

## **Greetings from the President, NACOTA January 10, 2006**

**Dear NACOTA Members and Friends:**

Happy New Year!

With great pleasure and anticipation, I have accepted the nomination and election of the NACOTA executive board to fill the president's post. The confidence and trust placed on me by our members at large, board of directors, and Zhao Fang, the immediate past president, is greatly appreciated. I am sure you would agree, if you have worked with some aspects of the NACOTA organization, the experience enriches your professional and personal life in many different ways. If you have not had the opportunity in the past, I would like to invite you to join the NACOTA family, be an active member, and try your talent and capabilities.

I consider myself fortunate to be chosen at this particular juncture to carry on the torch of NACOTA, which was ignited about ten years ago on a snowy evening of the heaviest snow year in Washington DC. If you would like to compare the first decade of an organization to a baby growing out of infancy and exploring the real world, you may also agree with me that the second decade of an organization may imitate a blossom teenager's explosive growth and great expectations. At its tenth anniversary, NACOTA is emerging into a healthy and stable non-profit organization, benefiting from the leaderships of the previous presidents, diligent work of BODs, and strong support of members and friends like you. To lead such a vibrant, unique organization as NACOTA, I have developed some initial visions, work plans, and action items, which will be communicated to you as they involve. Today I would like to share with you a few immediate action items we would like to accomplish:

1. Elect additional directors to complete the NACOTA executive board,
2. Elect NACOTA officers including two vice presidents, a treasure, and a secretary,
3. Invite and organize a NACOTA advisory board, which are composed of past presidents and specially invited members,
4. Organize the 9<sup>th</sup> NACOTA Technical Symposium and reception during TRB in Washington DC,
5. Establish Dalian Conference Committee to facilitate the 6<sup>th</sup> NACOTA China Conference in the summer of 2006,
6. Revise and update the NACOTA bylaws.

Once the NACOTA organizational structure is updated, I would work with board directors, elected officers, and our members and friends to focus on two main areas:

- Professional development
- Member services

I will work with the vice president who is in charge of professional development to organize various committees and task forces, which will promote specific professional areas or particular projects or tasks. I will collaborate with another vice president, who focuses on member services, such as establishing initial contact, providing references, or communicating timely information for those who are interested in exchange experiences from China to overseas and vice versa.

Please accept my sincere invitation to get on board with all the exciting activities of NACOTA. I would very much like to hear from you any feedback, suggestions, or ideas so our organization will evolve and grow.

To know more about NACOTA and me, please logon to the NACOTA website and my personal webpage at the following URLs:

<http://www.nacota.org/htdocs/>

<http://www.transportation.njit.edu/facultystaff/liu/index.htm>

Thank your for your continuous support, and  
Look forward to seeing many of you in Washington DC.

Yours



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