

University President Opening Address for WCTR2016 Shanghai

Prof. PEI Gang, President, Tongji University

Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Friends,

Good morning! We are honored to be gathering in Shanghai in a summer full of vigor. On behalf of Tongji University, I wish to welcome you to participate in the 14th World Conference of Transport Research. Known as the “Olympics of the field of transport”, WCTR is one of the world’s most reputed conferences in the academia.

Transport in China has made remarkable achievements for the past several decades, and has contributed to the world. A Chinese saying goes like this, “Build roads, and get rich”. It demonstrates Chinese wisdom and awareness of the relationship between transport and prosperity.

Tongji University was founded in 1907 and has developed its distinctive advantages and international influence. The transport and city-related programs of Tongji can be dated back to a century ago, and are the cradle of tens of thousands of industry professionals and leaders of the society, such as Mr. Wang Guangtao, former Minister of Construction, who will give a keynote presentation today, Mr. Sheng Guangzu, General Manager of China Railway, Mr. Zhuang Shaoqin, Director-General of Shanghai Municipal Planning Administration, who has made outstanding contribution to Shanghai’s development, and Mr. Gu

Weihua, President of Shanghai Metro, as well as countless professionals of transport engineering, planning and design, and project management. Tongji alumni have been devoted to, and played a central role in many national key infrastructure projects, such as Yangshan Deepwater Harbor, Hongqiao Transport Hub, and Yangtze River Tunnel that you will visit, as well as the world's longest high-speed railway and highway networks, and the 2010 World Expo in Shanghai.

I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to WCTRS for its trust in us, which makes it possible for this conference to come to Shanghai and Tongji. We are making every effort to ensure its success.

My thanks also go to Shanghai Municipal Transport Commission, Shanghai Municipal Planning and Land Resource Administration, Shanghai Disabled Persons' Federation, Shanghai Shentong Metro Group, Shanghai Municipal Tourism Administration, as well as reporters and volunteers for their assistance and support to conference preparation and to Tongji.

I hope that every session and activity of this conference offer you brand-new experience, and every day during your stay in Shanghai, pleasant and unforgettable memory.

Transport connects the world, and wisdom guides the future. I wish this conference a great success.

Thank you!