

# 2016 FALL METRANS RESEARCH SEMINAR

**October 14, 2016  
12:00 PM to 1:30 PM  
USC Main Campus, RGL 308**

**RSVP to Nicole Guo at  
[haichaog@usc.edu](mailto:haichaog@usc.edu)**

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## Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Seminar Series

*Presented by Sanggyun Kang, and Hue-Tam Jamme*



**ACSP**

Connecting educators,  
researchers and students.

### ***Why do Warehouse Decentralize More in Certain Metropolitan Areas***



Warehousing and distribution centers (W&Ds) have decentralized to the urban peripheries, where land is cheaper and more available. This change in location patterns is derived from the demand to build more modernized and larger W&Ds to accommodate an ever-increasing influx of freight. Since efficient freight movement is essential for the smooth functioning of metropolitan areas, W&D decentralization should occur everywhere. However, this is not necessarily true. The extent of decentralization varies across metropolitan areas depending on the spatial distribution of land rent and involvement in foreign trade. In this study, I test the metro-level factors that might explain the heterogeneity in the patterns of W&D decentralization across major metropolitan areas in the U.S. Metropolitan areas have unique characteristics that could be either favorable or hostile to the operations. This study will contribute to theoretical understanding and empirical testing of the behavior.

*Sanggyun Kang* is a Ph.D. candidate in urban planning and development at the University of Southern California. His field specialization is urban freight systems. He is interested in documenting sub-metropolitan spatial characteristics of warehousing and distribution centers and testing how changing spatial patterns may affect urban freight activities over time.

### ***The Ecology of Walking to School Experience: Children's And Parents' Perceptions From City Heights***

What do urban kids see as the greatest dangers when walking to school? How does this influence their travel behavior? This paper provides new insights based on the experience of fifth-graders in a San Diego neighborhood. We use a range of methods mostly centered on children, innovatively positioning them as active participants. Analysis confirms that the children are active agents of their route choice, and possess an acute awareness of the risks of the environment. Parents' perceptions, however, do not well reflect the barriers that children actually encounter. We conclude with recommendations on policy measures.

*Hue-Tam Jamme* is a second-year Ph.D. student in Urban Planning and Development at USC. She works on the experience of travel in the city with an overall interest in the global context.

