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## Tian's Message

I am very pleased to produce this first newsletter, providing you with the current status of our transportation engineering group and the program at UNR. Since the inception of the transportation program in our Civil and Environmental Engineering Department in the Fall of 2004, the program has been growing strong. Our transportation group has grown to 7 members, mainly graduate and undergraduate research assistants. We have been engaged in various research activities with financial support from NDOT and Caltrans. We are working closely with RTC, City of Sparks and City of Reno to address various transportation issues. Our department has adopted two transportation courses in the curriculum, and several graduate courses have been offered. We are in the process of establishing an ITE Student Chapter, which is expected to start operation in this coming fall.

We highly appreciate the great support from our many UNR alumni, friends and colleagues, and we are working hard to produce highly qualified transportation professionals for Nevada.

## Research



Several research activities are currently underway. Here are brief summaries of each of the research project.

- "Development of Signal Timing Strategies to Improve Diamond Interchange Operations". This is a two-year project sponsored by NDOT, which focuses on application of advanced signal control

strategies to improve current operations at diamond interchange locations in Nevada. The new timing strategies will reduce stops, delays, and congestion at diamond interchange locations.

- "Evaluation of Protected/permissive Left-turn Control and Development Implementation Guidelines". This project is a two-year project sponsored by NDOT, which aims at evaluation of the safety aspect of a special type protected/permissive left-turn operation currently used in the Las Vegas area. The project also develops guidelines for determining appropriate left-turn controls in Nevada.
- "Development of Roundabout Geometrics Design Guide Recommendations". This is a 16-month project sponsored by Caltrans, which aims at development of a formal roundabout design guide for Caltrans. The research will evaluate various guidelines currently used in other states, identify discrepancies, and make recommendations based on California's conditions.

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## Members



Currently, we have 7 members in our group. Dr. Zong Tian is leading the group in conducting research and teaching activities. Other members include the following individuals:

- Feng Xu. He was originally from China, and is currently pursuing his M.S. degree.
- Ozlem Ozmen. She was originally from Turkey. She obtained an M.S. in Pavement and Materials from UNR, and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. degree.
- Ahmed Dayem. He was originally from Cairo, Egypt. He obtained his B.S. in Civil Engineering at Ain Shams University in Cairo and his M.S. degree in Urban Infrastructure Management at the International Institute for Geo-information Management and Earth Observation "ITC" in Enschede, the Netherlands. Ahmed is currently pursuing his Ph.D. degree.
- Xuan Wang. She was originally from China, and is currently pursuing a M.S. degree in Transportation Engineering. She plans to continue her Ph.D. at UNR.
- Chris Washa. He graduated from the University of Texas in Austin in May 2004 with a Bachelors of Science in Computer Engineering. He is pursuing a M.S. degree in Transportation Engineering.
- Ian Griswold-Shutte. He is working as an undergraduate research assistant. He is currently pursuing a B.S. at UNR.

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## Courses

Several graduate/undergraduate level transportation courses have been offered or planned. Below is a list of these courses:

- CEE 362: Transportation Engineering, Spring semester every year
- CEE 463/663: Traffic Engineering, Fall semester every year
- CEE 495/771: Transportation Systems Management, Spring 2006
- CEE 495/771: Traffic Simulation, Fall 2005
- CEE 771: Transportation Planning, Spring 2007

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## Miscellaneous

