

METRANS NEWS

USC University of Southern California

LONG BEACH STATE UNIVERSITY

Dedicated to solving metropolitan transportation problems through research, education, and outreach.

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METRANS
Transportation Center
USC | CSULB

METRANS is a partnership organization between the University of Southern California and Long Beach State University. Its mission is to solve transportation problems of large metropolitan areas through research, education, and outreach.

METRANS RESEARCH

METRANS Researcher Partners with City of Long Beach and LBSU to Launch ITS Test Bed



Mohammad Mozumdar

METRANS Researcher Mohammad Mozumdar recently moved one step closer to bringing his next-generation micro-sensor technology toward real-world implementation through an innovative partnership with the City of Long Beach Public Works Department and Long Beach State University (LBSU). Since 2012, Mozumdar has been working to develop a micro-wireless sensing system that will be implanted underneath the pavement of roadways to detect and “classify” vehicles.

Over the years, he received a \$35,000 grant from the DENSO foundation to supply his lab with Smart Sensing technology for education and training purposes. In 2015, he also received a \$34,995 research grant from METRANS, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Transportation and Caltrans, to design a smaller, more efficient way to monitor and classify freeway and road traffic.

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METRANS EDUCATION

USC Student Awarded METRANS Outstanding Student of the Year



Madison Swayne

Madison Swayne was recently selected as the recipient of the 2018 METRANS Outstanding Student of the Year Award. She is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Urban Planning and Development Program at the Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California (USC). Swayne completed her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Environmental Studies at USC in May of 2015.

Swayne has worked on transit access projects – she has developed new methods for measuring transit access using online, open-source data, and computer coding for automated data collection. Her dissertation includes this work as well as two other papers at the intersection of land use and environmental justice.

“I am excited to be the METRANS student of the year. METRANS has given me the opportunity to work closely with Dr. Marlon Boarnet and Dr. Gary Painter. It has been a great experience working with them on questions of public transit infrastructure improvements and access to jobs for Los Angeles County residents. It is an honor to have been recognized by my advisors for my transportation-related research,” said Swayne.

This award honors outstanding students from University Transportation Centers around the nation who have shown exemplary work at their UTC and in the classroom. The USDOT fully sponsors the student awardees attending the banquet and student attendance at TRB. Swayne was recognized at the Council of University Transportation Centers (CUTC) annual awards banquet in Washington D.C. on January 12, 2019.

PSR OUTREACH

UC Davis Professor Miguel Jaller Wins Council of University Transportation Center's (CUTC) New Faculty Award



Miguel Jaller

Miguel Jaller is the 2018 recipient of the Cambridge Systematics (CS) New Faculty Award. This award is one of the annual CUTC Professional Awards that recognize the excellence of academic and non-academic professionals in the field of transportation and education research.

Jaller has strong theoretical foundations and practical experience in industrial and transportation engineering and management. Before joining UC Davis, Jaller was a Research Associate at the Center for Infrastructure, Transportation,

and the Environment (CITE), and at the Volvo Research and Educational Foundations' Center of Excellence for Sustainable Urban Freight Systems (CoE-SUFS) at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI). He received his B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Industrial Engineering from Universidad del Norte, Colombia and then his M.E. in Transportation Engineering, M.Sc. in Applied Mathematics, and Ph.D. in Transportation Engineering from RPI.

"I am very honored to receive this prestigious award. I celebrate this award with students, colleagues, mentors, and family who provide their continuous support in all possible ways. I would also like to thank CUTC, Cambridge Systematics, and the Awards Committee," said Jaller.

His research interests are in the areas of freight transportation, sustainable transportation systems, humanitarian logistics, supply chain management, and operations research. With several scientific and technical publications on these topics, Jaller has presented at various national and international venues.

The Cambridge Systematics (CS) New Faculty Award is presented to a tenure-track faculty member in transportation education, recognizing outstanding teaching and research contributions to the transportation field. Jaller is currently an Assistant Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at UC Davis. All award winners were recognized at the CUTC Annual Awards Banquet, held in Washington, DC on Saturday, January 12th, 2019.

To read the full article, go to: <http://bit.ly/2DtYQb4>

PSR EDUCATION

PSR Student of the Year Award



Anne Brown

Anne Brown, now an Assistant Professor of Planning, Public Policy, and Management at the University of Oregon, is the 2019 recipient of the Pacific Southwest Region University Transportation Center (PSR) Student of the Year Award.

Brown's research examines the intersection of equity, shared and innovative mobility, travel behavior, and transportation finance. Her recent work analyzes how and when people change their travel behavior, the false equivalency between being car-less and car-free, and how parking policy reform can increase the supply of affordable housing.

Currently, six months out from completing her Ph.D. in Urban Planning at UCLA, Professor Brown has authored or co-authored 16 refereed journal articles and has seven more currently under review.

Brown's dissertation, "Ridehail Revolution? Ridehail Travel and Equity in Los Angeles," won the Barclay Gibbs Jones Award for the best Ph.D. planning dissertation by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (the highest honor given to planning doctoral students by the ACSP). Her research investigates the planning and equity implications of ridehail services such as Lyft, Uber, and taxis. Brown also published a top-of-the-fold, op-ed piece on her dissertation research in the *Los Angeles Times* this summer.

"Professor Brown filed the most remarkable and consequential dissertation that I have ever supervised," said Brian Taylor, Professor of Urban Planning at UCLA. "Anne Brown is without question a future academic star in transportation policy and planning."

"I am honored to receive the PSR Student of the Year Award," said Brown, "and am particularly grateful to all the people whose advice and feedback supported my education and research."

To read the full article, go to: <http://bit.ly/2WqUGs3>

PSR OUTREACH

Issue 2 of *Transfers* Now Available



Transfers recently released its Fall 2018 issue, the second in the magazine's history. This Pacific Southwest Region University Transportation Center

(PSR-UTC) publication offers highly technical research in cogent, readable articles that will engage students, policymakers, and practitioners, the wider transportation community, and the general public with the goal of pointing the way toward real-world action.

The second edition investigates a variety of questions that have great policy relevance such as:

- What makes a good driver? Does gender, age, athletics, gaming, or confidence impact driving skills?
- Does light rail transit reduce traffic?
- Is there a need to reduce exposure of the population, economy, and infrastructure to flooding by locating development away from hazardous areas?
- Is it a good idea to convert garages into housing?
- How might higher diesel fuel taxes cause unintended consequences?

Following its mission of uniting all levels and aspects of activity in the transportation field, the five articles in this issue of *Transfers* were authored by a mix of professors, doctoral students, and industry professionals in the PSR network and beyond. For example, "What Makes a Good Driver? The Impact of Gender, Age, Athletics, Video Games, and Confidence on Novice Drivers" was produced by both Nancy Wayne, Professor of Physiology at UCLA, and Gregory Miller, Instructor at the

Westwood Driving School in Los Angeles – a cross-silo team able to offer complementary sets of data on the issue at hand.

METRANS Director Genevieve Giuliano contributed to the second issue of *Transfers* as well. Her article, co-authored with Sandip Chakrabarti, Assistant Professor at the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, examines "The Case of the LA Expo Line" in an attempt to answer the question, "Does Light Rail Reduce Traffic?"

"We took advantage of a unique data set to analyze how the Expo Line affected transit ridership and road traffic in the corridor and found that the project has had a positive impact on the former, but not much effect on the latter," Giuliano and Chakrabarti wrote. "Our results indicate that the real benefits of rail transit investments are not in traffic reduction but rather in increasing the accessibility and ridership of transit within high-demand corridors."

Transfers is a biannual publication for PSR-UTC that communicates the value and effect of transportation research to any reader, expert or not. UCLA Emeriti Professors Donald Shoup and Martin Wachs serve as senior editors for *Transfers*, while the magazine is staffed by an editorial team at UCLA and guided by an editorial board of directors of the PSR research centers. "The Circulator," an accompanying blog, regularly covers campus stories, student projects, news, events, opinion, and more.

The PSR-UTC is a federally-funded network of eight partner campuses in Arizona, California, and Hawaii.

Read Issue 2 of *Transfers* here: <https://transfersmagazine.org/issue2/>

PSR RESEARCH

PSR Researcher Karl Kim Named Editor-in-Chief of Transportation Research Interdisciplinary Perspectives (TRIP) Journal



Karl Kim

A new open access journal, *Transportation Research Interdisciplinary Perspectives (TRIP)* is the latest addition to the Transportation Research family of journals published by Elsevier. PSR researcher Karl Kim from University of Hawai'i (UH) at Manoa serves as the Editor in Chief. The journal has an international editorial board and most board members are editors or board members of other transportation research journals.

TRIP is particularly interested in receiving submissions from developing countries and emerging markets which face tremendous challenges in addressing transportation needs, safety, and improvements in transportation planning and engineering. The board particularly welcomes articles reporting negative or controversial results and new (and less mature)

ideas. Submissions are reviewed by at least two anonymous referees with relevant subject matter expertise.

Kim will receive editorial assistance from Pradip Pant, Associate Director for Training Development and Research, National Disaster Preparedness Training Center (NDPTC) at UH. "I most look forward to the collaboration across disciplines and between researchers working on persistent transportation problems all across the world. The exchange of ideas, methods, findings, and policies helps to support better understanding of transportation problems and research," said Pant.

Karl Kim is also the Executive Director of the National Disaster Preparedness Training Center (NDPTC) at the University of Hawai'i.

To find out more about the journal and to submit papers, go to: <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/transportation-research-interdisciplinary-perspectives/>

METRANS RESEARCH

METRANS Researcher Partners with City of Long Beach and LBSU to Launch ITS Test Bed, con't.

Traditionally, vehicle detection sensors underneath roads use inefficient, sensing systems like inductive loops to collect real time traffic data. These sensors are much larger and more expensive to use and have caused transportation agencies to spend millions of dollars to install and maintain these systems. Mozumdar's research on wireless sensor networks seeks to reduce costs and enhance the outdated systems that are used to collect traffic data.

Mozumdar's research articles on wireless sensor networks have been published in numerous journals such as ACM Transactions on Embedded Computing Systems (TECS), IEEE Sensors Journal, and International Journal on Smart Sensing and Intelligent Systems. He has also presented on the topic at numerous conferences.

Mozumdar and his team have designed a wireless, quarter-sized, remote sensor that uses machine learning to identify the types of vehicles driving by. It can distinguish truck versus sedan, and also different types of sedans from each other, or bikes, scooters, etc. The device was first tested with a remote-control car.

"I would like to thank the City of Long Beach for installing block outs in a road near LBSU. This effort will significantly influence my research to collect, test, and modify our designed sensor node for smart roads," said Mozumdar.

The Center for International Trade and Transportation's (CITT) Director of Research and Workforce Development Tyler Reeb worked closely with Sean Crumby, Deputy Director of Public Works for the City of Long Beach, and Mozumdar to implement this research. The City of Long

Beach created small holes to test two of the sensors: one on the south side of Beach Drive and Bellflower tracking northbound traffic, and the other on the north side tracking southbound traffic.

On Friday, November 30, 2018, Mozumdar was joined by his research assistants Emmanuel Ceballos and Ridwan Maassarani, Public Works Official/Senior Civil Engineer Onofre Ramirez, and Tyler Reeb to document the installation.

"Moving Mozumdar's research into a real-world testbed is an important next step toward full implementation," said Reeb. "The civic partnership between the City of Long Beach and LBSU is an approach that could be replicated in cities around the country to develop, test, and ultimately implement new intelligent systems technologies."

Mohammad Mozumdar is an Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering at Long Beach State University.



Sensor installation

METRANS OUTREACH

METRANS at LA Fleet Week

Thanks to the Port of Los Angeles (POLA) and the US Navy, METRANS was able to host students, researchers, and industry professionals on a pre-Fleet Week private tour of the USS Dewey, an active guided-missile destroyer docked at POLA for Fleet Week 2018, and the USS Iowa, a docked, retired battleship.

The crew members of the USS Dewey and USS Iowa gave an exclusive tour of the ships with detailed explanations of their functions and workings, showcasing the military facet of port operations. The organized visit not only provided attendees with these informative, experiential tours, but also helped them connect and network with other individuals in the transportation field. Interfacing with the Navy was a valuable aspect of the trip as well, since the Navy is a national benchmark in project management and teamwork systems.

"I was one of the fortunate transportation students afforded this opportunity," said Purva Sawant, Master of Supply Chain Management student at Long Beach State University. "I definitely look forward to more networking opportunities and rare visits to exciting places with METRANS. METRANS hosts field trips, speaker events, a mentor program, and more, and I highly recommend anyone and everyone take advantage of these offerings."

Fleet Week is an annual event, held each year over the Labor Day weekend, which brings active forces and ships to the POLA so that the public can get a glimpse of Navy life and the advanced naval transportation and technology that protects the nation. LA Fleet Week is organized by the LA Fleet Week Foundation in partnership with the POLA and City of Los Angeles.



Attendees on guided tour

MetroFreight Paris Conference: The Local/Global Challenge of Urban Freight



Adrien Beziat's presentation

MetroFreight recently hosted a full-day seminar at the Pavillon de l’Arsenal (Paris Center for Architecture and Urbanism) in Paris, France, covering the local and global challenges of urban freight.

The event featured presentations by leading researchers from MetroFreight’s Los Angeles, New York, Seoul, and Paris centers, which are listed below. The MetroFreight research program began with a comprehensive data collection to characterize freight flows and their impacts in these four metropolitan areas. This effort resulted in a collection of maps depicting a comparative perspective on key elements impacting city logistics: population density and employment density, transportation infrastructure, and urban freight supply and demand.

MetroFreight research focuses on five key themes: the role of policy from an industry perspective; last mile strategies; improved freight/passenger interactions; land use dynamics; and changes in production and consumption.

In addition to the presentations, METRANS Associate Director Thomas O’Brien moderated a “Partners Roundtable,” which focused on emerging freight issues specific to the Paris region. The panel included important voices from some of Paris’ major agencies concerned with synthesizing the movement of goods and people in the area. Among the leaders who shared their perspectives were Domonique Alba, Director of the Paris Urbanism Agency (APUR) and Philippe de Clermont-Tonnerre, Vice President of GATMARIF, an advocacy group concerned with supporting the long-term evolution of transportation-related companies in the Îl-de-France region.

“It is invaluable for all MetroFreight consortium members to meet in a seminar setting and discuss regional research, in light of our larger goals,” said METRANS Director Genevieve Giuliano. “What’s been shared at the Paris seminar has given all of us a lot to consider moving forward in our respective regions.”

Presenter(s)	Topic
Laetitia Dablanc , French Institute of Science and Technology for Transport, Development, and Networks (IFSTTAR); MetroFreight Paris	Presentation of the Day: Introduction of the International Project MetroFreight and the Paris Team
Genevieve Giuliano , University of Southern California, MetroFreight Los Angeles	The Freight Landscape
Jean-Paul Rodrigue , Hofstra University, MetroFreight New York	E-Commerce and Urban Logistics
Adrien Beziat , LAET Mathiue Gardrat , LAET	Urban Goods Movement Survey in the Paris Region and Its Use in Research
Adeline Heitz , IFSTTAR, MetroFreight Paris	Logistics Urbanism in the Paris Region
Pierre Camilleri , Renault/IFSTTAR, MetroFreight Paris	Electric Delivery Vans
Martin Koning , IFSTTAR, MetroFreight Paris	Environmental Impacts of Logistics Sprawl in the Paris Region
Alison Conway , City College of New York, MetroFreight New York Jee-Sun Lee , Korea Transport Institute, MetroFreight Seoul	Parcel Deliveries in New York City and Seoul
Zacharie Chebance , MetroFreight Paris	‘Instant Deliveries’: Two Surveys on Self-Employed Couriers in Paris

The event at the Pavillon de l’Arsenal closed with the first screening of the documentary film Making Deliveries in NYC and a discussion with the film-maker, Sandrine Wenglenski. She is an Assistant Professor at the University of Paris-East and conducted this project with Co-P.I. Laetitia Dablanc, Director of Research at the French Institute of Science and Technology for Transport, Development, and Networks (IFSTTAR) at the University of Paris-East.

Led by METRANS, MetroFreight is a Volvo Research and Educational Foundations (VREF) Center of Excellence (CoE) that seeks to develop solutions for urban freight problems that are collaborative and integrative with larger sustainability goals. It was established in 2013 and is one of ten VREF CoEs in five regions of the world.

Link to full event schedule and presentation materials:

<https://www.metrans.org/event/metrofreight-event-localglobal-challenge-urban-freight>



The Swedish-based Volvo Research and Educational Foundations (VREF) recently approved a joint continuation proposal from

MetroFreight (MF), the Center of Excellence on Sustainable Urban Freight Systems (CoE-SUFS), and the Urban Freight Platform (UFP). VREF will award just over \$554,000 USD (5,000,000 SEK) to the three initiatives, including the METRANS-led MetroFreight.

The leadership and networks of MF, SUFS, and UFP today comprise a global community of urban freight researchers, representing most of the entire urban freight academic community. Specifically for MetroFreight, the extension means continued research, education, and outreach efforts by partners in New York, Paris, Seoul and Los Angeles. Of the total 43 research projects funded by the original grant, seven remain to be completed during the next year. They focus on two themes: improving efficiency of truck flows, and changing producer/consumer behavior.

"In addition to MetroFreight, there is much work to be done by the other centers on urban freight as the awareness of freight impacts on cities has steadily risen," said MetroFreight Director Genevieve Giuliano.

Logistics and supply chain management are rich areas of research and workforce development opportunities. As a result, the three VREF centers collaborated in a joint proposal to the Scientific Council and VREF Board of Directors to incorporate new work through 2021 across Australia, Japan, the United Kingdom (UK), and Sweden, in addition to France, South Korea and the US. The objectives build on the foundation of the previous grants: 1) maintain and expand the freight research network, 2) move research to practice, and 3) educate the next generation of urban freight leaders and researchers.

Founded in 2013, MetroFreight is one of three international Centers of Excellence funded by VREF and focusing on Urban Freight. The CoE-SUFS was also founded in 2013 and the UFP was founded in 2014. MetroFreight has three core partners: the University Transportation Research Center (UTRC) Consortium, City College of New York; the French Institute of Science and Technology for Transport Development and Networks (IFSTTAR), University of Paris-Est, and; the Korea Transport Institute (KOTI), Seoul. MetroFreight also partners with non-academic industry and government representatives in these four key cities, as well as the UPS Corporation, which provides a global perspective.

METRANS OUTREACH

METRANS Celebrates at 20th Anniversary Dinner



Randell Iwasaki addressing guests

To celebrate METRANS' twentieth anniversary, METRANS faculty, staff, guests, and sponsors gathered in October at a celebratory dinner to recognize the center's achievements over the past two decades. The center began in 1998 with seven faculty, one small US Department of Transportation

certificate program, and an event called Town Hall. METRANS now includes 62 faculty and research affiliates across 15 domestic and international universities and research institutes. During the last two decades, METRANS' Town Hall and the International Urban Freight Conference have become long-standing and recognized industry events for local, national, and international transportation experts.

"The transportation landscape has changed dramatically over the past two decades," said METRANS Director Genevieve Giuliano. "I look forward to continuing with a growing network of researchers, policy and business leaders, and industry experts to solve both local and global mobility problems."

In honor of the center's twenty years of excellence, METRANS Director Genevieve Giuliano and METRANS Associate Director Thomas O'Brien accepted awards of recognition from Congressman Alan Lowenthal

of California's 47th district, the City of Los Angeles, the California Transportation Commission, and the Volvo Research and Educational Foundations.

Event keynote speaker Randell Iwasaki, Executive Director of the Contra Costa Transportation Authority and long-time member of the METRANS Advisory Board, addressed mobility innovations using smart technology and the future of transportation solutions.

Greg Kildare, Chief Officer of Risk, Safety and Management at the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) served as emcee for the evening. Randolph Hall, METRANS Founder and Vice President of Research at USC; Jack Knott, Dean of the Sol Price School of Public Policy; Jeet Joshee, Assistant Vice President and Dean of the College of Professional and International Education (CPIE); and Genevieve Giuliano, METRANS Director, all spoke to METRANS' achievements.

"METRANS offered USC, a research university, and Long Beach State University, a teaching university, a unique platform to conduct research, applied research, policy analysis, and workforce development for the women and men who shape the transportation industry," said METRANS Associate Director Thomas O'Brien. "METRANS is dedicated to continuing this mission for many more years ahead."

The anniversary dinner and reception was held in the Town and Gown Ballroom at USC on October 4, 2018.

METRANS EDUCATION

METRANS Student Awards 2017-2018

METRANS associated students have received many awards and distinctions throughout the F2017-2018 academic year.

Award	Student Recipient
METRANS Tier 1 UTC Student of the Year 2018	Madison Swayne , USC Price PhD
Pacific Southwest Region UTC Student of the Year 2018	Anne Browne , Assistant Professor of Planning, Public Policy, and Management at the University of Oregon
Myra L. Frank Memorial Graduate Scholarship from WTS Los Angeles	Huê-Tâm Jamme , USC Price doctoral student
Dyckman Dissertation Award	Sanggyun Kang , USC Price PhD, "Unraveling Decentralization of Warehousing and Distribution Centers: Three Essays"
Selection to attend Eno Future Leaders Conference	Sue Dexter , USC Price doctoral student
Lawrence D. Hazzard Transportation Leadership Scholarship from WTS Los Angeles	Lauren Deaderick , USC Price masters student (Dual Master of Planning and Master of Public Policy)
Order of Arete Award from USC	Yang Dang , USC Viterbi masters student (Civil Engineering, Transportation)
Lewis Mumford Prize from the Society of American City and Regional Planning History	Nathan Fuerst , USC Price masters student (Master of Planning)
AICP Outstanding Planning Student Award; Master of Planning Comprehensive Examination Prize	Parama Ghosh Roy , USC Price masters student (Master of Planning)
Dean's Senior Merit Award from Sol Price School of Public Policy	Maya Bouchet and Soobin Kim , USC Price undergraduates
2018 Global Scholar Award	Soobin Kim , USC Price undergraduate
Ava Doner Undergraduate Scholarship from WTS Los Angeles	Camila Salomon Gnecco , USC Viterbi undergraduate (Civil Engineering)
Selection to Participate in the 23rd Annual California Transportation Foundation (CTF) Educational Symposium	USC undergraduates Saumya Goyal (Industrial and Systems Engineering), Rachel Krusenoski (Urban Studies and Planning), and Jonathan Rofeim (Real Estate Development)

METRANS OUTREACH

20th Anniversary Feature:

Thank You, Past and Present METRANS Associate Partners



A celebration of METRANS research would not be complete without recognizing the support of funders and industry partners. Center grants from USDOT, together with match funding provided by Caltrans since its beginning in 1998 provide the major funding for the center.

The METRANS Associates Program was established in 2013 to provide support for core activities not funded by research grants. The program serves as a model of collaboration between the university, private, and public agencies who come together to study emerging trends in goods movement and international trade; to discuss relevant and timely developments in transportation policy; and to share best practices in the field.

METRANS Associates Program partners enjoy unparalleled access to USC and LBSU faculty and other policy experts and thought leaders in transportation. Additionally, partners receive access to exclusive educational opportunities and outreach programming that explores timely and relevant topics in transportation, as well as access to an elite network of professionals working in the field. Lastly, partners have access to the tremendous intellectual capital provided by students and faculty at USC and LBSU, who are available to assist with a variety of planning and analysis projects within transportation. METRANS would like to thank past and present partners for their continued support over the years. We look forward to what's to come.

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To learn more about MAP and its benefits, see www.metrotrans.org/metrans-associates-program



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