

International Trade and Transportation Committee (AT020) Call Minutes

Date and Time: December 3, 2018, 1:00 – 2:04 PM Eastern Time

Chris Bachmann – University of Waterloo; Irina Benedyk – Purdue University; Steve Beningo – BTS (Secretary); Paul Bingham – EDR Group; Travis Black – MARAD; Maria Boilé – University of Piraeus; Maxim Dulbenets – Florida A&M University – Florida State University; Verena Ehrler – German Aerospace Center, Institute of Transport Research; Daniel Hackett – Hackett Associates; Emily Hashimoto; Alexander Horton; Tiffany Julien – FHWA; David Lee; Don Kang; Gisela Rua – Federal Reserve Board; Matthew Rooney – George W. Bush Presidential Center; Lefteris Sdoukopoulos – Aristotle University of Thessaloniki/Hellenic Institute of Transport; Isabel Victoria – Cambridge Associates; Juan Carlos Villa – Texas Transportation Institute (Chairman); Ping Wang – National University of Singapore

Minutes:

1. Introductions were made.
2. Steven Beningo reviewed the minutes of the previous two committee meetings, the 2018 Annual Meeting and the 2018 Mid-Year Meeting. These minutes can be found at: <https://www.trbtradetransportation.org/meeting-minutes/>
3. Isabel Victoria discussed paper reviews. Six papers were reviewed by a total of 22 reviewers. The papers were assigned based on the detailed areas of expertise provided by those reviewers. There is a concern about the downward trend in the number of papers submitted to the committee.
4. Daniel Hackett spoke on research coordination. The first two research needs statements will go live by the end of the week. Three additional statements should be ready for the summer meeting.
5. Irina Benedyk discussed communications. There have not been many updates to the committee's website. Irina led a discussion on the possible use of LinkedIn, Twitter, and Facebook to disseminate committee activities. Matthew Rooney stated that the George W. Bush Center prefers the use of LinkedIn, as that site has a more professional tone. No consensus was arrived at, and this discussion will be continued at the next AT020 meeting.
6. Juan Villa led a discussion on the Triennial Strategic Plan. The last time the plan was updated was in 2017. Changes in international trade and transportation have brought new challenges. There also have been new technological advances. Therefore, this is a good time for a review of the plan. Steven Beningo, Maria Boilé, Lefteris Sdoukopoulos, and Irina Benedyk offered to help with the update.
7. Juan Villa led a discussion of options for the AT020 Mid-Year Meeting. Two options currently being discussed are to have the meeting in conjunction with the Innovations in Freight Data Workshop in April in Irvine, California and to have a joint Mid-Year Meeting in June with other TRB committees in Galveston, Texas. The Galveston option was the preference of the group. A desire was expressed to have a tour of the Port of

Houston in addition to a tour of the Port of Galveston. Juan will send an email to TRB detailing the committee's preferences.

8. Juan Villa presented a plan for the annual meeting. It calls for spending more time discussing strategic topics of interest to the committee. Possible topics for discussion are the impact of current international trade relations in the transportation system, the Chinese One Belt One Road initiative, block chain technology, and the impacts of the upcoming 2020 International Maritime Organization's (IMO) bunker regulations in international trade. Some committee members volunteered to lead discussions on these topics. Juan will work on leading the block chain discussion. Someone is needed to lead the IMO bunker discussion.
9. The next AT020 meeting will be at the Marriott Marquis in Washington DC, in the Mount Vernon Square Room, on Monday, January 14, 2019 at 3:45 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.