

ITS Berkeley Director's Letter

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ITS Berkeley welcomed a new group of Transportation Engineering and dual degree with City and Regional Planning students at orientation in the ITS Library on Aug. 20, 2018.



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

As I look around at all the various activities our faculty, students and researchers are involved in, it thrills me to see how active ITS is in the Berkeley community and in the transportation realm around the world.

Many of us have already had an opportunity to meet our new students, and we have another vibrant group this year. Across the many departments we span, including transportation engineering, city planning, mechanical engineering, computer science electrical engineering, public health, policy, data science, infrastructure, and partners at Berkeley Lab, we have welcomed a number of new graduate students and undergrads who joined ITS projects focused on transportation. This comes in addition to the over 50 new students in the transportation engineering and city planning programs we work closely with. Together, these students represent over a dozen countries, some coming as close as in state, others from across the country and others from all around the world. They come from a variety of academic and work experience backgrounds, and we have a well-travelled group of students with some interesting passions, both in research and personally: one visited 17 national parks this summer, one got their first smart phone in April, one ran the San Francisco marathon, and more than one, and we hope all, was admitted to their dream school! This diverse group of students contribute to the strong tapestry we weave at ITS.

In addition to welcoming our new students, I'd like to welcome back our continuing students and our faculty from the far flung places they travelled to this summer representing ITS and UC Berkeley in the greater transportation community. Jane McFarlane and I, along with BAIRS faculty travelled to the United Arab Emirates for a workshop on Artificial Intelligence for the Dubai Electricity and Water Authority. Associate Director Daniel Rodriguez traveled to Universidad Del Rosario in Bogota Columbia on a Fulbright where he performed research and presented at workshops this summer, as well as in Costa Rica and Guatemala. This month, Daniel also gave talks in Chile at Universidad Diego Portales and at Pontificia Universidad Catolica. TSRC Co-Director Susan Shaheen also traveled to Brussels, Belgium to represent the TRISEM at a meeting with the European Union to talk on Shared Automated Vehicle and Automated Vehicle policy. PATH's Wei-Bin Zhang was in Changshu, Suzhou, China for the IEEE Intelligent Vehicle Conference in June. Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning Marta Gonzalez presented at the International Conference on Complex Systems in Cambridge, MA as a plenary speaker and at the International Conference on Computational Social Science in Chicago, IL as the keynote speaker. Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning Daniel Chatman travelled to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania for the MOBILIZE Summit. Professor of City and Regional Planning Karen Chapple travelled on a Fulbright Global Scholar Award to London, UK and Buenos Aires, Argentina looking to expand her displacement project. Several doctoral students in City and Regional Planning travelled to Paraguay and Colombia to perform research. Current students Jeremy Halpern (MS TE/MCP), Andrea Medina (MUD/MRED+D) and alumni Siquing Yi (MS TE '18) and Courtney Ferris (MUD '18) participated in the BMW next mobility challenge event in Shenzhen, China in August and won the [Golden Idea Award](#). Halpern also went to Madrid Spain for a urban mobility workshop with the Norman Foster Foundation. Recent alumni Zahra Amini (PhD '18) went to the IEEE Conference on Control Technology and Applications Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark, in August where she received the [best student paper award](#). TSRC Co-Director Tim Lipman travelled to New England to the [TRB exec board meeting](#) to present on Electric vehicles. NEXTOR Deputy Director Jasenka Rakas presented at the Aviation Sustainability Symposium in San Francisco. We also had several faculty and researchers attend and present at ITS America in Detroit, MI and at the Autonomous Vehicle Symposium in San Francisco. This is not the entire list of our fabulous exploits this summer, and we all thank you all for your hard work and representation in the transportation community.

We also welcomed the world to our campus over the summer. ITS Berkeley and PATH [demonstrated truck platooning technology](#) in August to King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology (KACST) faculty as we work with the university to implement in automated trucks technology in Saudi Arabia. ITS Berkeley and Tech Transfer hosted the [Transportation Systems, Networks, Vehicles and The Silicon Valley Ecosystem](#) module of the Executive Master Program from Ecole Polytechnique in June. And we enjoyed inviting a number of alumni back to campus to celebrate Carlos Daganzo for a symposium composed of his former students in June.

We continue to bring in diverse selection of transportation experts to speak on campus for our Transportation Seminar Series. This week we welcomed the European Commissioner for Mobility and Transport [Violeta Bulc](#) and had an engaging discussion with her on the future of European mobility. You can see video of our previous speakers [here](#), and see the schedule of upcoming speakers [here](#). I hope to see you at our upcoming events. This semester is off to a great start, and I look forward to hearing about our continuing successes!

Go Bears,

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

EVENTS

[View our complete calendar](#)

Friday, 10/5

Early results from the LongROAD study: A five-city observational study of 2990 older drivers
4 p.m. | 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building

Friday, 10/12

Unlikely Alliances and Transpartisanship: Finding Common Ground Across Difference on Transportation and Infrastructure
4 p.m. | 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building

Friday, 10/19

Integrating Shared Autonomous Fleet Services in Urban Mobility: Dynamic
4 p.m. | 502 Davis Hall

Friday, 10/26

Highway Traffic Operations under Reliability and Security Failures
4 p.m. | 290 Hearst Memorial Mining Building

NEWS



[ITS Students Earn Golden Idea Award](#)



[Amini Earns Best Student Paper Award IEEE](#)



[Shaheen Appointed to TRB Exec Committee](#)



[Trapenberg Frick Makes TranspotICA's September Book Club Selection](#)



[KACST ITS Team Up For Truck Platooning in Saudi Arabia](#)



[Lipman Presents EV Research for TRB Exec Committee](#)

HEADLINES



Susan Shaheen, co-director of the Transportation Sustainability Research Center talks about [Lyft Is Paying People to Stop Driving for a Month](#) at Bloomberg.



ITS Director Alexandre Bayen comments on [Why your favorite navigation app might be causing traffic problems according to new research](#) with CNET.



Assistant Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering Scott Moura comments on [Electric vehicles for low-income residents could be crucial in California, at all?](#) News.



City and Regional Planning Professor Karen Chapple comments on [Can Transit Improvements Lead to Gentrification?](#) in the East Bay Express.



TSRC's Susan Shaheen talks about [With carsharing your car can make -- instead of cost -- you money](#) at the Chicago Tribune.

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