

News archive 2005

December

2005

Arnab Majumdar, Washington Ochieng and Peter Nalder received the President Abdul Kalam Award for the Best Presentation in the Aviation Operations Category at the 57th Aeronautical Society of India Conference in Mumbai December 2-3 2005. The presentation was entitled "The development of New Zealand Safety outcome targets" and was written by Dr. Arnab Majumdar and Dr. Washington Ochieng in conjunction with Mr Peter Nalder of the New Zealand Civil Aviation Authority, who sponsored the research.

The Air Traffic Management Research Team within the Imperial Engineering Geomatics Group (ICEGG) at the Centre for Transport Studies was presented with a special award from the Aeronautical Society of India. This was for the outstanding quality of poster presentations and participation at the 57th Aeronautical Society of India Conference in Mumbai December 2-3 2005.

November

2005

CTS wins call-off contract to provide advice on traffic issues to UK Department for Transport. The Centre for Transport has been selected to provide advice on a variety of transport modelling and analysis questions on a call-off basis to the Integrated Transport Economics and Appraisal Division of the UK Department for Transport, over the period 2006-9. Professor John Polak who led the CTS bid commented "We are delighted to have the opportunity to continue to provide the DfT with policy-relevant advice. Over the past three years we have contributed to the DfT's research programme in a number of areas including advanced discrete choice modelling, peak spreading, travel time variability, social exclusion, project evaluation and appraisal, road user charging and the economic impacts of transport investment. We look forward to continuing to work with our colleagues in the DfT on the interface between research and policy, which gives rise to many rich challenges.

Dr Washington Ochieng became the Director of the Departmental MSc Programme in November 2005. He is responsible for the management, administration, quality, coordination of procedures, curriculum development and coherence of all twenty five courses offered within the Programme.

October

2005

Dr Washington Ochieng received the Rector's Merit Award in October 2005. This Award was established by the Rector of Imperial College London to honour and reward achievement at the highest level in terms of sustained distinguished excellence in teaching and research.

Dr. Arnab Majumdar was the invited international guest speaker at the relaunch of the Confidential Aviation Hazard Reporting Scheme (CAHRS) by South Africa's Civil Aviation Authority (SA-CAA). Dr. Majumdar gave a presentation on the international experience with confidential aviation occurrences reporting schemes. In addition, during his time in South Africa he also visited the Occurrence Investigations section of the SA-CAA and also with the Air Traffic Navigation Services (ATNS) of South Africa.

Panagiotis Angeloudis has been undertaking an internship assignment at the Southampton Container Terminal (SCT), part of P&O Ports. Panagiotis was working on a project to optimize efficiency at the gate site between the container stacking area and the Freightliner rail terminal. Panagiotis joined PORTeC as a research student in October 2005.

September

2005

Khalid Bichou of PORTec was invited by the Department of Logistics of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University to undertake collaborative research and consultancy. The work involved a project for a global port operator in the region, and collaborative research on landside port logistics and maritime security issues.

A group of 10 third-year Civil Engineering students from Imperial College has spent a month working on a design project for a future container port in London. The project was supervised by PORTeC staff and an external industry expert.

August

2005

Congratulations to Jin Young Park who has been awarded his PhD degree for a thesis entitled Microscopic Modelling of Air Pollution from Road Traffic, completed under the supervision of Professor John Polak. The thesis developed new and improved methods of modelling the environmental impact of traffic management measures. Dr Park has recently taken up an appointment as a Research Associate at the Korea Transport Institute in Seoul. We wish him well in his future

career.

Imperial College London and University College London will be organising and hosting the 17th International Symposium on Transportation and Traffic Theory (ISTTT17). The honour to host this prestigious international event was won in competition against two other offers. The venue will be the Institution of Civil Engineers at One Great George Street and the dates are 23 to 25 July 2007. This highly selective symposium provides a fertile environment for seminal contributions. Papers presented will have undergone a peer review process as rigorous as that provided by any international journal. Abstract submissions are due on the 15th of January, 2006. Following acceptance of abstracts, full papers will be required by the 30th of June, 2006 with authors being notified of acceptance by the 15th of October, 2006.

Congratulations to Stephane Hess who has been awarded his PhD degree for a thesis entitled 'Advanced Discrete Choice Models with Applications to Transport Demand', completed under the supervision of Professor John Polak. The thesis presents a number of new developments in the specification, estimation and interpretation of discrete choice models and applies these developments to the modelling of air travel demand.

July

2005

Arnab Majumdar was awarded the Imperial Volunteer Centre Award for the year 2004-2005, in recognition for the contributions made to the local community as an Imperial Volunteer.

Arnab Majumdar was awarded the Best Paper award in Airspace Management at the 6th USA/ Europe ATM 2005 R&D Seminar, held in Baltimore, USA, June 27-30. The paper was entitled "The factors affecting airspace capacity in Europe: A framework methodology based on cross-sectional time-series analysis", and was written in conjunction with Dr Washington Ochieng, and Catalin Lepadatu and Jean Michel Lenzi from EUROCONTROL, Brussels.

June

2005

The Centre for Transport Studies hosted an international two-day workshop (25 and 26 May) on aviation safety. The workshop brought together the world's civil aviation authorities and air navigation service providers to look at how records of previous incidents and accidents can be used to prevent accidents in the future. The workshop, with financial assistance from Lloyd's Register, was the first to bring aviation authorities together to discuss and learn from their collective experience of safety incidents and to define a research programme in collaboration with a major research

institution. Members of the organising Committee included Dr Washington Ochieng, Dr Arnab Majumdar, Professor Andrew Evans, Jackie Sime, Miss Branka Subotic and Miss Marie-Dominique Dupuy. More information can be found at

<http://www.imperial.ac.uk/p6395.htm>

May

2005

Amado Crotte has been invited to participate in the Pan-American Advanced Studies Institute on Transportation Sciences (PASI) 2005 meeting that will take place from July 24 to August 7 2005 in the cities of Toluca and Querétaro, Mexico. PASI is primarily designed to provide the foundation for enhanced cooperation among Transportation Researchers in the Americas and is sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF), a US independent federal agency.

Professor David Nethercot, Professor John Polak, Professor Stephen Glaister and Professor Mike Bell have been elected Fellows of the Transport Research Foundation. The Foundation group of companies includes TRL Limited (TRL) and Viridis. It was established in April 1996 when TRL was privatised. As well as ensuring the satisfactory commercial performance of its companies, TRF re-invests each year into longer term research of fundamental transport issues. The Foundation ensures the excellence of science and engineering knowledge through the establishment of the Research Fellowship whose membership includes leading academics as well as important figures from industry and commerce. Existing TRF Fellow include Professor Tony Ridley, Professor David Bayliss and Professor Rod Kimber.

An emergency 'toolbox' to help countries cope in an oil crisis is published this month in a new book, Saving Oil in a Hurry, based on a report by Imperial academic Dr Bob Noland. This book offers a range of methods to reduce oil consumption at short notice, from reducing motorway speed limits to having drivers take time off from driving on alternate days. Read more at

<http://www.imperial.ac.uk/P6375.htm>

March

2005

Robin North has been invited to join the Transportation and Air Quality Committee of the Transportation Research Board (TRB). Dr. Bob Noland has also been invited to extend his tenure as an International Member. The committee aims to examine the full range of relationships between transportation and air quality including regulatory and policy considerations, modeling practices, health effects, new technologies and transportation management strategies.

Professor John Polak has recently been invited to join the US Transportation Research Board's Committee on Traveller Behavior and Values. Professor Polak already serves on the TRB International Committee and is a member of the TRB Task Force on Innovations in Freight Transportation Modelling.

February

2005

Dr Wolfgang Schuster has joined the Centre to work with Dr Ochieng and colleagues, on a European Commission project (ANASTASIA) to develop a flight management system (FMS) for the future. Dr Schuster will contribute mainly to the navigation unit which will exploit multi-frequency satellite navigation systems, micro-electro-mechanical system (MEMS) motion sensors, and spatial databases. He will also contribute to the transport telematics research area by developing innovative sensing technologies to monitor erratic driving and driver fatigue. Dr Schuster holds BA, MA and DPhil (PhD) degrees in High Energy Physics all from the University of Oxford. He came to the CTS from the University of California, San Diego where he was a Post-Doctoral Researcher.

Prof. Michael G H Bell led the annual Anglo-German Winter Seminar, this time in Bettmeralp, Switzerland. Jan-Dirk Schmoecker and Will Adeney also attended.

January 2005

The Highways Agency has awarded a contract to collect data using the VPEMS on-board emissions monitoring unit. This work, sub-contracted through the Transport Research Laboratory, will involve collaboration with Prof. Margaret Bell at ITS-Leeds and Prof. Chris Frey from North Carolina State University. The Clean Air Technologies on-board emissions monitor will be coordinated with the VPEMS unit, allowing us to collect real-time measurements of particulate emissions. This project will be led by Dr. Robert Noland, Dr. Washington Ochieng and Prof. John Polak and Mr. Robin North will conduct the research and coordinate efforts at CTS.

Miss Branka Subotic and Dr. Arnab Majumdar were invited to a three day international workshop at IIT Bombay, Mumbai, India from 4th to 6th January 2005 organized in association with the Aeronautical Society of India. This invitation included the delivery of three seminars: Computer-based models for the simulation of airspace and airport operations: A case study using TAAM software; Recovery from equipment Failures in ATM; and, Human Error in ATM: An Overview of the HERA-JANUS Technique.

Dr. Arnab Majumdar presented an invited seminar at the ITS, University of California, Berkeley, on "Developments in Airspace capacity and safety research", on January 14, 2005.

Dr. Arnab Majumdar invited to be a panel member for the "Open Skies Agreements and international competition" panel discussion at the Annual Conference of the Transportation Research Board, Washington D.C., January 2005.

Arnab Majumdar has been awarded a Daiwa Foundation Grant. This will enable him to take a 2-week study visit "to investigate airspace capacity evaluation and management in high traffic density areas in cooperation with the Japan Civil Aviation Bureau" in 2006.