



EASTS NEWSLETTER

Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE EASTS

(DR. PRIMITIVO C. CAL)

This is a conference year for EASTS. All roads from member domestic societies lead to Hanoi, the venue for the 4th EASTS Conference. The local organizing committee is now busy making preparations to ensure the success of the conference. The International Scientific Committee, together with its Technical Paper Screening Committees, is likewise beginning to review technical papers, the number of which has reached unprecedented level at over 300.

The forthcoming conference will mark another milestone in the life of EASTS. It will hold its first meeting of Representative Members pursuant to the Amended By-Laws of EASTS. The main agenda of the meeting is the election of three(3) Directors-at-large. The EASTS President also renders his report at this meeting

of representative members. Board meetings will follow the meeting of representative members, with the three newly elected Directors in attendance together with the incumbent Board members. Announcement of winners of various contests will be made during the conference. As the members may know, several competitions have been launched to stimulate more active participation from the general membership. These include best Domestic Society Award, Outstanding Transportation Project Award and Photo Contest on transportation engineering landmarks. The members are enjoined to join in these contests by submitting entries.

The 4th EASTS Conference in Hanoi is expected to be another major milestone for EASTS. We do look forward to seeing you there.

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

By: Kazuaki Miyamoto, Chairman

On behalf of the International Scientific Committee, I would like to report to the members of EASTS about the scientific matters regarding the preparation of EASTS'01 in Hanoi.

First of all, the ISC has been reorganized for EASTS '01 Hanoi. The list of ISC members is available on the homepage of ISC. All the members are, as you know, internationally leading scholars in the field of transportation studies. With the kind collaboration of all members I am convinced that we will be able to complete the duties of ISC for EASTS '01.

By the time this newsletter is issued, I assume that the deadline of full paper submission would have passed and we would have started reviewing the submitted papers.

At the stage of abstract submission, we received as many as 495 abstracts from 22 countries and areas. Table 1 shows the distribution of countries and areas in comparison with the Taipei Conference in 1999.

The number of submitted abstracts has substantially increased in comparison with the last Taipei Conference, for which we are really very happy. On the other hand, however, the volume of submissions has generated various problems on ISC to solve, for it has exceeded our expectations. This matter will be discussed in the Cyber Meeting of the ISC, which is always open in the Internet.

Table 1. Submitted Abstracts by Country

	EASTS'99	EASTS'01
AUSTRALIA	14	16
CHINA	22	33
HONG KONG	6	9
INDONESIA	41	40
JAPAN	92	133
KOREA	52	79
LAOS	6	2
MALAYSIA	8	11
PHILIPPINES	26	34
SINGAPORE	3	5
TAIWAN	53	63
THAILAND	16	21
VIETNAM	11	28
FIJI	0	1
FRANCE	0	1
GERMANY	1	0
INDIA	0	2
NEW ZEALAND	2	3
NIGERIA	0	1
SWEDEN	1	2
THE NETHERLANDS	0	1
U. K.	0	2
U.S.A	2	8
TOTAL	356	495

Table 2. Result of Abstract Selection

Category (A)	317
Category (B)	136
Rejected	42
TOTAL	495

Fourth EASTS Conference on
 "Transport for Equity, Economy, Mobility, and Sustainability"
 October 24-27, 2001
 Hanoi Daewoo Hotel

The ISC completed the review of abstracts and Table 2 shows the results. This information was originally posted on ISC Homepage. Afterwards, letters of notification were sent to the contact author of each abstract.

In this occasion, in order to keep the review quality for the Journal consistently high, the ISC set up two categories to classify contributions accepted for full paper submission. In Category (A) we have placed candidate papers to be considered for presentation in the conference, and for publication in the Journal of EASTS. In Category (B) we have placed candidate papers to be considered for presentation in the conference, and for publication in the Proceedings of the conference. If a full paper belonging to Category (B) is judged by a quick review to be of high quality at par with papers in Category (A), the category of the paper will be upgraded. Please note that submission of the full paper does not automatically imply its publication or acceptance for presentation. Papers will still undergo a strict reviewing procedure according to the schedule of the conference. We will conduct the paper selection for the Journal of the Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies throughout with strict impartiality as described in the Homepage of ISC. The rate of selection, however, is expected to be substantially lower than that of Taipei's Conference. This is meant to make this issue of

the journal to be of higher quality than the previous issue.

We have asked a large number of peer referees to review the papers. On behalf of ISC, I sincerely express our gratitude for kindly accepting this laborious task in spite of their busy schedule. I hope that they will send their review report in time to the ISC member in charge of the topic area.

I would like to ask authors/referees/participants to visit our homepage occasionally to obtain new information. News and updates are conveniently posted on the "Notice Board" in top of the page.

At the time I write this letter, we are planning to post the list of submitted full papers on the Notice Board around March 15th, instead of sending an e-mail/fax/letter of acknowledgement of the receipt to each author. Please confirm the acknowledgement on the homepage. In case your paper is not shown as a submitted paper on the page, please send your e-mail of inquiry to me at (isc-easts@rs.civil.tohoku.ac.jp) immediately.

I am very much looking forward to seeing you at EASTS '01 Hanoi in October.

Note: ISC Homepage is as shown below:
(<http://www.rs.civil.tohoku.ac.jp/~isc-easts/indexJE99.html#selection99>)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 7th EASTS BOARD MEETING

The 7th Board Meeting of the Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies (EASTS) was held last May 12, 2000 in Tokyo (Japan) with the two new Board members, Mr. Peter Hidas (Australia) and Dr. C.O. Tong (Hong Kong), in attendance.

Decided during the said meeting is the theme for EASTS 2000, which will be "Transport for Equity, Economy, Sustainability, and Mobility". The schedule for call for papers and submission were also outlined. However, the organizing committee was urged by the body to explore strategies for increasing the financial viability of the next Conference.

Highlights of the amendment to the Constitution were discussed by Dr. Primitivo Cal, EASTS president. These included the composition of the Board of Directors which will now have three

directors-at-large to be chosen from any domestic society and revised voting power of the directors (only one vote per director regardless of the category of the domestic society he belongs to).

A proposal for EASTS to enter into formal agreements with other international professional and scientific organizations to increase the privileges of its members was set forth and is now under study.

On the matter of the proposed new publication, a preparatory committee was formed to look into the feasibility and iron out the details of the said publication. Former ISC chairman, Dr. Hajime Inamura, was appointed to head the committee.

The meeting ended with an invitation to everyone to visit Hanoi in 2001.

VIETNAM PREPARES TO HOST EASTS 2001

With the theme **Transport for Equity, Economy, Mobility and Sustainability** the 4th EASTS conference will be held in Hanoi. The Transportation Studies Society of Vietnam (TSSV) is carrying out all related works to host this important event.

The first preparation was to upgrade TSSV itself. After the newly approved by-laws, the Society has been renamed (old name: Transportation Science Society of Vietnam) and all related bodies of TSSV have been strengthened.

Secondly, the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) made the necessary arrangements with all related organization as Daewoo Hotel (Conference venue), Transport, Insurance, Printing/binding and Medical Services. The information about the conference has been disseminated to the public and

a coordination plan was approved.

Thirdly, the LOC pays great attention to all necessary arrangements for scientific contents. The LOC monitors the progress of ISC in selection of papers. Arrangements for the technical tour to the Halong Bay Tour (one of recognized heritages of the World) are currently underway.

Last but not least, numerous contacts with potential sponsors were established. The LOC can now hope that there will be no financial problems encountered.

With the honor to host the EASTS 2001 in Vietnam, the TSSV welcome all participants and their family members in Hanoi and believe that the conference will contribute greatly to the development of Transport Studies in the Eastern Asia and the World.

NEWS TIDBITS FROM EASTS DOMESTIC SOCIETIES

The **National Committee Transport (NCTR) of Australia** continued its work in 2000 under a new Chairman, Professor Michael Taylor of the Transport Systems Centre at the University of South Australia. The NCTR program for the year included co-hosting of a major national conference "The Travel Bug: Transportation 2000", organisation of tours of Australia by eminent speakers, publication of the committee journal *Transport Engineering in Australia*. Volume 6 parts 1 and 2 of *Transport Engineering in Australia* was published in 2000. Articles in the journal included technical papers on urban air pollution, impacts of high speed rail, airport planning, the impacts of STIS, and community attitudes to motor cars.

The series of meetings was conducted by the **Hong Kong Society for Transportation Studies (HKTS)** in December 2000 including: the *Fifth Conference of Hong Kong Society for Transportation Studies* (December 2) and *Workshop on Transport Modeling* (December 4). HKTS was also a non-financial sponsor for the *2nd International Conference on Traffic and Transportation Studies* conducted last July 31-August 2, 2000 in Beijing, China.

The **Masyarakat Transportasi Indonesia (MTI)** or the **Indonesian Transport Society**, in cooperation with the Office of the Coordinating Minister for Economy, Finance and Industry and the World Bank, hosted a conference on the infrastructure: *Key Strategies for Indonesia Baru*

The **Pacific Economic Cooperation Council**, the organization that provides membership to **EASTS from New Zealand** through its Transportation Forum, will be hosting "Transport and Sustainable Cities Task Forces Meeting" from April 19-21, 2001 at Christchurch, New Zealand. Researchers interested in key performance benchmarking of airports and seaports, and in issues related to access of these gateway and their relations with adjacent urban areas and hinterlands are cordially invited to attend. Registration is free for

non-New Zealand participants. All those who are interested may get in touch with Dr. Chris Kissling at kissling@lincoln.ac.nz.

The **Transportation Science Society of the Philippines (TSSP)** will be holding a symposium on "ASEAN Transport Cooperation Framework Plan" on April 4, 2001. The plan provides the overall policy and development framework for steering cooperation in the transport sector for the new millennium consistent with the goals and priority set forth in the ASEAN Vision 202 and the Hanoi Plan of Action. The target audience will be transport practitioners in the country.

The **Society for Transportation Science (Singapore)** successfully held the "6th International Conference on Application of Advanced Technologies in Transportation Engineering" on 28-30 June 2000. One hundred sixty (160) delegates from 22 countries participated in the 3-day conference with more than 60 papers presented. Four workshops on the following topics of interest: High performance microscopic traffic simulation, Applications of global positioning systems, Hybrid genetic-Neural network models, and Advanced technologies in infrastructure management were held. Three technical visits were arranged for the participants: Singapore electronic Road Pricing System, GPS based taxi dispatching system, and Singapore MRT and LRT systems.

The **Thai Society for Transportation and Traffic Studies (TSTS)** conducted a series of trainings and lectures during the year 2000. Noteworthy among them were the four rounds of trainings on Road Safety Audit in four regions of Thailand: Songkla, Khon Kaen, Chiang Mai, and Bangkok. These trainings were organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Transport and Communications, the Department of Highways, the Asian Center for Transportation Studies, Asian Institute of Technology and local universities such as Khon Kaen University, Chiang Mai University & Prince of Songkla University.

EASTS 2001 CONTESTS

BEST EASTS DOMESTIC SOCIETY AWARD

The Board of EASTS has approved a proposal for the award of the Best EASTS Domestic Society. The award will be given out at the EASTS Conference. The inaugural award will be made at the 4th EASTS Conference to be held in Hanoi this year. The award will be given to the best domestic society for activities in year 2000 based on the following criteria:

1. Intellectual activities (e.g. journals, research seminars, conferences and short courses)
2. Professional activities (e.g. forum, talks, technical visits, exhibitions, news letters)
3. Social activities (e.g. members gathering, tours, golf games)
4. Members participation rate
5. Impacts of activities
6. Benefits for members

Tien Fang Fwa (cvefwatf@nus.edu.sg)
Chairperson
Best EASTS Domestic Society Award Committee

EASTS 2001 PHOTO CONTEST

Those who intend to join the contest must send his/her best photo with its title and explanatory notes to the sub-committee chairperson by August 31, 2001. All domestic societies members are invited to join. The size of photo submitted must be equal to or smaller than a quarter of the actual photo (actual photo size: 210 mm x 297 mm). The sub-committee will conduct preparatory selection before the coming conference in Hanoi and requests candidates to submit a negative or a digital file of the photo to be displayed at the conference venue. The sub-committee is also preparing Best Transport Landmark Photo prize and other prizes. The criteria of selection may be composed of its theme, catch phrase, comment, quality of photo, composition and beauty. The winners of the contest will be announced during the conference after being approved by the Board. Anyone who is willing to be a member of the sub-committee is required to send e-mail to the chairperson not later than May 31, 2001.

Tetsuo Yai (tyai@plan.cv.titech.ac.jp)
Chairperson
EASTS 2001 Photo Contest Awarding Committee

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