METRANS on the Move | Vol. 14 Issue 02 | April 14, 2021. View this email in your browser



# METRANS on the Move: our weekly newsletter by students

Happy Wednesday, reader! Be sure to follow METRANS Transportation Center on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn.



#### In the News

The articles in this newsletter are prepared or accomplished by others in their personal capacity. The opinions expressed are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect the views of METRANS or its partners.



#### Futures in Transportation Program brings Transportation Research to Local Youth

The USC Viterbi School of Engineering and Price School of Public Policy created and launched Futures in Transportation (FIT), a 4-part seminar series held in February for local high school juniors.

Read more here.



#### Pivoting to Teach Transportation in a Pandemicimpacted World

For fall 2020, Eric C. Shen completely redesigned the Transportation Studio course in the Master of Urban Planning (MUP) program to maximize the potential of a remote learning environment and emphasize a new project medium.

Read the USC Price feature here.



## Twin sisters give back to program that helped them succeed at USC

Trojan alumnae and former foster youth Carmen and Lucero Noyola leaned on the Trojan Guardian Scholars for guidance and support. Now they're returning the favor.

Read the USC News feature  $\underline{\text{here}}.$ 

#### Webinars & Online Events

METRANS & PSR Spring 2021 Career Series: Team Excellence and Overcoming Obstacles - A Leader's Perspective Thursday, April 15th at 4:00 pm PDT

Join us for an opportunity to learn about team leadership from METRANS Student Chief of Staff, Lt. Colonel Sean Fazande. Drawing on decades of military experience as well as his doctoral education . . .

More Info

## TOMNET UTC Presents: On the Behavioral of Adaptive Cruise Control Vehicles: An Empirical Study

Friday, April 16th at 12:00 pm PDT

Emerging automated vehicle (AV) technologies are increasingly being deployed around the world and it is only a matter of time before the transportation landscape changes dramatically.

More Info

## Spring 2021 PSR Seminar Presents: Efficient Bayesian optimization techniques for high-dimensional urban mobility problems

Friday, April 16th at 1:40 pm PDT

In this talk, we discuss the opportunities and challenges of designing simulation-based optimization (SO) algorithms to tackle high-dimensional urban mobility problems.

More Info

#### **TDC-MIT Transportation and Infrastructure Virtual Summit**

Monday, April 19th at 7:00 am PDT

The Transportation Diversity Council and MIT welcome you to the 2021 TDC-MIT Transportation & Infrastructure Summit, join us for: Transportation and a COVID-19 just recovery; uniting urban and . . .

More Info

#### UCLA Luskin Summit 2021: Quality of Life Index

Monday, April 19th at 11:00 am PDT

Unveiling of the 6th annual survey, which is a joint project of the UCLA Luskin Los Angeles Initiative led by longtime local political leader Zev Yaroslavsky and The California Endowment.

More Info

## USDOT ITS Joint Program Office: All-Levels Academic Virtual Forum Wednesday, April 21st at 10:00 am PDT

The ITS PCB program invite you to join our upcoming All-Levels Academic Virtual Forum, where educators at universities, two-year colleges, and high schools, as well as practitioners and industry . . .

More Info

## CARTEEH Webinar: 14 Pathways Between Urban Transportation and Health Tuesday, April 27th at 10:00 am PDT

The Center for Advancing Research in Transportation Emissions, Energy and Health (CARTEEH) will be hosting a webinar featuring Drs. Joe Zietsman and Haneen Khreis.

More Info

Looking for more events occurring this week and next? Check out our "Additional Events" section below!

Take me to more Events

#### Fast Facts

Created for Students, by Students



#### Fast Facts

Cutting edge transportation research summaries Created for students, by students

## Automated Analysis of Wildlife-Vehicle Conflict Hotspots Using Carcass and Collision Data

Authors: Fraser Shilling, Cameron Denney, David Waetjen

Year: 2019

**Keywords:** Safety and security, transportation planning, policy, finance

#### What's going on?

Wildlife-vehicle conflict (WVC) is a growing concern for government agencies, conservation organizations, and drivers. WVC occurs when animals cross the surface of the roadway and come into conflict with vehicles, causing potential harm to drivers and wildlife alike. State departments of transportation (DOTs) have implemented various methods to mitigate these impacts — from putting fencing around roadways, to building crossing structures to allow safe animal passage. However,



DOTs need the tools to measure the statistical significance of "clusters" of WVC to better understand the rates and locations of these conflicts in order to accurately inform policy decisions. This project aims to develop a reusable method to turn roadkill observations into information to support mitigation planning.

#### What were the findings?

The researchers worked with state DOTs from around the country to develop a new approach to analyze and interpret WVC geospatial data. Researchers built and tested a WVC hotspot tool, where users (primarily from state DOTs or wildlife agencies) can upload, store, and manage WVC data to be analyzed by the automated hotspot analysis tool in both a desktop and web-based version. Researchers automated several types of outputs, including graphical representations of WVC data and interactive maps that show WVC "hotspots" and "coldspots" to highlight patterns in the data.

#### What's next?

The researchers hope that this tool can be used in mitigation planning for WVC hotspots to improve safety conditions for drivers and wildlife. Given the time and effort required to perform these analyses individually, this tool could result in considerable cost-savings for state DOTs and their partners while providing an efficient process for interpreting WVC data.

Read the full report on our website:

 $\underline{https://www.metrans.org/assets/research/psr-17-13\_shilling\_final-report.pdf.}$ 

The Pacific Southwest Region UTC conducts an integrated, multidisciplinary program of research, education and technology transfer aimed at improving the mobility of people and goods throughout the region.

Check this week's featured Fast Facts <u>here</u>. Looking for more Fast Facts? Check out the Fast Facts Page on Metrans.org!

Take me to Fast Facts

### Pathways to Opportunity

## Transportation Planning Intern

Los Angeles, CA Apply by ASAP See more info

#### BCDC Student Intern San Francisco BCDC San Francisco, CA

Apply by 04/25/2021

See more info

More Internships and Scholarships Here

# Senior Manager, Transportation Planning (Equity and Race) LA Metro

Los Angeles, CA Apply by 04/23/21 See more info

#### Transit Fleet Maintenance Coordinator Fairfax County Government

Fairfax, VA Apply by 04/23/2021 See more info

**More Job Opportunities Here** 

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