

# METRANS

## Transportation Center

USC CSULB

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



Students and professionals pose for a picture at ITE's annual Student Leadership Summit.  
Photo credit: Eric Shen

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!

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### 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.



#### Welcome Back And Join Our Fall Events! By Adylbek Abdykalikov, USC, IPPAM 2020

Welcome back everyone and greetings to our new incoming students! As the Fall 2019 semester begins we would like to announce our upcoming events. This fall we welcome wonderful speakers and industry professionals to our seminars who will be sharing latest trends and their insights into the transportation field and skills critical for success.

Read more [here](#).



#### Why Are America's Three Biggest Metros Shrinking?

In 2018, the New York City area lost more than 100,000 people to other cities and suburbs—that's 277 people leaving every day. The Los Angeles and Chicago areas lost, respectively, 201 and 161 residents each day. What's going on?

Read more [here](#).



#### Ride-Sharing Services Refuse To Serve Underage Kids. Teens Still Use Them.

Richard Tran lives with his aunt a mile and a half away from his high school in the suburbs of Orange County, California. That means it's about a 30-minute walk away, but as a teenager, he doesn't have a half hour to waste lugging home a heavy backpack.

Read more [here](#).



### **Blast From The Past Series - Travel The Path Of The Expo Line Predecessor That Ran From 1908 To 1953**

This colorful 2018 article tells the tale of the Pacific Electric Air Line, or the Red Cars, which followed much of the right of way that LA Metro's Expo Line has now.

Read more [here](#).

### **Tweet Time - Metro Passes for Manual Arts High School Juniors**



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

A student poses with his new Upass, which will allow him to travel on LA Metro for free the whole year. Be sure to follow The Promise Fund to learn about their initiatives as an education nonprofit!

Read more [here](#).

## For Researchers

**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](#)

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**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](#)

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**Qualified individuals should have a Ph.D. degree in engineering, environmental science, or other related field with coursework and/or research experience in life cycle analysis.**

**Argonne National Laboratory Energy Systems Division PhD Research Position**  
**Apply ASAP**

Argonne National Laboratory is seeking dynamic and technically strong Postdoctoral Researchers in the area of life cycle analysis. The position is in the Systems Assessment Center's Electrification and Infrastructure Group in the Energy Systems Division. Postdoctoral Researchers work with other team members to analyze transportation and energy systems, develop new models and datasets, and provide rigorous and objective results. We are currently seeking applicants with experience in one or more of the following areas: transportation energy systems, materials production with a focus on vehicle materials and lightweighting, lithium-ion battery production and recycling, electrical grid modeling, and vehicle manufacturing. See the flyer below for more information.

[More Info](#)

## Get Involved

**Institute of Transportation Engineers General Meeting**  
**Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 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](#)

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**IATR Microtransit Hack-A-Thon**  
**Friday, September 13, 2019 at 9 pm to Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 8:59 pm Pacific**

The International Association of Transportation Regulators (IATR) is partnering with The Transportation Alliance to host a Microtransit Hack-A-Thon. This competition seeks solutions for 2 cities, St. Louis and Toronto, using data sets provided to suggest opportunities in micro transit routes for fleets. The Hack-A-Thon seeks solutions that provide equality in transportation for passengers with disabilities, offer acceptable wait times of five minutes or less, and that make economic sense for three key stakeholders: the passenger, the driver and the fleet.

[More Info](#)

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**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](#)

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**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](#)

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**John Ferraro Building Tour**  
**Friday, September 20, 2019 from 10 am to 12 pm Pacific**  
**111 N. Hope Street**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90112**

Join the Asian American Architects and Engineers Foundation for a tour of the infamous John Ferraro Building. RSVP is required; please do so by September 12th. Click below for the eventbrite page. Registration is free.

[More Info](#)

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

**WTS-LA Welcomes LA Metro's Jim de la Loza!**  
**Friday, September 20, 2019 at 11:30 am Pacific**  
**The Sheraton Grand Los Angeles**  
**711 S. Hope Street**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90017**

Please join WTS-LA for a lunch program to welcome Jim de la Loza, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's new Chief of Planning Officer, to learn about current and upcoming projects for LA Metro Planning.

[More Info](#)

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**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](#)

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**IRWA Young Professionals Ice Cream Social**  
**Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at 5:30 pm Pacific**  
**Salt and Straw**  
**829 E. 3rd Street**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90013**

Young professionals are invited to join the International Right of Way Association's Chapter 1 to mingle and say goodbye to summer and hello to fall! Please RSVP and see the flyer at the button below.

[More Info](#)

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**Webinar: Transitioning Cars and Trucks to Low Greenhouse Gas-Emitting Technologies and Fuels**  
**Friday, September 27, 2019 from 10 am to 11 am Pacific**

California has adopted ambitious targets for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. In this study, we examine the costs and challenges of reducing road transportation GHG emissions 80% by 2050, through rapid uptake of advanced vehicle and fuel technologies. We consider several scenarios and the costs of achieving these, along with policy implications. Speakers are

UC Davis' Lew Fulton and Marshall Miller.

[More Info](#)

**2020 Lemelson-MIT Student Prize Competition**  
**Apply by: Friday, September 27, 2019 8:59 pm Pacific**

The Lemelson-MIT Student Prize is a nationwide invention competition that honors undergraduate teams and individual graduate students who have developed technology-based inventions with tested prototypes. Graduate students win \$15,000 in recognition of their portfolio of inventions, and undergraduate teams win \$10,000 for their invention. In addition, winners will be included in a national media campaign, and receive exposure to investment and business communities, and a trip to MIT for an award celebration (EurekaFest) in June 2020.

[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](#)

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**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.

[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

**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](#)

**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](#)

**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](#)

**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

**Transportation Planning Intern**  
**ARUP**  
**For Summer 2020**



[More Info](#)

Job Title	Agency/Firm	Deadline
<a href="#">Transportation Planner (# 8160)</a>	DC Government	13-Sep-19
	Washington, DC	

<a href="#">Transportation Engineer (Civil) (# JC-171291)</a>	Caltrans	13-Sep-19
	Yuba County, CA	
<a href="#">Transportation Surveyor (# JC-171162)</a>	Caltrans	13-Sep-19
	San Diego County, CA	
<a href="#">Information Technology Specialist (ITS Data Analyst) (# 8285)</a>	DC Government	13-Sep-19
	Washington, DC	
<a href="#">Principal Transportation Planner (# 009899-044)</a>	Los Angeles Metro	16-Sep-19
	Los Angeles, CA	
<a href="#">Transit Service and Strategy Manager (# 2019-01472)</a>	City of Seattle	17-Sep-19
	Seattle, WA	

We found **80+ more fresh positions** for you!

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