

First Annual CATM Symposium

The inaugural Center for Advanced Transportation Mobility (CATM) Symposium was held at the N.C. A&T Alumni-Foundation Event Center on Oct. 17, 2017. The purpose of the event was to introduce CATM to the community and to facilitate interaction between students, faculty, practitioners and public and private entities with interests in transportation. One of the primary objectives of CATM is to foster new collaborations which are of benefit to the transportation community.

In November of 2016, A&T was awarded a Tier 1 University Transportation Center (UTC) grant by the U.S. Department of Transportation. Since the establishment of CATM, research projects and programs have been put into place to fulfill research, education, workforce development and technology transfer objectives. The symposium highlighted those activities.

While CATM exists within A&T's College of Business and Economics, the consortium includes other educational institutions: the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and the University of the District of Columbia. Representatives of these universities participated in the symposium and presented information about their schools' histories and capabilities in the area. Specifically, presentations included:

- *"Public Dialysis Transport Efficiency using Digital Media" - Dr. Mary Lind and Dr. Rhonda Hensley (N.C. A&T)*
- *"Development, Design, and Vulnerable Road User Mobility Assistance Platform" - Dr. Justin Owens and Mr. Andrew Miller (VTII) and Dr. Younho Seong and Dr. Sun Yi (N.C. A&T)*
- *"Multi-Scale Models for Transportation Systems under Emergency Conditions" - Dr. Xiuli Qu, Dr. Younho Seong, Dr. Lauren Davis (N.C. A&T) and Dr. Dahai Lui (ERAU)*
- *"Automated Last Mile Connectivity for Vulnerable Users" - Mr. Kevin Grove and Mr. Andrew Alden (VTII) and Dr. Shengbin Wang and Dr. Ryoichi Sakano (N.C. A&T).*



The keynote speaker was the former United States Secretary of Transportation and former mayor of Charlotte, North Carolina, Anthony Foxx. While he was secretary, Foxx earned the moniker "The Great Connector" because of his ambitious efforts to update, streamline, innovate, and optimize the nation's transportation system. During his address, Foxx discussed the expanding mobility crisis, the role freight movement is playing in the growth of road congestion, how technology can be leveraged to decrease the number of trips taken, and the importance of integrating various modes of transportation. In the end, he encouraged the audience to never lose sight of what transportation is really about – the people.

Approximately 72 individuals attended the symposium. Along with members from CATM's consortium institutions, the audience included people from other educational institutions, such as the University of North Carolina at Chapel-Hill, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and University of Kentucky. Representatives from the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation, Virginia Department of Transportation as well as Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration were in attendance. Additionally, transportation and logistics organizations such as Transplace and the National Complete Streets Coalition were represented at the event.

The 2018 symposium will be hosted by Virginia Tech Transportation Institute on Nov. 6, in Blacksburg, Virginia.



Transportation Institute

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

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Deborah Underwood, Program Manager and Carletta Dudley, Education & Outreach Coordinator, both with N.C. A&T Transportation Institute, former United States Secretary of Transportation, former mayor of Charlotte, and keynote speaker, Anthony Foxx., and Dr. Miranda McBride, Director of CATM and the N.C. A&T Transportation Institute.

