

SimCap/SimSub Joint Meeting

March 23, 2022 | 2:00 – 3:30 PM EST

Held Virtually

Meeting Notes

1. Welcome

- Eric Tripi (SimCap Chair) initiated meeting and welcomed attendees.
- Chris Melson (SimSub Co-Chair) co-facilitated the meeting.
- Doug Noble (ITE) provided the latest ITE updates.

2. Summary of January 11th, 2022 ITE SimCap Committee meeting (at TRB)

- SimCap held its first call of the year on Jan. 11, 2022 (held virtually, in conjunction with the 2022 TRB Annual Meeting). It featured updates from FHWA, McTrans, TRB’s Standing Committee on Traffic Simulation, and SimSub. Feedback was also received on possible topics at future SimCap meetings and webinars. Meeting notes have been posted to the [ITE SimCap e-Community](#).

3. Summary of January 11th, 2022 SimSub Annual Meeting (at TRB)

- SimSub held their annual meeting at the 2022 TRB Annual Meeting. It summarized SimSub’s main activities in 2021 (as a “year in review”). The summary included products being developed by SimSub’s Resources, User Needs, and Outreach Task Groups. The following SimSub liaison committees also provided updates: ACP20, ACP30, ACP35, ACP40, and AKD10. A repository of all SimSub materials (including meeting materials and Task Group products) is located at: <https://simcap.eng.lsu.edu/simsub/>.

4. Presentations

- Dr. George List (NC State University) and Loren Bloomberg (Jacobs) gave a presentation summarizing current activities by TRB’s Traffic Simulation Research Subcommittee [ACP20(2)]. It briefly summarized the submission process for NCHRP problem statements and discussed previous brainstorming sessions. Four research needs statements are currently being developed (as shown below). If interested in helping these efforts, please contact George (gflist@ncsu.edu) or Loren (Loren.Bloomberg@jacobs.com).

		Agency Needs				
		Investment Decision-Making	NEPA/CEQA	Design Validation	CAV Accommodation	Others
Committee Interests (ACP80 and others)	Calibration	RNS #1	RNS #2			
	Data					
	Uncertainty				RNS #4	
	Driver Behavior			RNS #3		
	Others					

5. SimCap Updates

- *Local:* Dr. Georges Bou-Saab (Arcadis) provided an update on starting a new Ohio Chapter of SimCap. Doug Noble, Eric Tripi, and Chris Melson offered assistance as needed.
- *Local:* Chris Melson (LTRC) stated that SimCap Louisiana will be hosting their upcoming educational meeting on April 5, 2022 (12:00–1:30p CST). All are welcomed to attend. Please register using [this link](#).
- *DOT:* Mike Reese (NC DOT) discussed NC DOT's latest guidelines for using TransModeler for traffic analysis.
- *FHWA:* Rachel James (FHWA-TFHRC) stated that FHWA is in the process of developing a Connected and Automated Vehicle (CAV) Analysis, Modeling, and Simulation (AMS) research program. FHWA has held three related stakeholder engagement webinars, and will host a fourth on April 8, 2022 (10:30–12:30p EST). If interested in attending, please contact Rachel (Rachel.James@dot.gov). Rachel will be presenting on FHWA vehicle trajectory data collection efforts at an upcoming ITE webinar on April 28, 2022 (2:00–3:30p EST). More information RE this webinar is included in [Item #9](#). Rachel mentioned that several FHWA reports of interest have been recently published, including:
 - Multiresolution Modeling for Traffic Analysis [State-of-Practice and Gap Analysis Report](#), [Case Studies Report](#), and [Guidebook](#);
 - Developing AMS Tools for CAV Applications [Report](#), [Case Studies in Ann Arbor, MI and Conroe, TX](#), [Case Study for I-66 in Virginia](#), and [Case Study on SR 99 in California](#); and
 - [Trajectory Investigation for Enhanced Calibration of Microsimulation Models](#).
- *FHWA:* Jim Sturrock (FHWA-Resource Center) stated that a web-based NHI course is currently being developed for the application of traffic analysis tools.

6. SimSub Updates

- *SimSub Liaison Committees:* David Stanek (Fehr & Peers) provided an update on behalf of TRB's Committee on Highway Capacity and Quality of Service (ACP40). The 7th edition of the Highway Capacity Manual has been published (online version [available now](#), printed copy available soon). ACP40 will hold their Midyear Meeting on June 20–22, 2022 in Washington, DC. All are welcomed to attend.
- *SimSub Liaison Committees:* Mike Reese provided an update on behalf of TRB's Committee on Performance Effects of Geometric Design (AKD10). The *International Symposium on Highway Geometric Design* will be held June 26–29, 2022 in Amsterdam, Netherlands. The symposium will consist of informative sessions on geometric design, policy, and practices. TRB's Performance-Based Approaches and Applications Subcommittee [AKD10(3)] will have their next meeting on April 26, 2022. Agenda is forthcoming.
- *ACP80:* Chris Melson stated that TRB's Committee on Traffic Simulation (ACP80) has completed an internal review of the Transportation System Simulation Manual (TSSM). A select group of Members have been meeting weekly (since November) to address these comments. ACP80 is expecting to hold their Midyear Meeting in early May. More information will be forthcoming.

7. Presentations

- Dr. Behzad Aghasi (McTrans Director) and Dr. Gustavo de Andrade (McTrans) presented on the TSIS-CORSIM 2022 software. Please visit [McTrans website](#) for more information.

8. Discussion

- Eric Tripi reminded attendees to continue to think of potential topics for future webinars and meetings, to utilize the ITE SimCap e-Community and the [ITE SimCap website](#), and mentioned that if anyone was interested in becoming a member of SimCap (or if they would like to participate in SimCap in a greater capacity) to contact Eric (Eric.Tripi@ghd.com) or Chris (cmelson1@lsu.edu).
- Chris Melson stated that SimSub's User Needs Task Group developed a survey to better understand current uses and common challenges of traffic simulation. If you utilize traffic simulation and have not done so already, please consider completing the survey [via this link](#).

9. Upcoming Meetings

- ITE webinar on "Traffic Simulation Through the Decades"
 - DATE: April 28, 2022, 2:00–3:30p EST
 - DESCRIPTION: This webinar shows the evolution of traffic simulation by highlighting key, progressive advancements to the field: (1) from developing the first FHWA-produced traffic simulation models in the 1970s and 1980s, (2) to modeling improvements spurred by the Next Generation Simulation (NGSIM) effort in the 2000s, and (3) to current trajectory-level research, datasets, and products.
 - REGISTRATION: Registration is free for ITE webinar. Please use [this link](#) to register and for more information.
- Next SimCap/SimSub Joint Meeting
 - Anticipated June 9, 2022 (2:00–3:30p EST); will send out agenda once finalized

10. Adjourn