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Transport Research Society****SECRETARIAT OFFICE OF THE WCTRS**

Institute for Transportation Studies

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WCTRS President's Reception – Join Us at TRB Annual Meeting 2026

All WCTRS Members are cordially invited to the WCTRS President's Reception during the TRB Annual Meeting 2026. This special gathering is a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow members, celebrate our shared accomplishments, and discuss the future of WCTRS in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

WCTRS President's Reception - This reception offers an excellent opportunity to connect with WCTRS members and global partners while sharing our achievements over the last year and future planned activities

- Date: Tuesday, January 13, 2026
- Time: 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
- Location: East Overlook Room, Washington Convention Center

Please note, you can attend the reception without TRB conference registration. If stopped by security, please tell them you are attending the WCTRS President's Reception in the East Overlook room, and they will let you go to the room.

We hope to see you there.

Call for Nominations: Dupuit Prize – 16th World Conference on Transport Research

The Dupuit Prize Sub-committee invites nominations for the Dupuit Prize to be awarded at the 16th World Conference on Transport Research (WCTR). Key details for the nomination process are outlined below.

- **Eligibility and Selection Criteria** (ref: the Operating Practices 2016, Update for 2021: Section 5.6.2)
The Dupuit prize is awarded to a distinguished scholar based on a record of outstanding scientific work, a significant reputation in transport policy, a reputation for truly international activity, including involvement in global networks, and particular contributions to and reputation within WCTRS.
- **Nomination Requirements-** Each nomination should include:
 - ❖ Name of the nominated candidate
 - ❖ Short statement on the reasons for nomination in one page of A4 in single space
 - ❖ Supplementary materials, if deemed necessary (CV, publication list, etc.)
- **Nomination Submission-** Send nominations confidentially to the Dupuit Prize Sub-committee members no later than Friday, 30 January 2026.

Dupuit Prize Sub-committee Members are:

- Alain BONNAFOUS (Chair) – alain.bonnafous@cnrs.fr
- Krishna RAO – kvk rao@iitb.ac.in
- Hideki NAKAMURA – nakamura@genv.nagoya-u.ac.jp

All nominations of each STC member will be treated as “strict confidentiality” and will only be disclosed to the Sub-committee.

WCTRS-Y 2026 Update

Abstract submission has been closed on 24 November 2025. Thank you for the continued interest from young researchers worldwide!



Updated Key Dates

- ❖ Abstract submission: 24 November 2025
- ❖ Abstract acceptance notification: 17 December 2025
- ❖ Full paper submission: February 2026
- ❖ Acceptance notification: March 2026
- ❖ Final version submission: 30 April 2026

Papers presented at the Young Conference will have the chance to:

- ❖ Compete for Young Researcher Awards
- ❖ Be considered for inclusion in Special Issues linked to the conference

Further information: [\[Call for Papers\]](#)

Meet the WCTRS-Y 2026 Conference Chair

Dr. Ann Mary Varghese is a sustainable transport researcher focused on eco-innovation and the institutional dynamics that shape low-carbon transport transitions, especially electric bus deployment in emerging economies. Her future research explores renewable energy integration, innovative business models for transport financing, and circular-economy principles in infrastructure development. She brings consulting experience with international firms and engages in consultancy projects in sustainable public transportation. Dr. Varghese serves as the Conference Chair (Activity I) for WCTRS-Y 2026 and will be present at the event in Toulouse. She is open to new collaborations and professional opportunities and can be contacted via LinkedIn ([LinkedIn Ann Mary Varghese](#)). Her broader research contributions are available on her ResearchGate profile ([Research Gate Ann Mary Varghese](#)).

Job Opportunities

WCTRS-Y updated the job opportunities list with newly available positions across regions including PhD openings, postdoctoral, professorships, and other research roles.

Access the full list of vacancies: [\[Vacancies November\]](#)

Career Advise

We are pleased to feature [Professor Edoardo Marcucci](#), a Professor of Transportation Economics at the Department of Logistics, Molde University College in Norway, and Professor in Economic Policy at the Department of Political Sciences of Roma Tre University. He encourages young researchers to embrace uncertainty, to accept and keep going.

“Research is rarely a straight path — it’s a dialogue between curiosity, failure, and persistence.”

He emphasizes that research should be fueled by passion while aligned with societal needs, funding priorities, and active academic conversations. He highlights developing **critical thinking, clear communication, and resilience** as essential early skills — acknowledging that setbacks are part of learning, not indicators of failure.

Professor Marcucci also cautions that productivity is not always progress; meaningful work requires depth, clarity, and strong purpose. He reminds us that **research is a craft, not a race**, and **warns against working in isolation. collaboration, dialogue, and feedback are critical for growth**. To build visibility and partnerships, he encourages **curiosity, generosity, and active engagement** within research communities, sharing ideas openly, connecting with peers, and making work accessible.

See his full career advice here: [\[Career advice\]](#)

Young Scholar Feature - Fellowship experience

Dr. Sanchari Deb, NUAAct Faculty at Newcastle University, sits at the intersection of power systems and transportation, focusing on electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure, local energy systems, optimization, and AI-driven vehicle-grid integration. Dr. Deb held competitive fellowships, including the MSCA COFUND Fellowship, the ERCIM Fellowship, HWK Junior Fellowship, HIAS Fellowship, EPSRC EDI in Energy fellowship among others.

Her fellowship proposal was built around MSCA’s three key pillars: demonstrating research excellence through advanced AI and EV modeling, delivering strong societal and industrial impact toward decarbonization, and presenting a solid implementation plan with realistic schedules, risk management strategies, and international secondments. This comprehensive approach helped transform her ambitious ideas into a high-impact funded project. Her advice to future applicants:

“Define a timely problem, set clear outcomes, engage stakeholders, balance innovation with feasibility, design testable pilots, and be rigorous with methods and uncertainty.”

Read her full story about winning fellowships: [\[Young Scholar Feature\]](#)

Young Scholar Publication

This month, we continue to highlight the outstanding research across different transport fields. We have created a document that collects the most recent publications by WCTRS Young Scholars.

You can access it here: [\[Publications file link\]](#)

If you’ve recently published a paper, book chapter, or conference article, feel free to contact us and send us the details. we’ll include it in the file and in upcoming newsletters!

Workshops – We Want Your Input!

We are planning workshops tailored explicitly for young members. If you are aware of ongoing workshops (within or outside your institutions) that could be relevant for our community, please share them with us at wctrsy2026@outlook.com. This will help us build a stronger and more engaging program.

Special Issue on “Maintaining and Adapting Intermodal Supply Chains in a Changing World”

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. Ralf Elbert (Technical University of Darmstadt, Darmstadt, Germany)

Prof. Jason Monios (Kedge Business School - Bordeaux Campus, Talence, France)

Dr. Gunnar Stefansson (Chalmers University of Technology, Göteborg, Sweden)

The demand for transportation is at an all-time high, and freight transport, in particular, is feeling the pressure. We need to move unprecedented amounts of goods, yet these transports must at the same time be climate-neutral, reliable, and on schedule, even in times of global uncertainty.

As recent years have shown, transportation and supply chains are not immune to disruptions. They must adapt, evolve, and become more resilient.

With this in mind, we are pleased to share our Special Issue, “[Maintaining and Adapting Intermodal Supply Chains in a Changing World](#)” is now published in Research in Transportation Business & Management.

We explore how intermodal freight transport networks can be designed to remain adaptive and robust in the face of climate change, geopolitical shifts, and the growing complexity of global logistics. Head down to the comments to find new perspectives and practical solutions from researchers working toward a more sustainable and resilient freight transport system.

Upcoming Webinar: Understanding & Advancing Freight Modeling- From Urban Simulations to National Digital Twins

Join WCTR SIG B5 (Freight Transport Modeling) for an engaging webinar introducing key concepts in freight modeling and emerging innovations shaping the field. The event is sponsored by WCTRS SIG B5 Freight Transport Modeling and co-sponsored by ASCE T&DI Freight & Logistics Committee.

Designed for both new practitioners and experienced researchers. The session will provide a freight modeling primer, an overview of the MASS-GT multi-agent simulation for urban freight, and insights into building a National Digital Twin for Freight and Logistics. Learn how these tools can help support data-driven planning, policy evaluation, and sustainable freight solutions across local and national contexts.

WCTRS Webinar Details

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

United States: 8:30–10:20 AM CST | 9:30–11:20 AM EST | 6:30–8:20 AM PST Europe: 3:30–5:20 PM CET

Asia: 8:00–9:50 PM IST | 10:30 PM–12:20 AM SGT/CST | 11:30 PM–12:20 AM JST

Moderators



Sushant Sharma

Texas A&M Transportation Institute, USA



Lori Tavasszy

TU Delft, Netherlands

Presenting



Monique Stinson

Bureau of Transportation
Statistics, USA



Tho Le

Purdue University, USA



Michiel de Bok

TU Delft/Significance,
Netherlands

Webinar Link: <https://tinyurl.com/SIGB5Webinar>

Committee website: <https://tinyurl.com/SIGB5>

For more information: Sushant Sharma s-sharma@tti.tamu.edu

We look forward to your participation in this global knowledge-sharing session!

Report on Virtual Meet: SIG B3 Online Seminar on data and digitalization for multimodal transport chains

We need data – high-quality, accessible, and shared data

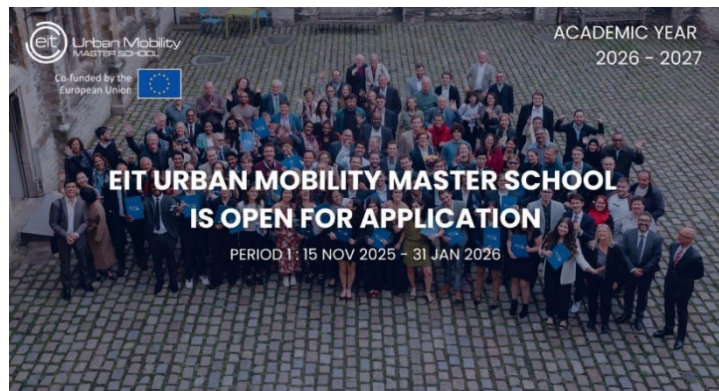
What do we need to bridge international transport corridors and make them resilient when disruptions inevitably happen? We need data – high-quality, accessible, and shared data.

At our recent SIG B3 seminar, we explored how multimodal transport chains can become smarter and more resilient through better data availability. A recurring theme emerged: the varying levels of readiness among players to share their data. As Dr. Ralf Bammerlin from the German Federal Ministry of Transport aptly put it: We need data protection, but if we never share data, we cannot make data accessible and foster progress.

From the U.S., Dr. Thomas Koch from MIT presented the FLOW Project: an initiative to optimize supply chains through improved data use in logistics. Initially focused on containerized import freight, it demonstrates the potential when diverse actors collaborate and share data on a common platform.

Looking ahead, Prof. Lori Tavasszy offered a glimpse into the future: a landscape filled with digital platforms and new services designed to meet the ever-growing demand in freight transport. To make this vision work, we'll need to adapt how we operate — and how we trust. We'll need an anchor (perhaps the Physical Internet?), we'll need to turn visions into operational plans, and we'll need clear governance to build an efficient and resilient logistics architecture.

EIT Urban Mobility Master School: Applications Open for 2026 Double-Degree Master's Programmes



The EIT Urban Mobility Master School welcomes applications for the 2026 intake of its international double-degree Master's programmes. The programmes combine engineering, data science, business, and innovation education to train the next generation of mobility leaders.

What is in the EIT Urban Mobility Master School?

A top European University Network

The Master School is delivered in collaboration with a distinguished group of universities:

- Ghent University (Belgium)



- Aalto University (Finland)
- Eindhoven University of Technology (Netherlands)
- Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (Spain)
- University of Tartu (Estonia)
- Technische Universität Braunschweig (Germany)
- Universidade de Lisboa (Portugal)

Students may select two universities depending on their chosen specialisation track.

Integrated Learning Experience

Students study in two countries, receive a double degree, and earn the EIT Label Certificate, awarded to programmes demonstrating excellence in innovation and entrepreneurship education.

International Mobility & Real-World Skills

The programmes include an international summer school addressing mobility challenges, and a mandatory internship with one of EIT Urban Mobility's partner companies or city agencies.

Scholarship Opportunities

Competitive scholarships are available for outstanding students worldwide, making the programmes accessible to top talent.

Specialisation Tracks

1. Sustainable Urban Mobility Transitions
2. Smart Mobility Data Science & Analytics
3. Business Engineering in Urban Mobility

These tracks prepare students for careers in transport planning, mobility systems engineering, data analytics, consulting, urban innovation, and mobility entrepreneurship.

Who should apply?

The programmes welcome **engineering, data science, planning, geography, computer science, economics, and policy students**, as well as early-career professionals who aspire to work in sustainable mobility, smart transportation, mobility innovation, or urban development. Motivated students interested in international education, mobility research, or innovation pathways are encouraged to apply.

Application timeline

Period 1 deadline: 31 January 2026 (Non-EU students requiring a student visa are strongly encouraged to apply)

by this deadline)

Period 2 deadline: 15 April 2026

Find more details and apply at:

<https://www.eiturbanmobility.eu/what-we-offer/education-and-training/masters-programmes/>

For questions: masterschool@eiturbanmobility.eu

Prof. Giovanni Circella, Ghent University, Belgium, and UC Davis, USA

Co-Secretary General, WCTRS, and Head of EIT Urban Mobility Master School

Membership of the WCTRS

The World Conference on Transport Research Society (WCTRS) provides a forum for the interchange of ideas among transport researchers, managers, policymakers, and educators from all over the world from a multi-modal, multi-disciplinary, and multi-sectoral perspective.

Every three years, the Society holds the World Conference, where leading transport professionals from all countries and areas convene to learn from one another. WCTR Toulouse will be held from 6th-10th July 2026.

In addition to our [Special Interest Groups](#), which facilitate research activities and the exchange of ideas in 42 topic areas, the WCTRS has a number of Task Forces that conduct research into emerging issues in transport and aim to bridge gaps between research and policy-making.

All academics, practitioners, students, and interested individuals are invited to apply to become an individual member of the WCTRS. You can apply to join at any time by completing [this online form](#) and paying your membership fees [here](#).

The benefits of membership include:

- Access to a truly international network of transport academics and practitioners, which is the only such worldwide network, with over 1000 experts interested in transport research from over 80 countries.
- A wide variety of Special Interest Groups (SIGs), each dedicated to a specific academic topic, from mode-specific policy and modeling to solutions for climate change and disaster resilience. The full list can be found on the SIGs webpage.
- A free online subscription to the Society's two Journals: Transport Policy and Case Studies on Transport Policy.
- Online access to the proceedings of past conferences.
- Liaison with some 30 partner journals, which publish the best conference papers.
- Outreach to international organizations such as the International Transport Forum, World Bank, and UNFCCC conferences.
- WCTRS Young Initiatives, including the WCTRS-Y Conference, grants awarded to young researchers, and dedicated newsletters and job information.
- Opportunities to contribute to the planning of a future World Conference through participation in Special Interest Groups and other Society activities.

More details: [Click here](#)

Useful Information and Links

1. **WCTR 2026 – 17th World Conference on Transport Research, Toulouse, France (6–10 July 2026)**
For details : [Click Here](#)
2. **WCTRS – Young Researchers’ Initiative (WCTRS-Y)**
Opportunities for academic growth, networking, and professional development for early-career researchers
For details : [Click Here](#)
3. **Transportation Research Procedia on World Conference on Transport Research - WCTR 2023 Montreal 17-21 July 2023**
Open Access
For details: [Click Here](#)
4. **Publications by SIG A4-Handbook on High-Speed Rail and Quality of Life and Frontiers in High-Speed Rail Development**
Both books are free to download.
For details: [Click Here](#)
5. **Urban Mobility Research in India Transport: Selected Proceedings from the Research Symposium of the 16th Urban Mobility India Conference & Expo 2023**
For details: [Click Here](#)
6. **A new Transport Research and Education Network to help ESCAP member States achieve sustainable transport**
For details: [Click Here](#)

WCTRS society journals



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WCTRS NEWSLETTER

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