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From the Special Edition Editor

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From the Special Edition Editor...

Welcome to the second issue for this year. This issue is the result of work that was originally intended to be a special issue of the *Journal of Transportation Management on Motor Carrier Topics*. Due to the lack of submissions on Motor Carrier Topics we decided to invite three papers to help establish modal research agendas for motor carriers, ocean carriers, and rail carriers.

In addition to the three modal research agenda articles, we have also included an article on logistics faculty salaries and an article that evaluates state highway expenditures.

The lead article by M. Theodore Farris, II, Terrance L. Pohlen, and Jerry W. Wilson surveyed 236 faculty in the first of a longitudinal series of articles planned on salaries of logistics, transportation, and supply chain management faculty. The second article, by Carlo Smith and myself, combines a review of motor carrier research over the past ten years, with input from executives representing common and specialty carrier services, to identify key areas of interest to guide future motor carrier research. David Menachof states that the last five years have been exciting for the world of international liner shipping. Mergers, new larger vessels, charter rates becoming more volatile and demand continuing to increase are just part of this world of liner shipping. In his article he highlights some of the issues that will be affecting international shipping in the forthcoming years. Barton Jennings reviews five major areas; capacity expansion, service standards, safety, security, and data analysis; where academic research could assist the railroad industry. In the final article, Hokey Min and Thomas Lambert develop a meaningful set of benchmarks that will help guide state governments in making wise investment decisions regarding road construction and maintenance. In particular, they propose a data envelopment analysis that is proven to be useful for measuring the operational efficiency of various profit or non-profit organizations.

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