

# METRANS

## Transportation Center

USC CSULB

### METRANS on the Move: Our Weekly Newsletter for Students



Shoutout to WTS for hosting events with engaging speakers who serve as role models for both students and professionals.

Photo credit: John Livzey

Readers, welcome to this week's issue of METRANS on the Move! This newsletter is a team effort to foster knowledge and opportunities related to transportation. If you have suggestions for content – events, scholarships, jobs, and more – that you'd like to see included, just reach out to our Publisher, Danielle Dirksen, at [ddirksen@usc.edu](mailto:ddirksen@usc.edu). Enjoy this week's issue, and click the button below to subscribe!

[Subscribe Now!](#)

## 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.

### Meet Dongyang Lin, METRANS Events Coordinator & SCAG Urban Planning Intern

By Bo-Sen Shao, USC Master of International Public Policy and Management, 2020



We are happy to announce a new series of articles dedicated to intern experiences. We are dividing this series of articles into three parts - public sector, private sector and non-profit sector.

Dongyang Lin, second-year Master of Planning student at USC Price School, is an international student from Gangzhou, China. Lin has been an intern for the Active Transportation and Special Programs department at the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) since April 2019.

Read more [here](#).



### What Urban Sprawl Is Really Doing to Your Commute

A new report from the Texas A&M Transportation Institute about commuters' traffic woes is a doozy. The big takeaway: Drivers are wasting more time than ever "stopping and going in an ocean of brake lights." But the report's biggest deficiency is simpler: Commuters are not actually spending all that much more time getting to work.

Read more [here](#).

### Looking For Trends In Metro's Latest Rail Ridership Numbers

Metro recently released its latest fiscal year rail ridership numbers. Scott Frazier tweeted out his spreadsheet ranking station ridership and calculating year-by-year percentage changes. Overall rail ridership is basically flat, with Blue Line ridership falling due to



current New Blue construction.

Read more [here](#).



### **Blast From The Past Series - Transit's Identity Crisis: Social Service Or Economic Engine?**

This brief 2011 article poses the question of whether transit operations should be spearheaded by the public or private sector. Or perhaps transit lines should all be born of public-private partnerships. What do you think?

Read more [here](#).



### **Tweet Time - IndyGo Bus Red Line Update**

*This is a new subsection, meant to provide a weekly Twitter update either celebrating transportation accomplishments and/or sharing a snippet of transportation news.*

Here we see Jerome Horne with IndyGo posing for a selfie with Red Line riders in Indiana. The new BRT line just went for a spin this past weekend. Be sure to follow Jerome for more transit content!

Read more [here](#).

## For Researchers

**Researchers and practitioners within the field of Smart Cities are encouraged to submit proposals.**

### **Call for Presentations: TRB Task Force on Knowledge Management Proposals Due: Friday, September 6, 2019**

The TRB Task Force on Knowledge Management invites the submission of presentations from smart cities researchers and practitioners that highlight practice and applied research related to knowledge creation and capitalization within the context of planning or implementation of smart city initiatives. Presenters will deliver their presentations at the January 2020 TRB Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. Please note that the August 31st proposal due date has been updated to September 6th. Click the button below for submission and topic info.

[More Info](#)

**Ph.D. graduates with experience in computer programming, urban modeling, and GIS are encouraged to apply.**

### **Research Fellow in Urban and Transport Modeling Applications Due: Saturday, September 14, 2019 by 3:59 pm Pacific**

This 2-3 year research fellow opportunity through London's Global University, the University College London (UCL), is a full-time position working in the Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis (CASA). The researcher will work on the Harmony grant which is funded by the EU Horizon 2020 Program: <https://www.maaslab.org/harmony>. HARMONY stands for "Holistic Approach for Providing Spatial & Transport Planning Tools and Evidence to Metropolitan and Regional Authorities to Lead a Sustainable Transition to a New Mobility Era"

The researcher will essentially be involved in Work Package 4, Land use, spatial planning and strategic decisions, which UCL-CASA is coordinating. This work package is central to the goals of HARMONY, which envisages the development of an integrated spatial and multi modal transport planning tool that will enable the simulation of a portfolio of technology, policy and investment options under alternative future scenarios, considering spatial planning, multi modal land and air transportation networks and transport infrastructure, new forms of mobility, air-quality and noise.

[More Info](#)

### **Call for Papers: 6th International Conference on Systems and Informatics Submissions Due: Sunday, September 15, 2019**

ICSAI 2019 will be held from November 2-4, 2019, in Lingang, Shanghai, China. ICSAI 2019 aims to be a premier international forum for scientists and researchers to present the state of the art of systems engineering and information science.

Topics include, but are not limited to, Control and Automation Systems; Power and Energy Systems; Intelligent Systems; Computer Systems and Applications; Communications and Networking; Image, Video, and Signal Processing; Data Engineering and Data Mining;

and Software Engineering.

All papers in the conference proceedings will be submitted to EI Compendex, Scopus, and ISTP (ISI Proceedings), as well as IEEE Xplore. Some papers will be recommended for publication in a special issue in SCI-indexed journal Applied Sciences (2018 Impact Factor: 2.217).

[More Info](#)

**Call for Abstracts: New Technologies for Urban Mobility Workshop**  
**Submission Deadline: Monday, September 23, 2019**

In preparation for the first NTUM workshop in Pucón, Chile, in April 2020, the Complex Engineering Systems Institute (ISCI) and the Engineering School of Universidad de Concepción invite authors to submit relevant abstracts .

The ubiquity of technology has unlocked an enormous potential for urban mobility. Cities are shaped by the behavior of citizens who are connected through elements that can be updated literally every day. What was impossible a few years ago might become obsolete today. Technology has opened questions, challenges, and opportunities for urban mobility that are worthy to explore for both ends: theoretical advances and applications.

The workshop aims to bring together the researchers, practitioners and tool developers working on topics related to public transportation of the future; new methods for new data; home delivery and services; apps for mobility and travel; innovative transportation modes; new tech for transportation planning and operations; and information and communication technologies.

[More Info](#)

**Ph.D. students involved in Transportation Operations and Traffic Control research and work are encouraged to submit abstracts.**

**Call for Abstracts: TRB Ph.D. Session in Transportation Operations and Traffic Control**  
**Submission Deadline: Friday, September 27, 2019**

In preparation for the 99th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board in Washington, D.C., the Ph.D. Session in Transportation Operations and Traffic Control is seeking recently completed (or nearly completed) Ph.D. dissertations and research-in-progress.

Students who wish to present their research should submit a (maximum) two-page summary of their research including the title, along with a brief letter (or email) of nomination from their faculty supervisor that clearly states their anticipated graduation date. The schedule of presentations will be based upon the number of submissions and whether they are based on completed or in-progress research. All students will be notified by mid-October, concerning acceptance of their submission and their place on the program.

[More Info](#)

**For this particular award, graduate students in transportation who have produced a PhD Dissertation, MS Thesis, or Master's Thesis/Report are encouraged to seek nomination.**

**Council of University Transportation Centers Awards**  
**Nomination Deadline: Monday, September 30, 2019**

The Milton Pikarsky Memorial Award is given annually for the best Doctoral dissertation and Master's thesis in the field of science and technology in transportation studies. The Charley V. Wootan Memorial Award is given annually for the best Doctoral dissertation and Master's thesis in the field of policy and planning in transportation studies. The Neville A. Parker Award is given annually to two non-thesis master's project reports in the field of policy and planning, and science and technology. Winners in each category receive the following honorariums: Doctoral Dissertation: \$2,000 Master's Thesis: \$1,500 Non-Thesis Master's Reports/Papers: \$1,500.

To be considered for the awards nominations must be submitted a member of the faculty, a mentor, or advisor through the CUTC website. Winners will be recognized at the CUTC Awards Banquet held on Saturday, January 11, 2020 immediately preceding the 99th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board. The dissertation/thesis/report must have been completed and accepted during the period October 1, 2018-September 30, 2019.

[More Info](#)

## Get Involved

**BRT+ Webinar - A Gender Perspective On Transport: New Horizons For Sustainability With Equity**  
**Friday, September 6, 2019 at 10 am Pacific**

Based on six years of qualitative and quantitative research on the intersections between gender, age, health and transportation, this presentation looks at the challenges and opportunities for planning sustainable transport in the 21st century. Far from being "just another interest group", women and girls are majority users of public transport today, but sexual harassment and other issues threaten to undermine their loyalty to this important mode within the sustainable transport walk-bike-bus trio.

[More Info](#)

**We are offering complimentary registration for this event in exchange for volunteering your time. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please email [victoriv@price.usc.edu](mailto:victoriv@price.usc.edu).**



**Call for Volunteers: ITS CA Annual Meeting**  
**September 9-11, 2019**  
**JW Marriott Los Angeles LA LIVE**  
**900 W Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90015**

Connect with the ITS community in California and learn about the latest advances in the industry! Meet and hear from transportation specialists in government, industry, and academic organizations. Exchange ideas, solutions, and success stories on a number of topics relevant to today's fast-growing transportation technology industry.

Volunteers are needed for registration, directing and guiding guests, and collecting survey forms. Shift times and commitments vary. Please contact Vicki with any questions at the email above.

[More Info](#)

**6th International Conference on Women's Issues in Transportation: Student and Emerging Leaders Session**  
**Wednesday, September 11, 2019 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm Pacific**  
**UC Irvine Student Center**  
**Woods Cove AB**  
**311 W Peltason Dr, Irvine, CA 92697**

WIIIT is thrilled to offer an interactive program for college students and emerging professionals. Attendees will gain insights from thought leaders in the transportation industry about building their brand, igniting careers, and moving up the ladder. The *Letter to my younger self: leadership insights to grow a career in transportation* program features several prominent women in transportation. Registration is free and limited free Marquee Dinner tickets are available upon a first-come, first-served basis. Please click below to view the flyer.

[More Info](#)

**Institute of Transportation Engineers General Meeting**  
**Wednesday, September 11, 2019 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Pacific**  
**University of Southern California**  
**KAP 166**

USC students are invited to join USC ITE's student chapter for their first general body meeting. ITE is a networking and professional organization meant to bring students interested in civil engineering, planning, and transportation together. Food will be provided. Please click below to view the flyer.

[More Info](#)

**ICTPA-SCC 2019 September Luncheon Meeting**  
**Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 11:30 am Pacific**  
**Caltrans District 7 (1st Floor Conference Room)**  
**100 Main Street**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90012**

Join the International Chinese Transportation Professionals Association -- Southern California Chapter for a luncheon with speaker Conan Cheung, Senior Executive Officer of Service Planning, Scheduling, and Analysis at LA Metro. Participants must RSVP and pay registration fee. Prices go up after September 16th. Please click below to view the flyer.

[More Info](#)

**Fall 2019 Speaker Series: Great Careers Start at LA Metro!**  
**Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 12 pm Pacific**  
**University of Southern California**  
**VPD 203**

Join METRANS and PSR for a luncheon with Shalonda Baldwin and Patrice McElroy of LA Metro. Participants will gain professional insights and a lively discussion on how to better select, prepare for, pursue, and advance their careers. RSVP is required. Please click below to view the flyer.

[More Info](#)

**Fall 2019 Speaker Series - Microtransit and Micromobility: Benefit or Boondoggle?**  
**Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at 12 pm Pacific**  
**University of Southern California**  
**RGL 100**

Join METRANS and PSR for a luncheon with Amelia Regan, Professor of Computer Science and Transportation Systems Engineering at UCI. Participants will gain professional insights on whether micromobility's benefits outweigh the many costs and externalities that have resulted from a push for tech in transportation. RSVP is required. Please click below to view the flyer.

[More Info](#)

**Notice of Intent: Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP) University Design Competition for Addressing**

### Airport Needs

**NOIs Due: Saturday, September 28, 2019**

The ACRP, a program of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, is sponsoring a national competition for universities that engages students in addressing issues relating to airports and the National Airspace System.

This Competition focuses on design solutions in the following broad areas: Airport Operation and Maintenance, Runway Safety/Runway Incursions/ Runway Excursions, Airport Environmental Interactions, and Airport Management and Planning. Some specific challenge areas are defined in the Technical Design Challenges section of the guidelines. Students are not limited to the suggested topical areas listed.

This Competition challenges individuals and teams of undergraduate and/or graduate students working with faculty advisors at U.S. colleges and universities to consider innovative approaches related to airport issues. Full details are provided in the competition guidelines, accessible through the button below.

[More Info](#)

**If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please email [victoriv@usc.edu](mailto:victoriv@usc.edu).**

### Make Way for Gen Z: Hands-on STEM Workshop for Middle Schoolers

**Thursday, October 3, 2019 at 10 am Pacific**

**University of Southern California**

**DML 240**

Join METRANS and PSR for an interactive workshop that will engage nearly 100 local middle schoolers. We plan to immerse students in transportation industry basics with a focus on soft leadership skills, inspiring students to possibly pursue future endeavors in the industry. Volunteers are appreciated. Please click below to view the flyer.

[More Info](#)

### Fall 2019 Speaker Series: Micro Sensor Development for Vehicle Detection and Identification for Next Generation Smart Roads

**Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 12 pm Pacific**

**University of Southern California**

**RGL 100**

Join METRANS and PSR for a luncheon with Mohammed Mozumdar, Associate Professor in Electrical Engineering at Cal State Long Beach. Participants will gain professional and technical insights on the development of a distributed wireless sensing network that utilizes low power processors in conjunction to "in sensor node" machine learning algorithms for computation, among other smart road topics. RSVP is required. Please click below to view the flyer.

[More Info](#)

### American Road and Transportation Builders Association Student Video Contest

**Submissions Due: Sunday, October 20, 2019**

The ARTBA Foundation supports an annual student video contest to promote the U.S. transportation design and construction industry. ARTBA's Research & Education Division (RED) sponsors the contest and has two submission categories: general transportation impacts, trends and/or funding; and transportation safety.

The contest is divided into two age groups: elementary, middle or high school students; and post-secondary, college and graduate students. Winners are selected in each age group, for a total of four first-place videos. Each winner receives a cash prize and winning entries may be shown during ARTBA's annual National Convention.

[More Info](#)

### Fall 2019 Speaker Series: Leadership as Improvisation 3.0

**Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at 12 pm Pacific**

**University of Southern California**

**DML 240**

Join METRANS and PSR for a luncheon with Carol Geffner of the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy. Participants will gain professional insights in this workshop on how to improvise in the workforce and create change for yourself and others. RSVP is required. Please click below to view the flyer.

[More Info](#)

**A limited number of sponsored student tickets are available. Please email [victoriv@price.usc.edu](mailto:victoriv@price.usc.edu) to request one.**

### Port of Los Angeles Harbor Boat Tour

**Friday, November 8, 2019, 12:30 pm Pacific**

**Port of LA, San Pedro, Los Angeles**

Port staff will be available on the boat to provide narration and to answer questions about Port projects. On the tour, you will have a chance to learn about Port operations and infrastructure projects, and there may be sea lion sightings. Click below for the event flyer.

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## More Info

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### **Fall 2019 Speaker Series: Is Neighborhood Change Leading to Falling Transit Ridership?** **Wednesday, November 13, 2019 at 12 pm Pacific** **University of Southern California**

Join METRANS and PSR for a luncheon with Michael Manville, Associate Professor of Urban Planning at UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs. Participants will gain professional insights on falling transit ridership in Southern California as Professor Manville presents preliminary study results on ridership fluctuation. RSVP is required. Please click below to view the flyer.

## More Info

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### **Student Transportation Consulting Volunteer Opportunity** **University of Southern California**

Please see the following on behalf of USC undergraduate Reanne Aquinde: Reanne is looking to organize student members of the USC Chapter of the Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers (IISE) to undertake transportation related problems in the field. Interested students need not already be a part of IISE but should attend or live near USC. This opportunity is intended to organize a small, voluntary student team which will then tackle a real world project that students can work on to gain practical experience. Email Reanne for more information at [raqinde@usc.edu](mailto:raqinde@usc.edu)

## Scholarships & Academic Opportunities

### **WTS-OC 2019-20 Scholarships** **Applications Due: Friday, September 6, 2019 by 5 pm Pacific**

To encourage women pursuing careers in transportation, the Orange County Chapter of WTS offers multiple graduate, undergraduate, community college and high school scholarships to girls and women in Southern California. In 2018, WTS-OC awarded 11 scholarships totaling \$51,500. The number of scholarships and amounts for the 2019-20 academic year will be determined following a review of the applications received.

Specific criteria for each scholarship can be found within the application itself. Applications may be submitted online or downloaded and submitted via email.

## More Info

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### **Emerging Leaders in Transportation Fellowship 2019** **Applications Due: Monday, September 9, 2019 by 8:59 pm Pacific**

The Emerging Leaders in Transportation fellowship program aims to enhance the toolkit of early-career employees to make transportation more efficient, effective and people-oriented. In this competitive fellowship program, participants will learn from top transportation and management professionals to enhance leadership skills, communication techniques and policy work to bring innovative ideas into practice.

The 2019 program will take place on December 6, 12 and 13 at New York University, and will include one off-site facility tour.

## More Info

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### **6th International Conference on Women's Issues in Transportation** **September 10-13, 2019** **The Beckman Center, Irvine, CA**

TRB is sponsoring the 6th International Conference on Women's Issues in Transportation (WiiT 2019) on September 10-13, 2019 in Irvine, California. This conference explores women's perspectives, challenges, achievements, and opportunities with respect to travel and transportation.

This conference also provides an update on the progress and challenges in relation to women and mobility; explores how gender equality practices in transportation are increasing business and economics development; exchanges ideas on how public agencies can incorporate good gender equality policies and practices with approaches to oversee efforts and measure performance; and examines methods to address safety and security of women who are employed with or using transportation systems.

**For more information, click the link below or register [here](#).**

## More Info

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### **Antwerp Summer University 2019:** **Antwerp Summer School on Urban Logistics** **September 19-23, 2019** **University of Antwerp, Belgium**

Summer school on planning and managing the urban transport in urban areas under a dynamic context as today logistics: key for city sustainable development. An intensive immersion into the world of urban logistics, based on an introductory module covering all aspects of urban logistics (week 1) and an optional assignment preparation week (week 2) focusing on innovation and sustainability in the Industry in

all its facets.

For more information, click the link below or apply [here](#).

### More Info

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**2019 Mobility 21 Southern California Transportation Summit: Beyond the Limits**  
**Friday, September 27, 2019 7:30 am - 4:30 pm Pacific**  
**Disneyland Hotel**  
**1150 Magic Way, Anaheim, CA 92802**

Save the date for Mobility 21's 2019 Summit! Mobility 21, Southern California's premier transportation coalition, is currently seeking sponsorships for their upcoming annual conference. Registration information is coming soon. Discounted student tickets are available for students who register to attend. Early bird registration is now open as well.

### More Info

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**Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Sustainable Urban Freight**  
**Open through September 2019**

We are happy to announce the re-run of the successful Sustainable Urban Freight Transport MOOC on edX as of 4th December 2018. This time the MOOC is presented as a self-paced course, students and professionals can access the free course till September 2019.

The MOOC is the result of a collaboration between 8 partners of the global COE-SUFS network. It provides a unique cross-cultural introduction to city logistics, as experienced around the world (Netherlands, Japan, India, UK, Australia, South-Africa and Sweden).

For more information, contact Tharsis Teoh at [t.g.h.teoh@tudelft.nl](mailto:t.g.h.teoh@tudelft.nl) or click the link below.

### More Info

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**Become a Presidential Management Fellow**  
**Applications Due: Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 9 am Pacific**

The Presidential Management Fellows (PMF) Program is administered by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM). Each year, candidates apply to the program in efforts to be selected as Finalists. Finalists are then eligible for appointment as Presidential Management Fellows (Fellows; PMFs).

To become a PMF, you must participate in an rigorous, multi-hurdle process. It takes patience and endurance, but also gives you a chance to demonstrate your leadership ability and potential. As a PMF, you will have earned your place in the program, and the opportunity to grow professionally, serve your country, and make a difference!

### More Info

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**Call for Papers: World Symposium on Transport and Land Use Research 2020**  
**Submissions Due: Friday, November 15, 2019**

We are pleased to announce that the 2020 World Symposium on Transport and Land Use Research (WSTLUR) will be held in Portland, Oregon, USA, July 13-16, 2020. We seek original, full-length submissions on themes including, but not limited to, affordable housing and transport, freight issues, and accessibility in transit. Theme leaders will be in charge of the paper review and selection process. Questions about specific themes should be directed towards theme leaders, whose contact info can be found by clicking the button below.

### More Info

## Internships & Jobs

**Airport Planner**  
**City of Los Angeles**  
**Applications Close: Thursday, September 12, 2019**



More Info

Job Title	Agency/Firm	Deadline
<a href="#">The City Traffic Engineer (# 2019-00773)</a>	Portland Bureau of Transportation	9-Sep-19
	Portland, OR	
<a href="#">Transportation Engineer (# 8232)</a>	DC Government	9-Sep-19
	Washington, DC	
<a href="#">Associate Transportation Planner (# JC-170525)</a>	Caltrans	10-Sep-19
	Sacramento County, CA	
<a href="#">Transportation Analyst (# 40891)</a>	WSP	10-Sep-19
	Jersey City, NJ	
<a href="#">Junior Highway Engineer</a>	WSP	10-Sep-19
	Philadelphia, PA	
<a href="#">HQ Maintenance GIS Coordinator (# JC-170283)</a>	Caltrans	10-Sep-19
	Sacramento County, CA	
<a href="#">Transportation Senior Planner (# 2019-01416)</a>	City of San Antonio	11-Sep-19
	San Antonio, TX	

We found **70+ more fresh positions** for you!

[Click here for more Jobs and Internships](#)

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