

MELISSA TOOLEY, PH.D. PE



Director
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BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Tooley joined the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) in May, 2006. Until recently, she was the Director of the University Transportation Center for Mobility (UTCM) at TTI, which was designated by SAFETEA-LU and ceased operation with the enactment of MAP-21. Before joining TTI, she was the Director of the Mack-Blackwell National Rural Transportation Center (MBTC) at the University of Arkansas, and she served as an Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Arkansas and the University of Florida. She has a decade of civil engineering consulting experience on projects involving roadway design, flood control, construction management, forensic engineering and civil infrastructure improvements.

Dr. Tooley is a past honoree of ARTBA's S.S. Steinberg Award and is also the inaugural Chair of ARTBA's Women Leaders in Transportation Design and Construction Award Council. She is a past President of the Council of University Transportation Centers (CUTC) and ARTBA's Research and Education Division, where she currently serves on its Board of Directors. She is a member of the Board of Regents of the Eno Transportation Foundation and is a former Eno Transportation Fellowship Recipient. A native of Little Rock, Arkansas, she was selected "Young Engineer of the Year" in 1995 by the Arkansas Society of Professional Engineers (ASPE). She serves on the Transportation Research Board Committee for Education and Training. Dr. Tooley was a Master's and Ph.D. level recipient of the Eisenhower Fellowship, sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration. As a graduate student, she was selected as MBTC's Student of the Year in 1994.

EDUCATION

University of Arkansas	Civil Engineering	Ph.D., 1997
University of Arkansas	Civil Engineering	M.S.C.E., 1994
Louisiana Tech University	Civil Engineering	B.S.C.E., 1985

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

Registered Professional Engineer, Arkansas, Certificate Number 7387

APPOINTMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

8/2009 – present	Director of External Initiatives, TTI
4/2006 – 8/2012	Director, University Transportation Center for Mobility, TTI
5/1999 – 4/2006	Director, Mack-Blackwell Transportation Center University of Arkansas
7/1998 – 4/2006	Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering University of Arkansas
7/1997 – 5/1998	Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering University of Florida
8/1992 – 5/1997	Senior Graduate Assistant, University of Arkansas
8/1987 – 7/1992	Project Manager, Summerlin Associates, Inc. Little Rock, Arkansas
3/1985 – 8/1987	Design Engineer, Black & Veatch, Dallas, Texas

SELECTED AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- 2010 SS Steinberg Award, Research and Education Division of ARTBA
- Champion Paper Award (one of 5 selected and presented at a “best of” session at TRB) for “Small and Medium-Sized Communities and the UTC Program – Public /Academic Partnerships that Work!” proceedings of the Tools of the Trade Conference (sponsored by the TRB Committee A1D05), Colorado Springs, CO, September 21-24, 2004.
- 2003 CIEC Best Paper Award for “The Genesis Connection to Research Partnerships in a College of Engineering,” co-authors O. Loewer, J. English, proceedings of the 2003 ASEE Conference for Industry and Education Collaboration, Tucson, AZ, CD-ROM, Session CPD 334, January 2003.
- 1999 ASEE Best Paper for Professional Interest Council II for “Using a Capstone Design Course to Facilitate ABET 2000 Outcomes,” co-author K. Hall, Proceedings, 1999 ASEE Annual Conference, Charlotte, NC, June 20-23, 1999.
- 1996 Student Paper Contest Winner - Missouri Valley ITE
- 1996 Federal Highway Administration - Eisenhower Fellowship Award (PhD level)
- 1996 WISE Award (Women in Significant Endeavors, Northwest Arkansas Region)
- 1995 Eno Transportation Foundation Fellowship
- 1994/1995 Ark. Society of Professional Engineers - Young Engineer of the Year
- 1993 Mack-Blackwell Transportation Center Student of the Year
- 1993 Federal Highway Administration - Eisenhower Fellowship Award (Master’s)

SELECTED LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

- American Road and Transportation Builders Association
- Chair, Women Leaders in Transportation Design and Construction Council (10/10 - present)
- 2006/2007 President, Research and Education Division
- Council of University Transportation Centers, 2005/2006 President
- Transportation Research Board
- Member, Committee A1A04 - Transportation Education and Training
- Past Member, Committee A1D05 – Transportation Planning Needs and Requirements of Small and Medium-Sized Communities
- Eno Foundation Board of Regents (2006 – Present)
- National Society of Professional Engineers – 1995/1996 NW Arkansas Chapter President
- Central Arkansas Transportation Advisory Committee
- Summer Transportation Institute, UA Pine Bluff, Steering Committee
- WIN (Women In Engineering) Program Coordinator and Founder (planned and implemented a mentoring program for female undergraduates in the College of Engineering at the University of Arkansas)