

The NTC Today

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Morgan State University National Transportation Center

NTC 2007 Student of the Year



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Each year the NTC selects a Student of the Year whose commitment and determination in becoming a leader in transportation is formally honored. This award is sponsored by the U.S Department of Transportation. Mesgana Ayele, a current student in the Morgan State University graduate transportation program, was awarded this honor on January 12, 2007 at the Council of University Transportation Centers banquet in Washington, DC.

Mr. Mesgana Ayele received his primary education in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He received his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Messiah College in Grantham, Pennsylvania in 2004. He began his graduate education at the Department of Civil Engineering at Morgan State Uni-

versity, and later joined The Department of Transportation and Urban Infrastructure Studies with a focus on traffic engineering within the M.S. in Transportation.

As a graduate student, Mr. Ayele has interned at the Maryland State Highway Administration and is currently employed by SHA as a Transportation Engineer. Previously, he worked for the Maryland Transportation Authority, which is responsible for toll bridges, tunnels and roads.

Mr. Ayele is a recipient of an Eisenhower Graduate Fellowship and is actively researching implementation methods of Vehicle-Infrastructure Integration Systems (VII) with Dr. Anthony Saka and Dr. Mansoureh Jeihani.

Special Topics:

TOD— Coming To a Town Near You!

2008 National Conference on Access Management

The 8th National Conference on Access Management is coming to Baltimore, July 13-16, 2008, at the Renaissance Hotel in downtown Baltimore. This conference is designed for planners, engineers, public officials and non-profit organizations interested in sustainable approaches to improve roadway safety and efficiency. The conference will offer a wide range of presentation topics that capture the broad realm of access management principles.

On line registration may be completed at www.accessmanagement.info.

Additionally, The National Transportation Center at Morgan State University, is offering the first 8 students who contact the NTC office, **free registration** to the access management conference. Students will be asked to assist with conference registration on site.

For more information contact Anita Jones at 443/885-4813.

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Summer Transportation Institute 2008

The spring season is around the corner and the NTC is preparing to host its annual summer transportation institute. For the past decade, the summer transportation institute better known as STI, has helped to foster education and awareness in the professional field of transportation by extending its reach to youth comprising 9th and 10th grade Baltimore area high school students .

Sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration and administered on the campus of Morgan State University, the institute is a non-residential program open to students within

commutable distance. Students will receive classroom instruction and participate in field trips giving students the opportunity to gain first hand knowledge on transportation topics discussed during classroom learning.

The institute also offers students academic and career development assistance in the transportation field. STI will run Monday, July 7 – Friday August 1, 2008 and upon completion of the program a closing banquet will be held to honor each student and STI staff. Lunch will be provided daily and a stipend will be awarded at the conclusion of the program.

For more information about STI 2008, please contact our main office by

Phone: at (443) 885-3666

Or

Mailing Address:

National Transportation Center
Morgan State University
Montebello—D206
1700 E. Cold Spring Lane
Baltimore, Maryland 21251

Or

Log on to :

www.eng.morgan.edu/~ntc.

TOD — The New Wave of Transportation in Maryland

Everyone is talking about TOD. Exactly what is it again? Transit Oriented Development. Transit oriented development (TOD) creates compact, walkable neighborhoods around transit stations. TOD increases transit ridership by creating destinations within a short walk of stations. It also offers residents of a community , small and large cities, a convenient commute to jobs, shopping and entertainment in the region.

The State of Maryland believes in TOD and has outlined a plan geared to expand the current transit infrastructures to include new and redeveloped neighborhoods. Maryland is promoting transit-oriented development to increase the number of riders and to gain a better return on the expensive cost associated with creating efficient public transportation.

The goal is to surround new and old stations with neighborhoods where people can live, work and shop all within a moderate distance accessible to trains, subways and bus lines.

Maryland's TOD strategy is built around several goals:

- To ensure that station areas are “market ready” for development;
- To build state agencies' and local jurisdictions' understanding of TOD and their ability to carry out TOD projects;
- To strengthen public support for TOD throughout the Baltimore and Washington metropolitan areas; and
- To enhance the potential for federal funding to expand transit in the Baltimore area by showing that development patterns can support transit.

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Talk Around The Town

The graduate transportation program at Morgan State University, which offers the Master of Science degree in Transportation, was established in 1981 with the primary focus of preparing students for careers in transportation planning and management, while helping to alleviate the shortage of well-trained professionals locally and nationwide.

With the great success the transportation program has had, the department hopes to expand its academic reach to serve students at the undergraduate level, awarding students with the bachelor of science degree in transportation studies. The program, modeled after the Graduate Transportation Program at Morgan State University, will emphasize interdisciplinary training that will enable the students to attain the requisite knowledge base to provide analysis, planning, design, and management services at the professional level.

The program is unique because of its intent to provide one-stop undergraduate training for students interested in acquiring a broad knowledge of transportation that encompasses traffic and highway engineering, planning and management, and logistics.

The program also will provide the opportunity to obtain the two-year Master of Science in Transportation degree in one year. The program, considered first of its kind in the country, hopes to produce well-versed transportation specialists at the baccalaureate level; substantially benefiting those students who traditionally shy away from pursuing a career in transportation because of the usual post-graduate educational requirement.

NTC Celebrates Black History Month 2008

An **astronaut** or **cosmonaut** is a person trained by a human space flight program to command, pilot, or serve as a crew member of a space craft. The opportunity to be called such a noble and prestigious air space revolutionary has been given to only a few throughout our time.

On June 10, 1967, Major Robert H. Lawrence, Jr. was the first African American to be selected as an astronaut within the United States Air Force. Major Lawrence was born on October 2, 1935, in Chicago, Illinois. At the age of 16, he

scored in the top 10% of the Englewood High School graduating class. At the age of 20, he became a graduate of Bradley University with a bachelor's degree in chemistry. While a student at Bradley University, he distinguished himself as Cadet Commander of the Bradley Air Force Reserve Officer Training Course and upon graduation, received commission of Second Lieutenant in the Air Force Reserve Program.

At the age of 21, he had become an Air Force Pilot after completing

flight training at Malden Air Force Base. While Major Lawrence flew several F-104 simulated landings, the flight in which he lost his life was a flight in which he was the co-pilot and instructor pilot, when the student he was instructing lost control of the air craft. His life should be remembered.



Major Robert H. Lawrence, Jr.

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Research That Matters

New Research Projects

State Wide GIS Mapping of Recurring Congestion Corridors

Recurring congestion has become a daily occurrence throughout the State of Maryland. Dealing with issues concerning recurring congestion has been arduous, and in many cases requires major projects involving a lengthy planning, design, and construction process. While permanent solutions are being developed, there can be some short-term mitigation strategies that could be implemented cost effectively. The project consists of identifying areas of recurring congestion in the State of Maryland, developing a GIS-based map that graphically depicts the spatial and traffic data for these congestion corridors, and using a sample of the corridors to develop a prototype quick-response mitigation strategy.

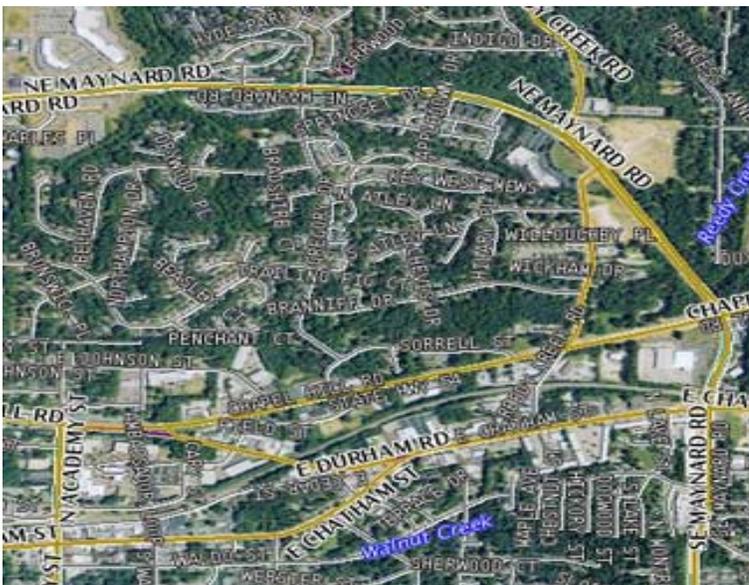
-Dr. Anthony Saka, Morgan State University

Development of a Prototype Vehicle Infrastructure Integration System for Real-Time Traffic Management and Control

While the Vehicle-Infrastructure (VII) concept has been in existence for a decade, its operational model and implementation strategy remain unclear. What is clear is that the VII infrastructure, if designed to meet its full expectations, must be able to support such applications as incident management, congestion mitigation, air pollution management, driving assistance, and disaster evacuation. This research will develop a prototype hierarchical VII system with distributed decision making and reliable distributed networking that adequately accommodates future sophisticated VII applications.

-Dr. Anthony Saka, Morgan State University.

-Dr. Ronnie Chowdhury, Clemson University



“Research is to see what everybody else has seen, and to think what nobody else has thought”

- Albert Szent-Gyorgyi

Hungarian Biochemist

Nobel Prize for Medicine 1937

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Transportation Trivia ? ?

Test your Skill

I T Z L H L B B W
 Z R M E X Z L E Q
 I A E E B R A D R
 U I N H R K C S F
 Z N A W I A K T O
 T H L O D D B O Y

Word Bank

Blackbird
 Bridge
 Knots
 Plane
 Train
 Wheel

Calling All Researchers



The NTC is continuously seeking research proposals from Morgan faculty and staff for basic and applied research in transportation. New Projects are categorized throughout the year as New , On-going and Completed. The NTC also houses a complete listing of archived research projects and their descriptions for additional research purposes.

To find more information, please log on to our web site at www.eng.morgan.edu/~ntc.

Select the Faculty and Researchers link to find up to date research information. Also, view the policy and procedure guide to find out how you can submit your research proposal today.

We look forward to hearing from you !!



The National Transportation Center

at MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



A Key to Human and Economic Development



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The NTC Today is published biannually with a Summer edition and a Winter Edition. Editorial comments and/or questions can be directed to the NTC Staff at 443/885-3666. The NTC looks forward to hearing from

