

## 4. Panel Discussion:

# Reimagining Asia's New Mobility Era: The Role of EASTS in the Next Decade

### **Moderator:**

Dr. Akimasa Fujiwara (President of EASTS)

### **Panelists:**

Dr. Cheng-Min Feng (Former President of EASTS)

Dr. Jaehak Oh (Former President of EASTS)

Dr. Li Meng (Board of Director, Domestic Society in Australia)

# Introduction

# Purpose

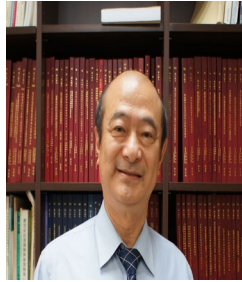
Over the next decade, EASTS will be at the forefront of mobility transformation in Asia, acting as a catalyst for innovation, sustainability, inclusiveness, and resilience.

Building on the foundations laid during its first 30 years, EASTS will continue to reimagine and reshape cities and mobility systems in alignment with these priorities.

This session will explore ways to steer the future of mobility to ensure that the new era benefits all members of society.

# Agenda

- 15:50 “He that would know what shall be, must consider what has been” by Akimasa Fujiwara, President of EASTS
- 16:10 “Future of Transportation in Asia” by Cheng-Min Feng, Former President of EASTS
- 16:30 “Enabling a Sustainable Career Path for Women in Transport Engineering” by Meng Li, Board of Director of EASTS
- 16:50 “Reimagining Asia’s New Mobility Era & The Role of EASTS in the Next Decade” by Jaehak Oh, Former President of EASTS
- 17:05 Discussions
- 17:35 Comments by Former Presidents
- 17:45 Summary



## **Cheng-Min Feng**

The 5<sup>th</sup> President of EASTS, Emeritus Professor of National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Taiwan

Resilient, Decarbonizing, Inclusive, Sharing, Affordable, Seamless, Prospects, EASTS

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## **Li Meng**

Board of Director, Domestic Society in Australia, Lecturer, University of South Australia

Women in Engineering, Transport Engineering, Career Transitions for Women, Empowering Workplace Culture, Support Systems for Women

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## **Jaehak Oh**

The 7<sup>th</sup> President of EASTS, Former President of KOTI, Korea

Mobility transformation, Carbon neutral, Public transport oriented policies, National transport infrastructure plans

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## **Akimasa Fujiwara**

The 8<sup>th</sup> President of EASTS, Professor of Hiroshima University, Japan

AI age, Identity of Asia, Mobility-oriented development, Healthy aging, Ethics

# Overview

He that would know what shall be, must consider  
what has been (温故知新)

# A Legacy from the Legends

## Prof. Shigeru Morichi

- **Past**: EASTS has been led by Japanese universities and stakeholders, focusing on [nurturing young researchers in Asia and improving transportation infrastructure](#).
- **Future**: A need to [reinforce relationships with local governments and officials, fostering greater engagement with practical transportation policy challenges](#) through the society's activities.

## Prof. Haruo Ishida

- **Past**: EASTS expanded by building a strong network of professionals. However, [establishing a stable financial foundation](#), primarily supported by Japanese corporate members, was essential.
- **Future**: With emerging challenges in Asia's transportation sector related to the environment and mobility, EASTS should continue to serve as [a key platform for collaboration between academia and industry](#).

# A Legacy from the Legends (cont.)

## Prof. Hajime Inamura

- **Past:** EASTS served as a crucial platform for expanding [publication opportunities for Asian researchers](#). To ensure high-quality papers, it launched the Journal of EASTS with a rigorous review system.
- **Future:** The term "Eastern" in EASTS was chosen with caution to [maintain a balance with diversified Asian countries](#).

## Prof. Tetsuo Yai

- **Past:** The creation of the [Domestic Society framework](#) facilitated easier membership for national societies within EASTS, although some countries encountered challenges in sustaining ongoing activities.
- **Future:** Sustainable operations through [outsourcing and streamlined processes](#) are crucial for deepening collaboration with the industrial sector and startups to drive transportation innovation in Asia.

# Challenges for the next decade

## 1. Advancing Technological Integration

- Autonomous Vehicles and AI
- Smart Cities and IoT Integration

## 2. Promoting Sustainable Mobility Solutions

- Green Transport Initiatives
- Non-Motorized Transport Advocacy

## 3. Addressing Urban Mobility Challenges

- Congestion Management
- Public Transportation Innovations

## 4. Facilitating Cross-Border Mobility and Collaboration

- Regional Transport Connectivity
- Collaboration and Policy Standardization

## 5. Supporting Human-Centered Mobility Solutions

- Inclusive Mobility Access
- Equitable Urban Development

## 6. Fostering Research and Innovation

- Cutting-edge Research
- Capacity Building and Education

## 7. Navigating Policy and Governance in Mobility

- Regulatory Framework Development
- Ethical Considerations in Mobility Innovation



**Please join panel discussions through:**



# **Keynote Speeches**

# Discussions

# Fujiwara's slide



1. How important should publication in the ATS (ESCI) be?  
-> Oh
2. How much do you look forward to EASTS as a human resource development opportunity?  
-> Li
3. What contribution can the exchange of ideas and experiences across borders make?  
-> Feng
4. What do you expect from the biennial EASTS International Conference?  
-> Oh

# Comments

# Summary

# Greetings from the New President of the EASTS

September 6, 2023 at Shah Alam, Malaysia  
Akimasa Fujiwara, The 8<sup>th</sup> president of EASTS

1. First and foremost, we are committed to **providing unprecedented support to young researchers and students**, and to ensuring an environment that fosters their academic growth with confidence.
2. At the same time, I am determined to expand the Society's international footprint, **fostering global collaborations and catalyzing groundbreaking research** that will have a global impact.
3. In particular, recognizing the pressing need, we are committed to **raising the profile of Asian Transport Studies**, a scholarly journal that explores the transportation challenges unique to our region.
4. We **will redesign sustainable financial systems** in partnership with emerging industries.
5. **More open decision-making** is needed in the governance of society.

-> **Seems unlikely to need to change.**

**The name "EASTS" will remain unchanged** to preserve the brand value accumulated over the years, regardless of any future increase in member countries.

**Within the framework of our mission to nurture researchers and practitioners,** we are committed to enhancing the quality of papers and advancing efforts to include ATS papers in the SCI.