

**AT020: MID YEAR MEETING**  
**Minutes of the Meeting held on**  
**Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 from 1:00 – 3:00pm ET**

**Note:** This meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

**Attendees:** Daniel Hackett (Hackett Associates), Irina Benedyk (SUNY at Buffalo), Steven Polunsky (Washington State Department of Commerce), Juan Carlos Villa (Texas A&M Transportation Institute), Majbah Uddin (Oak Ridge National Laboratory), Daniel Covarrubias (Texas A&M International University), Daniel Escoto, Loretta Brown (Texas Department of Transportation), Hyeonsup Lim (ORNL), Jose Marquez (California Department of Transportation), Scott Sigman (Equinanimous Advisory Service Enterprise (EASE)), Caroline Mays, Steven Beningo, Zeinab Elmi (Florida State University), Mitch Kostoulakos (Ad Hoc Logistics LLC), Jean-Paul Rodrigue (Hofstra University, NY), Meng Lu (Aeolix ITS, The Netherlands), Juan Carlos Espinosa (Texas A&M Transportation Institute), Tae Oum (Sauder School of Business, Univ of British Columbia), David L. Helton, Tae Oum (World Conference on Transport Research), Joseph Lau (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University), Jonathan Gold (National Retail Federation), Rhonda Levinowsky (TRB Staff), Shannon McLeod (AAPA), Edward Yu, Carlos Silva, Kirk Claussen (MARAD), Caroline Mays, Nephi Awugelenu, Zhaojun Wang, Paloma Salas (FOA Consulting, Mexico), Travis Black (Maritime Administration), Geri Poor (Port of Seattle), Jun Villoria, Paul Bingham (S&P Global), Rabinder Bains, Steven Polunsky (WA-COM), Taqhi Mohammed-Pace, Lawrence Gross, Ben Zietlow (Quetica), Daniel Petrenko (a Transportation Committee in Alexandria VA).

Attendees who did not enter their contact information in the chat are not necessarily listed.

## **I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Aided by PowerPoint slides, Daniel Hackett (Committee Chair) welcomed the attendees and provided an update on the Committee rotations. He announced that Isabel Victoria-Jaramillo was the Vice Chair & Paper Review Coordinator, Irina Benedyk the Committee Communications Coordinator, Chris Bachmann the Secretary, and Daniel Covarrubias the Committee Research Coordinator. He requested volunteers to serve as liaisons with the Yong Members Council and the Supply Chain Subcommittee. He also named Mary Brooks as an Emeritus member of the Committee.

## **II. PRESENTATIONS**

Dr. Daniel Covarrubias, director of Texas A&M International University's Texas Center for Economic and Enterprise Development delivered a presentation: From Globalization to Regionalization: The Evolution of U.S.-Mexico Cross-Border Trade.

The slide deck will be available at the Committee website.

Lawrence Gross - President and Founder of Gross Transportation Consulting delivered a presentation: Lawrence Gross - President and Founder of Gross Transportation Consulting.

The slide deck is available from Mr. Gross: [lgross@intermodalindepth.com](mailto:lgross@intermodalindepth.com)

### **III. TRB AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

Aided by PowerPoint slides, Daniel Hackett (Committee Chair) facilitated the discussion of TRB and Committee business:

#### **Upcoming Dates**

Daniel noted the deadlines for upcoming events and detailed the webinar window time frames:

- August 1st: due date for all papers to be considered for the Annual Meeting and for publication.
- September 15<sup>th</sup>: due date for committee recommendations for papers to be presented, speakers to be invited, and sessions to be conducted at the TRB Annual Meeting
- Webinars: accepted proposals:
  - submitted July 2 - November 1 are scheduled from January 1 to April 30
  - submitted November 2 – March 1 are scheduled from May 1 to August 30
  - submitted March 2 – July 1 are scheduled from September 1 to December 30

#### **TRB Library Snap Searches**

Daniel provided details on TRB's Snap Search tool, available at:

<https://www.trb.org/InformationServices/Snap.aspx>

The tool provides a succinct summary of current activities in TRB on a given topic including:

- A list of recent reports from TRB and the National Academies
- Current and upcoming projects related to the topic
- Names of Committees working on relevant issues
- Upcoming events such as conferences and webinars
- Updated at least annually

Daniel provided a review of the 2023 Annual Meeting and Irina Bedyk provided the Committee Communications Coordinator update. Irina gave a reminder about the Committee website and LinkedIn page.

<https://www.trbtradetransportation.org/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4362564/>

#### **Annual Meeting Papers Timeline**

Daniel provided the timeline for the paper review process, and thanks reviewers in advance for their help. He noted that Isabel Victoria-Jaramillo was not on the call, but that reviewers could expect to see emails

in August. Jose Marquez, Loretta Brown, Paloma Salas and Hyeonsup Lim volunteered to assist with paper reviews.

### **Update to the Triennial Strategic Plan**

Daniel outlined the timing and purpose of the Triennial Strategic Plan process, and noted that the Committee's plan was over three years old. He requested any volunteers who wanted to help update the TSP email him. Online volunteers included Steve Beningo, Loretta Brown, Mitch Kostoulakos, and Nephi Awugelenu.

### **2024 Annual Meeting**

Daniel explained that the Committee was co-sponsoring a second Freight and Marine "Unconference" workshop. He noted several key topic areas that were discussed at the 2023 workshop, including:

- Capacity
- Consumers Over-Consuming Transportation
- Data Sharing
- Workforce Development
- Resiliency/Sustainability
- US Flagged Ships
- National Freight Plan
- Future Research Topics

He explained that the Committee would sponsor two lectern sessions including the paper session and potentially a poster session, and called for topic suggestions for the lectern session, webinars, and future research focus areas. Suggestions included:

- Lack of adequate infrastructure to accommodate new trends in international trade (Jose Marquez)
- Post Pandemic - Is the Supply Chain Ready for the Next Disruption? - What lessons have been learned, what's changed, etc. (Jon Gold)
- Impacts of international trade in environmental justice communities and how do we address it? (Jose Marquez)
- The impacts of India becoming the New Factory of the World (Shannon McLeod)
- Impact of supply chain diversification on sourcing, trade routes, etc. (Jon Gold)
- What are the economic costs of climate change? (Loretta Brown)
- What are the requirements for international trade becoming more resilient to climate change? What are the adaptation actions that will be needed in the next years? (Paloma Salas)

The Committee discussed the environmental cost/inaction concept and agreed the topic had a high level of interest.

**Action Item:** it was determined that Daniel Hackett would look into organizing a panel on the impact of climate change in international trade and transportation.

Daniel shared that Maximilian Bauernfeind of EUSPA had shared a call for papers issued by the European Aviation Conference: Forwarding Welfare? The role of air cargo in future aviation policy and economics. The conference would take place in Luxembourg, from 29<sup>th</sup> November to 1<sup>st</sup> December. More details could be found at the website <https://www.eac-conference.com>

#### **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

Minutes will be posted in the AT020 Committee web site.