

Dr. Charlie Klauer

Research Scientist

Virginia Tech Transportation Institute

Thursday, March 16, 2017

10:00 – 11:00 am, 260 Durham Hall



**Teen Drivers: Why Do They Crash and
What Can We Do About It?**

The results from a series of three naturalistic driving studies will be presented where newly licensed teenage drivers were observed either practicing and/or learning to drive independently. The unique power of the naturalistic driving method will be described in the context of broadening our understanding of the risks facing teenage drivers. Behaviors that were shown to be associated with crash/near-crash risk will be discussed and some risk calculations will be presented. Lessons learned from the supervised practice driving phase will also be shown. Finally, results from a monitoring and feedback study will be presented that show promise as a critical countermeasure to improving teen driving safety.

Dr. Charlie Klauer is a research scientist and the group leader for the Teen Risk and Injury Prevention Group. She has been working in transportation research for the past 19 years, previously at Battelle Human Factors Research Center in Seattle, WA and currently at the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute in Blacksburg, VA. While at VTTI, she served as the project manager for the 100 Car Naturalistic Driving Study and is currently a Principal Investigator and project manager for the Supervised Practice Driving Study, Driver Coach Study, and the Canada Naturalistic Driving Study. Her primary research involves studying the effects of distraction and fatigue on driving, especially with novice drivers.

Charlie's educational background began at Minnesota State University-Moorhead and continued at Wright State University, in Dayton, Oh where she received Bachelors' and Masters' degrees in psychology and human factors psychology. She received her Ph.D. in Industrial and Systems Engineering in 2005 from Virginia Tech. She has authored over 50 peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, and technical reports and is a member of the TRB's User Characteristics Committee and the Young Driver Subcommittee.

Dr. Klauer recently authored papers that have been published in *the New England Journal of Medicine*, *Journal of Pediatrics*, and *Journal of the American Medical Association Pediatrics*. She also co-authored a paper that received the *Best Ergonomics in Design Paper Award* for 2012 from the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society. Her primary research involves studying the effects of distraction and fatigue on driving, especially on novice drivers.