

**1999-00 Annual Report  
Transportation Geography Specialty Group (TGSG)  
Of the Association of American Geographers**

**I. Review of Statement**

No, we have not changed our dues for student members. Our dues remain:

Regular Members     \$5.00 (no change)  
Student Members     \$2.00 (down from \$4.00)

No other change to the statement.

**II. Names and Addresses of Officers**

Chair (Two-year term ending Spring 2002)

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Secretary/Treasurer (Two-year term ending Spring 2001)

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Webmaster (One-year term ending Spring 2001)

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Board Members

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### **III. Accomplishments, Activities, Future Plans**

- A. A business meeting was held on April 7, 2000 in Pittsburgh, PA at the AAG annual meeting. The following **motions** were considered at the Business Meeting:
- Creation of a TGSG list-serv and/or bulletin board. (passed). Bruce Ralston volunteered U. Tennessee computers for this purpose.

- According to the minutes, the idea of the TGSG chair as "gatekeeper" for web items was "not generally accepted by TGSG members, but "the following system of responsibility was proposed and accepted": (1) the webmaster would be the 1<sup>st</sup> gatekeeper; (2) the TGSG chair would be the 2<sup>nd</sup> gatekeeper, and (3) the TGSG chair would receive a copy of all material to be included on the web.

The following **issues** were discussed without any formal motions:

- A web-based guide to Transportation Geography graduate programs, and a sample for ASU was discussed.
  - AAG transportation-related papers may be included on the TGSG web page.
  - A special effort will be made to create linkages between the UK's TGRG and the TGSG
- B. At the 2000 TGSG business meeting in Pittsburgh, a report was given by the editors of the Journal of Transport Geography. They reported that:
- Vol 8 is now in print
  - The journal is now included in Social Sciences citation indices.
  - A special issue is planned on Mobility and Spatial Dynamics
  - Annual call for subscriptions (personal and institutional)
  - JTG web address can be found on TGSG web site
- C. A new chair, webmaster, and two new board members were elected (see above).
- D. Three student paper awards were given. The Masters Award was shared between two students. In all, 4 Masters students and 1 Ph.D student submitted papers.
- The Ph.D. award (\$150 + plaque) was given to **Brooks C. Pearson, Indiana University** for a dissertation titled "An Estimation of Potential Production of Agri-based Ethanol and its Contribution to Transportation Emissions."
  - One Masters Award (\$150 + plaque) was given to **Owen Robatino, University of Delaware** for a thesis on "Evaluating Uses of Abandoned Rights of Way with a Case Study of the Pomeroy and Newark Railroad."
  - The other Masters Award (\$150 + plaque) went to **Xiaohong Xin, University of Tennessee** for "A Spatial Decision Support System for Designing Solid Waste Collection Routes in Rural Counties"
- E. The Edward L. Ullman Award for Contribution to the Field of Transportation Geography (a plaque) was presented to **Donald G. Janelle, University of California-Santa Barbara** (formerly University of Western Ontario).
- F. Janelle, Xin, Robatino, and Kuby attended the Awards Banquet at TGSG expense. Xin was accompanied by advisor Ralston, who attended at own expense. The chair notes that next time, when the AAG forms are filled out for the Awards Banquet, the title of the winning thesis or dissertation should be provided, as that is what most other specialty groups did.
- G. The TGSG continued development of its web page with the aid of Christian Axiom, a graduate student at Syracuse to whom we paid \$400 per year. The web page includes sections on:
- A Transportation Session Schedule Planner for the 2000 Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, featuring a quick reference calendar with all transport-related sessions and business meetings, and including non-TGSG-sponsored sessions.
  - Advertising for upcoming sessions

- Travel awards
  - Student paper awards
  - Ullman award
  - Upcoming conferences
  - RFPs
  - Field Trips
  - Publications available
  - Links
  - Archives of older materials
  - Contact Information
  - News about members
  - A new section on "geographers available" and looking for employment
  - A new section containing a "guide to graduate programs in transportation geography." So far, however, only one university is listed there.
- H. Periodic announcements were emailed to the membership.
- I. Several members of the specialty group submitted a chapter on Transportation Geography for the new edition of *Geography in America*.
- J. The TGSG organized a field trip (session 3137, trip #8), co-sponsored by Gannett-Fleming Inc. **Pittsburgh Bicycle Excursion: A Rail Trails Tour**. There were 15 attendees, out of a capacity of 20.
- K. Nine sessions were organized for the 2000 AAG Meeting in Pittsburgh, compared with six the previous year:
1. Ports, Waterways, & Intermodal Transport (#4534, organized by Mike Kuby)
  2. Transportation Models (#6526, organized by Mike Kuby)
  3. Transport Dynamics in Pennsylvania (#3408, organized by Toby Fauver)
  4. Railroads: Mergers, Acquisitions & Organization (#3531, organized by Jeff Osleeb)
  5. Air Transportation: Service, Fares, and Impacts on Regional Economies and Local Land Use (#5436, organized by Andy Goetz)
  6. Air Transportation: Liberalization and Airline Strategies (#6423, organized by Andy Goetz)
  7. Impacts of Transportation Systems (#4233, organized by Claude Comtois, Brian Slack, and Jean-Paul Rodrigue)
  8. Urban Transportation Research Project (#3319, organized by Barry Wellar)
  9. Fleming Lecture on Transportation Geography: William Black, Indiana University (#5533, sponsored by U of Washington, co-sponsored by TGSG)

#### Activities Scheduled for the Coming Year

- A. Organize several sessions for the 2001 New York AAG Meeting. Proposed sessions were:
- Transport Models (organizer: Mike Kuby)
  - Historical transportation (Paul Marr??)
  - ITS (Shih-lung Shaw??)
  - Urban transportation (??)
  - Special invited session for TGSG award winners and others
  - Graduate student research session

- Joint session with TGRG on transport deregulation, governance, and internationalization (Bruce Ralston, TGSG and Brian Graham, TGRG)
- B. Plan one or more field trips for the 2001 New York AAG Meeting.
- NY Port Authority
  - NY rail
  - NYsubway
- C. Update the web page and move it to Hofstra University under the management of Jean-Paul Rodrigue
- D. Continue to support the *Journal of Transport Geography* through submission of manuscripts, book reviews, conference proceedings, and other materials to the journal, as well as publicizing the journal for the purpose of increasing visibility and subscriptions.
- E. Continue to recognize outstanding contributions of an individual to the field of transportation geography through presentation of the Edward L. Ullman award. Past winners of the award are:
- 1990 • Edward J. Taaffe
  - 1991 • Harold M. Mayer
  - 1992 • Howard Gauthier
  - 1993 • No award given.
  - 1994 • William Garrison
  - 1995 • William R. Black
  - 1996 • James Vance
  - 1997 • Susan Hanson
  - 1998 • Morton O'Kelly
  - 1999 • Bruce Ralston
  - 2000 • Donald Janelle
- F. Continue to present student paper awards.
- G. Continue to collaborate with the other specialty groups in organizing sessions.
- H. Sponsor a joint session with the Institute of British Geographer's Transportation Geography Research Group on transport deregulation, governance and internationalisation (Prof Brian Graham, School of Environmental Studies, University of Ulster, Coleraine, N Ireland BT52 1SA, Tel: (+44) 028 70334401, Fax: (+44) 028 7033491)

#### **IV. Membership and Participation**

Membership in the TGSG increased sharply from 110 members in 1986 to 285 members in 1994. Membership has since been in a steady decline.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Membership</u>	<u>of which Students</u>
1986	110	
1992	221	
1993	247	
1994	285	
1995	251	
1996	257	

1997	236	
1998	196	58
1999	182	41

Last year, we lowered the student dues from \$5 to \$2 but the student membership dropped from 58 to 41. We attribute some of the decline to the growth of the GIS SG, and possibly to the discontinuation of the paper newsletter and the availability of our web page for free.

Measures of participation and activity, however, show that the TGSG is very active. We had the most sessions (9, plus a field trip) in several years, and the number of student paper submissions (5) was higher than in some past years, though less than the record 9 in 1999. The field as a whole remains quite healthy, as evidenced by the fact that the *Journal of Transport Geography* is in its 8<sup>th</sup> year, and there is now a Bureau of Transport Statistics in the U.S. Department of Transportation that was headed by a geographer for several years.

## V. Financial Report

- A. Account name: Transportation Geography Specialty Group of the AAG. This account is with the Central Office of the AAG.
- B. Revenue and expenses for Calendar Year 1999 (see attached Treasurer's Report)
 

Revenues	\$1,993.09 (\$200 of which was money returned by travel award winner Yang)
Expenses	\$1,905.85

See attached sheet for details.
- C. Estimated income and expenses for 2000 (see table on next page)
 

Revenues	\$1265
Expenses	\$1604

**Estimated budget****January 1, 2000 - December 31, 2000**

Description	Receipts	Payments	Balance
Balance Forwarded			2,265.58
1999 TGSG Dues	815.00		
TGSG Newsletter (Mike Kuby)		55.85	
Student Prizes for 1999 Meeting		450.00	
1999 Plaque expenses (no record of previous reimbursement) to Kuby		233.45	
2000 Plaque expenses to Kuby		209.74	
Bicycle Field Trip expenses to Kuby		360.70	
Bicycle Field Trip revenues (approx \$30 x 15 participants)	\$450.00		
Awards Luncheon		100.00	
TGSG Web Page to webmaster Axsion for Spring 2000		200.00	
Total	1265.00	1,609.74	1,920.84

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Submitted by Mike Kuby, outgoing chair