

# SPRING 2017 METRANS RESEARCH SEMINAR

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

12:00 PM to 1:30 PM

USC – Ralph and Goldy Lewis Hall (RGL) 100

RSVP to Nicole Guo at

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## Different Ways to Get to the Same Workplace: How Does Workplace Location Relate to Commuting by Different Income Groups

Presented by **Lingqian Hu**

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### Abstract

This research examines whether commonly-observed differences in commute behavior among different income groups are associated with the location of their workplaces, which are often-neglected in research on commuting inequalities. Based on the 2008 Chicago Regional Household Travel Inventory data, we found that the unequal distribution of workers in different workplaces, combined with distinctive commuting patterns to certain workplaces, partly explains commonly-observed commute differences, such as shorter-distance commutes and more public transit use by lower-income workers. More importantly, the association between workplace and commute patterns is greater than the association between income and commutes. The results suggest considering workplace locations in empirical research on commuting inequalities and in decision-making of transportation and housing policies.



**Lingqian Hu** is an associate professor in the Urban Planning Department at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Her areas of research interests include transportation planning and policy, land use, and urban economics. She has published in various urban planning and transportation research journals, such as *Journal of American Planning Association*, *Urban Studies*, and *Transportation*. Hu holds a Ph.D. degree in Policy, Planning and Development and a Master of Planning degree from the University of Southern California.