



WCTRS-Y

WCTRS-Y: Newsletter of WCTRS Young Researchers' Initiative

Young Initiative of the World Conference on Transport Research Society: Meet us on May 26, 2019 in Mumbai, India!

EDITORIAL LETTER



Lóránt Tavasszy

Prof. Lóránt Tavasszy is a full-time Professor in Freight and Logistics, at the Delft University of Technology (TU Delft). He is also a senior consultant in Mobility and Logistics at TNO in Delft, focusing on innovative solutions for freight transport and issues such as accessibility and urban quality of life. Prof. Tavasszy's personal research area is focused on freight transport modelling. He is responsible for guidance of 5-10 PhD students and the completion of 20 MSc theses per year. He is the chairman of the WCTR Scientific Committee.

Dear Colleague Young Researcher!

The preparations of the 2019 **World Conference on Transport Research in Mumbai** are almost completed, and we look forward to a **very exciting conference!** As China did so successfully in the previous meeting, the 2019 conference will provide delegates with a glance of the enormous momentum of development, of one of the world's emerging countries -- and almost the largest, as it is approaching 1,4 billion inhabitants in 2019.

The Mumbai campus has excellent facilities, which, together with the supporting activities, promise a great experience for all. **We expect around 1000 delegates and 850 papers** to be presented, in many different topic areas. As in previous years, we created an opportunity for the best papers to appear in one of the **24 partner journals** - more than any other conference in the world can offer. A new facility for WCTR this time is the extended poster sessions, that allow people to meet and discuss in a less formal and more flexible setting. In addition, the WCTRS committees, named **Special Interest Groups (SIGs)**, will all have their yearly meeting during the conference. These will be open meetings, discussing strategic topics like research agendas and publication and funding opportunities -- I encourage you to join the meeting of the group of your interest. In short, we hope to have created optimal circumstances to learn and **engage with the global transport research community.**

During the main 3 days of the conference, the contents will include a very wide array of cutting-edge, contemporary transport research topics. This includes technological, commercial, spatial, economic, social and managerial innovations, for passengers and freight, private and public transport, for commercial and policy purposes. The WCTR contributes to global R&D through the well-known functions: methods to measure and evaluate the state of innovation, to elevate innovations from the idea level towards deployment, to create a base layer of knowledge so that progress can be anchored and shared. Next to these, the WCTR has another important function, also related to the global good, but in a different way. **Emerging economies are challenged by the necessity to show progress with a dual character: besides creation of world class transport technology and services, extensive programmes have to be put in place to cater for basic infrastructural and liveability needs.** I believe that the WCTR is a unique conference where these two purposes meet. From our prominent **Keynote Speaker prof. Ernst Ulrich Von Weizsäcker (former Co-President of the Club of Rome)**, to special sessions including participants from the United Nations, the World Bank and the OECD, all testify to the important role of transport research for global sustainable development. I very much look forward to welcome you at the 2019 WCTR meeting!

On behalf of the WCTRS Scientific Committee,

Lóri Tavasszy

Scientific Committee Chair

THE INTERVIEWS



Prof. Sergio Jara-Diaz

Prof. Sergio Jara-Diaz is Professor of Transport Economics at Universidad de Chile, Ph.D. and M.Sc. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he has taught in many occasions. He is the author of *Transport Economic Theory* (Elsevier, 2007) and has published more than 100 research articles in indexed journals on users' behavior, value and use of time, industry structure on transport networks, public transport design and pricing, and project appraisal. He is presently the Vice-Chair of Prizes in the WCTRS.

Prof. Sergio Jara-Diaz, you are the Vice-Chair of Prizes in the World Conference of Transport Research Society. Winners often deal with many interdisciplinary themes. Would you please explain how inter-sectoral research is fundamental to the transport field?

It is nearly impossible to be narrow when doing good transport research. On one hand, unlike water in a pipe, transport flows have behavior: users can decide not to travel, to change destination, to change mode or route. On the other hand, time and space shape transport needs and are, in turn, impacted by transport operations, such that urban, regional and worldwide activities and locations determine flows, but cities and countries evolve spatially and rhythmically according to those flows. So **network analysis, econometric models, optimization and mathematics in general have to interact with so-called social issues**: the use of time, land use, human behavior, political science, urbanism, and so on.

Of course there is always the risk of diletantism and superficiality but, as time goes by, light views are superseded by the solid analyses that emerge from true interdisciplinary cooperation among equally strong researchers in different fields. **Young researchers have to find the way to create in their own specialized field while understanding the creation of others.** This illustrated interaction is, in itself, an act of creation, but a collective one. In time, one learns that as individual knowledge increases, the perception of those things that we do not know also increases, such that a humble attitude will eventually emerge.

Why would you suggest young transport researchers to participate in the WCTRS Ph.D. Students' Grants? Why do you think WCTRS-YII is a good opportunity for young members?

By definition, **Ph. D, students are already engaged in a creative activity that is indeed pleasurable for them.** And here we come, offering the youngsters the opportunity not only to show what they are doing to others engaged in the same task, but also to do it in a different environment in an activity organized and run by them, promoting the free interaction among young researchers coming from a variety of cultures. These are like grants for emerging artists or youngsters in sports: financial help to do what you like in the best possible company.

WCTRS involves individuals working on transport research coming from many parts in the world. The differences across countries are many fold, involving research as an activity, GNP, and development and organization of the transport sector.

We do recognize the need to stimulate the presence of researchers from countries with different degrees of development and different realities regarding transport as an organized activity. Respect for the difference is an essential part of our work within WCTRS, understanding that things evolve and we want to be part of this evolution. This is the environment that those young researchers that win student's grants will find. **To win, however, they have to show their potential in order to convince the demanding referees. This is why the grant is indeed an honor.**



Jennie Stones

Jennie Stones administers the Secretariat of the World Conference on Transport Research Society (WCTRS). The role involves provision of essential administrative support in managing and stimulating the membership, supporting key meetings, and helping to communicate activities of the Society.

Prof Greg Marsden is Professor of Transport Governance at the Institute for Transport Studies at the University of Leeds. He is co-chair of the WCTRS Special Interest Group on Governance and Decision-Making.



Prof Greg Marsden

Jennie Stones and Prof. Greg Marsden, you are involved in most of WCTRS activities. How do you deal with such an international association of researchers?

There is a lot of hard work that goes on in the background to make sure that there is an up to date list of members and regular communications with everyone. **As the WCTRS conference is a big event it has a planning cycle of more than three years and so there are always things to do.** Our role at the Secretariat is to provide support for the academics who give up their time to run the Society and the events. We hold the rulebook, look after the money and try and make sure everything happens when it should.

Why would you suggest young transport researchers to join WCTRS?

Two key elements should draw researchers to WCTRS. It is undoubtedly **international** in reach with a much greater mix of nationalities, policy problems, methods and perspectives than you will find in other big transport conferences. You will always have your perspective broadened. The second reason is the **Special Interest Groups (SIGs)** which form around topics or methods where you can get more involved in detailed scientific exchange both at and between the conferences. Each SIG has a meeting at the WCTRS so go along, introduce yourself to the Chair and volunteer to get involved – which can be anything from sharing news to organising events between the conference.



Prof. Pan Haixiao

Prof. Pan Haixiao is Professor of Urban Planning in the Department of Urban Planning at Tongji University in Shanghai, China. He is one of China's leading researchers in urban land use and transport planning. He has published several books and numerous articles in this area. He was Conference Chair of WCTR-14, Shanghai.

Prof. Pan Haixiao, you were the Local Organizing Chairperson of the 14th WCTR in Shanghai; kindly give your personal feedback on this successful experience and explain how these conferences enhance the WCTR Society members networking.

It is the first time WCTR hold in Shanghai with over thousand international researchers in wide topics of railway, waterway, highway and urban transport. This provides the opportunity for researchers in various transportation sectors to communicate more in China. We have great improvement in transportation infrastructure to improve transportation efficiency and also facing some problems in environment protection, economic development and social equity. This conference provides the opportunity for researcher to understand the common challenges and to share the knowledge worldwide.

Thanks to all the people who contribute to the success of the conference. **The academic value of the conference, early involvement of various local stakeholders and advising from WCTRS are fundamental for the success.** WCTR society is now well recognized in China, experts from our Society have been invited for lectures/seminars and joint research. WCTRS and Tongji have agreed to establish a research center in Tongji, which will further enhance our society members networking.

Why do you think the young members' participation contributed to the success of WCTR 2016? Why would you suggest them to participate to WCTR 2019?

Thanks to the great contribution from society's young members, you can find many innovative ideas and strong arguments from their papers both as individuals or co-authors. We have organized mobile workshop and site visit, the voluntary service of some of our young members is very helpful in responding to questions and providing guidance for delegates. **WCTR-Y is a very good platform to establish and enhance the networking of young research from preparing of the session which has attracted more and more participants.** The friendship and trust established will benefit your career. There are so many sessions and topics presented in the conference, to best use the advantage we should first have well identified areas, prepare questions to discuss and communicate the related authors for more detailed face to face discussion, if necessary. On the way to the conference and local travel experience are also valuable to understand the complexity of transport.

WELCOME LETTER



Dr. Digvijay S. Pawar

Digvijay S. Pawar is an Assistant Professor in Transportation Engineering in Department of Civil Engineering at IIT Hyderabad. He received his Masters and Doctoral degree in Civil Engineering from IIT Bombay, India in 2015. His research interests include traffic operations, behavioral modeling, vehicle and pedestrian safety, intelligent transportation systems, naturalistic driving study and statistical modelling and classification techniques. He was awarded for Excellence in Thesis Work for the Year 2014-2016 for the outstanding research contributions from the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay and Best PhD Thesis on urban mobility in cities of developing countries from CODATU-2017. He has published in a number of leading journals, including Transportation Research Part C, Transportation Research Part F, Transportation Research Record, ASCE, Journal of Safety Research, Safety Science, and Transportation Letters.

Dear Young Researchers Greetings from the WCTR-Y Team

It gives me an immense pleasure to welcome you all to the 3rd WCTRS Young Research conference which will be held at IIT Bombay on 26th May, the first day of WCTR 2019. **WCTR-YI is organized and run by young researchers and presents the work and achievements of the next generation of transport academics, professionals and experts.** As such, it is a unique event, giving the opportunity to young researchers to play a major role in scientific progress.

The theme of 3rd WCTR-YI 2019 is "The Future of Transportation", offering a premise for young global experts to interact on the emerging research topics in the field. A number of high-quality papers by young researchers have been selected for conference presentation. They cover areas like Smart Cities and Future Mobility, Mobility as a Service (MaaS), Green Transport, Active Transportation, Integrated Planning for Transportation (Including Freight Transportation) and Resilient Transport Systems, Advanced Traffic Management, Operations, and Safety.

In addition to being a remarkable academic event, **WCTR-YI also includes one special session specifically tailored towards young researchers, a discussion panel on academic and professional development.** This activity provides an exceptional opportunity for young researchers and professionals to interact with eminent senior researchers and benefit first-hand from their extensive experience. Participation to WCTR-YI is open to all WCTR delegates regardless of their age or experience. By gathering several generations of researchers, engineers and specialist from all around the World, this event presents an exceptional networking opportunity.

I would like to thank my co-organizers, **Milena Janjevic** and **Thiago Guimarães** for being part and equal stake holders in organizing young conference. **The WCTR YI team would like to thank all young researchers who have contributed to this event as authors of papers, paper reviewers, session chairs and manager of online content.**

We thank the members of conference directorate from the Transportation Systems Engineering group, Civil Engineering Department of IIT Bombay for their immense support. Many thanks to WCTR-Y leader, **Laetitia Dablanc, and senior advisors** for their technical inputs all along the conference preparation. We hope to see many of you at WCTRS young research conference on 26th May 2019 at the fantastic IIT Bombay's green campus in Mumbai and for international exchange on the future of transportation!

With Best Regards

Digvijay S. Pawar

WCTR YOUNG CONFERENCE

"The Future of Transportation"
26 MAY 2019

08:30	Participants Registration
09:00 - 10:00	Opening Session
10:00 - 11:15	Session 1
11:15 - 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 - 12:45	Session 2
12:45 - 13:45	Lunch
13:45 - 15:00	Session 3
15:00 - 15:15	Coffee Break
15:15 - 16:15	Session 4
16:15 - 16:45	Professional development panel, Q&A
16:45 - 17:00	Closing session

* As informed on May 13th, 2019.

WCTR-Y senior advisors:

Laetitia Dablanc, leader WCTRS-Y University of Paris-East – IFSTTAR

laetitia.dablanc@ifsttar.fr

Antonio Musso, University of Rome

antonio.musso@uniroma1.it

Fusun Ulengin, Sabanci University

fulengin@sabanciuniv.edu

WCTR 2019 - MUMBAI

Preliminary Programme at a Glance*:

26 MAY 201919:30 – 21:30 **WELCOME RECEPTION and DINNER****27 MAY 2019**09:30 – 11:10 **OPENING CEREMONY & PLENARY KEYNOTES**11:50 – 18:10 **TECHNICAL SESSIONS**18:30 – 20:10 **CULTURAL PROGRAMME****28 MAY 2019**09:30 - 13:10 **TECHNICAL SESSIONS**14:30 - 16:10 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**16:30 - 18:10 **TECHNICAL SESSIONS**19:30 – 21:30 **GALA DINNER****29 MAY 2019**09:30 - 18:10 **TECHNICAL SESSIONS**18:30 – 20:10 **CULTURAL PROGRAMME****30 MAY 2019**09:30 - 11:10 **TECHNICAL SESSIONS**18:30 – 20:10 **CLOSING CEREMONY**14:30 – 18:10 **TECHNICAL VISITS****31 MAY 2019**08:30 – 13:10 **TECHNICAL TOUR*** As informed on February 28th, 2019.

The Facebook page for WCTRS young members has been launched. We will update the recent WCTRS-Y activities and related information on the **Facebook** page: **WCTRS-Young Researchers Initiative - 2019 Edition**. Please join us and share information with the members. You can also follow us on **Twitter (@WCTRY_2019)** for news and information on transportation research, and use #WCTRY2019 to share information on the conference.

DISCLAIMER

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<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/terms>.

JOBS & OPPORTUNITIES**Assistant / Associate Professors**NEOMA, France, <https://bit.ly/2E2k1Rm>

Position to be filled before: September, 2019

Three-year post-doc on urban logistics

IFSTTAR, Paris: For further information, contact

laetitia.dablanc@ifsttar.fr**2 Post-doctoral positions – Smart Cities / Territories**

University of Liege, Belgium:

<http://labos.ulg.ac.be/smart-city/jobs/>**Deadline:** June 30th, 2019**Call for application for the ‘Young Leaders in Sustainable Transport’**<https://t.co/fg2vZmnMMS>**Deadline:** May 20th, 2019**Exchange opportunity to attend the International Urban Freight Conference organized by the METRANS Transportation Center**For further information, contact sori400@usc.edu**EDITORS Y-III****Sara Abd Alla**

Università degli Studi di Genova

sara.abd.alla@edu.unige.it**Adrien Beziat**

Laboratoire Aménagement,

Economie, Transports (LAET) – ENTPE

adrien.beziat@entpe.fr**ADVISORY & SUPERVISION****Laetitia Dablanc**

Director of Research at the University of Paris-East –

IFSTTAR

Member of the Steering Committee of WCTRS and

Leader of WCTRS-Y

laetitia.dablanc@ifsttar.fr**Ali Huzayyin,**

Prof at Cairo University

Member of the Steering Committee of WCTRS

Founder and Senior Advisor of the WCTRS-Y Initiative

ali_huzayyin@yahoo.com**Yoshitsugu Hayashi**

Prof. at Chubu University, Japan WCTRS President

y-hayashi@isc.chubu.ac.jp**Jennie Stones**

WCTRS Secretariat Office

wctrs@leeds.ac.uk