

2003-04 Annual Report
Transportation Geography Specialty Group (TGSG)
of the Association of American Geographers

April 15, 2004

I. Review of Statement

Statement of the TGSG:

“To encourage and facilitate interactions among individuals who are interested in research, practice, and education of transportation-related topics.”

TGSG membership dues remain:

Regular Members \$5.00

Student Members \$2.00

II. Names and Addresses of Officers

Chair (Two-year term ending Spring 2006):

Jean-Paul Rodrigue

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Secretary/Treasurer (Two-year term ending Spring 2006)

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Webmaster (One-year term ending Spring 2005)

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Board Members:

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Julie Cidell (Two-year term ending Spring 2006)
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Hongbo Yu (Student representative, 2-year term ending Spring 2005)
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III. Accomplishments, Activities, Future Plans

A. A business meeting was held on March 15, 2004 at the AAG annual meeting in Philadelphia, PA.

Chair's Report (F. Benjamin Zhan):

- Thanks the following TGSG officers for their service over the past year:
Jean-Paul Rodrigue – Board member, Secretary/treasurer and
TGSG Web Master
John Bowen – Board member
Mei-Po Kwan – Board member
Agatino La Rosa – Board member
Joseph Weber – Board member
Hongbo Yu – Board member and student representative
- TGSG sponsored one plenary session and 14 paper sessions at the 2004 AAG annual meeting. In addition, 65 sessions during the 2004 AAG meeting contained topic areas related to Transportation Geography. Thanks go to all TGSG members who organized sessions and/or presented at the Philadelphia AAG meeting.
- Report of TGSG membership trend: TGSG membership has been fairly stable since 1995. The specialty group had 227 members during 2003-2004. Please refer to Section IV in this report for additional information about membership data.

B. At the 2004 TGSG business meeting in Philadelphia, PA, members elected a new Chair (Jean-Paul Rodrigue, Department of Economics & Geography, Hofstra University), Secretary and treasurer (Dr. Robert Robert J. Czerniak, New Mexico State University), and one new board member (Dr. Julie Cidell). Dr. Joe Weber has agreed to serve another term as a board member. Please refer to Section II above for additional information about these new TGSG officers. Dr. Jean-Paul Rodrigue, the current TGSG web master, has kindly agreed to serve as the TGSG web master for the 2004-05 term.

C. One student paper was awarded the 'best dissertation award' and one student paper was awarded the best master's thesis during the TGSG '**2004 Best Student Paper Competition.**'

- The best Ph.D. dissertation award (\$150 + plaque) went to **Dr. Julie L. Cidell**. The title of Dr. Cidell's dissertation is: "*Scales of Airport Expansion: Globalization, Regionalization, and Local Land Use.*" (Ph.D., 2003, The University of Minnesota; Advisor: Dr. John Adams).
- The best Master's thesis award (\$150 + plaque) went to Ms. Jessica Tharpe. Ms. Tharpe's thesis is titled "*Sustainable Transportation: A Case Study of Telework and Carpool In Atlanta, Georgia.*" (MA, 2003, The University

of Tennessee; Advisor: Dr. Shih-Lung Shaw)

- D. The 2004 Edward L. Ullman Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Study of Transportation Geography (a plaque) went to **Dr. Richard David Knowles**, University of Salford in the United Kingdom. In his nomination letter, Dr. Bruce Ralston wrote “I wish to nominate Dr. Richard Knowles of the University of Salford for the 2004 Edward L. Ullman Award. I hasten to add that this nomination enjoys the support of several past Ullman Award winners, including Bill Black, Don Janelle, Brian Slack, and Morton O’Kelly. Richard is most deserving of this honor. His importance to transport geography, both in the United States and abroad, can be measured through his service, his published research, and his professional practice.”
- E. Julie Cidell, Shih-Lung Shaw (on behalf of Jessica Tharpe), and Benjamin Zhan attended the AAG Awards Luncheon in Philadelphia through the support of the AAG TGSG.
- F. The TGSG continued development of its web page with the help from Jean-Paul Rodrigue at Department of Economics & Geography, Hofstra University. The web page includes sections on:
- Home
 - TGSG Officers
 - Awards
 - News
 - Events
 - Publications
 - Member Service
 - Links
- G. Periodic announcements were emailed to the membership.
- H. Summary of TGSG sponsored activities at the Philadelphia AAG meeting (one plenary session and 14 paper sessions)

Plenary session:

- Fleming Lecture in Transportation Geography
(Organizers: Richard L. Morrill and Benjamin Zhan)

Paper Sessions:

- A Centenary of Flight: Geography & Air Transport
(Organizers: John Bowen)

- Applied Coastal and Marine Research Issues I
(Organizers: Diane P. Horn and Barry Wellar)

- Applied Transportation Research Projects
(Organizers: Barry Wellar)
- Freight Movement: Operations and Institutionalization
(Organizers: Agatino La Rosa)
- ICT, Transportation, Accessibility, Sustainability, Social Equity, and Social Exclusion I
(Organizers: Mark W Horner, Joe Weber, and Irene Casas)
- ICT, Transportation, Accessibility, Sustainability, Social Equity, and Social Exclusion II
(Organizers: Mark W Horner, Joe Weber, and Irene Casas)
- Multiple Dimensions of Urban Travel and Commuting in 21st Century Cities
(Organizers: Selima Sultana and Joe Weber)
- Re-Exploring the Interface between Economic Geography and Transport Geography
(Organizers: Jean-Paul Rodrigue, Andrew R. Goetz, and Markus Hesse)
- Re-Exploring the Interface between Economic Geography and Transport Geography II – Flows and Supply Chains
(Organizers: Jean-Paul Rodrigue, Andrew R. Goetz, and Markus Hesse)
- Re-Exploring the Interface between Economic Geography and Transport Geography III – Globalization and Regionalization
(Organizers: Jean-Paul Rodrigue, Andrew R. Goetz, and Markus Hesse)
- Re-Exploring the Interface between Economic Geography and Transport Geography IV – The Role of Transport Firms
(Organizers: Jean-Paul Rodrigue, Andrew R. Goetz, and Markus Hesse)
- STAR/STELLA Transatlantic Research Initiative I
(Organizers: William R. Black)
- STAR/STELLA Transatlantic Transport Research Initiative II
(Organizers: William R. Black)

- Transportation and Critical Infrastructure Protection
(Organizers: F. Benjamin Zhan)

Activities Scheduled for the Coming Year

- A. Continue to update the web page managed by Jean-Paul Rodrigue at Hofstra University.
- B. Continue to operate the un-moderated TGSG-L discussion list managed by Shih-Lung Shaw at University of Tennessee.
- C. Continue to support the *Journal of Transport Geography* through submission of manuscripts, book reviews and other materials to the journal, as well as publicizing the journal for the purpose of increasing visibility and subscriptions.
- D. 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
2001 - Thomas Leinbach
2002 – Brian Slack
2003 – Kingsley Edwin Haynes
2004 – Richard David Knowles
- E. Continue to present student paper awards.
- F. Continue to collaborate with the other specialty groups in organizing sessions.
- G. Continue to sponsor a joint session with the Royal Geographic Society (RGS) Transportation Geography Research Group (TGSG) at AAG annual meetings.

IV. Membership and Participation

There appeared to be a noticeable increase in the number of student members in the specialty group during 2002 although the total number of members dropped from 228 to 212 during 2002. TGSG membership has been fairly stable around 210-240 since 1995.

Year	Total Membership	Student Membership
1985	255	
1986	243	
1987	234	
1988	231	
1989	240	
1990	240	
1991	221	
1992	238	
1993	238	
1994	194	
1995	221	
1996	231	
1997	233	
1998	235	58
1999	225	41
2000	224	38
2001	228	45
2002	212	76
2003	227	??

Measures of participation and activity show that the TGSG is very active. In addition to the TGSG-sponsored sessions at the AAG meetings, the TGSG continues to expand its Internet-based communications (TGSG web site, TGSG-L discussion list, and e-mails) with its members. The field as a whole also remains quite healthy, as evidenced by the fact that the *Journal of Transport Geography* is in its 12th year. Chairs of AAG TGSG and RGS TGRG have maintained communications to help enhance professional relationships among transportation geographers on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean.

V. Financial Report

AAG Transportation Geography Specialty Group
Account Balance 2003 – 2004
Submitted by Jean-Paul Rodrigue, TGSG Secretary / Treasurer

Date	Description	Expense	Income	Balance
08/31/02	Previous Balance			\$1,778.69
02/28/03	Plaques for TGSG Awards	\$105.53		\$1,673.16
07/02/03	Dissertation award (Xin)	\$150.00		\$1,523.16
08/31/03	Dues collected 9/01/02 - 8/31/03		\$702.50	\$2,225.66
08/31/03	Account Balance (AAG Statement)			\$2,225.66

Total expenses: \$255.53

Total income: \$702.50

Balance as of August 31st 2003: \$2,225.66

Observation: Expenses have remained low, but dues appear to be declining. We should try to reach the balance of 1999-2000 of about \$3,000. New sources of income could be explored, such as sponsorship.

This annual report was submitted by F. Benjamin Zhan, TGSG Chair (2002-2004).