



World Conference on Transport Research - WCTR 2016 Shanghai. 10-15 July 2016

Recent Advances and Emerging Issues in Transport Research –

An Editorial Note for the Selected Proceedings of

WCTR 2016 Shanghai

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Abstract

This edition of Transportation Research Procedia includes full papers which have been successfully reviewed and presented at the World Conference on Transport Research (WCTR) held at Tongji University in Shanghai (China) on 10-15 July 2016.

This editorial provides information on the main conference organizer WCTRS – World Conference on Transport Research Society, on the organization of WCTR 2016 Shanghai, on the Topic Areas and Session Tracks covered by the conference, on the reviewing process for WCTR 2016 Shanghai, and on some key research findings of the conference.

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1. About WCTRS – World Conference on Transport Research Society

The objective of the WCTRS is to provide a forum for the interchange of ideas among transport researchers, managers, policy makers, and educators from all over the world, from a perspective which is multi-modal, multi-disciplinary, and multi-sectoral. The members span almost all aspects of transport research, planning, engineering, policy and management. The Society has become a primary forum for such international exchanges in transport.

One unique role for the WCTRS is to identify emerging issues and opportunities of a policy, managerial, or technical nature which will influence transportation research, policy, management and education in future years. In this way, the Society intends to play a strong leadership role in bridging the gaps between research and practice.

The World Conferences are the place where leading transport professionals from all countries and areas convene to learn from one another. After a Pre-WCTR conference in Bruges, Belgium, 1973, the following World Conferences on Transport Research took place: 1) Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 1977. 2) London, UK, 1980. 3) Hamburg, Germany, 1983. 4) Vancouver, Canada, 1986. 5) Yokohama, Japan, 1989. 6) Lyon, France, 1992. 7) Sydney, Australia, 1995. 8) Antwerp, Belgium, 1998. 9) Seoul, South Korea, 2001. 10) Istanbul, Turkey, 2004. 11) Berkeley, USA, 2007. 12) Lisbon, Portugal, 2010. 13) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2013. 14) Shanghai, China, 2016.

Information on the WCTRS, on all conferences and on current and future activities is available on the Society's website (www.wctrs-society.com).

2. About WCTR 2016 Shanghai

The 14th edition of WCTR was hosted by Tongji University, Shanghai, China. The conference attracted 1,257 delegates from about 70 countries. 450 delegates were from developing countries and 26 from least developed countries. The largest delegations came from China, USA, India, Japan, and Germany. During the conference, authors presented 1,167 papers, covering all major aspects of transport research. 198 of these papers were presented in poster sessions. In addition, there were 28 very interesting special sessions with invited speakers, and 19 meetings of WCTRS Special Interest Groups. There were three Plenary Sessions, including inspiring keynote speeches by Prof. Guangtao Wang (China) and José Luis Irigoyen (World Bank). The conference was further enriched by interesting technical tours and lively social programs. On 10 July 2016, the WCTR Young Conference (WCTR-Y) was held on "Transport Innovations for Mobility and the Environment".

WCTR Shanghai 2016 introduced several innovations in the series of World Conference on Transport Research. WCTRS needed more permanent support from a conference organizer, and fortunately, in the Elsevier team the Society found a very professional and reliable partner who now provides the Society's Conference Management System. To support the organization of session tracks, WCTRS increased the number of permanent Special Interest Groups from 15 to 30. Another example is the improved publication opportunities, which raised the share of papers undergoing the full paper review process to 73 % (857 papers).

3. Definitions of Topic Areas and Session Tracks

To allow proper organization and orientation, WCTR 2016 Shanghai was structured into 8 Topic Areas which included a total of 39 Session Tracks. In the conference, each session track consisted of a series of sessions, each of them featured several presentations. Poster sessions were related to the defined topic areas and session tracks.

The Topic Areas are described below, and the related Session Tracks are listed. The names are those of the Topic Area Managers and Session Track Organizers. The numbers following each Session Track indicate the total number of presented papers in the full paper review track plus those in the non-review track (with only the abstract reviewed).

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