

New Member Mentoring Session Monday July 20, 2009.

5 PM - 7 PM

Grand Republic C & D

Prior to attending the RAC meeting, as a new member, you should visit the website <http://research.transportation.org/?siteid=55&pageid=2860>, generated by the RAC - Education and Training Task Force.

SESSION INTRODUCTION

- Informal and quasi-structured, (easel board) presentations as needed
- Everyone has a different level of knowledge and perspective
- Want to answer your questions
- The only dumb question is the one that is not asked
- This handout is provided to be used as a starting point, what do you want to know?.

What are RAC, AASHTO, SCOR, TRB, NCRP, NCHRP, TCRP, FHWA, and the rest of the alphabet soup?

What are the relationships between my state research program and the above characters?

Is there a list of contacts for each of these agencies?

RESEARCH MANAGER ISSUES:

Compared to me where in your organization does research fit?

Where do SPR funds come from? (Difference between SPR I and SPR II?)

How does your State select research projects?

Do all states do the same thing for choosing, funding, implementing their research projects, is there a model that I am supposed to follow?

Do you market research results?

Do you spend much time on implementation of research results?

How often do you update your Research Program Manual?

How do you know if a project should be considered a “high value” project?

Where does research fit in with the authorization of the Surface Transportation Act?

What is a UTC and why do they want our research money?

Who can I call if I need help?

AASHTO ISSUES

What is TIG and what is my role?

What is RTCC?

What is AASHTO Pooled Fund? Who should pay for these Pooled Funds?

SCOR ISSUES

What is my role with the Standing Committee On Research besides facilitating NCHRP program development?

RAC ISSUES

What is the RAC/SCOR Website?

What is the RAC and Region 1, 2, 3, or 4 listserv?

What is the RAC Calendar?

Where is the RAC Handbook?

Where is the New Member Handbook, RAC 101 PowerPoint?

What are these Task Force meetings about?

As I understand it, there is RAC, RAC Regions and RAC Task Forces. Why so many and where do I fit in?

TRB ISSUES / NCRP ISSUES

I am also our state's TRB representative. What am I expected to do?

Why do we give funding to TRB for their Core programs and then give funding to the NCHRP? Aren't they both the same?

What is SHRP 2, and is my role with SHRP or as the SHRP Coordinator?

Why is it important to update RiP? I have too many other things to do.

Do you keep track of your employees who serve on NCHRP panels and TRB Committees?
What about AASHTO Committees?

What's the NCHRP Calendar?

How do you organize and complete the annual NCHRP ballot?

How do I solicit for Panels and committee members?

Should I volunteer to serve on NCHRP Panels and TRB Committees?

USDOT ISSUES

Where does research fit in with the authorization of a Transportation Act?

How do I related to other "Administrations" of USDOT? besides FHWA and RITA/

FHWA ISSUES

Tell me about this transportation pooled fund program. How does it work?

What is, and do I have to do a Peer Exchange? How often?

RITA ISSUES

What is RITA, and what is my role?

What is a UTC and why do they want our research money?

OTHER USDOT AGENCIES – FTA, FAA ISSUES