

METRANS NEWS

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METRANS, a partnership of the University of Southern California and California State University, Long Beach, is a U.S. Department of Transportation designated University Transportation Center. Its mission is to solve transportation problems of large metropolitan areas through research, education and outreach.

Famed Engineer to Highlight METRANS Celebration

Structures shape society—and dams may have shaped Los Angeles more than any other structure.

Such is the provocative thesis of David Billington, the keynote speaker at the METRANS 10th Anniversary Dinner, who will challenge attendees on October 30 (details at right).

Billington will compare New York City with Los Angeles. "I'll start with two great American symbols," he noted, "George Washington Bridge and Hoover Dam."

How engineers have transformed society is his specialty. He studies engineering innovations and traces the history and role of individual engineers. In his book *Power, Speed and Form: Engineers and the Making of the 20th Century*, he describes what he considers to be the key engineering innovations of the early 20th century. Several are in transportation: oil refining, mass production of



Prof. David Billington
Princeton University

automobiles, bridge design, and air transport.

A famed chronicler of bridges, dams, and other engineering feats, Billington holds Princeton's Gordon Y.S. Wu Chair of Engineering.

He said the transportation field overlooks research on maintenance. As evidence, he cited the recent collapse of a Minneapolis bridge and New Orleans levees.

"Billington has a totally different 'take' on what we do," said METRANS Director Genevieve Giuliano, "which is why I invited him. He has a way of thinking about the big picture."

METRANS 10th Anniversary Thursday, October 30

5:30PM Reception 6:30PM Dinner
Founder's Room, Galen Center
3400 S. Figueroa Street, Los Angeles
Reservations: www.metrans.org
or (213) 821-1025

METRANS Defied Starting Odds, Finds Success

How does a small group of researchers become a nationally recognized center of expertise?

If METRANS' first decade is a model, it is when they look beyond their traditional academic boundaries, when they reach out to the community to find real-world needs, and when they convince Washington that they can help solve problems. That is how METRANS started.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead

In the 1990's, USC had several faculty with interests in transportation, recalled METRANS Director Genevieve Giuliano, but they needed research funding. Elliot Axelband, then Associate Dean for Research at USC's Viterbi School of Engineering led the search. Axelband suggested seeking federal funding

and collaborating with California State University, Long Beach (CSULB).

"The Federal government was looking for a group of universities," recalled Axelband, in order to establish a few national transportation research centers. "We needed a theme, a subject. Eventually we came up with transportation associated with large cities. The name METRANS came out of that."

Early collaborators included Randolph Hall, who became METRANS' first director, James E. Moore II, and Petros Ioannou, along with Giuliano at USC.



Genevieve Giuliano
METRANS Director

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METRANS OUTREACH

Advisory Board Provides Top Industry Guidance to METRANS

The METRANS Advisory Board, a panel of high-level industry practitioners from the public and private sector, has provided critical support and guidance throughout the history of METRANS.

Director Genevieve Giuliano smiled as she recalled a memorable contribution. "We were presenting our mission statement and Joel Anderson, then Vice President of the California Trucking Association, said 'I guess for you university types, it is OK, but there is no *real person in the world* who could understand it!'

She laughed, "So, I cut it in half, and I credit him with the clarity."

Today, Anderson is President of the International Warehouse Logistics Association based in Chicago.

Randell Iwasaki, Caltrans

As Chief Deputy Director of Caltrans, Randell Iwasaki has a professional interest, since "Caltrans provides full matching dollars to METRANS. My job is to help shape transportation policy, so it was only natural for me to



Randell Iwasaki
Caltrans

join the Advisory Board and be a part of the cutting-edge work METRANS is doing. I particularly enjoy the level of collaboration between the disciplines of engineering, policy, planning, public administration and business administration."

"The work that METRANS is doing related to the Los Angeles and Long Beach ports is truly incredible"

Randell Iwasaki, Caltrans

Iwasaki is also especially happy with METRANS' record of dissemination and application of its research. "The work that METRANS is doing related to the Los Angeles and Long Beach ports is truly incredible," he said. "METRANS' research is priceless because of the economic



Fran Inman
Majestic Realty

impact that vehicle delay has on the effectiveness of the ports."

Noting a looming retirement epidemic among Baby Boomers, Iwasaki also values professional training METRANS has provided Caltrans. "Through CITT, METRANS offers very progressive professional development programs," he said.

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METRANS

Advisory Board Members

Dan Beal	Former Managing Director for Public Policy	Automobile Club of Southern California
Doug Failing	Director, District 7	California Department of Transportation
Stephen Finnegan	Manager, Government Affairs & Public Policy	Automobile Club of Southern California
Michael Flanigan	Director, Office of Technology	Federal Transit Administration
Anthony Furst	Director, Freight Management & Operations	Federal Highway Administration
Fran Inman	Senior Vice President	Majestic Realty
Randell Iwasaki	Chief Deputy Director	California Department of Transportation
Gloria Jeff	Former Director	Los Angeles Department of Transportation
Geraldine Knatz	Executive Director	Port of Los Angeles
Stephen Lantz	Director, Communication and Development	Metrolink (So. Cal. Regional Rail Authority)
Jack Levis	Director of Process Management	United Parcel Service
Domenick Miretti	Sr. Liaison, Ports of Long Beach & Los Angeles	International Longshore & Warehouse Union
Eugene Pentimonti	Former Vice President, Government Affairs	Maersk Sealand
Mark Pisano	Former Executive Director	Southern Calif. Association of Governments
Richard Powers	Executive Director	Gateway Cities Council of Governments
Cindy Quon	Director, District 12	California Department of Transportation
Roger Snoble	Chief Executive Officer	L.A. Co. Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Barry Wallerstein	Executive Officer	South Coast Air Quality Management District

METRANS RESEARCH

METRANS Research Promotes Transportation Knowledge

Research is at the core of the METRANS mission. “Today’s transportation problems can only be solved by better understanding the nature of these problems, as we must understand problems in order to develop effective solutions,” says Genevieve Giuliano, METRANS Director. The METRANS research program has been a critical element in the Center’s success. Its purpose is to conduct research that both meets the highest standards of academic excellence and has real-world relevance. Excellence is assured through a comprehensive and rigorous proposal review process and peer review of all METRANS research reports. Relevance is assured by the thematic focus of the research program.

University research plays a special role in the development of new knowledge, according to Giuliano. A fundamental role of the university is to conduct high-risk, longer-term research. University research creates the knowledge base that later—sometimes decades later—leads to real world solutions. Universities are also the source of unbiased research, to the extent that any research can be. Peer-reviewed, competitive funding promotes the highest quality research, and the review process of academic publication

determines the quality of what gets disseminated.

METRANS research reflects a multi-disciplinary approach. Associate Director of Research Petros Ioannou noted, “We encourage multi-disciplinary research, because today’s transport problems are very complex. Technology or engineering solutions alone are not enough.” Solutions are implemented through adoption by households or industry, or by public policies, or by direct public investments. Thus an understanding of management, policy and governance is as important to transportation problem-solving as is technical expertise.

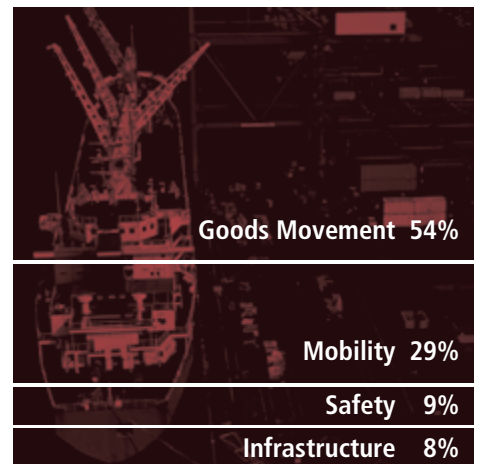
METRANS research serves an additional purpose. It is the primary source of graduate student support, and provides training for the next generation of faculty and researchers. Graduate assistants learn research methods and gain experience in writing and presenting research results. For many Ph.D. students, METRANS projects fund dissertation research.

When METRANS was established, two thematic areas were identified: goods movement/international trade, and public transit. These areas were selected for their relevance to large

metropolitan areas, particularly the Los Angeles region. In year one, METRANS funded six projects, three in goods movement and three in public transit. One of these, which developed an automated container terminal simulation, remains one of the most downloaded reports on METRANS’ website. The research was conducted by Behrokh Khoshnevis, USC.

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METRANS Research Thematic Areas



What METRANS Does

METRANS is dedicated to solving metropolitan transportation problems through research, education, and outreach. It is a University Transportation Center sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation and Caltrans. It is a collaborative partnership of the University of Southern California (USC) and California State University, Long Beach (CSULB).

Research METRANS funds basic and applied research in four thematic areas: goods movement and international trade; mobility of urban populations; transportation infrastructure; and safety, security, and vulnerability. Research is focused on transportation problems of large metropolitan areas—“megacities.” All research proposals are competitively reviewed by both academicians and practitioners; eligible researchers are faculty from the two universities. Multi-disciplinary research is encouraged. Since its inception, METRANS has funded \$8.7 million in research. Results are disseminated via peer-reviewed research reports, academic

publications, presentations, and web-based media.

Education At USC, METRANS students take a cross-disciplinary transportation specialization in majors ranging from civil and environmental engineering to electrical and systems engineering, to policy and planning in graduate programs at the Masters and Doctoral levels. Many METRANS graduate students gain research skills by participating in METRANS research. The Masters programs are designed to produce transportation graduates who can serve both as transportation experts and well-rounded managers. The Ph.D. programs train students for academic careers.

At CSULB, METRANS sponsors several programs. The Global Logistics Specialist program is a professional designation training program for working professionals offered both on campus and worldwide online. At the graduate level, students take the cross-disciplinary Master of Arts in Global Logistics, combining economics, logistics, engineering, and other subjects.

In addition, the CSULB campus, through its Center for International Trade and Transportation, sponsors all METRANS short-term training programs in goods movement.

Outreach METRANS sponsors frequent seminars and workshops. The National Urban Freight Conference was first held in 2006. METRANS has gained a national reputation for its Annual CITT State of the Industry Town Hall meetings, bringing together stakeholders in the dynamic environment of Southern California ports for an educational dialogue. Our comprehensive website offers access to all METRANS-funded research reports, and it links to all University Transportation Center research and the latest news about other METRANS events. In addition, METRANS publishes *METRANS News* and *Building Bridges*, newsletters designed to inform the broader communities and stakeholders about the ongoing issues of metropolitan transportation and goods movement, and recently launched a podcast series.

METRANS EDUCATION

METRANS Students Find Success in a Variety of Careers



Thomas O'Brien, USC
Student of the Year 2000

METRANS Students of the Year

1999 Jennifer Bailly

2000 Thomas O'Brien

2001 Craig Christy

2002 Merrill J. Weidner

2003 Jennifer Russell

2004 Sara Hayden

2005 Alison Linder

2006 JiYoung Park

2007 Sean Fergus

Each year, METRANS names a Student of the Year. Among the best and brightest of METRANS students, each recipient is offered a scholarship and receives the award at the annual Transportation Research Board (TRB) meeting in Washington, D.C. Eligible students must have worked as graduate research assistants on METRANS-funded research.

We caught up with several winners and asked what they are doing now.

Jennifer Bailly, 1999 Southern California is still home to Jennifer Bailly, whose M.A. in Economics from California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) has been put to use in a teaching career.

She divides her time between lecturing at CSULB and teaching at several community colleges.

"It was a huge honor to be named METRANS Student of the Year," she reminisced. "Information that I learned from the METRANS experience has provided valuable insight and examples that I use in my classes."

Today, she is looking forward to a full-time, tenured position teaching Economics.

Thomas O'Brien, 2000 For Tom O'Brien, who currently serves as METRANS Associate Director at CSULB, being chosen Student of the Year opened up exciting new avenues that literally changed his career direction.

O'Brien especially enjoyed the chance to participate in the TRB meeting. But it was the chance to work on a 2000 METRANS goods movement conference that proved most pivotal. "I was asked to help produce the proceedings. That research dealt with many of the same issues we face today, such as efficiency and accommodating growth, etc., and I became hooked. The type of work I wanted to do changed!" he recalled.

Previously, O'Brien's Ph.D. interests had centered on the use of technology in urban development and how government agencies work together. "I'm still dealing with both technology in urban development and government agencies working together, but my arena has changed to trade and transportation," he said. "So, my METRANS involvement has given me a lot of focus."

Subsequently, O'Brien was invited to be an Eno Fellow. Sponsored by the Eno Foundation, the fellowship provides a week in Washington, D.C., for Masters and Ph.D. students, exposing them to aspects of transportation policy and planning. "That experience remains to this day one of the best educational experiences I've had," he recalled.

Now O'Brien's roles, which include being a GLS instructor, give him a chance to spend a lot of time with current transportation



Alison Linder, USC
Student of the Year 2005



JiYoung Park, USC
Student of the Year 2006



Sean Fergus, CSULB
Student of the Year 2007

graduate students. "I became, through METRANS, a real believer in multidisciplinary education. I see opportunities for working across disciplines that have made our work more interesting and valuable. METRANS does that *by design*," he said.

JiYoung Park, 2006 The University at Buffalo is the new academic home of JiYoung Park, who completed his Ph.D. at USC. Now an assistant professor in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Park teaches three graduate courses in the School of Architecture and Planning.

recent CSULB graduate Sean P. Fergus in his new role as a consultant for John Burns Real Estate Consulting in Irvine.

"We do housing market research for home builders and for financial firms," he explained. "The biggest issue now is finding the bright spots!"

"I was so impressed with all the faculty in the program," he recalled. "It has been a privilege to speak with them, get their perspectives on the field and get a whole new perspective on transportation."

Being chosen Student of the Year meant a lot to him. "It was a major honor, and it provided great opportunities, like getting this job."

The award also "will be extremely beneficial down the road," he predicted. Despite being busy with real estate consulting, Fergus contemplates returning to academia to study for a doctorate in applied economics.

"The past four years with METRANS are a cornerstone of my life."

JiYoung Park
Assistant Professor, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, USC

Alison Linder, 2005 A doctoral candidate immersed in her dissertation research, Alison Linder brings considerable international perspective to her budding career.

The Pennsylvania native has lived in China, Brazil, Mexico, and France, so she has seen how transportation works in other parts of the world.

Today as an associate at the RAND Corporation, she analyzes greenhouse gas policies in connection with ports and related issues. Previously, she worked on sustainability programs for the Port of Long Beach, where she focused on storm water systems.

"My education has taught me to look at how smaller pieces of the puzzle fit together to form a big picture," she noted.

His research interest is responses to man-made and natural disasters in the context of urban economics and transportation modeling.

"The education I received at METRANS and USC is different from other planning schools' education," he explained, "I learned to develop many logical ideas into research topics with the help of great faculty and colleagues at METRANS and the School of Policy, Planning and Development."

Without that advantage, Park doubts he would have gone into academia. "Certainly, the experiences led me to join the academic world," he said. "The past four years with METRANS are a cornerstone of my life."

Sean Fergus, 2007 Today's real estate crisis and the run-up in oil prices have challenged



METRANS OUTREACH

METRANS Outreach Brings Transportation Research to **Diverse Groups**

METRANS has countless stakeholders who benefit from transportation research. Keeping them informed is a major challenge.

METRANS outreach ranges from the signature Town Halls, to website posting of research, to newsletters, to conferences, and to seminars. CSULB carries out much of the outreach under the auspices of the Center for International Trade and Transportation (CITT).

Town Hall Meetings The innovative Annual CITT State of the Trade and Transportation Industry Town Hall Meetings were designed to foster exchange to help resolve local port-related conflicts. Topics have ranged from new technologies to security. Interactions are sometimes heated.

Deputy Director Marianne Venieris recently recalled the genesis of the Town Halls—a deliberate effort to reach out to labor on the waterfront. “We had conducted a survey with industry, and there were many responses from International Longshore Warehouse Union (ILWU) members, more than any other industry segment. But when we presented the results of the survey at an event, only four people from the ILWU were there!”

Thus, the Town Halls were designed to engage Longshore rank and file, she recalled.

Venieris gives much credit to Domenick Miretti for making those events so successful. He is ILWU Senior Liaison to the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach and METRANS Advisory Board member.

Miretti had only recently joined CITT’s Policy and Steering Committee when she asked a significant favor: to encourage the rank and file to attend the Town Hall in a big way.

“There’s always been a certain amount of distrust on the part of the union in getting involved with universities and trade organizations,” said Miretti.

“I had to talk to the Presidents first, then the Executive Boards, and then the membership who voted. The ILWU is a very democratic union; and, as a, consequence it takes a little longer than one might expect.”

“I remember that first Town Hall,” Venieris noted. “There must have been 3,000 people there, lined up and asking to have their timecards signed! When the event was over, there was a standing ovation. The first Town Hall was a gigantic success and it has been so ever since.”

The result? Said Miretti, “It is unique—CITT and METRANS have been able to bring the university to the docks and the docks to the university. It’s really quite an accomplishment. The rank and file have a better understanding of the global economy,” he continued, “their role in goods movement, and also the roles of other stakeholders, because we’ve talked about them. If we understand the total picture, we’re not quite as apprehensive about change.”

Miretti particularly thanked CSULB administration for extending the ongoing invitation to the huge union.



Photo Courtesy of Long Beach Business Journal

In July 2008 alone, the site was visited by people in 60 different countries, mostly from the U.S., with the United Kingdom, Canada, and China tied for second.

Recently, METRANS added streaming video and will soon feature regular podcasts (TransCasts) with transportation news.

Conferences and Workshops Share Research METRANS sponsors research seminars throughout the academic year. Researchers share the latest findings in urban transportation throughout the campuses and local communities.

In 2006, METRANS launched the National Urban Freight Conference (NUF)—the first conference focused exclusively on urban freight transportation. A second NUF was held in 2007. Approximately 200 transportation researchers, practitioners, and policy-makers from around the U.S., Canada, and Europe attended each.

Lillian Barrone, Eno Transportation Foundation Chair and first keynote speaker, reminded researchers to address the most critical research issues.

At the second conference, Dan Gardner, President of Trade Facilitators, Inc., and a veteran international freight forwarder, challenged researchers to increase practitioner dialogue to improve urban transportation.

Said Thomas O'Brien, METRANS Associate Director, "At the 2009 Conference, we will encourage collaborative partnerships on freight issues."

All NUF papers can be found at www.metrans.org.

Training Transportation Workforce Through the CITT at CSULB, METRANS organizes and underwrites training for people already working in transportation or entering the field.

Recently, Caltrans planning staff and regional transportation employees took four METRANS-sponsored goods movement classes.

Said Richard Nordahl, Caltrans Chief of Goods Movement, "Understanding the complexity of goods movement was built up [in the classes]. Second, the role of the Department in goods movement has expanded; we got involved in the Goods Movement Action Plan." That training proved good preparation. Nordahl wants more METRANS training. "They had tremendous openness and flexibility in working with us," he concluded.

Award-Winning Video Documentaries

The Town Hall videos, produced to elaborate on the event's topic, have been widely recognized. According to David Kelly of CSULB's Advanced Media Production, who produced the series, "Three were nominated as finalists for the WAVE Award—Western Access Video Excellence Award—and the 2005 video won!"

"Lessons Learned: Peak Season 2004" covers the oft-cited backlog of cargo and ships at the local docks pre-Christmas in 2004. It was used by Toyota, among many others, for their training programs around the world.

"I believe Congressman Dana Rohrabacher has used some of the tapes in Washington, D.C.," continued Kelly. "The 2007 documentary about port security was sent to Homeland Security, the Coast Guard and Customs as potential training material. Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Jackson, who delivered the 2007 keynote address, praised it." All videos aired on local cable television, as well.

Many of the videos are available for purchase, and most can be viewed online at www.amp.csulb.edu/uces/citt/.

METRANS Website Reaches Worldwide Audience

Each METRANS research project is announced on the site as awarded, and all final reports are posted. The site is heavily used. The average monthly number of sessions in 2007 (accessing the site and viewing more than one page) was 14,000.

Town Hall Themes

2007 "Port Security: Guarding America's Front Door"

2006 "Evolving Goods Movement Solutions: Balancing the Economy and the Environment"

2005 "Lessons Learned: Peak Season 2004—Causes, Impacts, Solutions"

2004 "Quality of Life and Port Operations: Challenges, Successes and the Future"

2003 "What's In It for Me? Collaborative Strategies for New Transportation Infrastructure in California"

2002 "Time of Transitions: New Priorities and Challenges for Trade and Transportation in California"

2001 "Solutions: Perspectives on the Future of Goods Movement in Southern California"

2000 "Modernization & Mechanization: A Tradition in Partnerships"

1999 "Global Connectivity and Collective Responsibility for the Future"

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METRANS Defied Odds, cont.

"CSULB had a unique expertise associated with the Los Angeles and Long Beach harbors, which are in their backyard, so that expanded our capabilities," Axelband recalled.

"There were extensive negotiations between the two universities to assure each a proper role," he said.

At CSULB, Robert Behm, then Dean of University College and Extension Services, recognized the need. "It was a simple reality that no Western university was doing a lot in goods movement," he explained. Having formerly been in the Merchant Marine, Behm was familiar with applied transportation. He knew the maritime industry had typically not embraced education. Yet he realized that such training was needed.

At CSULB, Behm also credits Marianne Venieris, Executive Director of CSULB's Center for International Trade and Transportation and now METRANS Deputy Director, and the late Richard Hollingsworth, President of the Gateway Cities Partnership, Inc., for overcoming industry obstacles. Behm recalled, "Richard was the type of guy who did not take 'No' for an answer, and I am the sort who ignored the 'No.'"

"I recognized the competitive position—if you're the sole provider of certain (goods movement) programs, it makes competitive sense!"

An advisory group of transportation professionals was enlisted to help guide METRANS, for whom Giuliano gives many kudos (see article, p. 2).

At USC, Axelband observed the "interesting dynamic of multiple schools working together — from Engineering to Policy." Today, he credits the original team with such good coordination that now many collaborators work closely across colleges and departments.

A large number of universities compete for federal funding. METRANS' status as a successful University Transportation Center was validated by repeat funding and achievement of Tier 1 UTC status in 2006 by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Success in Three Arenas Nearly 100 funded research projects later, METRANS is widely recognized today for its contribution to the body of knowledge on metropolitan transportation systems and for its outreach, particularly the Town Halls (see p. 6).

Those, however, are hardly the only yardsticks of METRANS' success.

What has most distinguished METRANS throughout its history? "First, we have taken seriously the three-part mission of research, education, and outreach," explained Giuliano.

"We maintain focus on large metropolitan areas. We restrict our activities to relatively few subjects, primarily goods movement and urban transportation."

Today, the majority of METRANS' budget funds research. Not only does METRANS support leading-edge research, it also supports and trains graduate students, the next generation of researchers and professionals. The majority of METRANS' education and outreach funding goes to CSULB.

"The crowning achievement was the development of an entire degree program, the Master of Arts in Global Logistics," a cross-disciplinary program in the CSULB Department of Economics, "and the hiring of two tenure-track faculty in Economics," Behm concluded.

Other METRANS-funded professional training programs at CSULB, particularly the Global Logistics Specialist program, have been widely acclaimed.

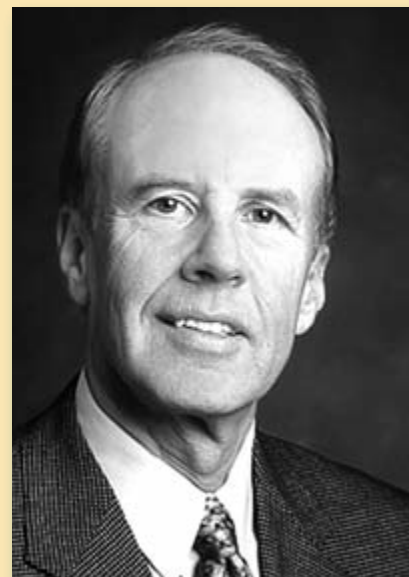
"METRANS is a forward-thinking organization in so many ways," said Randell Iwasaki, Chief Deputy Director of Caltrans and a METRANS Advisor, "including its commitment to training the next generation of transportation workforce. METRANS offers very progressive professional development programs."

The Future New research directions include:

- A goods movement test bed to develop technologies to monitor and manage freight;
- Comparative ports research, starting with New York-New Jersey, to contribute to national policy;
- More emphasis on the environment and energy in order to reduce congestion and save energy.

Finally, said Giuliano, "We will expand our educational programs and do more self-supporting outreach programs, so we can grow even if the UTC funds dry up."

Giving Credit Giuliano credits many for METRANS' success, but none more than the researchers themselves, now numbering 94, and METRANS' administrative staff, originally Christine LaVoie, the late Jacqueline Givens, and currently Vicki Valentine at USC and Alix Traver at CSULB.



Robert Behm

Former Dean, CSULB University College & Extension Services



Marianne Venieris

METRANS Deputy Director

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METRANS Advisory Board, cont.

Fran Inman, Majestic Realty For Fran Inman, Senior Vice President, Majestic Realty, the most important aspect of METRANS Advisory Board membership has been meeting “people who have spent their careers studying the supply chain and logistics. It’s fascinating for me,” she reminisced.

Inman feels a major contribution of METRANS is “combining academic resources with industry and helping us find practical supply-chain solutions.

“Also, it’s important that I have been learning best practices from around the world. Our core competency is master-planned logistics developments, so for us it is important to have an efficient supply chain,” she explained. She is also pleased with the inter-university collaboration.

Finally, Inman enjoys seeing the research about the San Pedro Bay Ports, “the poster child for goods movement,” she joked.



METRANS Past Advisory Board Members

John Allison, California Department of Transportation

Joel Anderson, California Trucking Association

Bert Arillaga, U.S. Department of Transportation

Sandra Balmir, Federal Highway Administration

Frances Banerjee, City of Los Angeles

Randall Bolger, FedEx

Julian Burke, L.A. Co. Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Roy Bushey, California Department of Transportation

Susan Collette, Los Angeles World Airports

Pat Conroy, California Department of Transportation

Susan Coughlin, American Trucking Associations Foundation

M. J. Fiocco, U.S. Department of Transportation

John Graham, Los Angeles World Airports

Jim Gosnell, So. California Association of Governments

Charles Holland, United Parcel Service

Richard Hollingsworth, Gateway Cities Partnership, Inc.

Greg Hulsizer, California Private Transportation Co., LP

Gill Hicks, Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority

Lawrence Jackson, Long Beach Transit

Norm King, San Bernardino Associated Governments

Ronald Knipling, U.S. Department of Transportation

James de La Loza, L.A. Co. Metro. Transportation Authority

Mike McManus, California Department of Transportation

William Millar, American Public Transportation Association

Lisa Mills, Orange County Transportation Authority

Ken Nelson, California Department of Transportation

Michael Onder, U.S. Department of Transportation

Eric Pahlke, San Diego Association of Governments

Sid Robinson, Port of Los Angeles

Richard De Rock, Access Services Incorporated

Robert Sassaman, California Department of Transportation

Amir Sedadi, City of Los Angeles

David Solow, Metrolink (So. California Regional Rail Authority)

Paul Teng, Federal Highway Administration

Tom Teofilo, Port of Long Beach

Lynn Terry, California Air Resources Board

Charles Wallace, Pacific Maritime Association

Richard Walker, U.S. Department of Transportation

The affiliations listed are at the time of service on the Advisory Board.

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METRANS Research, cont.

The METRANS research program later expanded to include infrastructure (2001) and safety and security (2003). From its first year allocation of about \$294,000, METRANS now funds over \$1 million in annual research. The availability of METRANS funds has attracted large numbers of USC and CSULB faculty to transportation research. From its first nine faculty grantees, the roster of METRANS faculty has grown to 94. Growth of the research program led to the 2006 appointment of Petros Ioannou as Director of Research. He oversees the review of proposals.

Goods movement quickly became the primary focus of METRANS research and remains so today, comprising about half of the research projects. Goods movement research has gained the most visibility and national recognition for METRANS. One measure of METRANS research is the demand for research reports. The most frequently downloaded reports since 1999 include the following:

“Reengineering the Logistics of Empty Cargo Containers”
(Hanh Le Griffin, USC);

“Alternative Access and Locations for Air Cargo”
(Randolph Hall, USC);

“Solid State Sorption Air Conditioner System for Containerships and Vehicles - Phase 1”
(Reza Toossi, CSULB);

“Freeway Bus Station Area Development: Critical Evaluation and Design Guidelines”
(Tridib Banerjee, USC).

Another measure of METRANS research is scholarly recognition. In 2007, Jiamin Zhao, Maged Dessouky and Satis Bukkapatnam (USC) won the INFORMS best paper prize for “Optimal slack time for schedule-based transit operations,” which was based in part on METRANS funded research. The first National Urban Freight Conference led to a special issue of *Transportation Research Part E*. Ioannou stated, “Publications, invitations to present our research at conferences, and scholarly awards all reflect the quality of our research program.”



From its first year allocation
of about \$294,000, METRANS now funds
over \$1 million in annual research.

METRANS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Genevieve Giuliano, Director
Associate Dean, Research and Technology, School of Policy, Planning & Development, USC

Marianne Venieris, Deputy Director
Executive Director, Ctr. for Internat'l Trade & Transportation, CSULB

Petros Ioannou, Associate Director of Research
Professor, Electrical Engineering Systems; and Director,
Center for Advanced Transportation Technology, USC

Thomas O'Brien, Associate Director, METRANS CSULB Programs
Dir. of Research, Ctr. for Internat'l Trade & Transportation, CSULB

Mahyar Amouzegar, Associate Dean for Research & Development,
College of Engineering, CSULB

Anastasios G. Chassiakos, Professor and Executive Director of
Assessment, College of Engineering, CSULB

Maged Dessouky, Professor, Daniel J. Epstein Department of Industrial
& Systems Engineering, USC

Joseph Magaddino, Chair, Department of Economics, CSULB

James E. Moore II, Professor & Chair, Daniel J. Epstein Department
of Industrial and Systems Engineering, USC

METRANS FACULTY

METRANS has funded 94 faculty at USC and CSULB. Given METRANS' interdisciplinary theme, they are experts in engineering, business, economics, geography, information sciences, public policy, planning, public administration, and health sciences.

California State University, Long Beach

Dan Barber
Chin Chang
Anastasios Chassiakos
Robert Chi
Burkhard Englert
Mohammed Forouzesh
Robert Friis
Darin Goldstein
Lisa Grobar
Karl Grote
Kenneth James
Christine Jocoy
Tim Jordanides
I-Hung Khoo
Melody Kiang
Shui Lam
Christopher Lee
Bei Lu

Joe Magaddino
Tracy Bradley Maples
Wade Martin
Kristen Monaco
Tang-Hung Nguyen
Thomas O'Brien
Emily Parentela
Cheryl Pruitt
Hamid Rahai
Grace Reynolds
Antonella Sciortino
Tariq Shehab
Seiji Steimetz
Reza Toossi
Jalal Torabzadeh
Fei Wang
Suzanne Wechsler
Xialong Wu
Steven Yamarik
Guy Yamashiro
Henry Yeh
Hsien-Yang Yeh

University of Southern California

Tridib Banerjee
Jean-Pierre Bardet
Satish Bukkapatnam
Maged Dessouky

Fokion Egolfopoulos
Roger Ghanem
Genevieve Giuliano
Peter Gordon
Ramesh Govindan
Martin Gundersen
Randolph Hall
Hossein Hashemi
John Heidemann
Petros Ioannou
Clara Irazabal
Erik Johnson
Behrokh Khoshnevis
Sven Koenig
Ilias Kosmatopoulos
Martin Krieger
Bhaskar Krishnamachari
John Kuprenas
Hanh Le-Griffin
Sami Masri
Najmedin Meshkati
Katharine Moore
James E. Moore II
Dowell Myers
Ulrich Neumann
Fernando Ordoñez
Gary Painter
Kurt Palmer
Alice Parker

Andrea Polidori
Viktor Prasanna
Konstantinos Psounis
Mansour Rahimi
Christian Redfearn
Harry Richardson
Paul Ronney
Lisa Schweitzer
Jefferey Sellers
Cyrus Shahabi
Constantinos Sioutas
David Sloane
Maria Todorovska
Mihailo Trifunac
Theodore Tsotsis
Niraj Verma
Detlof von Winterfeldt
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METRANS Website

Information on transportation research, publications, education, training & technology transfer can be found at the METRANS website: www.METRANS.org. The site also lists faculty, news, links to other relevant sites, and information on USC & CSULB transportation education programs.



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Dear Reader:

This special issue celebrates METRANS' tenth anniversary. You will read about the origins of the Center, what has made it a success, and some highlights of our activities. We have included articles on research, education and outreach. Even with our expanded format for this issue, we are able to feature only a few of the many people who have contributed to METRANS' success – sponsors, Executive Committee, Advisory Board, researchers, students and staff.

It is hard to believe that 10 years have passed since Randy Hall, Petros Ioannou, Jim Moore and I met in a small conference room and faced the big question: How do we launch a new Center and develop enough of a track record to have a chance of winning a competition in two years?

With Randy Hall's able leadership, Marianne Venieris' talent for inventing educational outreach programs, and the hard work of the first group of researchers who produced some really excellent research in short order, I am pleased to report that we did develop a sufficient track record and haven't looked back since.

It has been a great pleasure to see METRANS grow to what it is today, and all of us look forward to new challenges and opportunities in the coming years.

Genevieve Giuliano
Director, METRANS Transportation Center