Each year at the annual winter meeting of the Transportation Research Board the Department honors the most outstanding student from each participating University Transportation Center for her/his achievements and promise for future contributions to the transportation field. Students of the Year are selected based on their accomplishments in such areas as technical merit and research, academic performance, professionalism, and leadership.

Aaron Bradshaw is the 2004 Student of the Year from URI Transportation Center. Mr. Bradshaw is currently working towards his Ph.D. in Ocean Engineering. He earned his Master's degree in Ocean Engineering in 1999 from the University of Rhode Island and his Bachelor's in Civil Engineering in 1996 from Tufts University. Prior to his return to the University of Rhode Island for his Ph.D. in 2003, he worked for Hart Crowser, Inc. in Seattle, Washington, as a geotechnical engineer. He was involved with projects involving the capping and remediation of contaminated dredged sediments and seismic retrofitting of marine port facilities.

Since his return to URI, he has worked on a variety of transportation related research projects. He has worked on a FHWA sponsored study on the performance of driven piles for the Central Artery Project in Boston and presented the study results at the ASCE Geofrontiers geotechnical engineering conference in January. He is currently working on a URITC and Rhode Island Department of Transportation sponsored project on the liquefaction potential of the silts commonly found in Rhode Island.

Mr. Bradshaw was selected for the 2004 URITC Outstanding Student of the Year award because of his excellent and varied research achievements and his professional background. Mr. Bradshaw will have a highly successful career in academia or as a practicing engineer.