Student name: Quan Sun

Academic level/academic standing: PhD Student in Urban and Regional Science; Landscape Architecture & Urban Planning

Thesis/dissertation title and status: Empowering Local Planning Agencies in Responding to Autonomous Driving: A Community-based Approach to Build High-Resolution Digital Twin and Conduct Autonomous Driving Simulations (or Revolutionizing Local Planning with High-Res Digital Twins for Autonomous Driving Simulations.

"In my dissertation research, I aim to connect the fast-paced automation developments in the automotive industry with the day-to-day responsibilities of local planning and transportation professionals, who tend to have more traditional and retrospective approaches. Through my involvement in the SAFE-D project, I had the opportunity to investigate how vehicle crash data are evolving alongside the advancements in Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) and self-driving technology. This experience not only served as the inspiration for my dissertation topic and guided my research methodology but also provided valuable insights into the potential transformative impact of vehicle automation on the daily tasks of public agency employees. I gained invaluable research experience thanks to the hands-on guidance and mentorship of Dr. Goddard".

Student name: Kelly Brasseaux

Academic level/academic standing: Masters Candidate in Urban Planning; Landscape Architecture & Urban Planning

“My master’s program focused heavily on transportation planning and decision making. The SAFE-D project allowed me to develop skills in data collection and analysis, as well as reading and interpreting scientific writing. My participation in the project provided me with the necessary skills to develop comprehensive plans and reports throughout my coursework and to make informed decisions about transportation planning in my career.”

Student name: Jaden Banze

Academic level/Academic standing: Undergraduate in Electrical and Computer Engineering

"Being able to participate in the SAFE-D project, I was able to combine my personal interests with the automotive industry and technology. As an undergraduate student with no prior research experience, I was also able to learn research techniques and teamwork skills that I am carrying into my senior design project. The experience I gained by conducting data-driven analyses of automakers and building visuals helped me apply the theoretical knowledge gained from my courses at Texas A&M University. Having that experience early on was pivotal in applying it to my future classes and work experience."