

2016 FALL METRANS RESEARCH SEMINAR

November 16, 2016
12:00 PM to 1:30 PM

USC – Ralph and Goldy Lewis Hall (RGL) 100

RSVP to Nicole Guo at
haichaog@usc.edu

Mitigating Urban Freight through Effective Management of Truck Chassis: Lessons from the Pool of Pools

Presented by Thomas O'Brien,

*Executive Director, Center for International Trade and Transportation (CITT)
and Associate Director of CSULB Programs, METRANS*



This event is jointly
sponsored by the CITT.



Intermodal chassis are an integral part of the global supply chain. They facilitate the movement of goods, allowing truckers to move containers between key points along the supply chain including ports and the beneficial cargo owner, the entity taking legal possession of the cargo. During a twelve-month period, from October 2014 through October 2015, O'Brien's team monitored the development of a neutral or "gray" pooled chassis strategy in Southern California called the "pool of pools." This "pool of pools" was designed to bring about a more interoperable chassis environment, eliminating inefficient chassis moves and permitting truckers to use the equipment for multiple trips without first repositioning it back to marine terminals. This seminar will report on findings from an institutional and stakeholder analysis of the development of the pool of pools and their implications for urban freight and the regional supply chain.

Thomas O'Brien is the Executive Director of the CITT at California State University, Long Beach and the Associate Director of Long Beach Programs for METRANS. He also serves as Director of the FHWA Southwest Regional Surface Transportation Workforce Center (SWTWC). His teaching and research focus on logistics, supply chain management, and goods movement policy. Dr. O'Brien has a Master's degree in Urban Planning and Development and a Ph.D. in Policy, Planning, and Development from the University of Southern California. He is both an Eno and Eisenhower Transportation Fellow and a member of the Transportation Research Board's Intermodal Freight Transport Committee and Intermodal Freight Terminal Design and Operations Committee. He currently serves as the Vice Chair of the Southern California Regional Transit Training Consortium and on the boards of the Council of University Transportation Centers, Los Angeles Transportation Club, Southern CA Roundtable of the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals, and the Foreign Trade Association.