

## The 18th International Conference of Hong Kong Society for Transportation Studies Travel Behaviour and Society



Board members of the HKSTS and guests

The 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Hong Kong Society for Transportation Studies (HKSTS) was successfully held from 14-16 December 2013 at InterContinental Grand Stanford Hong Kong. The Conference was jointly organized by HKSTS and the Department of Geography and Institute of Transport Studies of the University of Hong Kong, with generous financial sponsorship from the Airport Authority Hong Kong, Autotoll Limited, Hong Kong Tramways, Limited, Kowloon Motor Bus Co. (1933) Ltd, MTR Corporation and Shun Tak – China Travel Ship Management Limited. The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Hong Kong (CILTHK), Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE) – Civil Division and Eastern Asia Society for Transport Studies (EASTS) were the non-financial sponsors of the Conference. In the morning of 14 December 2013, the Conference was honoured to have Professor John P. Burns, Professor William H.K. Lam and Professor Becky P.Y. Loo to deliver the welcome speeches.



Welcome address by Professor John P. Burns, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, The University of Hong Kong



Opening address by Professor William H.K. Lam, President of HKSTS



Opening address by Professor Becky P.Y. Loo, Chairperson of the 18<sup>th</sup> HKSTS Conference

This year, we are honoured to have Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung, GBS, JP, Secretary for Transport and Housing, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, with us delivering a Keynote Address entitled ‘The Art of “Moving Millions”’.



Keynote address by Professor Anthony Cheung Bing-leung, GBS, JP, Secretary for Transport and Housing, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

The theme of this year's conference is chosen to match and to celebrate the launch of the Society's new journal *Travel Behaviour and Society* published by Elsevier. The conference aspires to provide a broad platform for information sharing and knowledge exchange on the different dimensions of transportation in shaping up the daily lives of people and the societies in which they live in. Travel behaviour can be influenced by a myriad of factors, including land use and infrastructural planning, community design decisions as well as societal and individual attributes. It also plays a part in transforming the configurations of the societies. Under the broad array of transportation issues and challenges emanating from the theme, this year's conference covers a wide spectrum of topics related to travel behaviour, transportation infrastructure, transportation and environmental issues, mobility and social sustainability, transportation and quality of life, transportation data collection and analysis and much more.



Ribbon-cutting for the launch of the Society's new journal *Travel Behaviour & Society* published by Elsevier

We are also very pleased to have six internationally renowned scholars delivering plenary speeches, including:

- Professor Patricia L. Mokhtarian, School of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology, United States on "Activities Conducted while Traveling: What is Their Impact on Mode Choice and the Value of Travel Time?"



- Professor Roger Vickerman, School of Economics, University of Kent, United Kingdom on “Public-Private Partnerships and Pricing in Transport”



- Dr. Timothy D. Hau, School of Economics and Finance, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong on “Optimal Pricing of Private and Public Transportation: Towards Public Transport Sustainability”



- Professor Richard Arnott, Department of Economics, University of California, Riverside, United States on “On the Optimal Target Curbside Parking Occupancy Rate”



- Professor Mei-Po Kwan, Department of Geography and Geographic Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, United States on “Mobility and Health: Addressing the Uncertain Geographic Context Problem in Transportation Research”





- Dr. Tim Schwanen, Transport Studies Unit, School of Geography and the Environment, University of Oxford, United Kingdom on “Re-imaginig Process: Implications for Transport Research”



The conference has marked another success in the Society’s history. It has drawn over 280 submissions from researchers across five continents. After a vigorous review process, over 150 papers were accepted for presentation at the conference covering the full spectrum of research topics. It attracted over 210 participants from all over the world, including Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, the Netherlands, Romania, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States. The annual conference of HKSTS becomes an international event for exchanging and archiving knowledge on the development of advanced transportation research.



To foster excellence in transportation research and practice of students, our Society has established the HKSTS Outstanding Student Paper Award. The winning paper was “Effects of Multi-Tasking, Activity Envelopes and Travel Episode Characteristics on

Judgements of Travel Experience” by Soora Rasouli of Urban Planning Group of the Eindhoven University of Technology. There were two first runner-up papers this year and they were: “Robust Transit Network Design with Stochastic Demand Considering Development Density” by Kun An of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and “Reliability-Based Stochastic Transit Assignment: Formulation and a Paradox” by Yu Jiang of the Department of Civil Engineering, the University of Hong Kong.



Professor William H. K. Lam (left) presented the HKSTS Outstanding Student Paper Award to the winner, Ms. Soora Rasouli (right)

In the past 18 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 19th International Conference of the Hong Kong Society for Transportation Studies to be held on 13-15 December 2014 will be jointly organized by HKSTS and the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. More information on the conference can be found at the HKSTS website at: <http://home.netvigator.com/~hksts/conf.htm>. Information about the Society’s journal *Travel Behaviour and Society* can be found at: <http://www.journals.elsevier.com/travel-behaviour-and-society/>.



Cocktail reception of the Society’s new journal Travel Behaviour & Society