**WCTRS Steering Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday 9th February 2022**

**ZOOM**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**1. Minutes of STC meeting Friday 25th June 2021**

The minutes of the meeting were approved without amendment.

**2. President’s Matters:**

a. Covid-19 Task Force (Junyi Zhang and Yoshi Hayashi)

36 Chapters in the Elsevier Book to be published in May 2022 representing an important capturing of these impacts across the globe but also with reflection on management strategies and future directions. Two special issues have also been organised as well as other activities, detailed fully in the slides and further events are planned to disseminate, discuss and develop lessons.

1. Subway Benchmarking (**Xiao Luo**/Haixiao Pan, **Pierluigi Coppola**)

Pierluigi Coppola updated the STC on progress with the European system benchmarking work on 24 cities. With the baseline data and the initial efficiency estimates complete further extensions to analysis are planned as set out in the slide pack.

Xiao Luo updated on the work on 39 cities in China where data is available 2013-2020. A wider range of variables are accessible than in the European database and the Multilateral Productivity Index has been chosen. More results are share in the slide pack. Further work on comparability with the European data set in the coming period.

1. Education & Licence Initiative (**Martin Dresner, Guowei Hua**, Hong Chang Li, Yafeng Yin, Aseem Kinra, Tae Oum)

Martin Dresner outlined progress with the report. Curriculum development is in place, web development and identification of instructors is all in place or in the final processes of being finalised. We are currently awaiting administrative approvals from the Chinese Government. This means the launch will be Autumn 2022. Hongchian Li updated the committee on the contract with Blackboard to support the virtual delivery. The Committee is still looking for excellent supply chain management staff to assist with delivery so please contact Martin Dresner if you have suggestions,

d. Distance Education: Progress Report (**Rosario Macario**)

Rosario Macario shared that the feedback from the students was very positive from the Istanbul course. The team is starting to prepare for the second edition of the course and to think about whether there are wider opportunities for the course.

**3. Progress report on WCTRS Montreal World Conference (17-24 (M-F) July 2023** (Catherine Morency; Martin Trepanier, Lori Tavasszy, Fusun Ulengin):

1. WCTRS 2023 Montreal world conference preparation (Catherine Morency, Martin Trepanier)

Catherine Morency introduced the progress now there is a commitment to proceed in 2023. The Local Organising Committee will meet on 25th February to restart the wider organisation with local partners across Canada. There is a new contract with Palais de Congress. Currently negotiating with hotels again as much as changed since the last arrangements were put in place. There is also a need to reconfirm the funding support that had been committed.

The website will be relaunched shortly and save the date messages will come out in March, ready for the call for papers.

1. Brief onScientific committee work (Lori Tavasszy)

Lori Tavassazy introduced the call for papers which would be in Spring for a 1st October submission and so the process of identifying reviewers etc. is part of the SCC’s work.

1. Special Issues and Proceedings Plan (Fusun Ulengin)

Fusun had sent apologies and Lori related the procedure for Special Issues. 22 Special Issues were completed from 2019. The workflow for this is now well established but will be very clearly geared to communicating to authors which are A/B which could be for journals or C which would go to Procedia. Tae Oum reinforced the importance of this for attracting participants. The process for working towards journals for 2023 is underway. Fusun and Ozay have done an excellent job and STC records its thanks for this.

**4. Summer 2022 Montreal/SCC Virtual Conference (**Lori Tavasszy; Catherine Morency, Martin Trepanier**)**

Montreal will be managing the registration and programme schedule. The SIGs will generate the schedule and manage their own events. This has been designed around time zones which enable North American participation but with one appealing to Europe style time zones and one to Asia style time zones.

**5. Report from WCTRS - Elsevier Journals meeting (Greg Marsden,** Haijun Huang, Rosario Macario, Tae Oum**):**

(STC already approved New CSTP Editor – Pierluigi Cappola (President – AET); TP editorMaya Abou Zeid (American Univ, Beirut) + four more names to be STC-voted/added later

The excellent continued performance of the journals was highlighted. No change to the publishing model for the journals was proposed. SCC is reviewing the case for an additional Open Access journal.

The Secretary General will bring a vote for approval of a remuneration payment to the E-i-C for Case Studies in Spring to align the journal with Transport Policy.

Further requests to approve editors for Case Studies in Transport Policy will also be circulated shortly.

**ACTION: Greg Marsden/Tae Oum**

**6. WCTRS-Y progress report (Laetitia Dablanc)**

Laetitia Dablanc introduced WCTRS-Y. The team is working on the 2023 conference and the call for papers. There will also be a section in the 2022 virtual conference around career development – with the detail to be designed. A survey among young members will also be conducted to prepare for the virtual session. Opportunities to meet the Young Members Council at TRB are being explored to see if a joint social at TRB.

The winners of the PhD grants are listed on the slides in the deck. Interaction with the social media work of WCTRS and the Newsletter, setting up a webpage are also underway as well as generating activity amongst the –Y.

**7. Report from Secretariat (Greg Marsden; Antonio Musso):**

a. WCTRS finances and audit (Greg Marsden and Antonio Musso)

Greg Marsden introduced the financial position of the Society in line with the spreadsheet and note 8a. Antonio Musson confirmed the audit of the society as follows:

The accompanying statements of the WCTRS financial position for the year 2021, along with the related activities and functional expenses performed in this reference period have been audited.

According to the outcomes of the analysis of the financial statements and bank movements representing the period of January – December 2021, an independent audit of the financial situation has been performed under common auditing standards. These standards require examination of the evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit has provided a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In my opinion, such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and performance of WCTRS for the whole year 2021 as represented by the results of its operations

b. Membership fees:

A proposal to extend membership free for 12 months will come for a vote shortly. It was suggested we should promote this more widely to attract new members.

**ACTION: Greg Marsden/Tae Oum**

The need to review our membership fees by summer 2022 was set out. This was linked to whether or not we carry out our next conference in 2025 and, in turn, whether we move to a two year cycle for conferences. SCC is going to conduct an exercise reviewing this. SSSC will be invited to input early in the process.

**8.** **Reports from International Partners (Tae Oum):**

a. **ITF** (International Transport Forum) (Steve Perkins):

Steve Perkins updated the STC on the activities planned for the ITF Summit in Leipzig and thanked Lori for his coordinating efforts. Please promote to colleagues and students and let Steve know if anyone plans to attend to help with session planning and chairing.

b. **TRB** (Caroline Almeras, Christos Xenophontos):

Caroline Alméras introduced the TRB International Coordinating Council activities. STC members are invited to join the LinkedIn group for the ICC. WCTRS has links to almost all TRB standing committees and, therefore can be used to help link new international members to widen the global connection. Collaboration on joint sessions and the ITF research day already happens on an annual cycle. Joint webinars and events are encouraged and building deeper links with TRB Committees is something the ICC can help with.

1. **WB** (World Bank) (Binyam Reja**,** Jose Luis Irigoyen):

Binyam Reja noted the virtual platform for the Global World Bank event with WRI (www.transformingtransportation.org). There will also be a special day which is oriented around the Asian time zone and STC members are encouraged to share this. The slides set out the programme for the World Bank including resilience, connectivity, air quality and decarbonisation. There is still a need to refresh the Africa discussions with WCTRS. Binyam will follow up. There are now new fellowship opportunities to promote up and coming African professionals.

**ACTION: BINYAM REJA**

1. **AET** (Association of European Transport; Pierluigi Coppola, President):

June 2021 a Memorandum of Understand was signed. Abstract submission for 50th anniversary conference in Milan (7-9 September) is 16th February. Opportunities for joint submissions – for example on Covid Recovery.

1. **EASTS** (Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies) (Jaehak Oh, President):

EASTS founded in 1994 and a long history of collaboration with WCTRS, comprised of 19 domestic societies. Every two years runs a conference, with the latest being in Hiroshima, Japan. Kuala Lumpur will be the next in September 2023. There were keynote speeches and joint panel sessions between EASTS and WCTRS.

1. **CODATU** (Cooperation for urban mobility in the developing world) (Ali Huzayyin):

Ali Huzayyin introduced the history of the conference and explained how the conference for 2021 was managed on-line for the academic stream. The partner stream will be in Dhaka in September 2022. The SIG-H5 between CODATU and WCTRS was held and this is a long-term historic link which is working well. Cooperation with Case Studies for a Special Issue is underway.

1. **Club of Rome**: Yoshi Hayashi explains our effort to link up with **UNFCCC-COP** (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change-Conference of Parties), **SLOCAT** (Partnership on Sustainable Low Carbon Transport) (Holger Dalkmann):

Yoshi Hayashi introduced the slides which explained the programme of the Club of Rome. Work is underway on a sixth impact hub idea with SIGF2 on “sufficient mobility” but others can contribute, possibly with our other international partners.

1. h. PANAMSTR Pan-American Society of Transportation Research (Jose Holguin-Veras):

José Holguin-Veras introduced the PANAMASTR – next one will be in Guayaquil in August 2023 and then 2025. He welcomes ideas for collaboration between the societies.

1. **CCTA-WCTRS** collaboration issue (**Hong Chang Li**; Tae Oum):

There is a need to sign a general agreement with CCTA and an invitation for the CCCA President to meet with WCTRS President. There is an aim to have a Special Issue related to CCTA activities with Transport Policy.

**9. Selected Speakers from Country and Regional Rep Council:**

Further details on the updates are available through the slide deck.

* Brazil/Latin America (**Romulo Orrico**)

The WCTRS bulletins and newsletter are distributed to a 5000 strong mailing list. Looking to expand CARs within Latin America. Would like to see a joint WCTRS event in a local Brazilian conference.

* MENA Middle East North Africa (**Maya Abou Zeid**; **Monica Menendez)**

New efforts to expand membership, including newer academics and women to grow the interest.

* China (**Haixiao Pan/Hong Chang Li**/Chuntao Wu-Sichuan Univ)

In addition to the items raised under the CCTA update. There are aims to organise special session at WCTRS 2023 if the Covid situation allows.

* India (**Raghu Raghuram**)

Raghu Raghuram – work is on-going to align members to the relevant SIG mailing lists. The one year free membership will be potentially attractive. There are Indian events where joint events are planned or where they can be coordinated. This is now pro-actively being developed. There are also opportunities to connect to academic-practitioner networks which tend to be modally organised.

* Japan (**Shinya Hanaoka**)

Strong membership of civil engineering and transport engineering organisations. Around 200 people joined from Japan to Mumbai and this will be a key route to promote Montreal.

* Thailand (**Varameth Vichiensan**)

Varameth Vichiensan – The main Thai societies are being encouraged to submit papers to Montreal. There is a history of participation but a need to refresh this.

**10. Publicity (Maria Attard, Ashish Verma)**

1. Social Media (Maria Attard) Facebook, Twitters, YouTube, LinkedIn - 5 min

Maria Attard presented the strong rise in Social Media contacts which is important for WCTRS on the build up to Montreal. The statistics are in the slide deck. There is a new website now which is improving our reach.

b. WCTRS Research Newsletter – monthly (Ashish Verma) 5 min

12 issues of the newsletter to date. The contributions from members are particularly important – e.g. CAR Council activities will be important as well as research focus articles.

Maria and Ashish were thanked for the significant improvement in our outreach activities. Promoting the membership and other initiatives such as the license programme will be important for 2022.

**Attendees:**

Greg Marsden, Tae Oum, Junyi Zhang, Antonio Musso, Hai-Jun Huang, Sergio Jara Diaz, Alain Bonnafous, Ali Huzayyin, Anmig Zhang, Aseem Kinra, Binyam Reja, Caroline Almeras, Catherine Morency, Chikage Miyoshi, Christos Xenophontos, Chuntao, Chunyan Yu, Ganesan Raghuram, Gopal Patil, Guowei Hua, Haixiao Pan, Hideki Nakamura, Hongchang LI, Jose Holguin-Veras, Jose Luis Irigoyen, Kun Wang, Laetitia Dablanc, Lori Tavasszy, Luo Xiao, Maria Attard, Martin Dresner, Maya Abou Zeid, Martin Dresner, Roger Vickerman, Romulo Orrico, Rosario Macario, Sergio Jara Diaz, Shinya Hanaoka, Ashish Verma, Stephen Perkins, Varameth Vichiensan, Yafeng Yin, Yucel Candemir, Pierluigi Coppola, Martin Trepanier, Yoshi Hayashi

**Supporting Attendees:** Anastasiia Nosach, Jingyun Su,