congress

September 3–9, 1995

Montréal, Québec, Canada

Sponsor Permanent International Association of Road Congresses (PIARC)

Subjects Road safety, road infrastructure management in major cities, investment policies for road infrastructure in Latin America, issues related to North American Free Trade Agreement, and a World Bank session on Africa.

Contact XXth World Road Congress Office, 1200 avenue McGill College, Bureau 1620, Montréal, Québec, Canada H3B 4G7 (telephone 514-864-1220, fax 514-873-1995).

Pacific Rim TransTech Conference

July 30–August 2, 1995

Seattle, Washington

Sponsors Federal Highway Administration, Washington State Department of Transportation, and various contributing and cooperating sponsors

Subjects International trade agreements, public-private partnerships, safety, major international facilities, environment and energy, freight technology, transportation systems, and intermodal innovations.

Contact James W. Smith, Pacific Rim TransTech Conference '95, c/o WSITF, 999 3rd Ave., Suite 1020, Seattle, Washington 98104-9856 (telephone 206-682-6035, fax 206-682-6190, e-mail transtec@cyberquest.com).

CPT'95 International Symposium on Cone Penetration Testing

October 4, 5, 1995

Linköping, Sweden

Sponsors Swedish Geotechnical Society in cooperation with the Danish, Finnish, and Norwegian Geotechnical Societies

Subjects Solution of geotechnical problems in cohesive soils and loose granular soils by cone penetration testing, with focus on equipment and testing, interpretation of test results, and solution to practical problems.

Contact Secretariat of CPT '95, Swedish Geotechnical Institute, S-581 93 Linköping, Sweden (fax +46 13 20 19 14).

IRF Fellowship Program

continued from page 15

working to secure additional pledges to achieve the current goal of \$2 million.

IRF maintains close contact with its Fellows after their return home and throughout their professional careers. Fellows from groups chosen in previous years have achieved positions such as cabinet ministers, undersecretaries, and chief engineers, as well as leaders in the private sector and academia, where they are in a position to have a strong influence on the development of transportation systems around the world. To enhance this international network, in 1993 IRF established a Fellows Alumni Association. All Fellows are automatically members of the association and are urged to participate in the establishment of chapters in their own countries.

Companies or individuals who would like to become part of the IRF Fellowship Program should contact the International Road Federation, 525 School Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20024 (telephone 202-554-2106, fax 202-479-0828).

PROFILE

Underwood *continued from page 36*

on Synthesis of Information Related to Highway Problems and the NCHRP Project Panel on Facilitating the Implementation of Research Findings. He is a member of the NCHRP project panels on On-Site Evaluation and Calibration Procedures for Weigh-in-Motion Systems and NCHRP—IDEA Innovations Deserving Exploratory Analysis, and is a former member of the TRB Committee on Conduct of Research.

Underwood's honors include appointment by the Governor of Texas to membership of the Texas Economic Development Commission and service on a Texas Vocational/Technical Advisory Commission. He was selected Board Member and State President of the Texas Public Employees Association

and in 1980 was named Outstanding State Employee in Texas.

PROFILE

Blomme *continued from page 37*

He cautions, however, "Reliable linkages are currently somewhat elusive."

Blomme lectures at the University of California, Berkeley, annual airports short course and has also lectured at the Royal Aeronautics Society's airports course at Oxford University and for the State University of New York.

He is actively involved in the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Institute of Transportation Engineers, and the Transportation Research Board. As past Chairman of TRB's Aviation Section, aviation

representative to the Group 1 Council, and member of several aviation and intermodal task forces at TRB, Blomme has worked on identifying research needs and setting three- and six-year goals. He has contributed to TRB's *Special Report 215—Measuring Airport Landside Capacity* and other special reports. He has also encouraged the University Aviation Association to involve students in TRB Annual Meeting activities.

Blomme believes that TRB should continue to foster interaction among committees in the many different mode-specific sections "in the true spirit of intermodalism." This will ensure that "the energies are in place to deal with spectrum-wide interests in environmental betterment, energy conservation, and comprehensive intercity transportation planning."