



Institute for Transportation Research and Education
North Carolina State University

April 30, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Joan E. Alford
919.515.8655
jealford@ncsu.edu

Transportation Founders Fund names Sarah Ott 2009 scholarship recipient

RALEIGH, N.C. — The Transportation Founders Fund (TFF) has named Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, native Sarah Ott as the recipient of the Fund's 2009 Graduate Scholarship. The announcement was made on April 16, 2009, at the annual TFF Speaker Series event on the NC State University (NCSU) campus.

TFF is an initiative of NCSU's Institute for Transportation Research and Education (ITRE) and the Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering. This is the eighth year the Fund has awarded the scholarship.

Ms. Ott graduates in May from Valparaiso University in Indiana, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. She will work towards her M.Sc. in Transportation Engineering while at NCSU.

"My passion for the transportation system field has been nurtured by my grandfather, a civil engineer who worked for 40 years at the Wisconsin Department of Transportation," says Ms. Ott. "Like him, I want to continue my education at a cutting-edge university." Her goal is to pursue applied research opportunities at NC State that will have a direct impact on transportation network users.

In 2006-2007, she was a Presidential Academic Honors Award winner and was on Valparaiso University's Dean's List for six semesters. She is an active member of Tau Beta Pi (The Engineering Honor Society) and a member of the Society of Women Engineers.

Ms. Ott joined the Civil Engineering Service Learning Project in May 2008, designing and building a new road in Pavas, Costa Rica, and will continue as the leader of the next service team to the area.

In extra-curricular activities, Ms. Ott was captain of the Valparaiso women's basketball team in 2007-2008, and deemed as one of the university's top student athletes.

"It is with great pleasure that we welcome Sarah to NC State University," said Dr. Nagui M. Roupail, ITRE director. "The scholarship is meant to entice the best and brightest prospective graduate students to the transportation program, and Sarah is most certainly a worthy recipient and will be an asset to our program."

Ms. Ott plans to join the Civil Engineering graduate program at NC State in the fall of 2009.

The Institute for Transportation Research and Education, administered by North Carolina State University, is a non-profit organization that conducts research and provides education and technical assistance for a wide variety of surface and air transportation issues with the goals of solving problems and creating new products, better services, and smarter workers. ITRE is located on NCSU's Centennial Campus. For more information about ITRE and its related programs, visit www.itre.ncsu.edu.

-jea-

Centennial Campus
Box 8601, Raleigh, NC 27695-8601
Tel: 919.515-8899 | Fax: 919.515.8898
<http://www.itre.ncsu.edu>



Nagui M. Roupail,
Ph.D, Director

An inter-
institutional
center
serving all
16 UNC
campuses.