

2017 Annual Report

Transportation Geography Specialty Group (TGSG) of the Association of American Geographers

June 4, 2018

I. Review of Statement

Mission Statement: To encourage and facilitate interactions among individuals who are interested in research, practice, and education of transportation-related topics.

Dues Information: \$7 (students, \$2)

Homepage: <http://aag-tgsg.org>

II. Officers

Chair: Irene Casas (2-year term ending Spring 2019)
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Vice Chair: Bradley Lane (2-year term ending Spring 2019)
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Board members:
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3- Kevin Kane (2-year term ending Spring 2019)
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4- Yujie Hu (2-year term ending Spring 2020)
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Student representatives:

1- Sylvia Brady (2-year term ending Spring 2019)
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2- Nastaran Pourebrahim
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III. Accomplishments

The business meeting was held on April 13, 2018, at the AAG Annual Meeting in New Orleans. We awarded the **Edward L. Ullman Award** for Significant Contributions to Transportation Geography to Dr. Tim Schwanen, Associate Professor in Transport Studies and Director of the Transport Studies Unit at the University of Oxford, Oxford, UK. Dr. Schwanen's career over the past fifteen years has resulted in over 109 peer reviewed journal articles, 16 book chapters, 3 edited books, and 18 guest-edited special issues. His contributions to the field of transport geography include theories and contemporary debates in mobility studies, critical geographies, and activity-based travel studies. His latest publications integrate analytical geographies with the new mobilities paradigm. Dr. Schwanen served as the editor-in-chief of the Journal of Transport Geography, and during his tenure he promoted the multidisciplinary nature of transport geography. He is also currently a member of the editorial board of a number of Transportation and Geography journals. He will deliver the 2019 Fleming Lecture at AAG's annual meeting to be held in Washington D.C.

Our **student paper awards** went to Taylor Oshan for the Ph.D. Dissertation award with a dissertation entitled "A new era of spatial interaction: potential and pitfalls", supervised by Dr. Stewart Fotheringham at Arizona State University. The Master's Thesis Award went to Yuqin Jiang with a thesis entitled "Urban Accessibility Measurement and Visualization – A Big Data Approach", supervised by Dr. Diansheng Guo at University of South Carolina. Travel awards were granted to Jessica Villena Sánchez from University of Denver and Maryam Khabazi from University of North Carolina, Charlotte.

The annual **Fleming Lecture** in Transportation Geography was given by Dr. Isabelle Thomas, Professor of Geography at Université Catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium. When Professor Douglas Fleming retired from teaching at the University of Washington after a pioneering career in transportation geography (and his earlier career in merchant shipping) in 1992, the Department of Geography decided to sponsor a distinguished lecture at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers. This lectureship is designed to recognize outstanding contributions in the field of transportation geography. Dr. Thomas' presentation was entitled "**Interaction fields and ICT data: rediscovering (transport) geography?**".

IV. Membership and Participation

As of April 20, 2018, our membership count is around 334. At the annual meeting in New Orleans, the TGSG sponsored or co-sponsored 24 paper sessions (in addition to the Fleming Lecture). These included:

- Accessibility and Equity in Transportation and Mobility
- Alternative Fuels and Autonomous Vehicles: Transportation Transitions and the Impact on Cities, Regions, and Sustainability
- Automated GISci for Network-based Decisions (1 and 2)
- Bicycles in Space: Using geographical techniques to advance our understanding of

- bicycling
- Changing Technologies and Sustainability in Transportation
- De-colonial/Postcolonial debates on urban transport geography (1 and 2)
- Effects of Weather and Climate on Transportation
- Evaluation of Networks and Accessibility
- Expanding the debate on transport and mobility justice (1, 2, 3, and 4)
- Flying on the Cheap? (Re)making Contemporary Life through Low-Cost Air Travel
- Geographies of Urban Automation (1and 2)
- Identifying variations: application of clustering techniques to people and places
- Learning from Copenhagen: Sustainable Urbanism in the 21st Century
- Modeling Spatial Accessibility to Health Care Facilities (1 and 2)
- Network analysis and geography (1, 2, 3, and 4)
- Power, Politics, and Transportation
- Public Transit Social and Economic Opportunities and Consequences (1, 2, and 3)
- Qualitative and Quantitative Critical Perspectives on Mobility
- Symposium on New Horizons in Human Dynamics Research: Panel Session - Future Directions of Human Dynamics Research
- Tactics and Strategies for Moving Beyond the Car
- Transit Landscapes (1 and 2)
- Transit-Oriented or Transit-Adjacent Development? Interrogating the contribution of public-transport-driven development to Social Equity and Inclusion in cities of the Global South
- Transportation Research in Urban China
- Travel and Transportation in Parks and Protected Areas

V. Future Activities

Plans are currently underway for the 2019 annual meeting in Washington D.C. We hope to sponsor a transport-themed field trip and anticipate sponsoring a number of paper and panel sessions at that meeting. Dr. Tim Schwanen will be delivering the Fleming Lecture.

VI. Financial Report

After adding the two travel awards to our annual awards in 2015, we noted a slight decline in our end of year balance. As a result, we voted to increase membership fees (for non-student members) from \$5 to \$7 at the 2016 business meeting. Our annual financial report follows.

Association of American Geographers
Specialty Groups Financial Report
April 30, 2018

Transportation Specialty Group

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<i>8/31/16</i>	<i>Balance forward</i>			<i>\$2,976.79</i>
9/30/16	Dues collected for Sept 2016	75.00		3,051.79
10/31/16	Dues collected for Oct 2016	423.00		3,474.79
11/30/16	Dues collected for Nov 2016	152.00		3,626.79
12/31/16	Dues collected for Dec 2016	96.00		3,722.79
1/31/17	Dues collected for Jan 2017	72.00		3,794.79
2/28/17	Dues collected for Feb 2017	76.00		3,870.79
3/31/17	Dues collected for March 2017	77.00		3,947.79
4/4/17	AM17 Luncheon		(110.00)	3,837.79
4/27/17	Delmelle - Plaques		(101.89)	3,735.90
4/4/17	Pereira - Travel Award		(100.00)	3,635.90
4/4/17	Bornioli - Travel Award		(100.00)	3,535.90
4/3/17	Tribby - Outstanding Dissertation Award		(250.00)	3,285.90
4/3/17	Sukaryavichute - Best Master's Thesis		(250.00)	3,035.90
4/30/17	Dues collected for April 2017	35.00		3,070.90
5/31/17	Dues collected for May 2017	73.00		3,143.90
6/30/17	Dues collected for June 2017	58.00		3,201.90
7/31/17	Dues collected for July 2017	34.00		3,235.90
8/31/17	Dues Collected for Aug 2017	84.00		3,319.90
8/31/17	Balance			<u>3,319.90</u>
<i>8/31/17</i>	<i>Balance forward</i>			<i>\$3,319.90</i>
9/30/17	Dues Collected for Sept 2017	52.00		3,371.90
10/31/17	Dues collected for Oct 2017	363.00		3,734.90
11/30/17	Dues collected for Nov 2017	104.00		3,838.90
12/31/17	Dues collected for Dec 2017	57.00		3,895.90
1/31/18	Dues collected for Jan 2018	46.00		3,941.90
2/28/18	Dues collected for Feb 2018	118.00		4,059.90
3/14/18	AM18 Awards Luncheon		(275.00)	3,784.90
3/30/18	Villena Sanchez - Travel Award		(100.00)	3,684.90
3/30/18	Khabazi - Travel Award		(100.00)	3,584.90
3/30/18	Oshan - Outstanding Dissertation Award		(250.00)	3,334.90
3/30/18	Jiang - Outstanding Thesis Award		(250.00)	3,084.90
3/31/18	Dues collected for March 2018	97.00		3,181.90
4/20/18	Casas - AM18 plaque reimbursement		(125.97)	3,055.93
4/30/18	Dues collected for April 2018	50.00		3,105.93
4/30/18	Balance			<u>3,105.93</u>

Appendix

Minutes for Transportation Specialty Group Meeting, AAG

April 13, 2018

- Meeting called to order by Irene Casas at 11:50am.
- Chair's announcement.
 - o AAG Council:
 - David DiBiase:
 - From the more than 60 affinity groups only 12 plus reports were sent.
 - AAG is in a good financial situation: 6 million budget, 12 million reserve.
 - Three highlights of the Council meeting:
 1. Doug Richardson is retiring. The succession transition has started. The process has been formalized. An executive search firm has been hired. There is a search committee. Nominees are being suggested.
 2. AAG is receiving royalties from Taylor and Francis for its publications (ANNALS and PG). There is a new editor for PG. An upgrade for PG is in the works.
 3. The Affinity group handbook has been revised. Particularly in regards to proposal of groups with overlapping content.
 - Oscar Larsen (meeting report):
 - 8500 people register compared to 9400 in Boston.
 - 1777 sessions, and more than 6000 abstracts.
 - There is a new method to highlight sessions.
 - Future meetings: 2019 DC, 2020 Denver, 2021 Seattle, 2022 New York, 2023 Detroit, 2024 Hawaii.
 - Now images of posters can be uploaded in the submissions.
 - Michelle Ledeux:
 - As of December 21 2017 there were 12476 members.
 - Affinity group membership of more than 30000.
 - 71 affinity and specialty groups.
 - More than 200 awards and more than \$50000 in awards.
- Report on budget and membership of the group.
 - o The balance as of March 21, 2018 is \$3181.90.
 - o Expenses include: Award luncheon tickets, TGSG awards, and cost of plaques.
 - o We have 310 members as of April 13, 2018, from which 143 are students.
- Report on Journal of Transport Geography (Irene Casas for Frank Witlox)
 - o Based on report written for the RGB-IBG Annual International Conference 2017 with numbers reflecting previous year.
 - o On average 49 submissions. From the submissions as of August 2017 (392 papers), 197 had been rejected and 195 distributed among associate editors.

- Assignment of papers is done by geographic location and topic.
- Growing number of submissions is good but also a concern. Desk rejection rate is increasing.
- Impact factor has gone from 2.090 to 2.675 (journal's highest so far), but will probably mean also more paper submissions.
- Biggest issue is finding suitable and willing reviewers.
- The international editorial board welcomed: Kate Pangbourne (Leeds University, UK).
- New Book Review editor: Angela Curl (University of Canterbury, NZ).
- Communications report.
 - Geoffrey Battista: term was to 2019. Leaving. New student representative needed.
 - Need a new Communications Director.
 - Hosting of Website: Michael Minn will take over the TGSG website management.
 - Motion for paying for a domain name and hosting. Second. Vote passed unanimously in favor.
 - Need to figure out who pays the \$12 a year fee and be reimbursed by Michelle Ledoux
 - Twitter account is taken over by New elected student representative (please see below) Nastaran Pourebrahim <n_poureb@uncg.edu> from University of North Carolina at Greensborough. She will contact previous communications manager Geoffrey Battista to learn the login and password as well as guidelines on what to Tweet.
- Report on winners of awards.
 - Master's Thesis Award: Yuqin Jiang, University of South Carolina: Urban Accessibility Measurement and Visualization – A Big Data Approach.
 - Ph.D. Award: Taylor Oshan, Arizona State University: A new era of spatial interaction: potential and pitfalls.
 - Ullman Award: Tim Schwanen.
 - Travel Awards:
 - Jessica Villena Sánchez, University of Denver: Evaluating accessibility changes and socio-economic development in Mexico's "Montaña de Guerrero" region.
 - Maryam Khabazi, University of North Carolina at Charlotte: Light Rail Transit Investment and Industry Employment Redistribution.
- Elections:
 - Board Members: one vacancy
 - Vacancy 1 Motion to Nominate: Yujie Hu, Assistant Professor of GIScience, School of Geosciences, University of South Florida. Second, Vote passed unanimously in favor.
 - Continuing board members one more year: Isabelle Nielssen, Scott Kelley, Kevin Kane.
 - Continuing Student Representative: Sylvia Brady.
 - Student Member:

- Motion to nominate Nastaran Pourebrahim, University of North Carolina at Greensborough. Second. Vote passed unanimously in favor
- Other business:
 - Susan Hanson asked to share TRB's initiative of diversity inclusion in committees. Mark Horner provided more insight into what the committees do and encouraged geographers to participate more actively.
 - Next year's meeting:
 - Discussion regarding a potential reception after the Fleming lecture. Two alternatives were proposed: (1) Elsevier sponsoring the reception and promoting it also as a thank you to reviewers and using this venue to present their Reviewer Awards and (2) Propose some type of cost-share.
 - Shih-lung Shaw announced the call for papers resulting from the Symposium on New Horizons in Human Dynamics Research.
- Meeting adjourned at 12:30pm.