

Transport Research Bulletin

Transport Research
Institute Newsletter

Issue No 3 - October 2018



Transport
Research
Institute

Welcome to our Autumn newsletter!

As our newsletter shows, there has been a great deal of activity at TRI recently in many of our research fields, and we are delighted to welcome a number of new staff as well as to celebrate some project and PhD successes. We continue to grow and to build our profile in areas across the spectrum of transport research and we look forward to welcoming you to one of our events or working with you in future.

New appointments

Prof Tom Rye

We are delighted to announce that Prof Tom Rye has been appointed as the Head of Civil & Transport Engineering within the School of Engineering & the Built Environment. Tom will have strategic responsibility for leading research, learning & teaching, enterprise and professional practice activities across this part of the school.



Prof Adrian Davis

Edinburgh Napier appointed Dr Adrian Davis to the ground-breaking position of Professor of Transport & Health in September 2018. Professor Davis comes to the post – believed to be a world-first – with a track record of more than 30 years' work in helping to develop and grow this inter-disciplinary field. Professor Davis will be seeking to raise awareness and understanding of the many connections between surface transport – particularly in urban areas – and health.

Dr Grigorios Fountas

Dr Grigorios Fountas joined TRI in August 2018 as a Research Lecturer. His research interests include statistical and econometric applications to various aspects of transportation planning and engineering, traffic safety, analysis of driving behaviour with naturalistic driving study and driving simulation data, emerging transportation technologies, and infrastructure asset management. In these fields, he has been involved in several journal publications, technical reports and book chapters.

Dr Nazan Kocak

Dr Nazan Kocak took up the Senior Research Fellow post in October 2018. She will play a key role in delivering part of the EU Horizon 2020 project – Park4SUMP. Park4SUMP is about managing car parking in the framework of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans. Previously she was with TRI as a Research Fellow working on the EU project PROSPERITY, also on Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans. She also undertakes consultancy work for City of Edinburgh Council on various aspects of its new Street Design Guidance.



Richard Llewellyn

Richard Llewellyn has been appointed to serve a 4-year term as a non-Councillor board member on the South East of Scotland Transport Partnership (SEStran) Board. In this role, Richard will attend the quarterly Partnership Board meetings in addition to various other specialist topic area committee meetings and forums as required. In conjunction with his fellow board members, he will oversee and help drive the direction of the organisation in the ever-changing transport landscape.

Kirsty Lewin

Kirsty Lewin has joined TRI as an Associate Research Fellow. Until recently Kirsty was working for the Scottish Government's Energy and Climate Change Directorate, where she focused on Climate Change plans, the Adaptation Programme, Climate Challenge Fund and Climate Justice Fund. She previously worked in the Transport Directorate and during that period worked closely with City of Edinburgh on its plans for congestion charging in the early 2000s. She is also a Sustrans UK Trustee, and the Centre for Climate Justice Advisory Group.

Keynote speakers

Prof Tariq Muneer

As Chairman of Solaris Board, Tariq Muneer delivered a keynote address to the Solaris International Conference in Chengdu, China in August. He spoke about solar energy and also presented work of his PhD students. The articles will be published in proceedings as well as refereed journal.

Prof Tariq Muneer was also invited as a keynote speaker at the four-day event on '2018 EU-China symposium on sustainable energy, energy efficiency and phase change energy storage technologies' held at University of Hull in July/August.

New PhD students and successes

Alan Rehfisch

We welcome on board Alan Rehfisch as a part-time PhD student with the Transport Research Institute. He will be studying social equity in transport in Scotland. He works for SPICE and was a prize-winning MSc Transport Planning student.

PhD successes

We are delighted to announce that we have had 5 PhD successes this year. The following PhD research students graduated in June:

Aisling Doyle: 'An investigation into the thermal characteristics in an electric car'.

Joseph Appiah: 'Modelling and Simulation of traffic/driver behaviour'.

Shelly-Ann Julien: 'International Trade Economics, firm/industry level evolutionary technical efficiency and productivity'.

The following PhD research students will graduate in November:

Clare McTigue: 'Identifying barriers to the implementation of bus policy at a local level in Great Britain using a decision support framework'

Faqhrul Islam: 'Smarter urban mobility'



Suzanne Meade



Suzanne Meade won best paper prize at the Scottish Transport Applications and Research (STAR) conference held in Glasgow in May 2018. Suzanne, formerly an Associate Director with RPS Consulting Engineers, is currently a research student at Edinburgh Napier University undertaking a research programme in Vulnerable Road User (VRU) Collision Involvement and the development of safety performance indicators supervised by Dr Kathryn Stewart and Prof Mike Maher. Suzanne's winning paper was entitled "Measurement of cycling risk and quantitative policy."

Suzanne won best paper award at the Civil Engineering Research in Ireland 2018 (CERI2018). It was held jointly with the Irish Transport Research Network (ITRN2018) at University College Dublin in August. Suzanne also collected runner-up prize in the Best PhD Paper Competition 2017/18 at Edinburgh Napier University with her paper: 'Modelling Cycling Flow for the estimation of cycling risk at a meso urban spatial level.'

Events

Autonomous Vehicles Workshop

Prof Wafaa Saleh chaired a one-day workshop on autonomous vehicles, organised by herself and other TRI staff. The workshop was attended by colleagues from a number of academic universities, road organisations and private sector organisations from the UK, Japan, and Sweden. Research topics included the impact of autonomous vehicles on the road network, society and on traffic control. Dr Akito Higatani, a visiting Post Doctoral Research Fellow from Hanshin Expressway, in Japan also contributed to both the organisation of the workshop and the debate on the impact of autonomous vehicles.

The 9th International (TDM) symposium will be organised and hosted by Edinburgh Napier University, and will take place from 19-21 June 2019, at the Hilton Grosvenor Hotel in Edinburgh. The TDM symposium provides three days of intellectual exchange of your research findings with leading researchers and professionals in the field. It will be a platform for best practice sharing and networking with these researchers. The symposium promises to bring together the national and international TDM researchers to brainstorm ideas and research findings on TDM theoretical and practical investigations. See our blog for more details: blogs.napier.ac.uk/tdm2019.

Dr Mark Taylor

Dr Mark Taylor will be attending the 1st Annual Meeting of the Cycling Research Board in Amsterdam in November 2018 to present research findings, participate in conference and present workshop on instrumented bicycles.

Dr Mark Taylor has been invited to give a keynote presentation on instrumented bicycles and components testing at the Cycling Industries Europe Innovation Summit in association with the Scottish MTB Conference 2018 in November.

Media appearances

Prof Tom Rye recently appeared on BBC News, BBC Reporting Scotland and in The Times. ScotRail has set out major changes to its timetables which take effect in December. The rail operator has promised faster journey times, more services and more seats for passengers. Prof Tom Rye welcomed the faster journey times and additional services but said the costs involved in improving the rail network were "huge".