

ATPIO Annual Meeting
January 21, 2007, Sunday 4pm
TRB
Hilton, Bancroft

Board Meeting Attendee

1. Sagar Onta, Kittelson
2. Lalita Sen, Texas Southern University
3. Kumares C. Sinha, Purdue University
4. Mohan Venigalla, GMU
5. Krishna Verma, FHWA
6. Ram Pendyala, Arizona State University
7. Subhash Mundle, Mundle & Associates
8. Arun Shirole, Arora & Associates
9. Ram Krishna Tadi, California DOT

Annual Meeting Attendee:

10. Jiten K. Sonej, DeIDOT
11. Murthy Bondada, Consultant
12. Deepak Gopalkrishna, Battelle
13. Satya Muthuswamy, KLD Associates
14. Ramkumar Venkatanaryana, UVA
15. V. Setty Pendakur, Pacific
16. V. Ramakrishnan, Professor
17. Krishnakanth Jagarapu
18. Hardik Shah
19. Anuj Sharma
20. Chandra Bhat
21. Abdul Pinjari
22. Naveen Eluru
23. Sudeshna Sen

The meeting started off by Dr. Kumares Sinha introducing the members of the board and the office holders elected during 2006. He announced the need to continue with these officers and board members to allow them a chance to work as a team since they had been elected during mid year in 2006. He installed the following new office bearers: President, Lalita Sen; VP, Chandra Bhatt.; Secretary, Sunil; and Treasurer, Mohan Venigalla He also mentioned that although the current student representatives in the board are not student anymore, they will however continue as members for one year until the next election in 2008.

Dr. Sinha's presentation was followed by Lalita Sen's welcome address to the 1st official meeting of ATPIO. She emphasized several points; there had been little activity ;. the election had been internet based Election through the internet.; and the need to establish goals for one year, strategy for expanding membership, and that professionals should provide mentorship to students. She also mentioned the need to publicize ATPIO I in India.. Discussion ensued at that point with on methods of publicity. Anuj Shah and Sagar Onta volunteered to work on the website. A suggestion was made to check out the website www.iatbr.org . It was also mentioned that Yatin Joshi worked on the website idea last year. Mohan Venigalla agreed to register the

website and provide the address for the design and development. Here the discussion also included the feasibility of using the website to register members using Paypal for payment of membership. So far based on verified E-mail, we have 90 interested individuals and members.

The meeting proceeded with handing out copies of the agenda, strategic plan and the bylaws, at which point, Mr Verma volunteered to make copies for future ATPIO meetings, since he is from the local area.

The meeting continued with discussions on outreach to recruit members and the ITE Annual Meetings were mentioned as a possible venue. A suggestion on alternate date for the annual meeting was also proposed, but rejected as Sunday appears to be the best time for most TRB attendees. Furthermore issues of ways of attracting more members, the impact of choice of hotel for the Annual ATPIO Meeting were also discussed.

The next item mentioned was the membership committee headed by Sunil Taori, (the secretary) and his absence due to emergency was noted.

At that point Chandra Bhat joined the meeting and presented both the previous year's minutes and a report on the election of the board members for which there were 11 nominations for 11 positions. He also mentioned the teleconference between the board members which took place on November 7th at 10am central time, to finalize the annual meeting agenda and discuss other matters. During that meeting it was decided that a brochure to be developed by Sunil Taori would be taken by Chandra Bhat to India to announce ATPIO as a newly formed organization. Ramakrishna Tadi made a motion to accept the minutes, which was seconded by Chandra Bhat, and passed unanimously. At this time a suggestion was also made to consider providing financial support to a student from India to attend the TRB meetings.

Mohan Venigalla discussed the election of the officers and the inclusion of Dr. Sinha into the board as the previous interim president. He also summarized the activities of the membership and bylaws committee since Sunil Taori was absent. He mentioned that we had 120 members & potential members, and 50 voting members.

Next on the agenda was RamVenkataramayan's report on the strategic plan. This was followed by a discussion on the by laws initiated by Kumares Sinha. At this juncture, a suggestion was made to amend the clause on honorary membership, which was approved by the full body. An open discussion occurred on activities to be planned for next year, ways to reach out to Indian organizations, and concerns about infra structure development in India. Krishna Verma expressed his observations that US DOT has expressed that India must ask for assistance before US DOT can initiate collaboration, etc.

Setty Pendakur has made the observations that we need to organize ourselves within TRB before extending ourselves outside to other organizations. He also emphasized the need to encourage student participants in ATPIO

Mohan gave a verbal report as the treasurer stating that we has \$1320 in the bank account, and was asked by Kumares Sinha to send out a full report by e-mail to all members. He was asked by members to complete the application for the 501c3 for tax exempt status for next year. Kumares Sinha made the motion to approve the report which Arun Shirole seconded. The report was

approved by every one. Ram made the motion to approve the registration fee of \$500 for 501c3 status, which was seconded by Sagar Onta. The motion passed.

Kumares Sinha then presented a report on his trip to India. He stated that transportation as a field is not yet popular in India. The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) is responsible for planning, design, construction and operation of the national highway network with the states being only minimally involved. The World Bank is spending \$2 billion on the highway infrastructure development in India. Much of the work is expected to be done through PPP. In general, NHAI personnel are not receptive to suggestions for change and foreign consultants and contractors are hesitant to participate because of various factors including lack of transparency and accountability.

Chandra reported on his visit to IIT Madras to attend a conference on travel behavior modeling. His own feelings are that there is a need to plan alternative transportation for the masses and not just invest in infrastructure. He mentioned two centers of excellence with IIT Madras as one of them. He mentioned that he will get the conference proceedings which he will send it all of us. He also mentioned that several individuals were interested in ATPIO and would like to become members. In that context he suggested that we should have friend of ATPIO with a lower membership fee.

There were no specific action items other than to get young members and greater participants from TRB attendees, establish a logo, and find ways to connect with activities in India

The meeting was adjourned at 6.10pm.