**WCTRS Steering Committee Meeting**

**Thursday 7th July 2022**

**ZOOM**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

1. **Minutes of STC meeting 9th February 2022**

Greg Marsden presents the minutes and outlines the actions of the previous meeting.

The minutes of the meeting were approved without amendment.

**2. President’s Matters:**

1. Covid-19 (**Yoshi Hayashi; Junyi Zhang**)

Junyi Zhang thanks all members for their efforts and for excellent results. The first special issue was published and there is another issue on freight and logistics to come. The citations to articles are increasing significantly. The book will be published in the coming months.

Tae Oum makes a presentation.

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

Presentation materials are in the slide deck.

Xiao Luo introduces benchmarking related research in China, with a focus on data availability. Information is available in the slide deck.

Yiping presents the coverage and scope. She explains the parameters of data used.

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

Martin Dresdner introduces and explains the status of the programs. He explains the tasks to be completed, such as a live website.

Hong Chan Li presents the Education and Licence initiative, the program is under construction. They are reaching out to lecturers who were interviewed by Tae Oum several months ago.

Tae Oum adds that they had over 50 meetings since last Autumn. The committee members have worked very hard.

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

Rosario Macario makes a presentation. All students are members of WCTRS, which was included as part of the program. The next step is to enlarge the network with other colleagues willing to be involved in distance learning. The courses have been prepared and the materials have been tested, they are in a good position to promote the course in other countries. The team is enthusiastic.

1. Moving Secretariat: **(Tae Oum, Dan Sperling)**

In January 2024 the Secretariat will move to UC Davis. Greg Marsden will step down from his position as Secretary General and this will transfer to Dan Sperling with support in the role by Giovanni Circella. A vote had been held which was approved by the steering committee with only one abstention noted.

Dan Sperling remarks that it will take two people to replace Greg Marsden. They are situated on the West Coast in California. They have a large research capacity, with 60 faculty researchers affiliated with the institute and a focus on environmental and social sustainibility.Giovanni Circella looks forward to working with the WCTRS colleagues.

**4. 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)

Martin Trepanier makes a presentation, detailed in the slide pack. This meeting will take place on Monday to Friday 17-21 July 2023. Canada is experiencing high inflation. He will add some preferential prices with the hotels but they will not be held for long as there are many accommodation choices in Montreal. Everyone will receive a public transport pass for the whole week, the subway system is safe. The conference is in summer and there are lots of tourists and lots of demand on rooms so it is best to book by the beginning of 2023.

On registration, the EasyChair licence fee has been paid to manage paper submission. A postdoctoral student will manage EasyChair.

On sponsorship, they are approaching the Ministry of Quebec and other organisations to request sponsorship. They are preparing for some keynotes from Canadian researchers.

1. Brief onScientific committee work (Lori Tavasszy)
2. Special Issues and Proceedings Plan (Fusun Ulengin and Catherine Morency)

Lori Tavasszy updates that they must work hard for the special issues to be ready. There are good connections to journals in the SIGs.

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

Lori Tavasszy makes a presentation on the July 2022 event. There will be many conference sessions suited to the US time zone. Gopal Patil has helped in the preparation of the conference.

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

Materials are available in the slide deck. The LinkedIn page is live, there are more than a hundred followers. There have been exchanges with the managers of young leaders programme and they will organise events together.

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

**a**.Social Media (Maria Attard) Facebook, Twitters, YouTube, LinkedIn

Maria Attard set out the growth in social media reach and underlines that social media is still cost free for now. Currently the WCTRS does not boost facebook posts, which have increased via sharing. She is open to using any available budget effectively.

**b**. WCTRS Research Newsletter – monthly (Ashish Verma)

Aitichya chandra presents the slide in the slide deck detailing a list of tasks that have featured in the news letters. More articles would increase the visibility of the newsletter and increase readership.

**8. Report from Secretariat (Greg Marsden)**

Helen Robinson is formally welcomed.

1. WCTRS finances (Greg Marsden)

The balance is a healthy closing balance for 2021. However, the impacts of deferring the conference means that the position will weaken somewhat over the coming three years. A strong conference attendance will help mitigate this. However, it was also noted that there are global inflationary pressures and the balance will be able to buy less in coming years.

1. Fees for WCTRS 2023 (Greg Marsden)

In line with the flexibility afforded to STC by the General Assembly to vary fees for membership by up to 20% a paper was presented to STC for approval (see attached papers). No increase was proposed for students and a lower rate of increase for developing economies.

Tae Oum remarks that fees have not changed for a long time and inflation has increased. There has already been 7-10% inflation in some countries and he supports the proposal. The proposal was approved.

Greg Marsden says that sterling is not currently strong and has variations relative to the dollar. WCTRS should think about whether to move funds from the Montreal conference directly to UC Davis rather than via the UK Secretariat.

1. Registration (Greg Marsden)

The Society has always been registered in Switzerland. More recently the Society has begun to incur fees and there has been difficulty in changing the registration of the Society. This issue is compounded by the lead academic’s group being closed and administrative support being lost. The secretariat has been asked to find an alternative home for registration of the society.

**Action Greg Marsden proposes to establish a working group about where to re-register the Society in the future.**

Ali Huzayyin adds that reporting requirements are minimal in Switzerland. In 1986, WCTRS moved to a Society. In Switzerland it is free of charge but in other countries there are charges and taxes. If the committee searches for another country they need to consider charges.

Tae Oum suggests a working group but finding another institution to support with a strong link to transport.

**9.** **Reports from International Partners (Tae Oum)**

1. **ITF** (International Transport Forum) (Steve Perkins)

Steve Perkins makes a presentation on transport economics and growth. He hopes the WCTRs will be on board again with abstracts in January and with a portal. The ITF will be reviewing research input in October and he suggests integrating accessibility for main conference participants.

**Action He outlines upcoming research meetings for and roundtables, he requests that ITF events are publicised by WCTR.**

1. **TRB** (Caroline Almeras, Christos Xenophontos)

Caroline Almeras makes a presentation, details are in the slide deck. The TRB have been contributing to technical discussions and they have been able to work on joint seminars. She encourages WCTRS members to become friends of the association. She invites people to participate in the conference and people can follow the LinkedIn pages. There is a debate about decarbonising transport and the TRB are looking for speakers for this event.

Tae Oum mentions climate change as a key theme.

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

Binyam Reja makes a presentation. The World Bank have been long standing partners of WCTRS. He discusses in-depth analytical work. Some of the key studies cover new themes, such as decarbonisation. He discusses decarbonising transport, challenges and how this is different in developed and developing countries. For example, in some developing countries labour costs are low, however transportation costs are high therefore there is less advantage.

There are a number of people of African heritage who are being provided with opportunities to do an internship. The World Bank is open to recruiting and he requests support with finding candidates from WCTRS. Lori Tavasszy and Tae Oum have been working with the World Bank on a Twinning arrangement.

**Action Tae Oum suggests to follow-up on these points.**

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

AET is a non-profit organisation set up to advance transport planning set up over 20 years ago and there is an MOU with WCTRS to share objectives, disseminate findings and share information and activities. Please see the slide deck.

There have been two successful online conferences with parallel streams over two days. He presents key themes and promotes an upcoming event, booking is now open.

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

EASTS is working to improve citation impact with Elsevier. He reports on an online conference. President Oum made a presentation in the opening ceremony. In 2022 there will be an in-person meeting in Cambodia. There is more information in the slide deck.

EASTS have announced the WCTRS membership announcement and also the 2022 virtual meet which have been circulated among the EASTS society and he hopes that participation will be high. There has been a joint meeting to promote membership, involving the government. He is thanked for promoting WCTR to the Korean academic community.

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

WCTR started in Dakar in 1980. The scientific stream was held last November online. There will be a whole mobility week to be held in November and details will be advertised on the website Codatu.org this conference will take place over a week on the subjects of environment and mobility.

CODATU has many media outlets and publications.

1. **Club of Rome** (Yoshi Hayashi) also link up with **UNFCCC-COP** (Conference of Parties), **SLOCAT** (Sustainable Low Carbon Transport) (Holger Dalkmann):

Yoshi Hayashi makes a presentation. The club of Rome is a platform which identifies historic solutions to global issues and conflicts. They have one hundred full members and nearly 40 honorary members. He presents the impact hubs, please refer to the slide deck.

Holgar Dalkman shares with the group the information on the plans for the 3rd status report plans (GSR) on transport and climate change by SLOCAT. The latest edition can be found online. SLOCAT encourages contribution and participation (e.g. reviews).

Unfortunately the Egyptian Presidency will not host a Transport Day. He shares the current program. SLOCAT is currently exploring co-hosting a potential Transport Day at Sharm-El-Sheik, but there is no agreement yet.

1. **UNESCAP** (Wei-Shiuen Ng)

Wei Shiuen shares some insights, there were more than 100 transport events, they successfully organised a meeting with more than 100 governments on transport.

ESCAP coves 40% of the world geographical area. There are three core functions and research analysis is one of the core functions, please refer to the slide deck. She shares information on publications and journals. She asks for interested parties to contribute to a journal article. She presents the thematic areas, transport is one of them. There are some key mandates to member states. She presents three mandates and areas of focus.

**Action a new initiative is a transport research and education network and she encourages all WCTRS members to join the UNESCAP network.**

1. **Air Transport Research Society (ATRS**) (Anming Zhang)

Anming Zhang makes a presentation. Last year there was an online conference with 350 papers presented. This year there is an in-person conference. The annual conference will be run as a hybrid meeting 24-27 August with approx. 300 participants registered.

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

Victor Cantillo Maza makes a presentation. He explains the mission of PANAMSTR. More information is available in the slide deck. The next event will take place in San Diego, California. Panamstr partners are international organisations.

**Action Tae Oum will follow up with a discussion.**

1. **ADBI**

Yoshi Hayashi makes a presentation, he presents high speed rail work in Asian countries. He presents a hosting learning series, with a view to influencing policy implementation. ADBI and SIG A4 has jointly published special issues and books.

1. **. CCTA-WCTRS**

Hong Chang Li makes a presentation. At present they are working to have a special issue

Helena Cybis makes a presentation. More information is available in the slide deck.

Ganesan Raghuram makes a presentation. He presents promotion of a free conference this summer and free membership in the hope that it WCTR will retain members.

Tae Oum remarks there were more than 600 participants from India at the last WCTRS conference.

**11. Selected Speakers from Country and Regional Rep Council**

Japan - Shinya Hanaoka makes a presentation, he encourages Japanese members to join the seminars. More information is available in the slide deck.

Tae Oum replies that Japan has always been a top WCTR participant. He encourages Shinya Hanoka to mobilise many people to join in Montreal.

Thailand - Varameth Vichiensan makes a presentation, Varameth Vichiensan hopes to have some good papers presented in the Montreal conference.

**MENA Special Intro** (Maya Abou Zeid; Monica Menendez; Ranal Mam; Saif Jabari; Ali Huzayyin)

Tae Oum presents the slides. MENA are targeting the engagement of young and also female members.

**12. Any other business**

Ganesan Raghuram suggests that the WCTR subway benchmarking initiative connects with India, which has many subways.

**Action Tae Oum will send a meeting notice to Ganesan Raghuram.** Tae Oum requests that Ganesan Raghuram mobilises the Indian data collection, which is needed in the South East Asian report.

**Action Ganesan Raghuram will look into sharing the parameters.**

Tae Oum replies they do share information for the common good and they are looking for Canadian and North and South American volunteers. The success of the summer conferences is a priority.

**13. Adjournment**

**Attendees:**

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| Hongchang LI |
| Xiao LUO |
| Chuntao |
| haixiao Pan |
| Xiao Luo |
| Yiping LE\_SIT |
| Junyi Zhang |
| Yoshi Hayashi |
| Shinya Hanaoka |
| Wei-Shiuen Ng |
| Varameth Vichiensan |
| Hideki Nakamura |
| Jaehak Oh |
| Jose Luis Irigoyen |
| Helena Cybis |
| Gopal Patil |
| Ganesan Raghuram |
| Aitichya Chandra |
| Helen Robinson |
| Antonio Musso |
| Fusun Ülengin |
| Greg Marsden |
| Rosário Macário |
| Aseem Kinra |
| Stephen Perkins |
| Maria Attard |
| Lori Tavasszy |
| Yucel Candemir |
| Pierluigi Coppola |
| Hermann Maier |
| Chikage Miyoshi |
| Caroline Alméras |
| Dr. Rana Imam |
| Tae Oum |
| Martin Trepanier |
| Martin Dresner |
| Chunyan Yu |
| Anming Zhang |
| Joel Shon |
| Ali Huzayyin |
| Victor Cantillo Maza |
| Dan Sperling UC Davis |
| Christos Xenophontos |
| Giovanni Circella |
| Yafeng Yin |
| Laetitia Dablanc |
| Binyam Reja |

**Supporting Attendees:** Anastasiia Nosach, Siran Li, Minkyeong Baik

**Chair of the meeting** Tae Oum

**Secretary of the meeting** Helen Robinson