

News archive 2007

December

2007

Congratulations to Zia Wadud who successfully defended his PhD thesis on 13 December 2007. The topic of his thesis was "Personal tradable carbon permits for road transport: Heterogeneity of demand responses and distributional analysis". Zia was supervised by Dr. Robert Noland and Dr. Daniel Graham and supported through a Commonwealth research scholarship. Zia is now a post-doctoral student at Cambridge University and will be spending six months at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology beginning in April.

November

2007

Congratulations are due to Marie-Dominique Dupuy and Marco Porretta for receiving a best paper award at the 26th Digital Avionics Systems Conference in Dallas, Texas in October, 2007. The paper entitled "Preliminary results for a robust trajectory prediction method using advanced flight data" was presented by Miss Dupuy. The Principal Investigator on the project, Professor Washington Ochieng is delighted that this work has been recognised in this way.

On the 28-30 November, Professor John Polak, Dr Stephane Hess and Dr John Bates delivered a short course on discrete choice modelling, covering both theoretical and applied aspects of the field. The course attracted almost 30 participants from the UK and Europe including representatives of central and local government, consultancies and academic and research organizations. Professor Polak commented "Discrete choice modelling has made enormous advances in recent years. This course was designed to enable researchers and practitioners to better understand and exploit these new opportunities and to avoid potential pitfalls."

September

2007

Mr Piyapong (Joey) Jiwattanakupaisarn is a co-winner of the Epainos Award at the 47th Congress of the European Regional Science Association, held in Paris. This is for his paper entitled "Granger causality and spatial spillover effects of highway infrastructure on regional economic development: Evidence from an application of spatial

filtering in a panel vector autoregressive framework". The prize is awarded to the best paper in Regional Science by a young scientist aged 33 or under.

August

2007

Mark Trompet has been assigned the position of Project Manager of the International Bus Benchmarking Group . This is a consortium of ten leading public transport bus organisations including : London Buses, Paris RATP and New York NYCT. The International Bus Benchmarking Group is one of the three benchmarking projects that are managed by the Railway and Transport Strategy Centre.

The London congestion charge may be having an adverse effect on motorcyclist and cyclist casualties, according to research now published online in the journal Transportation. Details about the research can be found at

http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/newsandeventspggrp/imperialcollege/newssummary/news_17-8-2007-10-27-41?newsid=15914

July

2007

Bob Noland and Daniel Graham have been awarded a grant by the Volvo Research and Educational Foundation. This project will examine the relationships between road safety and deprivation using both GIS data and spatial econometric techniques. This will build on previous work conducted at the Centre that established links between deprived neighborhoods and traffic fatalities

Congratulations to Daniel Graham on his promotion to Principal Research Fellow (Reader). This is in recognition of his outstanding work in the area of transport economics and econometrics.

Congratulations to Washington Ochieng on his promotion to Professor of Positioning and Navigation Systems. This is in recognition of Prof. Ochieng's outstanding scholarship and contribution to the College.

June

2007

Dr David Levinson (Imperial College London and University of Minnesota) and Dr Kevin Krizek (University of Colorado) have launched a new web based open access journal at the intersection of transport and land use. The Journal of Transport and Land Use publishes theoretical and empirical papers from the domains of engineering, planning, modeling, behavior, economics, geography, regional science,

sociology, architecture and design, network science, and complex systems. The journal website is

<http://jtlu.org>

Professor Rod Kimber, Director of Science and Engineering at the Transport Research Foundation and Visiting Professor in the Centre for Transport Studies has been awarded the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the Queen's Official Birthday Honours, for his services to road transport. Following the announcement, Professor John Polak, Head of CTS, commented, "This is a richly deserved honour and recognises Professor Kimber's outstanding contribution to the theory and practice of transport engineering over many years. We are all delighted for Rod and we pass on to him our congratulations and best wishes".

May

2007

Congratulations to Umar Bhatti who successfully defended his PhD thesis on 29 May 2007. The topic of his thesis was "Improved integrity algorithms for integrated GPS/INS systems in the presence of slowly growing errors". Umar was supervised by Dr. Washington Ochieng and supported through a research scholarship from the Government of Pakistan.

Congratulations to Branka Subotic who successfully defended her PhD thesis on 30 May 2007. The topic of her thesis was "A framework for the analysis of controller recovery from equipment failures in air traffic control". Branka was supervised by Dr. Washington Ochieng and supported through research scholarships from Imperial College London, Universities UK, and EUROCONTROL.

Dr Stephane Hess and Dr John Rose (ITLS Sydney) have launched a new web based open access journal dedicated to the field of choice modelling. The Journal of Choice Modelling publishes theoretical and applied papers, and is not limited to one area of study, such as transport or marketing, but invites contributions from across a range of disciplines where the analysis of choice behaviour is a topic of interest. The journal website is www.jocm.org.uk

April

2007

Dr. Shaojun Feng and Dr. Washington Ochieng of the Centre for Transport Studies in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering have been awarded the 2007 Royal Institute of Navigation (RIN) Michael Richey Medal for the Best Paper published in the Journal of Navigation in 2006. The award is for the paper entitled 'A Highly Accurate and Computationally Efficient Method for Predicting RAIM Holes'. The research to develop a simple and effective method to facilitate the

monitoring of the integrity (quality) of satellite based positioning and navigation systems was conducted in collaboration with Dr. David Walsh and Dr. Rigas Ioannides of the School of Electronics and Electrical Engineering at the University of Leeds. The medal will be presented to the winners at the RIN's Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the end of June 2007.

Prof. Andrew Evans participated in a discussion on BBC Radio 4 on rail privatisation and safety. The show "More or Less" was broadcast on Monday 30 April, featuring a discussion between the presenter Andrew Dilnot, Christian Wolmar and Andrew Evans. More details can be found at

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/more_or_less/6607991.stm

March

2007

Miss Tamara Pejovic has been awarded a co-winner of first prize for the JMP Consulting Sustainable Development Student Award for 2006. This is for her paper entitled "UK Air Transport CO2 Emissions Estimate". The prize committee stated that this was awarded for the clarity of presentation, topical relevance of the subject area and the methodology comparison with similar analyses. Miss Pejovic will receive a cash prize of £1500.

February

2007

EPSRC has awarded Professor Michael G H Bell and Dr Jan-Dirk Schmoecker a three-year grant to take forward dynamic hyperpath transit assignment work presented in Dr Schmoecker's PhD thesis and extend the dynamic hyperpath concept to traffic assignment. The grant, worth £0.34m, covers both a post-doctoral research assistantship and a PhD studentship. The research will be conducted in partnership with Transport for London and in collaboration with the University of Kyoto, Japan.

January 2007

Piyapong (Joey) Jiwattanakupaisarn was invited to give a talk on his recent work at the Northwestern University Transportation Center. The seminar was entitled "Transport Infrastructure Investment and Its Effects On Employment: Theoretical Linkages, Estimation Issues, and Recent Evidence".

Professor Michael Bell will be joining a World Bank mission to South Africa to perform a regulatory and structural review of the country's infrastructure sectors. The review is regarded by the World Bank as especially important because of

the great influence that South Africa's economy exerts on the rest of the African continent. Prof. Bell will be focusing on the crucial ports sector during his visit.