



Transportation Library Pooled Fund Study

Prepared by: Christi Powers
563-583-0775
christiapowers@mchsi.com

Transportation Library Connectivity

Pooled Fund Study - TPF-5(105) Teleconference – November 15, 2006 - 10:30 to 12:30 CST

Participants: Lisa Autio, Montana DOT (MDT); Jerry Baldwin, Minnesota DOT (Mn/DOT); Jason Bittner, Wisconsin Transportation Center (WTC); Cheryl Bodan, Pennsylvania DOT (PennDOT); Steve Cochran, Washington DOT (WsDOT); Ruth Letson (TDOT); Marie Manthe, Kansas DOT (KDOT); Susan Sillick, MDT; Laura Wilt, Oregon DOT (ODOT); Christi Powers, Marketing services; Maggie Sacco, Technical services, CTC & Associates.

NOTE: Due to technical difficulties some TAC members weren't immediately able to dial into the teleconference. WisDOT was apprised of the conference line malfunction and will check its equipment.

I. Check-in/Updates from TAC members

PennDOT – Cheryl Bodan reported that she continues to work on modules for the catalog and anticipates a complete conversion to Sirsi with batch upload by June, 2007. She has procured services through a marketing contract that will help update the library's Web site and provide other outreach services. She inquired which sessions others will be attending during TRB in January, 2007.

WsDOT – Steve Cochran is heading up a library advisory board that meets November 16, 2006. The nine-member panel includes executive and senior-level officers who will meet twice each year. Steve will continue to communicate the value of WsDOT's library services and outline key library goals and objectives. He will also provide updates to advisory board members on transportation knowledge network activities such as the pooled fund study, TRB special report 284, and NCHRP 20-75. He shared the first advisory board agenda with the group. He is also scoping possibilities to form a pacific northwest transportation knowledge network (TKN). This regional consortium would be modeled after MTKN and potentially include Arizona, California, Montana, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska and other interested libraries.

Mn/DOT – Jerry Baldwin said Minnesota DOT will recognize the 50th anniversary of the Federal Highway Act. Library staff are planning a virtual online event and will notify staff through e-mails and posters in the lobby.

KDOT – Marie Manthe indicated there may be possible staffing changes at the department which could affect the library. She isn't certain of what impact there will be yet.

ODOT – Laura Wilt reported that she attended a peer exchange in October. At that time her boss, Bernie Jones, indicated that he is in favor of forming a western TKN but advocates building one that is smaller than AASHTO region II. ODOT is also looking into project funding for digitizing historical photos.

TDOT – Ruth Letson said she is having problems with Sydney Plus and is unable to perform batch loads without the export module. She is preparing a purchase order for the additional unforeseen cost of the export module so that an initial upload can take place. Ruth also reported having significant communication issues with SoliNET.

MDOT – No updates

II. Housekeeping

Minutes – Besides Marie Manthe’s edits, no other changes were made and the TAC approved the 2006 annual meeting [minutes](#).

Location and dates for 2007 annual meeting -- The TAC has selected UW-Wisconsin Madison as the site for the 2007 Transportation Library Connectivity Meeting. Tentative dates were slated for September 18 – 20, 2007 allowing for a full day on Tuesday rather than meeting at noon. Christi Powers will contact the [UW Lowell Center](#) to determine [rates](#) and availability. It was mentioned that MTKN may want to hold a joint meeting as was done in [Kansas City](#) in 2005. Bob Sweet, MTKN chair, and John Cherney, chair-elect, will be consulted. Updates will be provided during the next teleconference in January.

TRB 2007 panel presentation – Two TAC members, Leni Oman and Jerry Baldwin, will participate in [TRB session 236](#), a panel presentation organized by the pooled fund study and sponsored by TRB Library and Information Science for Transportation (LIST) [committee](#). Maggie Sacco and Christi Powers will co-moderate the session entitled “Transportation Information Revolution: The World at Your Doorstep” which provides practitioner perspectives (Doug McDonald, Washington DOT secretary; John Corbin, WisDOT state traffic engineer; and Kirk Beach, Ohio DOT, geotechnical engineer) on how transportation information resources are used and applied. Notices will be sent to TAC members, TRANS LIB, MTKN and other list serves to promote the session. It was also mentioned that AASHTO 2007 will be held in Milwaukee, September 27 - October 2, 2007. The pooled fund study will seek this and other venues to distribute its two-year summary report and possibly organize presentations.

III. Performance measures

With time running out at the 2006 annual pooled fund study meeting, TAC members discussed project performance measures. Tracking tools developed by Minnesota and Washington DOT are posted on the pooled fund [Web site](#). This summer, a TAC subcommittee held two teleconferences to discuss what to measure and how. Questions arose over whether to benchmark member libraries or apply performance measures to the study itself. Significant discussion ensued about standardizing terminology and identifying core services. It was decided that new and existing performance measure resources will be compiled and added to a toolkit. TAC members are welcome to use them when feasible or possible. In the meantime, benchmark data has been gathered with [surveys](#) and also might be derived through collection analysis, of which Maggie will be investigating through OCLC.

Toolkit - The toolkit will be a byproduct of the study and would serve as a basis for new libraries. TAC members suggested other toolkit components:

- Surveys
- Marketing templates
- Best practices
- Core titles needed for your transportation library
- Core databases
- Core subscriptions

IV. Review annual meeting satisfaction survey

Maggie Sacco polled TAC members and Web participants at the 2006 St. Paul Annual Meeting to determine satisfaction levels. Results can be found under reports on the pooled fund study Web site.

Senior manager-level survey – Marketing efforts during the past year focused on internal library customers. Products such as [Top Ten](#) brochures, customizable [templates](#), and [Library Week](#) materials were created and distributed internally. External efforts to [recruit](#) new members and promote the study to other agencies, such as the Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA), are building awareness and communicate the value of transportation libraries.

During the next year, efforts will target the senior manager and executive-level target audience. Possibilities discussed included a Web conference, pod casts, and online media for busy professionals. TAC members

were interested in having a short survey formulated to gauge awareness and perceptions. Steve Cochran provided the committee with questions he will ask his library advisory board. Christi will adapt this into a draft survey for TAC members to consider.

Collection analysis options – Maggie Sacco will work with Kate Vincent, the new OCLC representative, on collection analysis tools that could be purchased through the pooled fund study. Based on figures provided by Andy Bush at the annual meeting, a five-member library rate starts at \$8,800 and increases from there. Maggie will send updates as she learns more.

V. Extending the study

Minnesota, Washington, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Tennessee and Kansas have expressed preliminary interest in extending the study beyond its two-year scope, which will end November, 2007. Ann Pahnke, Pat Casey, Maggie Sacco, John Cherney and Christi Powers will meet to discuss and scope deliverables. The FHWA has informally been notified of the intent to possibly extend the study. TAC members are asked to send wish lists of projected goals and deliverables that could be included in the scoping study.

VI. Close

The next transportation library connectivity pooled fund study teleconference will take place on either January 8 or 9, 2007. Christi will inform the committee of the exact date and phone number. Arrangements may go through UW-Madison's 800-number to reduce long distance charges to members. .