

ITS Berkeley Director's Letter

[View this email in your browser](#)



ITS Berkeley welcomed a new batch of students at the Transportation Engineering orientation on August 26, 2019.



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to a new school year! I hope you all enjoyed your summer, whether your adventures took you around the Bay Area or across the globe. While summer offers a slower pace in the academic world, I know that our faculty, staff and students have been working hard on innovative research and working to promote ITS, its Centers and UC Berkeley.

I am excited to welcome back all our students and to welcome a number of new students this year. I look forward to getting to know the great group of students who are interested in transportation housed largely in the College of Engineering and the College of Environmental Design, and drawing from Civil and Environmental Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, the Fung Institute, City and Regional Planning, the School of Information, the Goldman School of Public Policy and the School of Public Health. This diverse group of students brings a unique dynamic to our Institute. A snapshot of this year's new students who participated in the Transportation Engineering and TE/MCP orientation earlier this week bring top students from California, Minnesota, Washington, New York, Florida, Connecticut, Maryland, China, India, Canada, Greece, Saudi Arabia, France, Burma, Hong Kong, Thailand, and Taiwan, who have a diverse group of interests, including strong interests in music and sport. One student recently ran a marathon, another worked on a dive boat on the Great Barrier Reef, another accidentally took a 13 km detour while skiing the French Alps, another student had an internship at CERN, and yet others cultivate their music composing skills and continue their 12-year tradition playing the oboe. I hope you all get to know this talented group as they settle in for the academic year and begin looking for opportunities to engage in research.

As we say hello to our new and returning students, this summer we said good bye to a lifelong friend and colleague of ITS in John T. West. John was the former Director of the New Technology and Research Program at Caltrans, where he worked tirelessly to establish a strong and lasting partnership between Caltrans and ITS. He was instrumental in the creation and growth of California PATH, and one of its flagship programs, the Automated Highway System (AHS). Many faculty, staff and students who worked at PATH at the time of AHS will remember John for his significant involvement. He was recognized by the ITS Distinguished Legacy Award for his extraordinary vision and leadership, in 2016, as well as by the PATH Trophy.

On a more positive note, this summer TechTransfer hosted the first of our center [open houses](#). I want to thank everyone who came out to learn more about TechTransfer, their courses and programs. Learn2Launch, and the TechTransfer staff! Born out the ITS Morale Committee, we hope this is the first of many center open houses to encourage staff and faculty to learn more about our centers, their research and programs, and the people who work there, and boost social opportunities and morale. I hope to see you at the next open house, stay tuned for details.

I am also looking forward to our seminar series starting up again. The first seminar features recent graduate Feras El Zarwi talking about Pricing Data Science at UberEATS on Sept. 6 in 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building at 4 p.m., cookies and beverages at 3:30 p.m. We have a great schedule as usual this fall, and I encourage you all to attend as many seminars as you can. [See the full schedule](#). Here's to a great semester,

Go Bears,

Alexandre Bayen

Director of Institute of Transportation Studies  
Liao-Cho Professor of Engineering

## HEADLINES



Transportation Sustainability Research Center Co-Director Susan Shaheen comments on ["It's back to my own bike." Higher prices threaten Silicon Valley's mobility revolution](#) at TIME Magazine.



Professor Scott Moura talks about his research that will impact [UC Berkeley has 5,000 parking spaces, but only 1 electric vehicle charger? What gives](#) at The Mercury News.



ITS Director Alexandre Bayen and Transportation Sustainability Research Center Co-Director Susan Shaheen comment on [Vlaze Hijacked L.A. in the Name of Convenience. Can Anyone Put the Genie Back in the Bottle?](#) at LA Magazine.



Our affiliate and Berkeley Law Center for Law, Energy & the Environment Director Ehan Elkind comments on [SMART could go broke by 2024, analyst tells board](#) to the Marin Independent Journal.



New York Times' "New Old Age" columnist Paula Span talks to CITRIS Health director David Lindeman and CITRIS PI and ITS director Alex Bayen about "game-changing" ride-hailing for older passengers in [Older People Need Rides. Why Aren't They Using Uber and Lyft?](#)

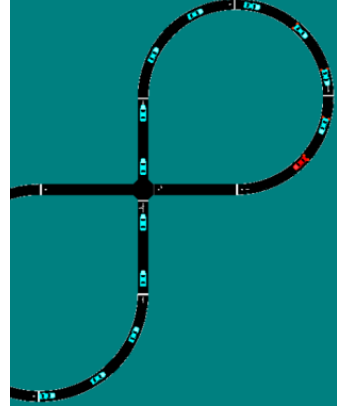


Transportation Sustainability Research Center Co-Director Susan Shaheen comments on [Cal's Sharing Aps Face Tough Regulatory Road](#) at Law360.

## NEWS



[CalSTA's Secretary David Kim Meets with ITS](#)

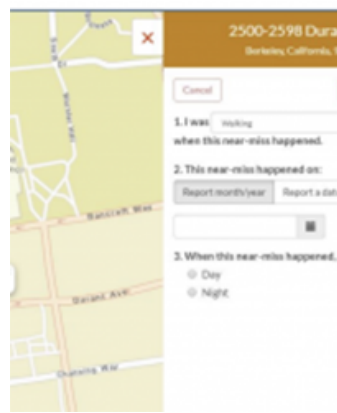


[Autonomous Vehicles for Social Good: Learning to Solve Congestion](#)



[SAS at UC Berkeley, Oct 7-8](#)

[SAS 2019 Lands at UC Berkeley, Oct. 7-8, 2019](#)



[SafeTREC Earns UC Larry L. Sautter Award](#)



[TechTransfer Open House](#)



[Shaheen Named in Top 19 of 2019 Influential Women in Mobility](#)



[Argote to Give Fall CEE Distinguished Lecture](#)



[Fall ITS Transportation Seminar](#)



[ITS Berkeley Joins Transportation Congestion Relief UTC](#)

## EVENTS

**September 6, 2019**

[Pricing Data Science for Uber Eats](#)

Uber's Feras El Zarwi will present Pricing Data Science for Uber Eats on Sept. 6, 2019 at 4 p.m. in 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building at the ITS Transportation Seminar.

**September 13, 2019**

[Rethinking America's Highway Institutions](#)

Reason Foundation's Robert Poole will present Rethinking America's Highway Institutions on Sept. 13, 2019 at 4 p.m. in 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building at the ITS Transportation Seminar.

**September 27, 2019**

[Reliably Accurate State Estimation for Connected and Autonomous Highway Vehicles](#)

Jay Farrell, 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building  
UC Riverside's Jay Farrell will present Reliably Accurate State Estimation for Connected and Autonomous Highway Vehicles on Sept. 27, 2019 at 4 p.m. in 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building at the ITS Transportation Seminar.

## KUDOS

**Achievement Award**

[Jay Johnson](#)

Kudos to Jay Johnson, who received a Berkeley Campus Achievement Award for his work on the new TechTransfer website.

**Open House Planning**

[Jay Johnson and Freda Olivares](#)

Kudos to Jay Johnson who handled all of the planning and arrangements for Tech Transfer's Open House with exception of hiring the caterer, which Freda Olivares expertly handled.

**Finding time**

[John Li](#)

Kudos to John Li. John is very knowledgeable, organized, and makes detailed spreadsheets chock-full of important information. Even when busy, John will find time for his teammates. I feel very fortunate to work with John. Thank you John!

**Always Being There**

[Dana Oldknow](#)

Kudos to Dana Oldknow for being an amazing and understanding supervisor and always being there for the team.

**Offering Support**

[Open House Attendees](#)

A big thank you to everyone who came out to the TechTransfer open house who made the event so fun.

