

ITS Berkeley Director's Letter

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The ITS Berkeley Reception at TRB on Sunday, Jan. 13, 2019 was a great time for faculty, researchers and students to connect and reconnect with alumni and friends of ITS!



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Welcome back to campus for the start of a new semester! I hope everyone's break was enjoyable, and I am excited for the great new ventures we have in store for this semester, including sponsoring the **2018 – 2019 Northern California FIRST LEGO League District Championship** on Saturday, Jan. 19! I would like to invite you to this exciting event on campus in the Pauley Ballroom on the third floor of the Martin Luther King Jr. Student Union Building, where competition starts at 7:30 a.m. with closing award ceremony at 5 p.m. This event is the culmination of four months of hard work for students ages 9 to 14, who have been working in teams using the LEGO Mindstorms robotics kit to design, build and program an autonomous robot to compete in a FIRST-designed game. I hope you take this opportunity to see the amazing work these young scholars are doing and encourage their further pursuits.

I would also like to welcome back to all of you who attended the **Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting** this week, Jan. 13-17, 2019. It was great to see so many faculty, researchers and students presenting their very important work and learning so much at the different sessions. UC Berkeley research was featured in 64 Sessions during the event, we had 64 faculty, students and researchers contribute work at those sessions, in addition to the many who also attended the meeting, presented 25 Posters, had 20 talks we were involved in, had 17 session/workshop presiders, had seven committee and sub-committee leaders, earned six awards from TRB and its committees and had one TRB Executive Committee induction for Susan Shaheen. I am thrilled to see the participation of ITS Berkeley at TRB and encouraged about the leadership roles we are in. I hope this trend continues as we fill the program with our research and talent.

I would like to send congratulations to Shiyao Yang, formerly of PATH and now at Seeing Machines, and Steven E. Shladover, Xiao-Yun Lu, and Hani Ramezani, of PATH, on receiving the TRB Patricia F. Waller Award and Bus Safety Committee Deborah Freund Award; graduate student Xiao Yun Jayne Chang for receiving the 2018 Dwight D Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Achievement Award Top Ranked Masters Fellowship Fellow at the Transportation Research Showcase; graduate student Stephen Wong for receiving the Dwight D Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Best Oral Presentation Award; recent graduate Cathy Wu for receiving the Council of University Transportation Centers (CUTC)'s Milton Pikarsky Memorial Award, given at the CUTC Reception for student award winners at TRB; and SafeTREC's Aditya Medury for receiving the Bike and Pedestrian Joint Subcommittee Best Paper Award.

We also saw many of our eight new **Dwight D. Eisenhower Transportation Fellows** at the meeting giving presentations, posters sessions and attending talks! I look forward to seeing what they do with their fellowships.

As we settle back into our semester rhythm, I'd like to highlight that once again we have an excellent slate of speakers for the **Transportation Seminar** series, and I hope to see many of you there. We are off to a great semester!

Go Bears,

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

EVENTS

[View our complete calendar](#)

January 25, 2019

GTFS and Public-Business Partnerships in the Information Age

Chris Harrelson, of Google, will present GTFS and Public-Business Partnerships in the Information Age Jan. 25, 2019 in 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building from 4-6 p.m. Join us for beverages and cookies at 3:30 p.m.

February 1, 2019

A Computational Optimization Method in Networked Dynamical Systems under Uncertainties

Danfeng Sun of Purdue University will present A Computational Optimization Method in Networked Dynamical Systems under Uncertainties on Feb. 1, 2019 1-4 p.m. in 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building. Join us for beverages and cookies at 3:30 p.m.

February 8, 2019

From School Buses to Start Times: Driving Policy With Optimization

MIT's Sébastien Martin will present "From School Buses to Start Times: Driving Policy With Optimization" on Friday, Feb. 8, 2019 in 1174 Elchevery Hall, 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

February 11, 2019

Chihwei Yan - Transportation Optimization: Data-enabled Advances in a Sharing Economy

Uber's Chihwei Yan will present Transportation Optimization: Data-enabled Advances in a Sharing Economy on Monday, February 11, 2019 in 1174 Elchevery Hall from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

February 25-27, 2019

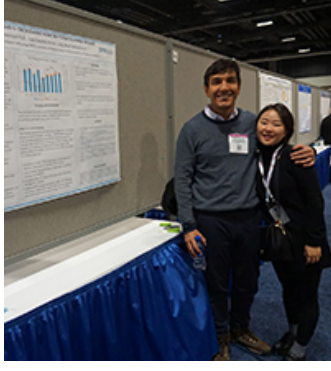
2019 California Transportation Planning Conference: Partnering for Sustainable Transportation: Navigating California's Changing Landscape

San Diego
Caltrans, in partnership with the Institute of Transportation Studies (ITS) at University of California, Berkeley present this **three-day conference** to provide attendees the opportunity to interact with transportation practitioners and decision-makers, exchange ideas and learn about emerging trends, opportunities and advancements in transportation planning from national, state, and local experts.

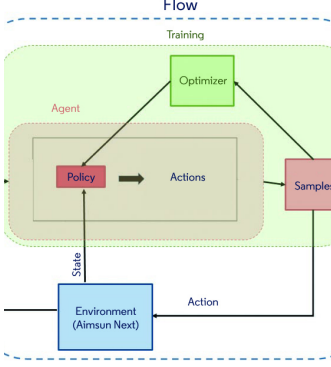
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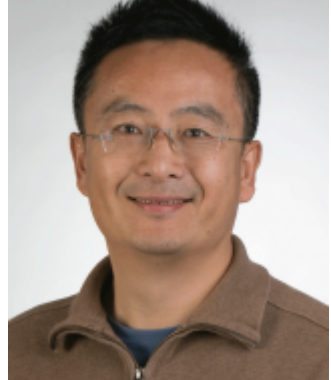
Young Robotics Scholars Compete in FIRST LEGO League on Campus



ITS Berkeley Activities at TRB in Review



Flow, Traffic simulation joint forces with deep reinforcement learning and cloud computing



Max Shen named as chair of IEOR Department



Five Questions With An Expert Studying NYC's Car-Share Pilot



ITS Berkeley Awards Ceremony and Holiday Party



Spring Transportation Seminar Schedule

HEADLINES

Susan Shaheen, co-director of the Transportation Sustainability Research Center talks about **Are scooters safe? Government scientists study health risks as scooters descend on cities in USA Today.**

ITS Director Alexandre Bayen talks about **Turning Autonomous Cars into Traffic Managers** to at Machine Design.

Timothy Lipman, co-director of the Transportation Sustainability Research Center talks about **Hyperloop Promises Ultrafast Transportation, but What Does it Mean for the Environment?** at Enrnis.

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