

ITS Berkeley Director's Letter

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Dear Colleagues and Friends,



This year will be remembered as a historical milestone for ITS. Indeed, for the first time since the Institute's creation in 1947, we have successfully increased ITS's budget from the State of California.

As most of you know, the State initially allocated about \$900K a year to the Institute (approximately \$700K of that comes to Berkeley). Unfortunately, this amount was set without regards to inflation, and despite growing needs and several attempts (the last one in 2008) to augment the budget, ITS never succeeded in increasing funding from the State. With the emergence of new ITS units on other UC campuses (Irvine in 1974, Davis in 1991, and LA in the 1990s — with finalization of UCLA's ITS status with the University of California Office of the President (UCOP) this year through our successful budget augmentation request), the initial annual allocation was not sufficient, especially considering the size of ITS statewide and factoring in a near 1000 percent inflation since 1947. Thus, over the past decades, sustaining our four core missions of research, teaching, library and tech transfer, became nearly impossible. As most of you know, ITS's financial situation in the last few years has been difficult.

This year, the State budget (SB 826) includes a \$3 million increase in our core funding to be divided among the four ITS units. The majority of the 2016-17 funds will go to the other three campuses, as a one-time appropriation. We hope this will be a first step towards a larger and more permanent adjustment that also considers inflation.

This victory came after more than a year and a half of hard work involving several key leadership staff on campus and other ITS Directors at the Davis, Irvine and LA campuses. I want to particularly acknowledge the hard work of these key people on the Berkeley campus who were essential in making this effort a success. At ITS, Tom West and Laura Melendy invested countless hours in meetings with UCOP, the legislature, assembly members in Sacramento, Department of Finance, and many other administrative groups in the State. Without their hard work and ability to assemble the considerable amount of information needed, it would have been incredibly hard to succeed. I also want to thank Michelle Moskowitz from the Government Relations office, who did an incredible job at walking our team through the labyrinth of the State legislature, enabling meetings with dozens of Senators, Assembly members and their staff, and preparing us for hearings in front of the Senate and Assembly. Finally, I also want to thank numerous people at UCOP who were instrumental in crafting a UC-wide strategy, which made it all work. We are very grateful to Kieran Flaherty, Emily Rader and Dori Miller for their ongoing support and leadership.


Going forward, we will need many people's help at ITS to ensure the new funds are put to good use — so the Department of Finance agrees to increased and ongoing support in subsequent years. I will be reaching out to several of you in the coming weeks for your help with this.


As we continue to evolve the financial model of ITS to rebuild and sustain a healthy organization, I look forward to working with many of you on innovative ways we can grow and deliver on new opportunities with these new funds. With your help, I look forward to seeding research grants, providing policy advice to the State, building partnerships and ultimately new research centers.


Go Bears!


Alexandre Bayen
ITS Director

HEADLINES

 A new Transportation Sustainability Research Center study investigates oneway car-sharing in North America, finding improved emissions and congestion in [CNN Money](#), [Christian Science Monitor](#), [Time Magazine](#), [Atlantic Citylab](#), and others.

 ITS Professor Joan Walker featured in Time Magazine in [Automated Vehicle Experts Say Future Could Be Bright—Or Dystopian](#).

 Partner's for Advanced Transportation Technology's Steven Shaldiver talks about the [Deadly Tesla Crash Exposes Confusion over Automated Driving](#) to Scientific American.

 Transportations Sustainability Research Center Co-Director Susan Shaheen discusses shared mobility and how the business models in this transportation delivery segment will continue to evolve in [ITF Talks Transportation Podcast](#)

EVENTS

Sept. 2-4:
The Transportation Sustainability Research Center and the ITS Library will be hosting a hackathon Sept. 2-4 in the ITS Library on Disrupting Mobility. Stay tuned for further details.

Friday, Sept. 9:
The ITS Transportation Seminar will resume Friday, Sept. 9 in 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building at 4 p.m., with beverages and cookies at 3:30 p.m. with Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Saurabh Amin, who will present "Resilient transportation networks: strategic routing and proactive control." The full schedule will be available soon.

NEWS



[Fewer Cars, Improved Emissions in TSRC's CarZoo One-Way Carsharing Study](#)



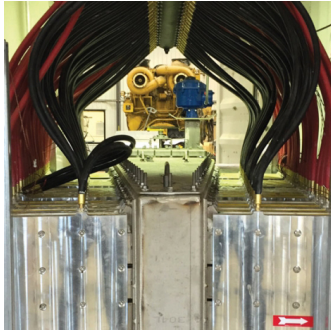
[San Francisco Opens Superpublic Innovation Lab](#)



[Smart Infrastructure Means Monitoring for a Lifetime](#)



[How Modality Styles Influence Travel Behavior](#)



[Turning Car Exhaust Into Electricity](#)



[Using Games to Further Research](#)



[Kenichi Soga to Edit New Smart Infrastructure Journal](#)

