

NEWS



TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD

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News Release

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DR. FORREST M. COUNCIL WINS TRB'S ROY W. CRUM DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Named for Roy W. Crum, who served as the Board's director from 1928 until his death in 1951, the Crum Award recognizes outstanding leadership in transportation research or research administration. Dr. Forrest M. Council, former Director and current Senior Research Scientist, University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center (HSRC), is the 2014 recipient of the Crum Award for his distinguished achievements in transportation research.

Council has worked for 41 years at the HSRC where he has served as a project director for more than 20 projects and has authored more than 150 articles and reports. A nationally recognized expert in highway safety issues, Council has carried out studies of motor vehicle injury for specific subpopulations—such as children, beginning drivers, and seat belted occupants. His experience has also encompassed projects aimed at identifying and strengthening research methodologies in the roadway safety field, including development of the U.S. Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA's) Accident Research Manual.

A significant component of his work during the past 20 years has involved directing the planning, development, and implementation of FHWA's Highway Safety Information System – a seven-state database that captures accident, traffic and roadway inventory variables for use in FHWA internal and contract research activities and research funded by other national organizations.

Council has been a TRB volunteer for more than 40 years beginning with his 1974 appointment to the Committee on Traffic Records. Over the years he has served on some 25 TRB and National Research Council committees, panels, and task forces. These include chairing the Committee on Methodology for Evaluating Highway Improvements, the Committee for Review of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's Large Truck Crash Causation Study, and the Committee on Research Priorities and Coordination in Highway Infrastructure and Operations Safety. He currently serves as chair of the TRB second Strategic Highway Safety Program Technical Coordinating Committee for Safety Research. In 2009, he was appointed a Member Emeritus of the TRB Committee on Safety Data, Analysis, and Evaluation; and named a National Associate of the National Research Council of the National Academies.

He served as director of the HSRC from 1993 until his retirement from that position in 1999. Prior to that time, he had served as HSRC's deputy director for 10 years and interim director for two years. In his current position, his time is solely dedicated to research. Dr. Council received a Master of Science degree and a Ph.D. from North Carolina State University in civil engineering, with a traffic engineering specialty, a minor in statistics, and training in accident research methodologies.

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