Membership update:
Still have one vacancy in Region 3. Nominations were due to the SCOD Regional Steering Committees by May 12. Lesly has sent an email to AASHTO staff and the Region 3 Steering Committee for an update on the status.

Research Discussions:
Debriefing on assigned papers:
- Jack Young: “Improving the Predictability of Construction Project Outcomes Through Intentional Management of Indirect Construction Costs”
  This paper focused on practices for controlling costs through the management of indirect costs in the vertical construction industry. Findings related to developing a plan during design, improved communication, and tracking costs. This research didn’t directly correspond to transportation projects; however, Jack connected the concept to Caltrans’ use of a Time Related Overhead bid item. The intent of the bid item is to have a documented amount for charges that may result from working through Department-caused delay claims so that arbitration boards don’t see an arbitrary amount.
  The purpose of this research was to determine leading indicators for the NHCCI. Researchers used statistical tests to check temporal relationships between various market factors, including other indices, which may help transportation leaders recognize the potential for market shifts ahead of time. Crude Oil Price and Average Hourly Earnings appear to be the most related
factors, while CPI, Weekly Average Hours, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average were not linked temporally to the NHCCI.
LADOTD Review of Design Fees as a Percent Cost of Construction Cost – Charles also talked about his tracking of design fees and development of a rule of thumb percent cost for design fees. Charles was able to use actual fee and construction cost information to develop charts based on project complexity for use on LADOTD projects.

- Lesly – NCHRP 15-51 Vetting for MDT
  *Iowa State University research teams vetted the draft guidance report for Preconstruction Services Cost Estimates, first at Iowa DOT and then at Montana Department of Transportation. The vetting sessions were successful in providing constructive changes to the guidance and to verify that the guidance is useful for design managers to use. Final guidance will be presented to the Subcommittee on Design in September. Lesly will provide a draft to the TCCE members for their review in August.*

- NCHRP 20-7; Task 344 – next steps
  *Lesly read the email from Edwin regarding FHWA’s desire to turn the modules from Task 344 into an NHI class, and to eventually develop advanced training to meet the OIG and GAO recommendations from audit reviews of State DOT cost estimating practices. This will be discussed more at the annual TCCE meeting in September.*

### 2015 Annual Agenda
The agenda has been revised following teleconference discussion and the latest draft is available on the conference webpage.

**Next Meeting** – The next TCCE meeting will be the Annual Meeting in Portland, ME September 15-16, 2015.

### Action Items

**Webpage Maintenance:**
Contact listing

**SharePoint Maintenance:**
Delete old items

**Next Research Briefings** – not assigned because next meeting coincides with annual meeting