**WCTRS Young Researchers’ Initiative (WCTRS-Y)**

**Fourth Edition**

# **Details and Conditions, October 2020**

Laetitia Dablanc, leader of [WCTRS-Y](http://www.wctrs-society.com/glossary/wctrs-y/), member of the Steering Committee of [WCTRS](https://www.wctrs-society.com/)

# **WCTRS-Y: activities for young members of the World Conference on Transport Research Society**

The “Young Researchers’ Initiative” was created before the Rio conference in 2013. “Young Researcher” includes those under 35 years of age on the first day of the conference (Montreal: July 24, 2022).

The initiative includes three activities:

* Activity YI: **one day conference** by and for young members. The conference takes place the day before the first day of the WCTR (in Montreal, it will take place on Sunday July 24, 2022).
* Activity YII: **PhD students’ grants**: a total of five grants, including one Innovation Grant and four Prestige Grants. Grantees will present their research at a special session during WCTR in Montreal in 2022.
* Activity YIII: **Young Online Facility**: setting up and managing a website, social media, and a newsletter for three years, from Spring 2021 to Spring 2024.

WCTRS-Y activities are run under the WCTRS Steering Committee (STC) and coordinated by a member of the STC (WCTRS-Y leader[[1]](#footnote-1)).

# **Eligibility conditions for joining WCTRS-Y activities**

General conditions for application/participation in one, or more, of the three activities:

1. Fully paid members of the World Conference on Transport Research Society

2. Age < 35 years on July 24, 2022, before the opening day of [WCTR-16](https://wctr2022.ca/) in Montreal.

Additional “activity-specific” eligibility conditions:

1. For Activities Y-I & Y-III: Postgraduates in transportation, Post Doctors in transportation or full time researchers in transport research institutions, laboratories or universities, at least until July 24, 2022.

2. For Activity Y-II: University Postgraduates registered for PhD in transportation at least until July 24, 2022.

Conditions for eligibility of receiving: a) payment of the Honoraria of the volunteers in Y-I and Y-III and b) payment of the grants of Y-II; are stated below for each case separately.

# **Activity Y-I: Conference WCTR-Y, deadline for application February 28, 2021**

Aim: to get young/early career members of WCTRS acquainted with conference organisation, meet colleagues, learn from their seniors, attend the sixteenth world conference ([WCTR-16](https://wctr2022.ca/)) in Montreal and enjoy benefits from society membership.

WCTR-Y is to be run entirely by young researchers under the guidance of WCTRS Steering Committee (STC).

The conference generally follows the following pattern (other details can be announced later):

* Sunday July 24, 2022 before the start of WCTR-16; closing before the welcome cocktail on the same day.
* One theme/ One room/ No parallel sessions.
* Four sessions with a total of 12 to 14 papers.
* Participants: 80 to 200+; depending on confirmed registration of young researchers to attend the main WCTR in Montreal.
* Theme: young researchers propose three themes and STC approves one.

Main principles and operating rules are:

* Two volunteer Advisors from the Steering Committee (STC) guide the event. Their names to be decided by STC depending on the subject area of the approved theme and their time availability.
* The process is to be managed entirely by three young researchers: there is **one** Conference Chair and **two** Conference Organising Volunteers.
* Paper referees and session chairs are selected by the conference chair and the two organising volunteers among young researchers.
* The conference chair and the two organising volunteers take charge of the process: call for papers, choice of referees, programme, etc., guided by the two Advisors.
* To ensure the quality of papers, Advisors approve the refereeing results.
* A Q&A session is organized before the closing session to give advice to young members on career development as well as on the performance of the conference chair, the organisers and the session chairs and their assessment of the event.
* Conference chair and organising volunteers (supported by the session chairs) write a short report on the event. The conference chair may be asked to present this summary report in the closing ceremony of WCTR-16 Montreal.
* Conference chair and organising volunteers (supported by the session chairs) write a more detailed report on the event before the end of August 2022. This report will be uploaded on the WCTR website.
* Upon recommendation of advisors, high quality papers can be eligible for Prizes offered in WCTR through the Prize Sub-Committee Chair and for journal publication through the Vice Chair of the Scientific Committee for Publications, according to the respective rules for each case.
* Other rules may be announced later if the need arises.
* The event will be run under the overall coordination of the WCTRS-Y leader.

Registration and Honoraria for the volunteers:

* There is no registration fee for attending “WCTR-Y”.
* Registration to WCTR-16 Montreal is compulsory for participating in WCTR-Y.
* WCTRS offers compensation honoraria of 1500 USD per person to the Conference chair and each of the two Conference Organising Volunteers, to be paid after the conduction of “WCTR-Y”, based on recommendation from the WCTRS-Y leader.
* Honoraria payment conditions: full registration in Montreal WCTR 2022, attendance of WCTR-Y and recommendation of leader. In cases when these conditions are not satisfied, this payment shall be declined.

# **Activity Y-II: WCTRS PhD Students’ Grants, deadline for application February 28, 2021**

Aim: to inspire PhD students to compete for further transport research, to be stimulated to submit papers for [WCTR-16, Montreal 2022](https://wctr2022.ca/), and to enjoy benefits from society membership.

Types and number of grants:

* One WCTRS Innovation Grant, 5000 USD.
* Four WCTRS Prestige Grants, each 3000 USD.

Transport Research topics of the grants are to be proposed by the applicants and approved by the Steering Committee (STC). Topics related to the applicants PhD thesis are allowed but are not obligatory. Therefore, the grant can be used either to support work on the student’s PhD or for unrelated research which can be completed without distracting from the PhD work.

The grants are supplementary, i.e. additional incentive from the WCTRS offered to the winning PhD students who are already registered for the degree in universities and could be receiving finance from other source(s).

Main principles and operating rules are:

* Each proposal will be peer reviewed by three referees selected by the STC.
* The best proposal will be granted the “Innovation Grant”, while the three proposals next to the best will be granted the “Prestige Grants”.
* In cases of proposals with equal merit, priority in awarding the grants will be given to the younger applicant.
* In case no satisfactory proposals are submitted, the STC can withhold awarding the grant(s).

Conditions of payment to grant holders:

* Down payment: 30% of the grant amount upon official awarding by the STC.
* Conditional final payment: 70% of the grant amount after the official acceptance of a paper, single authored by the grant holder, based on the research topic of the grant, to WCTR-16, Montreal 2022, and registration and attendance of the grant holder **in person** at the conference. In cases when any of these conditions is not satisfied, this payment instalment shall be declined.
* The five grants research papers are to be presented in a Special Session in WCTR-16 (not in any of the other sessions of the conference), subject to the rules of organising the Special Sessions set out by the Scientific Committee of the conference.
* High quality papers based on the grants can be eligible to prizes offered in WCTR through the Prize Sub-Committee Chair, and for journal publication through the Vice Chair of the Scientific Committee for Publications; according to the respective rules for each case.

# **Activity Y-III: Young Online Facility, deadline for application February 28, 2021**

Aim: offering online facility and social media for young members of WCTRS as additional benefit of membership, and to connect with the WCTR community and members’ initiatives across the world. Responsibilities will include:

* Advertising Post-Doctoral positions from universities worldwide.
* Advertising jobs for young researchers in transport research institutions.
* Establishing LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, mailing groups… to facilitate exchange of knowledge and discussions on transport research.
* Link with WCTR members through the collection of information related to Special Interest Groups, contribute to the WCTR newsletter in coordination with the publicity activities of the Society.
* Etc., as the young members themselves propose.

Two young members of WCTRS to run this activity.

WCTRS offers a total of 2000 USD as honoraria for the two volunteers (each will receive 1000 USD) to compensate for the time.

The [WCTRS Secretariat](mailto:wctrs@leeds.ac.uk) shall also provide support to the volunteers.

Honoraria payment conditions:

* Full registration in [WCTR-16 Montreal 2022](https://wctr2022.ca/) and attendance of the conference. In cases when this condition is not satisfied this payment shall be declined.
* The Online Facility should be fully operational, and satisfactory, on two milestone dates before WCTR-16 Montreal 2022.
* The two volunteers will be involved for three years, until Spring 2024 and the appointment of the new volunteers for the 2026 world conference.
* Recommendations from an Steering Committee (STC) member (or a WCTRS member appointed by the STC) who shall volunteer to supervise this activity and from the WCTRS-Y leader.

1. Professor Ali Huzayyin, Cairo University, was the leader from 2013-2017 (Editions 1 and 2). Professor Laetitia Dablanc, University Gustave Eiffel, is the current leader (Editions 3 and 4). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)