

## Improving Human Resources

 Keep a strong focus on creating situations of mutual benefit

 Much of the successful activity will be driven by individuals rather than institutions

 Share a few examples of successes from my experience as a university center director

### **Training Transport Researchers**

- Young Researchers Seminar 2013
  - CTS sponsored 2 attendees; leveraging of resources was appreciated
  - Students learned about institutional differences in advisor/advisee relationships and funding arrangements
  - Valuable part of experience was working with the mentor; she offered to facilitate additional connections in the future using social media
  - One student would like to be a future mentor

#### **Training Transport Researchers**

#### Challenge

 Many students were early in the graduate school experience, therefore not thinking ahead to collaboration in their careers

#### Opportunity

- Provide a workshop for YRS attendees on the importance of collaboration, plus tools and practices for successful collaboration; sets an early foundation for expectations and opportunities of collaborative work
- Provide the workshop at TRB, TRA, and other international conferences
- Make it available as an on-line course

#### **Training Transport Researchers**

 Steve Hankey won the second place award for "Best Paper and Presentation"

 Shorty after YRS2013, Steve attended another int'l conference where he met with researchers from Belgium (Ghent University and VITO) and began collaborating on a project about traffic noise and the correlation with air pollution

# Researcher Exchange Programs

- Three main types of exchanges used by US University researchers
  - University to University: Visiting Scholars (faculty and staff) spend weeks or months at another academic institution for research and/or teaching
  - University to Agency or Industry: Faculty or research staff work in an industry or agency setting on a project
  - Industry to University: Industry practitioner works in an academic setting with faculty and research staff
- Most U.S. universities support these activities; numerous examples from the U of Minnesota

# Researcher Exchange Programs

#### Challenges

- Teaching loads and student advisory responsibilities can be barriers to long-term exchanges
- U.S. Higher Ed system is extensive and decentralized so individuals will likely remain the drivers of exchange activities; not likely to be a coordinated national effort

# Researcher Exchange Programs

- Opportunities
  - Build collaborations into academic (P&T) reward system
  - CUTC could lead an initiative to organize international exchange program that is coordinated across CUTC members
  - Funding agencies can offer incentives to encourage collaborative work

#### Collaborative Use of RIs

- International associations and societies
  - Foster global networks on special research topics
  - Provide a forum for debate and information exchange
  - Convene international conferences, seminars, and workshops
  - Communicate regularly
  - World Society for Transport and Land Use Research (WSTLUR)

#### Collaborative Use of RIs

- Research Program and Project Management Website
  - Wiki that supports the transportation research community to connect and collaborate on shared issues
  - Created by AASHTO Research Advisory Committee and TRB Conduct of Research Committee
  - A section for sharing tools for collaborative partnerships and ways to connect with others
  - A space for teams to collaborate in real time
  - www.transportationresesarch.gov/rppm/default.as
    px; will soon be migrated to AASHTO