

METRANS NEWS

RESEARCHER STRIVES FOR CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2nd National Urban Freight Conference Attracts Transportation Scholars 2

Newly Released METRANS Reports 2

METRANS Announces 2007-08 Research Awards 3

USC's James Moore Awarded Three Honors by Professional Groups 4

METRANS' Venieris Honored for Diversity Leadership 4

METRANS Student of Year Studies Transportation Economics 5

USC's Student's Team Wins Mock Transportation RFP Competition 5

Transportation Students Saluted in Numerous Awards 5

METRANS, a partnership of the University of Southern California and California State University, Long Beach, is a U.S. Department of Transportation designated University Transportation Center. Its mission is to solve transportation problems of large metropolitan areas through research, education and outreach.

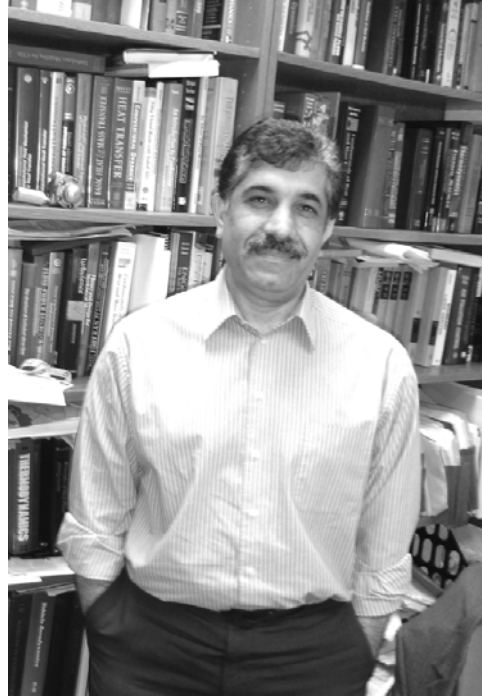
Prof. Hamid Rahai loves to bicycle. Bicycling in Southern California, however, is especially challenging for someone highly cognizant of the noxious fumes surrounding him as he rides his bicycle.

Rahai has made that challenge his life's work.

"My affiliation with METRANS is in the area of air pollution assessment and control, development of new methods and technologies for reducing emissions, and improvements of vehicles' design for increased fuel efficiency," said Rahai. That is a tall order, but Rahai enjoys it. At the Center for Energy and Environmental Research and Services (CEERS) at CSULB, he directs a wide range of research projects.

Rahai's METRANS research has focused on improving aerodynamics of trucks, reducing diesel emissions, and diffusing diesel particulates in trucks. His environmental interests go far beyond the nuts-and-bolts of pollution generation, however.

He is also an expert on renewable energy. In fact,



Prof. Hamid Rahai in his CSULB office

rewarding experience, and you will be surprised at the level of ability and talent these students have.

"It is an investment in the future," he feels, "and a huge factor for future development."

Recognition Rahai has received numerous awards for his research and for his teaching. In 2004, he received the Northrop-Grumman Excellence in Teaching Award.

He was previously recognized with CSULB's 2002-2003 Distinguished Faculty Scholarly and Creative Activities Award.

Education Rahai received his doctorate from the University of California, Irvine, in Mechanical Engineering.

"My passion has always been in education and research and development," he said. "I am an avid reader. I enjoy spending time reading about people, society, and technology and their contributions, although with family and two kids and many other responsibilities, my reading time has shrunk considerably."

If not bicycling, reading or doing research, Rahai can be found enjoying sports and music.

Rahai and CSULB colleague Prof. Hamid Hefazi were recently awarded a patent for a high-efficiency vertical axis wind turbine.

Working With Youth Rahai is very enthusiastic, also, about a new high school summer research fellowship program he developed for advanced high school students. "It is a paid fellowship program," he explained, "with private sponsors, where we bring advanced high school students from the Long Beach Unified School District to CEERS for five weeks during the summer to work with us on our projects. It has been a

METRANS Research and Outreach

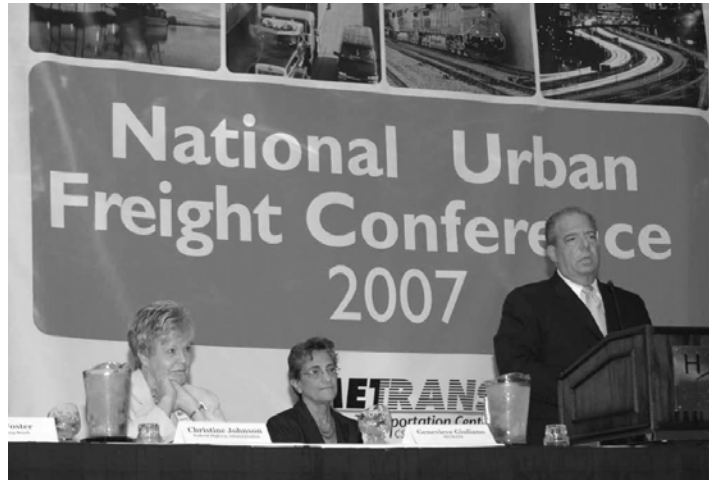
2ND NATIONAL URBAN FREIGHT CONFERENCE ATTRACTS TRANSPORTATION SCHOLARS

Nearly 200 transportation academics and practitioners shared research findings at METRANS' Second National Urban Freight Conference (NUF) from December 5-7 in Long Beach, California.

The unique, cross-disciplinary research conference attracted professionals and researchers from across the country and from abroad.

Contributions to the Field

According to Genevieve Giuliano, METRANS Director, "It is a unique forum for sharing research on urban transportation problems and solu-



Long Beach Mayor Bob Foster speaks from the podium; looking on, from L: Christine Johnson, FHWA, & Genevieve Giuliano, METRANS

tions related to the growth of freight activity. In addition, it fosters research and ultimately publications that will be circulated within both academic and professional communities.

"In fact," she continued, "there were many really good papers and presentations."

Practitioners, Policy

Makers, and Researchers

In keynote addresses, breakout research sessions, and networking events, researchers shared information freely with their colleagues from the world of urban goods movement.

Keynote speaker Dan Gardner de-

cried a lack of transparency and high-quality forecasting in urban areas, resulting in sub-optimal land use. "We need more dialogue," he noted, "with industry, academe, government and labor." Currently president of Trade Facilitators, Inc., Gardner held senior management positions with Fritz Companies and DHL Global Forwarding for 23 years.

Christine Johnson, Director of Field Services for the West for the Federal Highway Administration, said the country

Continued on page 6



Dan Gardner, President of Trade Facilitators, Inc., addresses NUF audience at keynote address



Mortimer Downey, III, Chairman PB Consult, Inc., speaks on policy and research

NEWLY RELEASED METRANS REPORTS

The following research reports are now available on the METRANS website, www.metrans.org, in the research section.

05-04	Ports and Highways Infrastructure Investment and Inter-state Spatial Spillovers Principal Investigator: Kristen Monaco, CSULB
05-06	Assessing Container Terminal Productivity, Experiences of the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach Principal Investigator: Hanh Dam Le-Griffin, USC
AR06-01	Evaluating and Improving the Security of RFID Tags in Shipping Containers Principal Investigator: Burkhard Englert, CSULB
06-02	Incentivizing Truck Retrofitting in Port Drayage: A Study of Drivers at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach Principal Investigator: Kristen Monaco
06-03	On the Formulation and Solution of an Emergency Routing Problem Principal Investigator: Darin Goldstein
06-07	Evaluating the Efficiency of Traffic Mitigation Fees at the San Pedro Bay Ports in a Congestion-Pricing Framework Principal Investigator: Seiji S.C. Steimetz
06-11	Better Delivery/Pick-up Routes in the Presence of Uncertainty Principal Investigators: Fernando Ordoñez and Maged Dessouky

METRANS Research

METRANS ANNOUNCES 2007-08 RESEARCH AWARDS

New grants were awarded to 15 METRANS researchers for the 2007-08 year. Their total value is the second highest in METRANS history, according to Genevieve Giuliano, METRANS Director. “We awarded \$1.08 million,” she

noted, “and are happy to include many new researchers. I anticipate a great year.” The grants span the range of METRANS’ research priorities in transportation, as follows:

- Goods movement and international trade—6 grants;
- Safety, security, and vulnerability—4 grants;
- Mobility of urban populations—4 grants;
- Infrastructure—1 grant.

The full listing of new projects is below. Detailed project descriptions can be found at www.metrans.org.

The 2008-09 Request for Proposals was issued February 25, and new projects will be awarded by Fall 2008.

08-01	Combustion and Emission Characteristics of Biofuels Used for Transportation Co-Principal Investigators: Fokion Egolfopoulos and Theodore Tsotsis, USC
08-02	Low-Cost Object Detection RF CMOS Sensor Development for Active Safety Systems Principal Investigator: Hossein Hashemi, USC
08-03	(Im)Mobility and Health Disparities: Assessing the Accessibility of Nutrition and Physical Activity Options in an Urban Neighborhood Co-Principal Investigators: David Sloane and Lavona Lewis, USC
08-04	Integrated Modeling and Simulation Framework for Freight Transportation in Metropolitan Areas Co-Principal Investigators: Viktor Prasanna and Amol Bakshi, USC
08-06	Regulation and Response in the San Pedro Bay Ports Principal Investigator: Genevieve Giuliano, USC
08-07	Revisiting the Empirical Foundations for Measuring the Capitalization of Access to Transit Principal Investigator: Christian Redfearn, USC
08-08	Efficient Wireless Communication in Vehicular Environments Principal Investigator: Bhaskar Krishnamachari, USC
08-10	Estimating Behavioral Changes for Transportation Modes after Terrorist Attacks in London, Madrid and Tokyo Co-Principal Investigators: Detlof von Winterfeldt, Garrett Assay, and Bumsoo Lee, USC
08-11	XML Based Supply Chain Integration at the LA/LB Ports Principal Investigator: Burkhard Englert, CSULB
08-12	Efficient Routing for Safety Applications in Vehicular Networks Principal Investigator: Konstantinos Psounis, USC
08-13	Emergency Traffic Management Tool for the Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor Area Co-Principal Investigators: Darin Goldstein, CSULB, and Hanh Dam Le-Griffin, USC
08-17	Labor Markets in Goods Movement Occupations in Southern California Principal Investigator: Kristen Monaco, CSULB
08-19	Identification and Evaluation of Major Issues Involving the Impact of Global Climate Change on Transportation Systems Co-Principal Investigators: Sami Masri and Roger Ghanem, USC
08-22	Development of a Portable Remote Sensing System for Measurement of Diesel Emissions from Passing Diesel Trucks Co-Principal Investigators: Hamid Rahai and Bei Lu, CSULB
08-23	Safety Concerns Associated with Drug-Using Drivers with Suspended or Revoked Driving Licenses Principal Investigator: Grace Reynolds, CSULB

METRANS Education

USC'S JAMES MOORE AWARDED THREE HONORS BY PROFESSIONAL GROUPS

Prof. James Moore has recently been recognized by three different groups of his colleagues. First, he was elected vice-president and president-elect of the Transportation and Logistics Society, an arm of the Institute for Operations Research and Management Science (INFORMS). Second, he was named Pioneer Educator by the Orange County Engineering Council. Finally, he won the 2008 Distinguished Engineering Educator award from the Los Angeles Council of Engineers and Scientists (LACES).

TSL Vice-Presidency Capping a very long association with INFORMS, Moore assumes the vice-presidency of the Transportation and Logistics Society (TSL) just as it experiences a growth spurt. Among its members are more than 1,600 professionals worldwide. Moore notes that the number of its research sessions in urban transportation



Prof. James Moore, center, accepting the Pioneer Educator Award at the January meeting of the Orange County Engineering Council

modeling has increased dramatically in recent years.

He joined INFORMS, the predecessor organization of the Operations Research Society of America (ORSA), while still a graduate student in 1983. The organization, which has survived multiple mergers and name changes, played an important role in his professional development.

"This group introduced me to the fundamental urban trans-

portation problems that oriented me toward the field as a graduate student and which still hold my attention," he reminisced. "They are a good community of scholars and generous friends."

Moore enjoys introducing his own students to such valuable professional networks. He credits his mentor Mark Daskin at Northwestern for pushing him to join ORSA over 20 years ago.

Pioneer Educator In commenting about being named "Pioneer Educator," Moore credits the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISE), which he chairs, for setting records in enrollment over USC's Distance Education Network. "We have twice as many students as we had in 2003, and three times as many as in 1999," he said.

Moore believes the award represents the Council's reminder "that engineering professionals and academics should collaborate actively for the benefit of the engineering profession and the students who will ultimately matriculate and then become professional engineers."

Distinguished Engineering Educator "I would never have expected to win two engineering educator awards at once," says Moore. On Feb. 22, LACES saluted Moore. He was nominated for both groups' engineering awards by his ISE Department colleagues.

METRANS' VENIERIS HONORED FOR DIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

METRANS Deputy Director Marianne Venieris was recently awarded the 2008 Diversity Leadership Award in transportation by WTS-Los Angeles (formerly Women's Transportation Seminar).

A reflective Venieris recounted the long journey that led her to her present position. An immigrant from Germany, Venieris recalled a childhood of hard times and hard work. She worked in construction

engineering in Germany and, as a woman, has been in the minority of her profession ever since.

In addition to her METRANS role, Venieris is Director of the Center for International Trade & Transportation at CSULB, developing and marketing goods movement courses worldwide.

According to the nomination, "Marianne has helped ensure the transportation and trade

industries translate their success into educational, employment, and advancement opportunities for any and all who are prepared to invest time and attention in their own success."

Venieris' professional efforts extend far beyond the university, helping create opportunities throughout the state and the



Marianne Venieris accepts the WTS-Los Angeles Diversity Leadership Award

nation for those involved in transportation.

METRANS Education

METRANS STUDENT OF YEAR STUDIES TRANSPORTATION ECONOMICS

Sean Fergus was recently honored as 2007 METRANS Outstanding Student of the Year. A Masters student at CSULB, Fergus has noted first-hand how real estate and transportation are tightly linked.

He grew up in Orange County, California, and Fergus sees an “extreme need for transportation economics, especially in Southern California, with all the transportation problems now.”

TRB As the METRANS honoree, Fergus was a participant at the annual conference of

the Transportation Research Board (TRB) in Washington, D.C., in mid-January. “Just the trip to Washington, D.C., was amazing,” he said. “The awards ceremony was a big honor to attend. The actual TRB conference was so impressive! You realize how important it is to society and how it affects so many people.”

Since his graduation from UC-San Diego in 2000, Fergus has worked in real estate and finance locally. Among his responsibilities were determining maximum bonding



Sean Fergus
2007 METRANS
Student of the Year

capacity of land development projects, how to apportion taxes and assessments for a Community Facilities District, and evaluating development impact fees—including transportation impacts.

Research Experience Today Fergus is a CSULB research assistant in Transportation Economics.

Under the direction of Prof. Seiji Steimetz, Fergus helped implement a METRANS-funded study to assess the efficiency of traffic mitigation

(Continued on page 6)

USC STUDENT’S TEAM WINS MOCK TRANSPORTATION RFP COMPETITION

USC planning student Robert Zappia and his team of transportation students were named winners of a recent “Mock Request for Proposals” competition. The competition was sponsored by the California Transportation Foundation (CTF) which promotes and recognizes excellence in transportation. “We were actually told to create a set of pre-qualifications,” said Zappia. “We had to interview several

key stakeholders and develop ‘pre-quals’ based on what we found would interest them most. At the end, we had to present our ‘pre-quals’ to the stakeholders and defend why we would be the best team suited for the project.”

The competition is held annually as part of CTF’s Transportation Education Symposium, which invites 35 university students to meet a similar-sized group of practitioners.

Zappia’s team consisted of five civil engineers and himself—the only Urban Planning major.

Zappia noted, “Being an Urban Planning major, I have developed some solid presentation skills and was able to exhibit these in our presentation. USC has done a great job fostering my speaking abilities and allowing me to grow in that fundamental skill,” noted a proud Zappia.



Robert Zappia, Class of 2008

TRANSPORTATION STUDENTS SALUTED IN NUMEROUS AWARDS

Outstanding transportation students in METRANS-affiliated programs have been recognized recently by scholarships and awards from numerous off-campus, professional organizations.

Eno Transportation Foundation Edwin Quinonez, USC Master of Civil Engineering student, was selected by the Board of Regents of the Eno Transportation Foundation to participate in the 2008 Eno

Leadership Development Conference in Washington, D.C., May 19-22, 2008.

WTS Scholarships Graduate students Jela Ellefson and Alison Linder, both pursuing doctorates in Urban Planning

at USC, received WTS scholarships. Melissa Hughes, a CSULB M.A. student in Global Logistics, and two CSULB undergraduates, Krista Katayama and Kelly Pilarski, both

(Continued on page 6)

NATIONAL URBAN FREIGHT CONFERENCE, CONT.

(Continued from page 2)

is only recently realizing it is forcing more imported goods into few urban hubs or “network nodes,” whose 1950’s-era infrastructure was not designed for this tremendous load. She challenged the group to re-think research on urban land use, transportation system management, congestion pricing, etc.

Research Sessions Twenty-two concurrent research sessions covered a wide range of original research in urban goods movement. In a final “mobile session,” attendees toured the Target Logistics Services distribution center and a Customs Examination Station at Price-Transfer Inc.

Getting the Word Out Many NUF research papers and

presentations are available at the METRANS website. In addition, the *Journal of Commerce* recently carried two stories about NUF presentations, an evaluation of PierPass at the local ports and a commentary by Mortimer

Downey III, former Deputy Secretary of Transportation, about future federal transportation funding.

Acknowledgements Giuliano noted that the conference required the diligent work of many people involved with METRANS. She thanked the

numerous program chairs and other research colleagues who reviewed the

papers prior to acceptance in the program.

“We really appreciate our sponsors, as well,” noted Giuliano.

They include conference sponsoring

partners Caltrans and the U.S. Department of Transportation, as well as the Federal Highway Administration, and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

Corporate sponsors included, in addition to the ports of Los

Angeles and Long Beach, the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority, American-Maglev Technology, Inc./EMMI Logistics Solutions, Inc., FuturePorts, Gateway Cities Council of Governments, L.A. Customs Brokers & Freight Forwarders Association, Majestic Realty Co., South Coast Air Quality Management District, Southern California Association of Governments, and Transport Solutions LLC.

Giuliano also saluted METRANS staff for their many contributions, including Deputy Director Marianne Venieris, Applied Research Coordinator Tom O’Brien, Administrator Vicki Valentine, and Conference Coordinator Alix Traver.

Save the Date
**3rd National Urban
 Freight Conference**

Fall 2009

**Watch for details at
www.metrans.org**

METRANS STUDENT OF THE YEAR, CONT.

(Continued from page 5)

fees near the San Pedro Bay ports.

In a recent METRANS project with Prof. Wade Martin, Fergus focused on greenhouse gas emissions and transportation sector impacts using a computable general equilibrium model of Southern Cali-

fornia. Finally, he has also worked with a CSULB Economics faculty team—Profs. Joseph Magaddino, Kristen Monaco, and Lisa Grobar—ascertaining the economic impact of international trade and transportation related to the Port of Long Beach.

The Future With barely weeks to go until graduation, Fergus is focusing his sights on either doctoral studies or finding a job with an economics consulting firm. His research experience will no doubt be helpful.

His roots are firmly set in Southern California, being the

grandson of Carl’s Jr. restaurant founder Carl Karcher and the eldest of a family of six children. It is not surprising, then, that he would like to get a Ph.D. from either UCLA or his alma mater, UCSD.

“Ideally,” he said, “I can get my Ph.D. It would be a dream!”

STUDENT HONORS, CONT.

(Continued from page 5)

Engineering students, also were awarded WTS scholarships.

Port of Long Beach Four CSULB students were honored with Port of Long Beach schol-

arships. They are Hui (Lisa) Liu, Paul Merritt, and Cara Royds, all students in the M.A. in Global Logistics program, and Andrea Bigi, who is enrolled in the Global Logistics Specialist® program.

Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE) Luca Quadrifoglio, USC Ph.D. graduate in Industrial and Systems Engineering, received the IIE Pritsker Doctoral Dissertation Award. Quadrifoglio has recently been

appointed Assistant Professor at Texas A&M University.

“We are very proud of all of these students,” said METRANS Director Genevieve Giuliano, “and we enjoy working with them.”

METRANS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Genevieve Giuliano, Director
Associate Dean, Research and Technology, School of Policy,
Planning & Development, USC

Marianne Venieris, Deputy Director
Executive Director, Center for International Trade &
Transportation, CSULB

Petros Ioannou, Associate Director
Professor, Electrical Engineering Systems, USC

METRANS FACULTY

METRANS has funded **75** faculty at USC and CSULB who are now members of the METRANS Center. Given METRANS' interdisciplinary theme, they are experts in engineering, business, economics, geography, information sciences, public policy, planning, public administration and health sciences.

California State University, Long Beach:

Anastasios Chassiakos	Electrical Engineering
Robert Chi	Information Systems
Burkhard Englert	Computer Eng. & Computer Science
Mohammed Forouzesh	Health Sciences
Robert Friis	Health Sciences
Darin Goldstein	Computer Engineering
Lisa Grobar	Economics
Karl H. Grote	Mechanical, Aerospace Engineering
Ken James	Electrical Engineering
Christine Jocoy	Geography
Tim Jordanides	Electrical Engineering
Melody Kiang	Information Systems
Shui Lam	Computer Engineering
Christopher Lee	Geography
Bei Lu	Mechanical & Aerospace Engineer'g
Tracy Bradley Maples	Computer Engineering & Science
Joseph Magaddino	Economics
Kristen Monaco	Economics
Tom O'Brien	Ctr for Int'l Trade & Transportation
Emily Parentela	Civil Engineering
Hamid Rahai	Mechanical Engineering
Grace Reynolds	Health Care Administration
Antonella Sciortino	Civil Engineering & Const. Eng. Mgt.
Tariq Shehab	Civil Engineering
Seiji Steimetz	Economics
Reza Toossi	Mechanical & Aerospace Eng
Jalal Torabzadeh	Mechanical Engineering
Suzanne Wechsler	Geography
Henry Yeh	Electrical Engineering
Hsien-Yang Yeh	Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering

University of Southern California:

Garrett Assey	CREATE
Tridib Banerjee	Policy, Planning & Development
Satish Bukkapatnam	Industrial & Systems Engineering
Maged Dessouky	Industrial & Systems Engineering
Fokion Egolfopoulos	Aerospace & Mech. Engineering
Roger Ghanem	Aerospace & Mech Engineering

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Maged Dessouky, Professor, Daniel J. Epstein Department of
Industrial & Systems Design, USC

Joseph Magaddino, Chairman, Dept. of Economics, CSULB

James E. Moore II, Chairman, Industrial & Systems Engineering;
Professor, Civil Engineering and Public Policy & Management, USC

Genevieve Giuliano	Policy, Planning & Development
Martin Gunderson	Physics & Astronomy
Peter Gordon	Policy, Planning & Development
Randolph Hall	Industrial & Systems Engineering
Hossein Hashemi	Electrical Engineering
John Heideman	Information Sciences Institute
Petros Ioannou	Electrical Engineering Systems
Clara Irázabal	Policy, Planning & Development
Erik Johnson	Civil Engineering
Behrokh Khoshnevis	Industrial & Systems Engineering
Ilias Kosmatopoulos	Electrical Engineering Systems
Bhaskar Krishnamachari	Elect Eng'g & Computer Science
John Kuprenas	Civil Engineering
Bumsoo Lee	CREATE
Hanh Dam Le-Griffin	Civil Engineering
Lavona Lewis	Health Services Administration
Sami Masri	Civil Engineering
Naj Meshkati	Civil Engineering
James E. Moore II	ISE, CE and PPD
Dowell Myers	Policy, Planning & Development
Fernando Ordóñez	Industrial & Systems Engineering
Kurt Palmer	Industrial & Systems Engineering
Alice Parker	Electrical Engineering Systems
Konstantinos Psounis	Electrical Engineering
Viktor Prasanna	Elect Eng'g & Computer Science
Mansour Rahimi	Industrial & Systems Engineering
Christian Redfean	Policy, Planning & Development
Harry Richardson	Policy, Planning & Development
Paul Ronney	Mechanical Engineering
Jefferey Sellers	Political Science
David Sloane	Policy, Planning & Development
Maria I. Todorovska	Civil Engineering
Mihailo D. Trifunac	Civil Engineering
Theodore Tsotsis	Chem. Eng'g & Materials Science
Niraj Verma	Policy, Planning & Development
Detlof van Winterfeldt	CREATE
Chris Williamson	Geography
Hung Leung Wong	Civil Engineering
Maria Yang	Industrial & Systems Engineering

METRANS WEBSITE

Information on transportation research, publications, education, training & technology transfer can be found at the METRANS website: www.METRANS.org. The site also lists faculty, news, links to other relevant sites, and information on USC & CSULB transportation education programs.



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CSULB

WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.METRANS.ORG

Dear Reader:

Welcome to our Spring 2008 Newsletter. This year is shaping up to be the year of awards. As you will see in this issue, our faculty, students and staff have won a variety of awards and scholarships. More awards will be announced in the next issue. The awards list we distributed at our recent METRANS Advisory Board meeting was two full pages long. I am pleased to repeat something I've said in these letters before: the quality of our research, education and outreach activities is the direct result of the excellence of our METRANS leadership and faculty, and of our students at USC and CSULB.

In this issue you will also read about our second National Urban Freight Conference. The conference attracted participants from throughout the US, and they represented many different fields. Participants included faculty and students as well as industry and government professionals. We are on track in developing "NUF" as our signature academic event and in becoming the focal point for urban freight research in the US. A successful conference requires a great deal of effort, and I am grateful to our excellent faculty and staff who made it happen. A special note of appreciation goes to our many sponsors.

Genevieve Giuliano
Director, METRANS Transportation Center

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