

Technology Transfer at WSDOT

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Two Focus Areas

1. Increasing awareness of the research program and services.
2. Increasing awareness of research results and facilitating their use.

Increasing Program Awareness

- Executive Monthly Report
- WSDOT Research web site
- TRAC Biennial Report
- Research folios
- Open House

Executive Monthly Report

- Prepared each month for the Chief of Staff and distributed to agency executives, the Federal Highway Administration Division contact for research, members of the Research Advisory Committees, and university TRAC Directors.
- Summarizes completed research projects, implementation of research results, new starts, key project progress, program news, and library activity.



<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Research/>

WSDOT Research Web Site

- Includes a description of the research program, ongoing activities; access to all WSDOT sponsored research reports; and much more.
- Always a 'work in progress'.



<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Research/>

TRAC Biennial Report

Prepared every two years and summarizes many of the research activities conducted at the University of Washington and Washington State University – primarily but not exclusively with funding from WSDOT.



Research Folios

- Prepared as a means to give a brief overview of aspects of the WSDOT Research Program.
- Current Folios describe Transportation Research, WSDOT Research Management, and Transportation Research Programs.
- Audiences vary for each folio but may include the Congressional Delegation, agency employees, university professors, and the public.



<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Research/AboutUs.htm>

Research Open House

- A WSDOT Research Open House was conducted in 2006. It included displays of the research process and research results, a videoconference about TRAC and TransNow, and visits by faculty.
- The response to the open house was very positive. Many employees appreciated information about this 'little known' program.



How do you ensure Tech Transfer Occurs?

- Involve Division and Office Directors in the evolution and selection of research projects.
- Require Technical Monitor and Researcher to think of implementation needs, including technical transfer, when the project is developed.
- Include training in the research project scope when appropriate.
- Encourage the inclusion of technical staff in the conduct of the research project to foster interest in and use of the products.
- Provide "excuse-remover" funding as needed



Tech Transfer Techniques

- Final Research Reports
- Research Notes
- Workshops/Seminars
- LTAP Newsletter
- Research Listserve

Opportunity

- To link to the Lessons Learned database

Research Final Reports

Distributed to all state research programs, national libraries, repositories and other interested entities.



<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Research/Reports/>

Research Notes

- Provide the end user with a summary review of a research project and describes how to implement the work in the field.
- They are designed for the lay person to help increase awareness of the project results and implementation plans.



<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Research/Working/Notes.htm>

Workshops/Seminars

- At the conclusion of selected research projects, a workshop or presentation may be conducted to explain the research and discuss the findings.
- Conducted at the discretion of Research Managers and Technical Monitors.

LTAP Newsletter

- The WSDOT Technology Transfer (T2) Center quarterly newsletter includes a section from the Research Office in each publication.
- The articles are prepared by Research Managers and Technical Monitors and focus on projects that may be of value to local government.



Research Listserve

- Is in development and will be used to push information about research program activities and research results to interested employees.

Evaluating the effectiveness of Technology Transfer

- Developing awareness of implementation plans and technical transfer needs within Research Advisory Committees
- Work to capture stories of the use and value of research reports
- Testing the Research Performance Measures database

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