

[ITS Berkeley Director's Letter](#)

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ITS Berkeley organizing committee volunteers at the IEEE ITS Conference in Maui, Hawaii Nov. 4-7, 2018.



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

As we head into this busy sprint toward the end of the semester, I would like to take the time to thank many of the ITS faculty, staff and students who participated to the organization of the 21st IEEE International Conference on Intelligent Transportation Systems on Nov. 4-7, 2018 in Maui, Hawaii. In particular, I would like to congratulate and extend my warmest thanks to Wei-Bin Zhang, the General Chair of the conference for his herculean work in organizing this conference, a nearly 18-month planning operation culminating in a 1,000-person conference, which prominently featured ITS research and researchers and contributed to raise the profile of UC Berkeley research on transportation. I also would like to thank and acknowledge the amazing work of Laura Melendy, Helen Bassham, Sean McMahon and Bob Meade, who provided financial and logistics advice and comprised the core staff to support on-site activity. Finally, I am thrilled that so many of the volunteer students at the conference came from UC Berkeley, providing a unique opportunity for ITS to have a significant contingent at the conference. The IEEE ITSC conference has been on the rise for a while, accelerated by four trends transforming transportation: automation, electrification, the shared economy, and data science. I am thrilled to see how well UC Berkeley has positioned itself in this rapidly growing community. Some of the tutorials, workshops and presentations of ITS faculty, staff and students were amongst the most attended of the conference, some with three rows of people standing in the back, and people lined up at the door because they could not enter a packed room.

Particular thanks goes to PATH for the leadership and representation provided by their faculty and research staff at the conference, which perpetuates a longstanding standing in the field of automation, now accelerated by the rapid growth of the Berkeley Deep Drive. It was also good to see so many familiar faces and make connections at the conference, from our alumni to visiting professors to seminar speakers we have hosted. I want to thank you all again for such a dynamic and thoughtful conference.

I would also like to reiterate how excited and thrilled the ITS community is that the important work under the SB1 research program will continue. As you know, the defeat of Proposition 6 (55% to 45%) on November 6, 2018 solidifies our State funding, which means we are able to continue our efforts on behalf of the state, and the research to support the development of California's future transportation ecosystem.

This new assurance of the future work of ITS for the State, solidifies the value of an effort underway for now more than a year at ITS: our strategic plan. As you know, our strategic planning committee, Daniel Rodriguez, Joan Walker, Karen Trautenberg Frick, Adib Kanafani, Jane Macfarlane, Laura Melendy, Scott Moura and Tom West have been working to gain input from Centers, faculty, researchers and campus partners to shape our vision, mission, values, strengths and goals. The strategic plan document they conceived is a very forward thinking roadmap, and will help guide us as we continue to produce leading-edge innovations that impact the movement of people and goods, while improving sustainability, economic health, and quality of life for everyone as the world evolves around us.

A copy of the Strategic Plan will be made available in the next coming weeks for your review, and I hope you enjoy reading it through. I want to highlight the strategic goals in this document in the meantime: Conduct mobility research that has a transformational impact on society by leveraging technological innovation; Lead the transformation of transportation systems analysis and decision-making through innovative applications of data science and through developing a data-sharing culture; Cultivate transformational leaders in research, policy, and practice; and Build and maintain a strong, stable, impactful organization.

We are also eager to gain your feedback on the Strategic Plan. A Strategic Plan is meant to be a document in motion, as our landscapes change. To this aim, we are hosting an All Hands on Deck: ITS Strategic Plan Meeting for feedback on Monday, Dec. 3 from 2 - 3:30 p.m. in Sibley Auditorium (in the Bechtel Engineering Center on the north side of campus). All faculty and staff from ITS Berkeley and our research centers are invited to come, learn and tell us what you think about the new ITS Strategic Plan. The meeting will be followed by a reception in the Garbatini Lounge (also in the Bechtel Engineering Center) from 3:30-5 p.m.

There will be a 30-min presentation followed by a Q&A. Questions to be addressed include: What are upcoming research priority areas for ITS? How will they be prioritized? What funding opportunities will emerge? How can a new plan help my center? Come ready to engage! ITS has not had a strategic plan in over 10 years! This is the start of a new era, and we want you not only to be part of it, but to drive it!

I hope to see you all for the All Hands Meeting and Reception and for the ITS Holiday Lunch and Awards Ceremony on Friday, Dec. 14 from noon-2 p.m. at the International House to celebrate our success this year!

Go Bears,

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

## EVENTS

[View our complete calendar](#)

**November 16, 2018 - 4:00 pm**

**Rethinking America's 20th-Century Highway Institutions**  
**Robert Poole, 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building**  
The U.S. highway system is our only major public utility that is organized as a directly government-operated department. All other major utilities—whether investor- or government-owned—operate in corporate form, receiving their revenues directly from their customers, based on the services used.

**November 30, 2018 - 4:00 pm**

**Modeling Dynamic Transportation Networks Using Differential Complementarity Systems**  
**Jeff Ban, 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building**  
We introduce a mathematical paradigm, the Differential Variational Inequality (DVI) and Differential Complementarity Systems (DCS), for modeling and solving equilibrium and similar problems on dynamic transportation networks.

**December 3, 2018 - 2:00 pm**

**ITS All Hands Meeting and Strategic Plan Roll Out**  
**Sibley Auditorium (Bechtel Engineering Center)**  
You are invited to come and learn about the new ITS Strategic Plan! This plan is the result of a yearlong engagement effort across campus. There will be a 30-min presentation followed by Q&A. Questions to be addressed include: What are upcoming research priority areas for ITS? How will they be prioritized? What funding opportunities will emerge? How can a new plan help my center? Come ready to engage. There will be a reception following in Garbatini Lounge (in Bechtel Engineering Center) from 3:30-5 p.m.

**December 14, 2018 noon-12:00 p.m.**

**ITS Holiday Lunch and Awards Ceremony**  
**International House**

**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.

## NEWS



[ITS Berkeley Shines at IEEE ITS Conference](#)



[Implications for Shared Urban Mobility for Latin American Countries](#)



[Chaojie Earns ACSIP John Fredmann Book Award](#)



[Yaraiya Kurzhanskiy Meet with Sacramento Leadership](#)



[ITS Berkeley Discusses Highly Automated Driving Challenges](#)



[Turning Cars into Robot Traffic Managers](#)

## SafeTREC

[Meet SafeTREC's new CSCRS Road Safety Graduate Student Fellows](#)



[Street Story: How can we create inclusive community engagement technologies?](#)



[Partnering for Sustainable Transportation: Navigating California's Changing Landscape](#)

## HEADLINES

Susan Shaheen, co-director of the Transportation Sustainability Research Center is featured in [Driverless cars could become a reality in San Francisco by 2023](#) at the Timeout.

ITS Berkeley Director Alexandre Bayen's research is featured in [Your navigation app could be causing more backups, new research suggests](#) on WSB Atlanta.

TSRC's Susan Shaheen talks about [Uber and Lyft are driving toward IPOs](#) at the Marketplace.



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