

The 15th International Conference of Hong Kong Society for Transportation Studies **TRANSPORTATION AND URBAN SUSTAINABILITY**

The 15th International Conference of Hong Kong Society for Transportation Studies (HKSTS) was successfully held from 11-14 December 2010 at InterContinental Grand Stanford Hong Kong. The Conference was jointly organized by HKSTS and Department of Civil and Structural Engineering, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, with generous financial sponsorship from Autotoll Limited, The Croucher Foundation and Faculty of Construction and Land Use (FCLU), The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Hong Kong (CILTHK), the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE) – Civil Division and the Eastern Asia Society for Transport Studies (EASTS) were the non-financial sponsors of the Conference.

The theme of the Conference was “Transportation and Urban Sustainability”. Transportation is a backbone of a city providing linkages between human and business activities. The growth of urbanization and its sustainability, thus, relies heavily on a well planned and managed transportation system. Hong Kong is a good example of a highly populated city with a mass transit and public transport system as the backbone of the city. On one hand, a high density development provides a critical mass for a successful implementation of a transit system. On the other hand, such a densely populated area may bring up several social and environmental issues. The interaction between transportation system and urban development is thus very critical to the sustainability of the city and development. The theme of this year conference reflects the need of effective policies, analytical tools, planning approaches, and management strategies of transportation system to cope with the rapid urban development in Hong Kong, several cities in the mainland China, and other countries in Asia.

The Conference was a great success. A total of 100 papers were presented at the conference, covering topics on transportation and urban sustainability, transportation, land use and built environment, logistics and supply-chain management, transit management and operations, traffic modeling and surveys, systems planning and operations, transportation and information and communication technologies (ICT), sustainable transportation and transport engineering and projects. It attracted over 150 participants from about 22 countries around the world, including Australia, Canada, mainland China, France, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, U.K., United States and Hong Kong.



Board members of HKSTS and the guests

We are honoured to have our keynote speakers delivering keynote speeches:

- Mr. Joseph Y.T. Lai, Commissioner for Transport, The Government of the Hong Kong SAR: “Sustainable Transport in Hong Kong”
- Prof. Anthony D. May, University of Leeds, U.K. and the President of the World Conference on Transport Research Society (WCTR): “Urban Transport and Sustainability: The Key Challenges”
- Prof. Pravin Varaiya, University of California Berkeley, U.S.A.: “Active Traffic Management”



Prof. J.G. Teng, FCLU (left) presenting a souvenir to Mr. Joseph Y.T. Lai, JP, our Keynote Speaker (right)



Prof. William Lam (left) presenting a souvenir to Prof. Anthony D. May, our Keynote Speaker (right)



Prof. William Lam (left) presenting a souvenir to Prof. Pravin Varaiya, our Keynote Speaker (right)

We are also very fortunate to have four internationally renowned scholars delivering plenary speeches:

- Dr. C.O. Tong of The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong: “The Theory and Practice of Transit Information Systems”
- Prof. Richard D. Knowles of the University of Salford, U.K.: “Sustainable Transit-Oriented Development in Copenhagen, Denmark”
- Prof. Hai-Jun Huang of the Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, China: “Modeling Pedestrian Evacuation and Numerical Analyses”
- Prof. Siriphong (Toi) Lawphongpanich of University of Florida, U.S.A.: “Recent Development in Models for Congestion Pricing”

In addition to the normal plenary sessions, we are also very fortunate in this year to have the other distinguished scholars as our plenary speakers for the special plenary sessions “Transportdynamics” supported by The Croucher Foundation:

- Prof. Michael G.H. Bell of Imperial College London, U.K.: “A Global Container Flow Model”
- Prof. Kaan Ozbay of Rutgers University, U.S.A.: “Dynamic Models and Strategies for Effective Management of Incident and Emergency Operations”
- Dr. Simon Shepherd of University of Leeds, U.K.: “A System Dynamics Approach to Transport Modelling”
- Prof. Erik T. Verhoef of VU University Amsterdam, The Netherlands: “Step by Step: Revisiting Step Tolling in the Bottleneck Model”
- Prof. S.C. (Chan) Wirasinghe of University of Calgary, Canada: “Analysis of Transit Flows and Speeds for Consideration of Modal Transition in a Corridor”

To foster excellence in transportation research and practice, our Society has established the HKSTS Outstanding Dissertation Paper Award which includes the Gordon Newell Memorial Prize of HK\$10,000. This year’s winner of the Award is Dr. Charima F. Choudhury of the Bangladesh University of Engineering

and Technology, Bangladesh. Her paper was entitled: “Modeling Driving Decisions: A Latent Plan Approach”. On the other hand, the judges for this year’s HKSTS Outstanding Student Paper Award had a tough task, and eventually declared that for this year we had two winners and one second runner-up. The winning papers were “Competition Between Cities – An Exploration of Response Surfaces and Possibilities for Collusion” by Andrew Koh of University of Leeds, U.K. and “A MILP Approximation Approach for Finding Optimal Toll Locations and Levels in Elastic Demand Traffic Networks” by Joakim Ekström of Linköping University, Sweden. The second runner-up paper was “A Multilevel Investigation of the Relationship between Gender and Residential Location in Affecting Individual Mobility and Accessibility to Opportunities” by Winnie W.Y. Lam of The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong.



Prof. William Lam (left) presenting HKSTS Outstanding Dissertation Paper Award to Dr. Charima F. Choudhury (right)



Prof. William Lam (right) presented the HKSTS Outstanding Student Paper Award to the winner, Mr. Joakim Ekström (left)



Prof. William Lam (right) presented the HKSTS Outstanding Student Paper Award to the winner, Mr. Andrew Koh (left)

In the past 15 years, the HKSTS annual conference has become stronger and grown in size and scope, to become one of the leading regional conferences in transportation. The 16th International Conference of the Hong Kong Society for Transportation Studies to be held on 17 to 20 December 2011 will be jointly organized by HKSTS and the Department of Civil Engineering and Institute of Transport Studies, The University of Hong Kong. More information on the conference can be found at the HKSTS website at: <http://home.netvigator.com/~hksts/conf.htm>.