Transportation Institute Founder, Gil Carmichael, Dead at 88

Gil Carmichael Founded the Transportation Institute at the University of Denver in 1996

DENVER—Gil Carmichael, a two-time nominee for governor of Mississippi and former transportation advisor to President George H.W. Bush, has died at age 88. Founder of the Transportation Institute at the University of Denver (DTI), Carmichael was known as a visionary leader and will be remembered as such.

“He is a legendary figure in the transportation industry and his achievements and vision will forever be a part of our history here at DU,” said William DeWitt, Executive Director of DTI.

In 1996, Carmichael, at the invitation of Chancellor Daniel Richie and Provost William Zaranka, and working with faculty in collaboration with transportation industry luminaries, founded the Transportation Institute at the University of Denver (DTI). Carmichael's vision was to educate the next generation of transportation leaders to optimize the worldwide multi-modal network of passenger and freight movement and deliver a safe, efficient, environmentally sustainable, and ethical transportation system.

Carmichael served as the chairman of the Amtrak Reform Council and as the Federal Railroad Administrator in the administration of President George Bush from 1989 through 1993. He also sponsored the first World Railways Congress in 1991 and chaired the National Maglev Initiative. Carmichael was a force for positive change and forward thinking in the global transportation industry, promoting true collaboration and optimization between and among transportation modes considering both freight and passenger services simultaneously.

For more on Gil Carmichael, please see his obituary published February 2 in The Meridian Star.
Founded in 1864, the University of Denver is committed to engaging with students in advancing scholarly inquiry, cultivating critical and creative thought, and generating knowledge. For additional information, visit the University’s Media Relations website, or follow the University on Facebook and Twitter. The Transportation Institute offers an executive master’s degree in Transportation Management, short courses, symposia, and educational resources for industry leaders to inspire transportation solutions. To learn more about the Transportation Institute at the University of Denver, visit http://www.du.edu/transportation.