



# 5<sup>th</sup> SAFER-SIM Symposium

#SAFERSIMposium  
October 9-11, 2016  
University of Iowa  
Iowa City, Iowa

Thank you SAFER-SIM researchers and students for attending the 5<sup>th</sup> SAFER-SIM Symposium at the University of Iowa. Your attendance and participation helped make this a memorable conference. We had 3 eventful days with 64 attendees that showcased what SAFER-SIM is about: safety, research, and collaboration. We look forward to future work together as we complete the first UTC grant and begin preparations for continued funding of SAFER-SIM UTC.



## Symposium Summary

### Social Networking – The Mill

The symposium kicked off Sunday evening with a fun, networking social at The Mill in downtown Iowa City. Students and researchers from each consortium site attended this activity which helped us learn more about each other's work and interests.



### Business Etiquette Dinner – Kinnick Stadium

Dr. Patricia Tice of AgriManners led attendees in a Business Etiquette Dinner in the McCord Club Lounge at Kinnick Stadium. She taught table manners that can be used in any situation, especially at conferences and business dinners.

## Fun Run/Walk – Pentacrest

Cara Hamann organized and coordinated the SAFER-SIM Fun Run/Walk early Monday morning. Although it was a cold morning, the 29 attendees (and 1 dog) completed either a 5K Run or 2K walk. Congratulations to everyone that participated!



## Facility Tour – ATV Simulator

Gerene Denning and Charles Jennissen led a tour of the ATV Simulator. This simulator has a movable platform and uses motion sensors, a virtual reality headset, and an All-Terrain Vehicle. Work done by this lab helps prevent injuries among children and adults in rural communities.



## Facility Tour – Hank Virtual Environments Lab

Joe Kearney and Jodie Plumert guided attendees throughout their advanced bicycling and pedestrian simulators. Their lab features an instrumented bike mounted in a virtual environment, motion-tracking cameras that monitor pedestrian movements, active stereoscopic glasses to create a fully interactive and immersive environment, and an HTC VIVE virtual reality headset. Their research helps improve safety for vulnerable road users.



## Shuttle to NADS – CAMBUS

David Ricketts, Director of UI Parking & Transportation, lectured researchers on how to manage and operate a public transportation system on the way to the National Advanced Driving Simulator.



## Facility Tour – National Advanced Driving Simulator



Registrants of the SAFER-SIM Symposium attended an Open House at the National Advanced Driving Simulator. 10 students were able to drive or ride in the NADS-1, the world's most advanced driving simulator, which has 13 degrees of freedom and a 360-degree virtual environment. The directors of each consortium site also had a chance to drive or ride in the simulator.

The Open House included a poster session led by students and researchers, miniSim demonstrations, and an exhibit of the advanced technology features in the Volvo XC90. The National Advanced Driving Simulator specializes in studying the connection between humans and vehicles.



## Student Panel Presentations – Kirkwood Regional Education Center

10 students presented their research to a room full of attendees in a 15-minute talk. Each student received feedback on their presentation from fellow researchers. The professional development will aid our students as they continue their education and begin careers.



## Dinner – Clinton Street Social Club

Monday concluded with dinner and drinks at the Clinton Street Social Club. A magician entertained the room with various card, coin, and ball tricks. This dinner was a relaxing, fun way to end a busy day.

## Innovation, Entrepreneurship & Intellectual Property – Senate Chambers



Tuesday began with presentations about Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Intellectual Property. Leslie Flynn from the University of Iowa College of Education described the STEM Innovator program, which equips teachers, students, and schools with the innovative tools and experiences they need to solve today's problems. Other presenters included Dr. Barry Butler – UI Executive Vice President and Provost, Dr. Christal Sheppard – Director of the Midwest Regional U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and Mark Nolte – President and Director of Business Development of the Iowa City Area Development Group.

## Evaluation of Real World Toll Plazas using Driving Simulators – Senate Chambers

The last activity of the symposium was the live webinar in the UI Capital Senate Chambers. Michael Knodler, Mohamed Abdel-Aty, and Didier Valdes presented their collaborative SAFER-SIM research about toll plazas. The recorded webinar can be watched online using the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-fPX1DHAZ8>



**THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE SAFER-SIM SYMPOSIUM!**