

ITS Berkeley Director's Letter

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Dear Colleagues and Friends,

As many of you know, we lost an amazing collaborator and friend in February, Department of Mechanical Engineering and James Marshall Wells academic chair [Karl Hedrick](#), died Feb. 22, 2017 from lung cancer. He was 72.

We remember Karl for his groundbreaking work and seminal contributions in nonlinear control theory and its applications to transportation, automotive control systems, and aircraft control. His research on autonomous vehicles was well known and widely respected, and in the 1980s, he was the first to test an automated car on the highway. Hedrick's work can be seen in today's communication systems in vehicles, training of industry leaders, and even the national economy. Specifically, his research is arguably the reason that sensors and fly- or drive-by-wire systems embedded in airplanes, Google's self-driving car, medical robotics, drones, and less-advanced technological wonders like an average late-model car all manage to operate functionally.

As well as his accomplishments were known, his leadership as a former Director of Partners for Advanced Highway Technology directly touched many of us in ITS. On his first day working at UC Berkeley in 1988, he received a request to submit a one-page proposal for PATH. That proposal request led to a long research relationship and an eventual leadership position in 1997. He ushered the center through the dissolution of the National Automated Highway System Consortium (NAHSC) and helped broker a Caltrans and PATH California-led Automated Highway System initiative, which provided roots for projects that are still going strong today.

He stepped down as director in 2003, but remained an active researcher with PATH and brought in new opportunities as Co-Director of the Hyundai Center of Excellence in Integrated Vehicle Safety Systems and Control. He was in Washington, DC for the September, 2016 announcement and release of the first Federal Automated Vehicles Policy put out by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), and he hosted the first onsite policy discussion by bringing a NHTSA panel to Berkeley.

Beyond his accomplishments and his leadership, we will miss Karl as a friend and colleague, a mentor and competitor, and a great humanitarian. We will all miss Karl.

I also want to look to the future and invite you all to Sacramento in the next couple of weeks. The Institutes of Transportation Studies at UC Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, and Los Angeles will be presenting a [series of policy forums](#) at the UC Center Sacramento to promote the latest thinking and scientific insights on a range of transportation challenges facing our state and nation, stemming from the research opportunities made possible by a one-time increase in state funding.

Join us for "Taxes, Infrastructure, Energy, and Emissions: The Road to Financial and Environmental Sustainability in California's Freight System" on March 28, "Big Data, Smart Cities: How the Confluence of the IoT, Networks, and Big Data Can Change Everything" on April 4, "What's Behind the Decline? Understanding Public Transit Trends in California" on April 18, and "The 3 Revolutions in Transportation: Sharing, Electrification, and Automation" on April 25. Sessions are on Tuesdays, from 12:00-1:30pm (except for April 25, which is 11:30 am to 1 pm), at the UC Center Sacramento, 1130 K Street, Sacramento. Cost is Free and lunch will be provided. [Registration](#) is recommended.

I am also excited to announce that ITS Berkeley, together with the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the Department of Energy's SMART Mobility Lab Consortium, will be hosting a workshop, "Designing Innovative Transportation Systems Solutions - Starting with the Data" May 9-10, 2017 at the Simons Institute for the Theory of Computing at UC Berkeley. The focus of this workshop is the data needed to assess, analyze, and model future urban mobility. Our goal is to discuss future scenarios that integrate emerging transportation solutions, the impact on mobility patterns, and the resulting grid requirements. We will also discuss how these solutions will affect greenhouse gas emissions and dependence on fossil fuels. Look for more information in the coming months, and I hope to see you there.

Go Bears!

Alexandre Bayen  
ITS Director

#### HEADLINES



Transportation Sustainability Research Center Co-Director Susan Shaheen wrote about [Understanding The Insurance Risk of Carsharing](#) on Move Forward.



ITS Director Alexandre Bayen spoke to Radio Television Suisse about air infrastructure related to [Flying Cars](#) (in French).



TSRC Co-Director Susan Shaheen commented to CNN Money on ridesharing: [Life after Uber: How Austin moved on from a breakup](#).



PATH demonstrated a truck platoon on the 110 Freeway in Los Angeles sponsored by Caltrans and U.S. DOT [Video: Were those driverless trucks on the 110 Freeway?](#)



TSRC Co-Director Susan Shaheen comments to the Wall Street Journal on [Why Take Uber or Lyft to Work When You Can Hitchhike for \\$1?](#)

#### EVENTS

ITS Berkeley features a weekly [Friday Transportation Seminar](#) featuring leading researchers and practitioners in the transportation field.

**Friday, March 24:** Lei Kang, UC Berkeley, will present [Challenges Fuel Loading Behavior to Improve Airline Fuel Efficiency](#) at 4 pm in 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building. Join us for beverages and cookies at 3:30 pm.

**Friday, April 7:** Sreeta Ghoripaty, UC Berkeley, will present [Airport Capacity Prediction Using Machine Learning and its Applications](#) at 4 p.m. in 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building. Join us for beverages and cookies at 3:30 p.m.

**Friday, April 14:** Feras El Zarwi, UC Berkeley, will present [Modeling the Impact of Major Technological and Infrastructural Changes on Travel Demand](#) at 4 p.m. in 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building. Join us for beverages and cookies at 3:30 p.m.

**Friday, April 21:** Yaleng Yin, University of Michigan, will present [Modeling and Analysis of Dynamic Pricing of Ride-Sharing Services](#) at 4 p.m. in 240 Bechtel. Join us for beverages and cookies at 3:30 p.m. in the ITS Library, 412 McLaughlin Hall.

#### NEWS



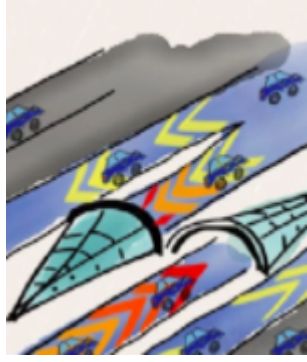
[Scott Moura Wins Graduate Student Mentoring Award](#)



[UAVs @ Berkeley Take Flight in Competition](#)



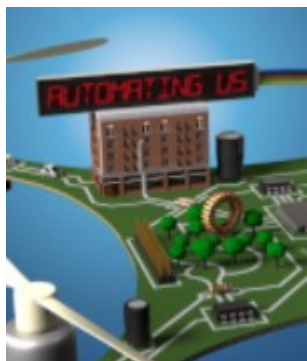
[UC ITS Policy Forum Series in Sacramento](#)



[Self-Driving Cars Could Get Their Own Super Fast Lane By 2050](#)



[Port Of LA Hosts Live Platooning Demonstration with PATH](#)



[Automating Us: The entanglement of people and machines](#)



[J. Karl Hedrick, Professor, Nonlinear Control Expert, 1944-2017](#)



ITS Transportation Seminars on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)!



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