

ITS Berkeley Director's Letter

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Dear Colleagues and Friends,

As commencement draws near, I feel like we have a lot to celebrate in our students, faculty, alumni and staff. We are wrapping up our 70th anniversary, and I see so much has changed from the largely white, all male inaugural class in 1948. New transportation systems and technologies have changed our curriculum as we continue to lead innovation in transportation research and education, and so have the faces that come through our program as we draw talented young men and women from across the country and the world. I love seeing this diversity in our students and in the challenges they choose to tackle and solve.

An example of that diversity is celebrated by the phenomenal number of UC Berkeley female students and alumni being honored at this year's San Francisco and Bay Area Chapter of Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) Award and Scholarship event. I am so pleased they are honoring alumna Ratna Amin as Women of the Year. Ratna, Transportation Policy Director at SPUR, earned her dual masters degree in City and Regional Planning and Transportation Engineering at UC Berkeley and is in the first class of ITS Senior Fellows. We are so proud of her and delighted to continue our relationship with her.

She will be honored at the WTS award night May 22, 2018, 5-9 p.m. The event also honors alumna Melanie Crotty with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Crotty, who passed away in November 2017, was the Director of Operations at the San Francisco Bay Area's Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and worked closely with ITS Berkeley. She is sorely missed. Masters students Stella Yip (dual degree) and Rachel On (city planning) will be awarded the Leadership Legacy Graduate Scholarship and Helene M. Overly Memorial Graduate Scholarship, respectively, and undergraduates Jennifer Conde and Noel (Lily) Pond-Gachke will be awarded the Molitor's Leadership Undergraduate Scholarship and the Sharon D. Banks Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship, respectively. Our students and alumni weave a fantastic tapestry of diversity and talent, and we are so proud of them.

I'd also like to congratulate Professor David Ragland, founding director of Safe Transportation Research and Education Center (SafeTREC), on receiving the School of Public Health's 2018 Zak Sabry Mentorship Award. The award was established "to recognize faculty with distinguished records of mentorship." David has created a brilliant corner of academia merging safety and transportation that fosters a welcoming environment to all students, including the three female students who nominated him. That is a great honor, and we are glad to have him on our team!

As we celebrate the achievements of our alumni, students, and faculty, I always look forward to opportunities that bring us together, and I'd like to thank everyone who came out to the Third Annual TRANSOC Alumni Event on April 10, 2018. It was a great opportunity for our students, faculty and alumni to meet and reunite with current and future leaders in the transportation industry. Alums and representatives from nearly 20 companies and agencies, as well as student participants from diverse backgrounds mingled throughout the evening. TRANSOC, our graduate student organization, recently formed an official partnership with the Cal Institute of Transportation Engineers, an undergraduate student organization who placed in the top three in several recent competitions. I am so proud of all the work students involved in both organizations are doing. Congratulations to TRANSOC leaders Aqshens Nichols and Stella Yip and Cal ITE leaders Henry Hammel and Janette Choi for all the hard work they've put in this year to foster a transportation and planning community.

With commencement around the corner, May 15 at 9 a.m. in the Greek Theatre, I hope you can take the time to join us May 11 for the Student Symposium, starting at 1 p.m. in 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building. We have a great group of PhD candidates speaking on a diverse range of topics, including Conditional Signal Priority, Travel Demand Models, Data-Driven Approaches, Managing City Traffic and Vehicle Grid Integration from a range of students hailing from all over the world and across the U.S. Hope you can catch Paul Anderson, Mogeng Yin, Zahra Amini, Wei Ni, and Colin Sheppard's presentations, with a 4 p.m. reception. I look forward to seeing you at the symposium and/or commencement!

Fiat lux!

Joan Walker
Acting Director of Institute of Transportation Studies
Professor Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

HEADLINES



Susan Shaheen, co-director of the Transportation Sustainability Research Center talks about Solving Transit troubles key in SF navy's race with the San Francisco Chronicle.



ITS Director Alexandre Bayen talks about What Happens When a City Bans Non-Resident Drivers? to CityLab.



PATH's Steven Shladover talks about Uber Video Shows the Kind of Crash Self-Driving Cars are Meant to Avoid at Wired.



PATH research highlighted in Experiment on Route 78 to Study If Slowing Down Can Speed-Up Commute in the Times of San Diego.



TSRC Shaheen comments on Uber's New Bid for Dominance: Controlling every way you move at Wired.



ITS Director Bayen talks The Perfect Selfishness of Maaqing Aocs at the Atlantic.



TSRC Shaheen comments on Young Techies Succeeded to Fuel Google Self-Drive to Push Mayor Nirenberg's Transportation Plan at the San Antonio Current.

NEWS



Lucken Cheng Earn NSF Graduate Research Fellowships



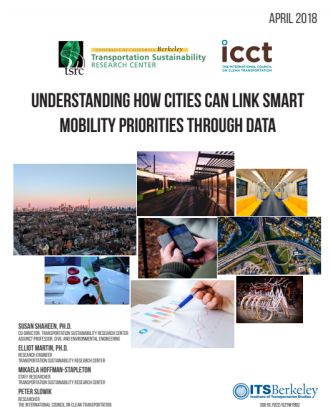
Inspired by MEng Assignment, Alandou Pursues Art & Engineering



Ragland Receives Zak Sabry Mentorship Award



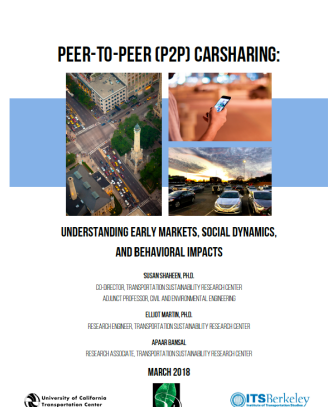
Amin Earns WTS Woman of the Year



Creating a Data Framework for Future Cities



ITS Welcomes Admitted Students



Behind the Shared Wheel



2018 Wachs Lecture Smart Cities: The future of urban infrastructure

SEMINARS AND EVENTS

Friday, May 11, 2018
ITS Student Symposium
290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building

1:00 Paul Anderson
Conditional Signal Priority: Its Effect on Transit Reliability, Transfers and Traffic

1:30 Mogeng Yin
Activity-Based Travel Demand Model from Cellular Data

2:00 Zahra Amini
Data-Driven Approaches for Robust Timing Plan in Urban Transportation Networks

2:30 --- Coffee Break ---

2:50 Wei Ni
Managing City Traffic with Boundary Flow Control

3:20 Colin Sheppard
The Value Proposition of Vehicle Grid Integration

4:00 --- Reception ---



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