Jacqueline M. Jenkins, P.Eng., Associate Professor, Cleveland State University

Education:

Ph.D., Civil Engineering, Texas A&M University, 2004
M.E., Civil Engineering, Texas A&M University, 2000
B.A.Sc., Civil Engineering, University of Waterloo, 1996

Brief Bio:

Dr. Jenkins is an Associate Professor in the Civil & Environmental Engineering Department at Cleveland State University. She has industry experience as a collision investigator and as a transportation planning engineer. As an educator, she wants to help students find their passion, develop their skills, and take on new challenges. As a researcher, she studies driver behavior and how it is incorporated into the design and operation of transportation facilities. One of her continued areas of research is the use of driving simulation for transportation and traffic engineering studies. Dr. Jenkins has conducted experiments to test the impact of cellular telephone conversation on driving performance, evaluate drivers' comprehension of various protected permitted left turn signal displays, and study the impact of longer impeding vehicles on passing behavior.

Ferzan M. Ahmed

Ferzan M. Ahmed was appointed by the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission as Executive Director on Feb. 25, 2019.

Ferzan is a native of Pakistan who came to America in 1985 to pursue higher education. He attended Kansas State University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering. Ferzan began his career in transportation as an Engineer in Training at the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) in District Six. He managed multiple construction projects in District 6 for 15 years. He ascended through the ranks and moved to engineering design to become the project manager on the I-70/I-71 reconstruction program, which was ODOT's largest construction project at the time.

In 2011, he was appointed as the Deputy Director of ODOT District 6, where he oversaw all ODOT activities in eight counties in Central Ohio including Franklin County. During his tenure, Central Ohio citizens experienced completion of some of Ohio's largest construction projects. In 2016, the Delaware County Commissioners appointed him as the Administrator of Delaware County, Ohio's fastest-growing county. There, he led the effort to create a formal budget process and county-performance metrics.

Most recently, Ferzan served as a Vice President and leader of AECOM's Ohio Transportation practice. In that role, he worked with ODOT as AECOM's Project Principal for DriveOhio autonomous and connected vehicle deployment projects and the MORPC Hyperloop Feasibility Study.

Ferzan is a registered Professional Engineer in Civil Engineering and currently serves as the Chair of the Ohio Board of Registration for Engineers and Surveyors. He is married to Cathy, and has a daughter, two sons, and two grandchildren. He loves to travel and meet new people.

Ben Ritchey

Mr. Ritchey brings 30 years of transportation research related experience primarily for USDOT and transportation industry. He has extensive project management experience on large, highly visible FHWA and USDOT projects. He is versed in strategy and policy options development, and application of policies to impact the transportation arena.

Mr. Ritchey recently joined CDM Smith. His transportation research experience includes large, visible projects for USDOT, US DHS, the transportation industry and US DOE. He has been the PM for two Amtrak projects for the USDOT; the USDOT 2000 CTSW Study, Western Uniformity Scenario Analysis and Federal Highway Cost Allocation Study; and the FHWA Office of Policy and Governmental Affairs IDIQ contract. He recently participated on a team that completed the Future Uses of Rights of Way study for the FHWA Office of Policy, where he prepared two white papers (Rest Areas and the Emerging Technologies) and support the scenario planning. He has managed a number of other projects for the FHWA, including Multimodal FAF, and vehicle fuel efficiencies and technologies related projects. For US DOE, Mr. Ritchey led alternative fuels and hazardous material routing projects. For US DHS, he participated in security assessments of supply chain operations and regulatory analysis. For transportation industry, his projects involved problem solving for operational issues, and technology assessments and implementations.

Rich Granger

Rich Granger is Managing Director of Workforce Development at DriveOhio, the state's one-stop shop for connected and autonomous mobility solutions on the ground and in the air. In this role, Rich works with partners across industry, education, government and communities to prepare Ohio's existing and emerging workforce – from Pre-K to PhD – for the future of smart mobility.

Rich has spent his career at the intersection of technology, innovation, education and workforce development. He grew up in Northeast Ohio and lives in the Columbus area with his wife and their young daughter, who wants to own a self-driving car when she grows up.

Twitter: @RichGranger