

## Center for Safety Equity in Transportation

If you have a right to get there, you have a right to get there safely.

May 2018

### Tribal Leadership Outreach

On Friday, May 11, 2018, CSET PI Dr. Ziqiang Zeng and graduate student Chris Gottsacker from University of Washington (UW) participated in the 2018 Tribal Leadership Summit in Seattle, Washington. The summit was instituted in 2007 within the framework of the Washington State Centennial Accord which recognizes tribal sovereignty and calls for government-to-government conversation around issues facing tribal communities. This one-day event, hosted by UW, is formed to promote opportunities for tribal leaders to gather and discuss issues of importance to American Indian and Alaska Native communities.



Dr. Zeng and Mr. Gottsacker are a research associate and research assistant working with Prof. Yinhai Wang at UW. They made a poster presentation at the summit to introduce



the CSET mission and projects about how to better understand the tribal area transportation safety issues and enhance the roadway safety for tribal communities by developing a safety data management and analysis platform. Several tribal leaders involved with transportation related investments expressed their interests and willingness to establish connections for possible future collaborations. They were also invited to attend the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) Mid Year Convention 2018 during May 21 - 24, 2018 in Toppenish, Washington.



### Open House Outreach

The Center participated in the UAF College of Engineering and Mines (CEM) open house on February 24. The event brings members of the community to campus to discover, engage and enjoy all things engineering. The Center provided everyone with the opportunity to learn about friction, handle the materials that go into making a road and deicing materials, make playdough, drive a remote control car on a track that included a roundabout, and race toy cars on a track. The activities provided opportunities to discuss road safety concepts and engineering concerns.



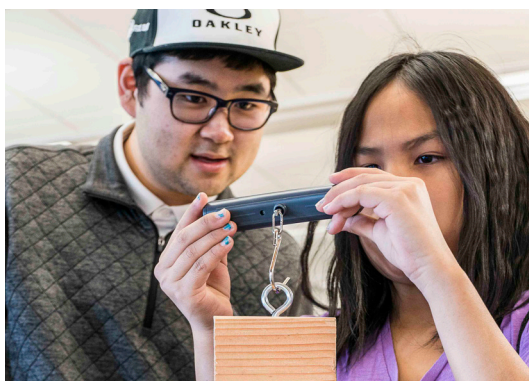
Nathan Belz demonstrates the difference tires can make in a car's ability to slide.



People making playdough at CEM open house, learning the basics of materials science and proportions.



CSET Director Billy Connor and CSET Associate Director Nathan Belz engaged with 5th and 6th grade students from the Alaska Gateway School District and 6th grade students from Nordale Elementary School during the annual Kids2College event on April 18 (see image below). Nathan presented concepts of friction and safe stopping distances to the students, then all participated in an activity to calculate friction coefficients on ice, gravel and pavement and relate those to distance required to stop on each surface while driving. Students from the UAF Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) assisted the kids at the activity stations to make the required measurements and put their values into an electronic worksheet.



UAF engineering student Joseph Kim assists a 6th grade student with a measurement.

## 2018 Annual Regional Transportation Conference

### North to the Future: Emerging Mobility and Safety Issues in the Pacific Northwest

We are excited to announce that CSET will be co-sponsoring the 2018 Annual Regional Transportation Conference with the Pacific Northwest Transportation Consortium. The conference will be held on October 12th, 2018 at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and will host researchers and practitioners from across the Pacific Northwest to engage dialogue and discuss how to move the state of our transportation system forward while being safety- and mobility-conscious. The conference theme will be North to the Future: Emerging Mobility and Safety Issues in the Pacific Northwest. More information about the conference and our call for abstracts to be considered for presentation can be found at [cset.uaf.edu/pactrans-conference/](http://cset.uaf.edu/pactrans-conference/) or by emailing [cset.utc@alaska.edu](mailto:cset.utc@alaska.edu).



The University of Alaska Fairbanks is actively seeking graduate students interested in research related to rural, isolated, tribal and indigenous transportation safety. Civil engineering is preferred, but also looking for interdisciplinary and Alaskan Native students. For more information contact Nathan Belz at [npbelz@alaska.edu](mailto:npbelz@alaska.edu).



Nathan Belz talks to students attending the Kids2College event

