

NEWS



TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

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PROFESSOR AND RESEARCHER MATTHEW WITCZAK HONORED WITH 2008 THOMAS B. DEEN DISTINGUISHED LECTURESHIP

The 2008 recipient of the Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lectureship is Matthew W. Witczak, Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering, at Arizona State University, Tempe. His lecture, "*Pavement Performance Research Implementation: Its Uniqueness, Complexity, and Recommendations for Acceleration into Practice*," will be delivered on Monday, January 14, 2008, at the Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lecture and Presentation of Awards for Outstanding Papers during the Transportation Research Board (TRB) 87th 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.

Witczak has been a leader in pavement design and analysis for more than 30 years. The

textbook that he coauthored with E.J. Yoder, published in 1975, helped to educate an entire generation of pavement engineers. More recently, Witczak led research teams for the SUPERPAVE methodology and the development of mechanistic-based pavement design procedures, two of the most significant undertakings in the profession. He was heavily involved in the planning and technical research phases of the original Strategic Highway Research Program.

The author of more than 150 technical papers and reports, Witczak holds a Ph.D. degree from Purdue University. He served on the faculty at the University of Maryland from 1973 to 1999 and chaired the Department of Civil Engineering there from 1981 to 1985. He is a Professor Emeritus at the University of Maryland and currently serves as Professor of Civil Engineering at Arizona State University.

Witczak has received a total of 15 engineering, research, and construction awards. He is the past recipient of one of TRB's first Fred Burggraf Awards and its K.B. Woods Award, the Association of Asphalt Paving Technologists' (AAPT's) W.J. Emmons Award, the National Asphalt Pavement Association's R.D. Kenyon Award, and *Engineering News-Record's* "Construction Man of the Year" Award. He also received the A. James Clark School of Engineering Outstanding Commitment Award from the University of Maryland in 2004 and has been recognized by the American Society of Civil Engineers as an author of the most outstanding transportation journal paper. He was elected to the Asphalt Institute's Roll of Honor in 2003 and in 2007 was elected an AAPT Honorary Member—a recognition given only to 29 individuals in the past 80 years of that organization's history.

Active in TRB for more than 35 years, Witczak is an Emeritus Member of the Flexible Pavement Design Committee, and he has served as a member or chair of more than a dozen committees, panels, and task forces, including committees on pavement rehabilitation and design, airfield pavements, safety and mobility of older drivers, and the effects of twin-trailer trucks on highway design and safety.

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) 87th Annual Meeting, in Washington, DC, January 13-17, 2008. The meeting, held at the Marriott Wardman Park, Omni Shoreham, and Hilton Washington hotels, includes more than 3,000 presentations in 600 sessions, 85 workshops, and 400 TRB committee meetings 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. 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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