



# Transportation Science and Logistics Society

## Past President's Note

Maciek Nowak

I'm happy to report that TSL has survived a year under my leadership. After this year, we now have the biggest membership, the biggest. We also have the best members, no one is better than us. OK, I'll spare you any further Trumpisms. Rather, I will say that it was a very enjoyable year working with many engaged TSL members, and I hope that we made some positive additions to what was already, truly, the best society in INFORMS.

This last year, through the considerable efforts of all board members, SIG Chairs, and International Liaisons, we have started several initiatives that I hope improve our membership experience. In an effort to focus more attention on our Special Interest Groups (Urban Transportation and Modeling, Facility Logistics, Freight Transportation and Logistics, Intelligent Transportation Systems and Air Transportation), we introduced the *SIG Outstanding Paper Awards*. These awards could not have been possible without the efforts of the TSL Best Paper Award Committee, chaired by Marielle Christiansen, with Andres Medaglia, Tom Van



Woensel, Janny Leung and Warren Powell as members. The committee read through 17 papers, choosing a TSL Best Paper Award, while also selecting nominees within several SIG areas for papers they considered to be outstanding. Our SIG chairs (Song Gao, Kevin Furman, Max Shen, Yingyan Lou and Senay Solak) then did a fantastic job of organizing panels of judges and evaluating these papers in a timely manner so that we could announce them at INFORMS. It was a phenomenal team effort on the part of everyone involved.

One of my primary goals as president was to further engage with our membership beyond North America, and I hope that we have made steps in that direction. We introduced two *Cross-Region grants*, the *Collaborative Grant* and the *Doctoral Grant*. More information on the grants and the winners may be found later in this newsletter. I must thank our panel of judges, our three International Liaisons Andres Medaglia (Central and South America Liaison), Lei Zhao (Asia, Australia and New Zealand Liaison), and Harilaos Psaraftis (Europe and Africa Liaison), as well as our VeRoLog representative Ángel Corberán. They evaluated materials for nine Collaborative Grant and three Doctoral Grant submissions and, most importantly, never missed a deadline. I'm particularly grateful to Daniele Vigo, who really embraced the opportunity to develop an agreement between TSL and VeRoLog to jointly fund the Collaborative Grant. I hope that this rela-

tionship will serve as an example for future collaboration between TSL and other international societies.

Along the lines of developing international bridges, it was great to see the appointment of our first Asia, Australia and New Zealand Liaison from India, Debjit Roy, who I know will be pivotal in helping to engage our growing membership in that country. We have also selected Hong Kong as the site of our next *TSL Workshop*, in January 2018, with more information soon forthcoming. Please plan to attend! I expect that this workshop will follow in the line of previous successful TSL workshops, including our most recent at Georgia Tech on the topic of “Analytics and Automation in Logistics,” organized by Alan Erera, Sebastian Pokutta, Alejandro Toriello (chair), Martin Savelsbergh, and Chip White. Finally, registration is open for our upcoming *First Triennial TSL Conference*, hosted at Loyola

University Chicago. This conference is intended “to provide an opportunity for all members to gather on a triennial basis to present and to discuss the state-of-the-art in transportation science and logistics”. We hope to see all of you in Chicago in July!

Prior to signing out, I should say that none of the above would have been possible without the tireless efforts of the board that I had the privilege to work with. It will be tough to top having Barry Thomas as Past President, Karen Smilowitz as Vice President, Ann Campbell as Secretary/Treasurer, and Mike Hewitt as Communications Chair, but I think our future is bright as Lei Zhao takes on the role of Secretary/Treasurer, and Tom Van Woensel moves into the Vice President’s role. Here’s to another great year for TSL.

*Maciek*

## President’s Note

I am looking forward to the upcoming year as TSL president. As Maciek noted, our membership is extremely engaged and I am excited about the new initiatives that are now taking off: the SIG paper awards, the TSL conference, and the Cross-Region grants. Maciek and Barry have set a high bar in terms of new activities for TSL and I will try my best to match these efforts as I begin working with our members to expand TSL engagement.

As you can see from the announcements, we have great committees in place for the three main TSL awards, the Best Dissertation Prize Competition, the Best Paper Award, and the Robert Herman Lifetime Achievement Award. I want to thank the chairs of these committees, Halit Uster, Samer Madanat, and Andres Medaglia, for their efforts as we begin the award process. Please send us nominations.

## Karen Smilowitz

I hope many of you plan to attend the first Triennial TSL Conference in Chicago this summer. While you are in the Chicago area, please consider a train ride north to Evanston for the 22<sup>nd</sup> *International*



*Symposium on Transportation & Traffic Theory (ISTTT)*, hosted at Northwestern University from July 24<sup>th</sup> to July 27<sup>th</sup>. We are planning a “hand-off” event between ISTTT and the TSL conference, in an effort to bring these communities together.

Please don’t hesitate to reach out with any suggestions for the coming year.

*Karen*

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## Announcement of Grants

Maciek Nowak

After considerable deliberation, the winners of the first TSL Cross-Region Grants were recently announced. The panel of judges consisted of: Ángel Corberán (VeRoLog representative), Andres Medaglia (Central and South America Liaison), Lei Zhao (Asia, Australia and New Zealand Liaison), Harilaos Psaraftis (Europe and Africa Liaison) and Maciek Nowak (Past President). Note that Ángel did not serve on the Doctoral Collaborative Grant panel as this was only funded by TSL, while Maciek did not serve on that panel due to a conflict of interest. As a reminder, these grants were created as part of our efforts to generate more collaboration across the four TSL regions (North America, Central and South America, Europe and Africa, and Asia, Australia and New Zealand) and with VeRoLog, which sponsored half of the Collaborative Grant. These were very difficult decisions to make with excellent applicants for the Collaborative Grant (nine total) and for the Doctoral Grant (three total). The winners of these grants are:

*Cross-region Collaborative Grant* (\$2000 TSL/\$2000 VeRoLog): **“Dynamic Vehicle Routing: Multiple Scenario Planning in the Context of Stochastic Programming” – Yongjia Song, Marlin W. Ulmer, Barrett W. Thomas, and Stein W. Wallace.**

This submission proposes a new collaboration between two junior and two senior researchers who have all been active TSL members, with two of the researchers members of both VeRoLog and TSL. As one panelist noted, the proposal promises to provide a “more in-depth understanding on the multiple scenario planning approach in dynamic VRP” and that the “stochastic programming perspective on the contradictions between the ‘ob-

servations’ from two streams of literature is interesting (and important) to our society.” Also, “the research team composed of two senior and two young and promising researchers from both fields of dynamic VRP and stochastic programming, reflect a good mixture of expertise in tackling the proposed topic.” This proposal was truly in the spirit of the grant in generating promising collaborative research across multiple boundaries.

*Cross-region Doctoral Grant* (\$2000 TSL): **Rossana Cavnagnini, University of Bergamo and University of Brescia, hosted by Mike Hewitt, Loyola University Chicago.**

This submission proposes that the applicant will spend several months working with Mike Hewitt and her two advisors in Italy, Francesca Maggioni (University of Bergamo) and Luca Bertazzi (University of Brescia), on the lateral transshipment problem. From the panel: “Research project on a transportation problem often seen in Supply Chain Management, wherein uncertainty in customer shipments and volumes is explicitly modeled.” “The activities are carefully planned and articulated with her thesis.” “Given the relevance of this problem to practice, they plan to develop materials based upon the research that can be disseminated to practitioners.” “The exchange has a truly international flavor tying two Italian Universities and Loyola in the US.”

This was truly a difficult decision with many excellent submissions highlighting the collaborative efforts in our field. We hope that these grants continue to serve as a motivation for this collaborative research.

## TSL Dissertation Prize: Call for Nominations

Halit User

Nominations are invited for the *2017 TSL Dissertation Prize Competition*, sponsored by the INFORMS Society on Transportation Science and Logistics. This award is the oldest and most prestigious honor for doctoral dissertations in the transportation science and logistics area. The award is accompanied by a \$500 honorarium for the winner. In addition, the winner and the recipient of an honorable mention (if any) each receives an 8x10 plaque announcing the award.

The following criteria will be used in judging candidate dissertations:

- Fundamental contribution and originality of the ideas or methods.
- Practical importance or applicability in solving important real problems.
- Clarity and excellence of the exposition.

Eligible doctoral dissertations are those completed and submitted between *June 1, 2016* and *May 31, 2017* in the general area of transportation science and logistics.

To be considered, a dissertation must be nominated by the thesis supervisor, who should submit the following items, all electronically in Adobe PDF format with the shown filenames:

- An electronic *copy of the letter of nomination* from the dissertation supervisor supporting the submission and stating his/her assessment of

why the thesis is worthy of the award (candidate name-NL.pdf),

- An electronic *abstract of 300 words* without formulas or mathematical notation (candidate name-SA.pdf),
- An electronic *copy of the extended abstract* (3-5 pages), separate from the thesis (candidate name-EA.pdf), and
- An electronic *copy of the dissertation* (candidate name-D.pdf).

The above documents should be submitted online using the following URL: <https://dropitto.me/2017-TSL-Dissertation-Prize>. An upload password will be required. The password is: *TSLDPsubmission*

Once you have completed your submission, please send an e-mail to [uster@smu.edu](mailto:uster@smu.edu) indicating the name of the candidate. **The deadline for receipt of submissions is June 30, 2017.** The recommendations of the judges will be announced at the 2017 INFORMS Annual Meeting during the TSL Society business meeting.

### 2017 Committee

Halit Uster (Chair), [uster@smu.edu](mailto:uster@smu.edu)  
 Sandra Eksioglu  
 Dirk Mattfeld  
 Yu Marco Nie  
 Fernando Ordonez



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**Robert Herman Lifetime Achievement Award: Call for Nominations**

Samer Madanat

The *Robert Herman Lifetime Achievement Award in Transportation Science* is awarded at most every second year by the INFORMS Transportation Science and Logistics Society to an individual who throughout his or her professional career has made fundamental and sustained contributions to transportation science and logistics, and has influenced the field through her or his writings, teaching, service, and nurturing of younger professionals. The award is accompanied by \$750 honorarium.

Nominations must be [emailed](#) to the Committee Chair **no later than May 31, 2017**. The nomination

must include a cover letter summarizing the achievements for the nominee and a copy of his/her curriculum vitae. The winner will be notified in October, and the award will be given at the INFORMS Annual Meeting during the TSL business meeting.

**2017 Committee**

Samer Michel Madanat (Chair)

Cindy Barnhart

Ann Campbell

Amy Cohn

Louis-Martin Rousseau

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**TSL Best Paper Award: Call for Nominations**

Andres Medaglia

The *TSL Best Paper Award* is given once a year to an outstanding paper in the field of transportation science and logistics. The paper must have been published in a refereed journal and must present innovative approaches for solving complex problems in transportation and/or logistics, with *an emphasis on operations research and quantitative methods*. Any author must submit only one of his/her eligible papers. In addition, no individual may be a co-author on more than two papers submitted to the competition. A paper is eligible for the competition if

- its main topic is related to the field of transportation science and logistics;
- it is written in English; and
- it has been published, or appears in pre-print form online through the publishing agency, **between June 1, 2014 and May 31, 2017**.

In the case of papers that are only available in pre-print form online at the time of consideration, the online publication date must be easily verifiable.

All topics related to the field of transportation science and logistics will be considered, including, but not being limited to: airline operations; facility logistics; freight; intelligent transportation systems; transit; urban transportation planning methods; vehicle routing. The winning paper will be announced at the

TSL business meeting to be held during the annual INFORMS meeting in October (in Houston, TX). The authors of the winning paper will share a prize of \$800, and each will receive a certificate.

To submit a paper for the 2017 competition, one of the authors must email the paper, along with a short letter (maximum 2 pages) describing the merits of the paper, to the Chair of the TSL Best Paper Award Committee, **on or before June 1, 2017**. The Best Paper Award committee will also select and recommend submissions for the **Special Interest Group (SIG) outstanding paper awards**. Upon submission, state the SIG that best fits the topic of the paper.

Please use the following email address for submissions: [amedagli@uniandes.edu.co](mailto:amedagli@uniandes.edu.co) (Subject: TSL Best Paper Award Application / Applicant name / SIG). Please also [upload](#) a single PDF or ZIP file with the submission (password: submission).

**2017 Committee**

Andres L. Medaglia (Chair)

Tom Van Woensel

Carolina Osorio

Guglielmo Lulli

Thibaut Vidal



First Triennial Conference: Call for Participation

Pitu Mirchandani

## First Triennial TSL Conference

Hosted at Loyola University Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois, USA  
July 26 – 29, 2017

[www.informs.org/Community/TSL/TSL-Conference](http://www.informs.org/Community/TSL/TSL-Conference)



The Transportation Science and Logistics Society Conference has been created to provide an opportunity for all members to gather on a triennial basis to present and to discuss the state-of-the-art in transportation science and logistics. The conference includes presentations on all transportation science and logistics topics including air transportation, facility logistics, freight transportation and logistics, intelligent transportation systems, and urban transportation planning and modeling. The conference theme is MOBILITY 2020: Traffic, Transportation and Logistics in a Cyber Connected World.

### Dates of interest:

- Deadline for early registration: 4/15/2017
- Conference: 7/26/2017 – 7/29/2017

### Registration:

Registration is now open! You may register [online](#). All attendees, including session chairs and speakers, must register and pay the registration fee. Each presentation must be accompanied by at least one regular (non-student) registration.

- Early Bird Registration (before 4/15/2017): \$375
- Regular Registration: \$425
- On-site Registration: \$500
- Student Registration (does not include welcome reception or conference dinner): \$150
- Guest Registration (welcome reception and conference dinner): \$200

Non-TSL members add \$25 to each registration above. Some registration scholarships will be available for PhD students.

The goal is to keep the conference small enough for deep interactions and large enough to accommodate the TSL Society's wide interests. With this in mind, there may be at most one paper presentation per registered presenter.

**Program:** The conference will be organized around a small number of parallel tracks. The conference will also include plenaries organized around the theme MOBILITY 2020: Traffic, Transportation and Logistics in a Cyber Connected World. The organizing committee plans plenaries from both industry and academic speakers.

**Social agenda:** In addition to a broad look at the future of transportation, this workshop will provide numerous opportunities to network with colleagues and establish new working relationships.

A welcome reception overlooking downtown Chicago will start the event on Wednesday evening. On Friday evening, we will adjourn for dinner at the Chicago Museum of Contemporary Art, with an opportunity to explore the collection prior to and after dinner.

Lunches will be provided on site each day of the conference.

**Lodging:** The conference hotel will be the [Cambria Chicago Magnificent Mile](#), located just off of Michigan Avenue in the heart of downtown Chicago. A special conference rate is available by using the following [link](#). Rooms are limited. If you would plan to arrive on Tuesday, July 25 and would like to book at the same rate at this hotel, please contact [Maciek Nowak](#).

**Venue:** The conference will be held on Loyola's Water Tower Campus, located along Pearson Street, just off North Michigan Avenue, Chicago's famed "Magnificent Mile". The Water Tower Campus derives its name from the famous Chicago Water Tower, which survived the Great Chicago Fire in 1871. The campus sits in the shadow of the iconic John Hancock Center. Other nearby architectural landmarks are the Tribune Tower, the Wrigley Building, the Trump Tower, and the site of Fort Dearborn, around which the city of Chicago was founded. Holy Name Cathedral and the Roman

Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago are located just south of campus, across Chicago Avenue. Cultural points of interest include the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Newberry Library, and Navy Pier. In addition to the unparalleled shopping on Michigan Avenue, the Water Tower Campus is also within a few minutes' walk of numerous dining and entertainment options.

**Organizing Committee:**

Pitu Mirchandani (Chair)  
Maciek Nowak (Local Chair)  
Mike Ball  
Mike Hewitt  
Warren Powell  
Barry Thomas

INFORMS Annual Meeting: Call for Sessions and Abstracts

Lavanya Marla

**2017 INFORMS Annual Meeting**

Houston, Texas, USA  
October 22 – 25, 2017

[meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/houston2017/](http://meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/houston2017/)

The Transportation Science & Logistics Section of INFORMS is seeking *session chairs* and *abstracts* for the annual meeting. If you are interested in organizing a session or giving a talk, please contact the Special Interest Group (SIG) chair that best fits the topic of your proposed session or abstract. We will then work with the SIG chairs to finalize session scheduling. If you are interested in organizing a session, please provide the SIG Chair your session title and the names of 3-4 speakers for the session. If you are interested in giving a presentation, please provide the SIG Chair your title and abstract.

**SIG Chair Contacts:**

*Freight Transportation and Logistics*

[Kevin Furman](#) (Chair) and [Justin Goodson](#) (Vice-Chair)

*Urban Transportation Planning and Modeling*

[Song Gao](#) (Chair) and [Joseph Chow](#) (Vice-Chair)

*Facility Logistics*

[Z. Max Shen](#) (Chair) and [Pratik J. Parikh](#) (Co-Chair)

*Air Transportation*

[Vikrant Vaze](#) (Chair) and [Andrew Churchill](#) (Co-Chair)

*Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)*

[Yingyan Lou](#) (Chair) and [Alireza Khani](#) (Co-Chair)

*Nothing Above Seems Appropriate*

[Lavanya Marla](#) (TSL Cluster Chair)

If you would like your session or talk to be jointly sponsored by another society/section (e.g., Location

Analysis Section, the Section for Public Programs, Services and Needs, Railroad Applications Section), please notify us during submission. Please notify me at the earliest if you wish to organize and chair a session. Also please note that the abstract submission **deadline is May 15, 2017**. An early commitment is greatly appreciated.

## News and Notes

Jan Fabian Ehmke

**Prof. Mark S. Daskin** has just been elected to the **US National Academy of Engineering**. Congratulations! More information can be found [here](#).

**Anna Nagurney**, the John F. Smith Memorial Professor at the Isenberg School of Management at UMass Amherst, has been selected as a **Summer Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University**. While at Harvard, she will be working on the project: Game Theory Network Models for Disaster Relief and Blood Supply Chains. Anna co-edited the book: *Dynamics of Disasters: Key Concepts, Models, Algorithms, and Insights* with Ilias S. Kotsireas and Panos M. Pardalos, which was published by Springer in 2016. The book contains a preface and 18 refereed book chapters.

**Call for Papers: OR 2017 in Berlin, Germany, September 6-8, 2017**. We invite practitioners and academics from mathematics, computer science, business/economics and other fields to participate at this year's international conference of the German Operations Research Society. The conference provides ample opportunities to present all OR related topics containing both theoretical as well as application-oriented research.

Keynote speakers are *Richard Eglese* and *Andrea Lodi*. **Deadline for the submission of abstracts is April 30, 2017**. More details can be found on the [conference webpage](#).

**Call for Papers: ICCL'17 in Southampton, United Kingdom**. The University of Southampton is pleased to be hosting the 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Computational Logistics. Authors are kindly invited to submit their contributions in the area of logistics management, operations, control, and information systems, relevant to all types of logistics activities and on any mode of transportation, with a particular focus on practical cases providing insight and real-world experience (**full papers until May 25, 2017**). Extended abstracts for presentation only are also welcome (**submission of abstracts until June 25, 2017**). More details can be found on the [webpage of the conference](#).

The **Council of University Transportation Centers** recognizes outstanding transportation students, faculty and leaders for their accomplishments in the field of transportation research and education. An overview of the awards is given [here](#). The nomination deadline for US student awards is **September 30, 2017**.



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**6<sup>th</sup> INFORMS Transportation Science and Logistics Society Workshop: Call for Papers**

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**Workshop Theme: E-Commerce and Urban Logistics**

Hosted by the School of Decision Sciences at Hang Seng Management College  
Hong Kong  
January 8-10, 2018

[tslworkshop2018.hsmc.edu.hk](http://tslworkshop2018.hsmc.edu.hk)



Hang Seng Management College is pleased to announce the Call for Papers for the 6<sup>th</sup> INFORMS Transportation Science and Logistics Society Workshop, E-Commerce and Urban Logistics.

**THEME OF THE WORKSHOP:  
E-Commerce and Urban Logistics**

With the advent of internet, social media and mobile phones, e-Commerce has been transformed, especially in China. China has the most internet shoppers in the world, leading the distant second (USA) by a wide margin.

It has been identified that online e-Commerce for individual shoppers must be accompanied by efficient logistics. Reportedly, in 2015, the Alibaba Group's websites accounted for over 60% of the parcels delivered in China. Every day, more than 30 million parcels are delivered through the Alibaba Group's websites. At the same time, the transportation operations have a significant impact on the environment, due to the negative externalities generated, such as the increase of traffic and congestion, the energy consumption, visual, noise and air pollution.

These problems tend to make urban logistics very expensive, inefficient and polluting. In this scenario, several stakeholders, such as companies operating in the Courier, Express and Parcel markets, as well as local administrations, ready to consider City Logistics projects and to implement new business models based on vehicles with low and very low environmental impact.

Possible topics are (but not limited to):

- business model developments, relevant for urban logistics, in the world of e-Commerce
- new business models that drive urban logistics, such as Online-to-offline (O2O), meal delivery, on-demand delivery, crowd sourcing
- city logistics
- green urban logistics
- last mile problem
- revenue management
- e-Commerce and supply chain management
- urban transportation
- vehicle routing and scheduling

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTRIBUTORS**

Please submit your abstract on our website. The submission system will open in May of 2017. Abstracts should be as complete as possible and not exceed two pages. All abstracts must be received electronically **on or before July 7, 2017**.

Scientific quality is the main criterion when reviewing contributions. In addition, sessions involving

practitioners will be given special consideration. Accepted abstracts will be printed in the Workshop Program. At least one of the authors must certify that he/she intends to register for and attend the conference to present the paper if it is accepted. We plan to have a special issue of Transportation Science associated with the workshop. Authors will be notified on **August 25, 2017** regarding the results of the review process.

**About Us****TSL Officers 2017**

<b>President</b>	<a href="#"><u>Karen Smilowitz</u></a>	<b>Past President</b>	<a href="#"><u>Maciek Nowak</u></a>
<b>Vice-President/President Elect</b>	<a href="#"><u>Tom van Woensel</u></a>	<b>Cluster Chair INFORMS 2017</b>	<a href="#"><u>Lavanya Marla</u></a>
<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>	<a href="#"><u>Lei Zhao</u></a>	<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	<a href="#"><u>Ian Fabian Ehmke</u></a>
<b>Communications Chair</b>	<a href="#"><u>Mike Hewitt</u></a>	<b>INFORMS Subdivisions Council</b>	<a href="#"><u>Maciek Nowak</u></a>

**Special Interest Groups**

**Freight Transportation and Logistics**

[Kevin Furman](#) (C), [Justin Goodson](#) (VC)

**Urban Transportation Planning and Modeling**

[Song Gao](#) (C), [Joseph Chow](#) (VC)

**Facility Logistics**

[Z. Max Shen](#) (C), [Pratik J. Parikh](#) (VC)

**Intelligent Transportation Systems**

[Yingyan Lou](#) (C), [Alireza Khani](#) (VC)

**Air Transportation**

[Vikrant Vaze](#) (C), [Andrew Churchill](#) (VC)

C – Chair, V – Vice Chair

**International Liaisons**

**Europe and Africa**

[Harilaos N. Psaraftis](#)

**Americas**

[Andres Medaglia](#)

**Asia, Australia, and New Zealand**

[Debjit Roy](#)



To suggest items for future newsletters, contact  
Jan Fabian Ehmke at [ehmke@europa-uni.de](mailto:ehmke@europa-uni.de)  
or Mike Hewitt at [mhewitt3@luc.edu](mailto:mhewitt3@luc.edu).

