



## Newsletter

**Volume 19, No. 1**

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### COTA Board of Directors Election 2016

The Board of Directors (BOD) of Chinese Overseas Transportation Association (COTA) renewed four positions in 2016, including one Student Member position. Dr. Heng Wei, Dr. Zhen (Sean) Qian, and Dr. Guohui Zhang were elected as new BOD members; and Mr. Ruimin Ke was elected as the student BOD member. The election took place between December 1 and December 22, 2015, and was administered by the 2016 COTA Board Member Election Committee. Effective from January 10, 2016, the new COTA BOD members include:



**Yu Zhang**  
**President**  
Associate Professor  
University of South Florida



**Yafeng Yin**  
**Immediate Past President**  
Professor  
University of Florida



**Lei Zhang**  
**Vice President**  
Associate Professor  
University of Maryland



**Jianming Ma**  
**Vice President**  
Transportation Engineer  
Texas DOT



**Heng Wei**  
**Treasurer**  
Professor  
University of Cincinnati



**Xiaokun (Cara) Wang**  
**Chair of Academic Affairs**  
Assistant Professor  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst.



**Haizhong Wang**  
**Outreach & Membership Officer**  
Assistant Professor  
Oregon State University



**Shanjiang Zhu**  
**General Secretary**  
Assistant Professor  
George Mason University



**Zhen (Sean) Qian**  
**Communication Officer**  
Assistant Professor  
Carnegie Mellon University



**Guohui Zhang**  
**Communication Officer**  
Assistant Professor  
University of New Mexico



**Ruimin Ke**  
**Chair of Student Affairs**  
PhD Candidate  
University of Washington

### Organization

#### President:

Yu Zhang

#### Board of Directors:

Yafeng Yin

Jianming Ma

Lei Zhang

Heng Wei

Lei Zhang

Xiaokun (Cara) Wang

Haizhong Wang

Shanjiang Zhu

Zhen (Sean) Qian

Guohui Zhang

Ruimin Ke

#### COTA Homepage:

<http://www.cota-home.org>

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# Immediate Past President's Letter

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Yafeng Yin, Ph.D.

Immediate Past  
President, Chinese  
Overseas  
Transportation  
Association

Professor, Department  
of Civil and Coastal  
Engineering

Director,  
Transportation  
Research Center

University of Florida

Editor-in-Chief,  
Transportation  
Research Part C:  
Emerging Technologies

Dear COTA Members and Friends:

As 2016 begins, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and involvement in various COTA activities during the past year and wish you and your family a harmonious and prosperous new year!

2015 was a tremendous year of continued growth and progress for COTA. The year started off with a successful event of the 18<sup>th</sup> COTA Annual Winter Symposium on January 11, 2015 during the TRB Annual Meeting. In July, many of us gathered in Beijing participating in the productive 2015 COTA International Conference of Transportation Professionals (CICTP2016), jointly organized by COTA and Beijing Jiaotong University. In addition, the Board of Directors (BOD) finalized and adopted a set of rules and procedures to streamline the routine operations and provide better support for COTA as a professional and transparent nonprofit organization. To further engage student and promote innovative research, the BOD also established the Best Dissertation Award to recognize outstanding students of Chinese nationality for their superior accomplishments in pursuing doctoral degrees in the transportation field.

It has been two years since the 2014 TRB Annual Meeting in Washington DC, when I had the special honor and privilege to begin my term as the tenth president of COTA. The past two years were marked by many challenges but we surpassed our targets in nearly every sphere thanks to the excellent contributions and wonderful teamwork of all the COTA board members and friends. I stepped down from the COTA presidency on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016, and continue to serve on the board as the Immediate Past President for two more years. Several board members finished their terms in January, including Dr. Henry H. Liu (Chair of Academic Affairs), Mr. Ken Q. Yang (Communication Officer) and Ms. Yi Liu (Chair of Student Affairs). Each of them deserves an enormous thank you and a huge round of applause for their hard work and dedication to our COTA community. I am pleased to announce that Dr. Yu Zhang from University of South Florida has become the eleventh president of COTA. She is joined by four new board members Drs. Guohui Zhang, Zhen (Sean) Qian, Heng Wei, and Mr. Ruimin Ke together with six incumbent members Drs. Lei Zhang, Jianming Ma, Xiaokun Wang, Shanjiang Zhu, Haizhong Wang and myself.

In 2016, COTA reaches an important milestone for its 20th anniversary. What started as a fraternity by a group of Chinese TRB attendees has today become a professional organization that promotes transportation innovation through research, education and information exchange. At this important milestone, I would like to thank all COTA members, previous and current, who have volunteered their time and talents to build and grow an organization and community of our own in the past 20 years. I am also very grateful to our colleagues in China. COTA's success is largely attributed to the great work they have done. Tremendous challenges and opportunities lie ahead as we embrace a far more exciting and ambitious future than what we have already achieved. With your continued support, I am confident that the new board will be able to bring COTA to the next level in the near future.

Sincerely,

Yafeng Yin, Ph.D.

Immediate Past President, Chinese Overseas Transportation Association



Yu Zhang, Ph.D.  
President, Chinese  
Overseas  
Transportation  
Association (COTA)

Associate Professor  
Department of Civil  
and Environmental  
Engineering  
University of South  
Florida

Dear COTA Members and Friends:

Year 2016 is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of COTA. On behalf of COTA Board of Directors (BODs), I would like to thank you for your continuous support and active involvement in COTA activities along all these years.

COTA is a U.S.-registered professional non-profit organization. Established in 1996 with the former name of NACOTA, COTA dedicates efforts to promoting transportation innovations through research, education, and knowledge transfer, and to bridging the transportation professionals in China and worldwide via information exchange. Since 2000, COTA has been co-organizing the COTA International Conference for Transportation Professionals (CICTP) with prestigious universities in China every summer and promoting transportation development in China by providing knowledge and expertise through the conference and consequent communications between COTA members and their counterparts in China. The CICTP meeting attracts hundreds of paper submissions and presentations every year. It has become the most influential transportation conference in China. In conjunction with the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting, COTA organizes a winter symposium to showcase the most up-to-date transportation developments in China as well as cutting-edge research and technologies in transportation. Besides the CICTP and winter symposium, COTA also launches other activities and initiatives, such as pre- and post-CICTP workshops, COTA Life Achievement Award, and COTA Best Dissertation Award. The success of COTA activities and initiatives is largely attributed to COTA members and friends, as well as our colleagues in China. I would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciations to all collaborative universities, award recipients, presenters, and participants of various COTA events.

With 20 years of effort, thanks to the contributions of many BODs, COTA has established comprehensive rules and procedures to ensure the effective and efficient operations as a professional and transparent non-profit organization. COTA Bylaws also clearly define the eligibility and rights of members, the term and election procedures of BODs, structure of COTA standing committees, etc. I was honored to be elected as the COTA President at the 2016 TRB Annual Meeting. In the next two years I will work with other BODs, with the help of past BODs and advisory board, to strengthen and expand COTA in the following aspects:

1. Build a strategic plan that will guide the direction of COTA development in long range as well as prioritize short-term goals;
2. Expand the participant base of CICTP conferences by attracting more presenters and attendees from government agencies and industry companies;
3. Enhance the functions of standing and technical committees;

## President's Message

from

**Dr. Yu Zhang**

4. Improve the financial sustainability of COTA.

In addition, COTA will continue the process of starting a journal focusing on transportation systems. The effort will be led by Dr. Lei Zhang and conducted by a special committee formed with most of BODs and selected COTA members and friends.

In an era of rapid change, COTA faces tremendous opportunities as well as great challenges. It is fortunate that we have talented and devoted BODs: Dr. Yafeng Yin (Immediate Past President), Dr. Lei Zhang (Vice President), Dr. Jianming Ma (Vice President), Dr. Xiaokun Wang (Academic Committee Chair), Dr. Shanjiang Zhu (General Secretary), Dr. Haizhong Wang (Outreaching and Development Director), Dr. Heng Wei (Treasurer), Drs. Qian Zhen and Guohui Zhang (Communication Officers), and Mr. Ruimin Ke (Student Affair Committee Chair). We also have a large base of COTA members and friends who have been supportive by volunteering their time and intelligence. Together, we will retain the achievements of COTA and bring her to a new level of success in the near future.

Lastly, I would like to highlight the COTA activities in this coming summer:

1. The 16th COTA International Conference of Transportation Professionals (CICTP2016), July 6-9, 2016, Shanghai Maritime University, Shanghai, China
2. COTA Pre-Conference Workshop, July 6, 2016, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Shanghai, China
3. COTA Post-Conference Workshop, July 10-12, 2016, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China

I look forward to seeing you at CICTP2016. Wish you a prosperous 2016!

Yu Zhang, Ph.D.

President, Chinese Overseas Transportation Association (COTA)



## CICTP 2016

### ORGANIZERS

Chinese Overseas

Transportation

Association

(COTA)

Shanghai Maritime

University (SMU)

主办单位

海外华人交通协会

(COTA)

上海海事大学

(SMU)



The 16<sup>th</sup> COTA International Conference of Transportation Professionals (CICTP 2016), jointly organized by COTA and Shanghai Maritime University, will be held in Shanghai, China, July 6-9, 2016. The conference organization committee has recently finished the paper review process and started the Conference Proceeding publication preparation. The conference received a total of 433 abstracts. Based on the first round of review, selected authors were invited to submit full papers. 297 full papers were received, each of which was assigned to an area editor who then invited multiple reviewers to conduct peer review. The area editor made the recommendations of accepting, revising, or rejecting based on the review comments from at least two reviewers. The editors-in-chief made the final decisions based on the recommendations and sent the accepted manuscripts to English editors for proofreading. The final 221 papers included in this Proceeding cover a wide range of transportation research topics in the following 12 areas:

- Logistics and Freight Transportation
- Public Transit
- Pavement and Materials Engineering, and Highway Construction and Maintenance
- Rail Operations, Management and Control
- Road Traffic Operations, Management, and Control
- Transportation Policy, Planning and Modeling
- Traffic Safety, Security and Emergency Responses
- Multimodal transportation
- Operations and management of shipping and ports
- Green logistics
- Transportation Energy, Environment and Sustainability
- Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)

The CICTP2016 Proceeding will be published in July, 2016. COTA also collaborated with the Journal of Central South University (JCSU, SCI indexed) this year and selected 5 papers from the recommended papers. These papers have been further reviewed by JCSU referees and will be published later this year. COTA would like to thank all the Area Editors, English Editing Chairs, English Editors, and Reviewers for their time and efforts devoted to the paper review and technical editing process. After careful comparison, the CICTP2016 organizers have also finalized the conference venue selection. The iconic Crowne Plaza Hotel in Shanghai Harbor City is selected as the main conference site. (<http://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/shanghai/shgwr/hoteldetail>)



## CICTP 2016

### ORGANIZERS

Chinese Overseas

Transportation

Association

(COTA)

Shanghai Maritime

University (SMU)

主办单位

海外华人交通协会

(COTA)

上海海事大学

(SMU)



This elegantly designed hotel, together with the picturesque lake view surrounding, will provide the conference participants a nice environment to interact during the conference.

Many world-renowned researchers in transportation science and logistics, including Dr. Carlos Daganzo, Dr. C. Michael Walton, Dr. Kay W. Axhausen, Dr. Monica Menedez, Dr. Michel Bierlaire, Dr. Jose Holguín-Veras, Dr. Chandra R. Bhat, Dr. James R. Sayer, Dr. Asad J. Khattak, Dr. Qiang Meng, Dr.

Hai Yang, Dr. S Travis Waller, Dr. William Lam, Dr. Avishai (Avi) Ceder, Dr. Pitu Mirchandani, Dr. Robert Bertini, Dr. H. K. Lo, and Dr. S.C. Wong, have confirmed attendance.

More information about the conference can be found from the conference website: [http://www.cota-home.org/cictp/CICTP\\_2016/](http://www.cota-home.org/cictp/CICTP_2016/)



### CICTP2016 Sponsorship Agreement Signed by COTA, SMU, and Citilabs

COTA, SMU, and Citilabs, have entered into an agreement to officially sponsor the CICTP2016. Citilabs agreed to provide US\$2,000 to the CICTP2016 hosts to support the conference. In exchange for this sponsorship, Citilabs will have a 4m<sup>2</sup> space for to display its product during the conference and an opportunity to deliver a technical talk in a sponsored session. Citilabs' logo and web address will be included in all CICTP2016 event promotions that will be disseminated to conference participants and posted on COTA/SMU websites.

**Call for Sponsorship** has been disseminated via various social media (e.g., WeChat, Facebook) and mailing lists. Since the release of the call for sponsorship, the CICTP2016 Sponsorship Committee, headed by Dr. Jianming Ma, Vice President of COTA, has received numerous inquiries and responses. For example, **INRO, Shanghai G2G, Transoft Solutions, and TSS** have agreed to sponsor the conference. The sponsorship agreements with these entities are expected to get signed in early April 2016. CICTP2016 offers excellent opportunities for visibility to institutional, corporate, and individual sponsors. Multiple levels of conference sponsorship opportunities are available: booth product display, session, proceedings display, program book display, lanyard, and lunch. For more info about the CICTP2016 sponsorship opportunities, please visit [http://www.cota-home.org/cictp/CICTP\\_2016/Sponsors\\_Sponsorship.html](http://www.cota-home.org/cictp/CICTP_2016/Sponsors_Sponsorship.html).

January 10, 2016  
8:00 AM – 5:30 PM

Congress (M4)  
Marriott Marquis  
Washington, DC

## SYMPOSIUM CHAIR

Dr. Yafeng Yin

## ORGANIZING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Dr. Haizhong Wang

Dr. Yu Zhang

## ACADEMIC COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Dr. Lei Zhang

Dr. Heng Wei

## SYMPOSIUM STEERING COMMITTEE

Dr. Yu Zhang

Dr. Heng Wei

Dr. Jianming Ma

Dr. Xiaokun (Cara) Wang

Ms. Yi Liu

Mr. Ken (Qingyan) Yang

Dr. Henry Liu

Dr. Yinhai Wang

Dr. Shanjiang Zhu



## 19th COTA Annual Symposium on SMARTER AND CONNECTED TRANSPORTATION

2016 COTA Winter Symposium, i.e., the 19th COTA Annual Symposium on Smarter and Connected Transportation was successfully held on January 10, 2016, in conjunction with the 2016 TRB Annual Conference in Marriot Marquis in Washington DC.

Nine speakers from China and the U.S. presented their most up-to-date research in various transportation areas, including transportation planning, transportation management and operations, traffic safety, and so on. The symposium organization and steering committees put in great efforts in soliciting these highly recognized speakers. Dr. Haizhong Wang organized and chaired the symposium. Dr. Wenjing Pu, Dr. Zhen Qian, Dr. Zhixia Li, and Dr. Henry Liu moderated these sessions.

The speakers and their presentations are:



Dr. YingEn Ge



Dr. Xuesong Zhou

- YingEn Ge, Shanghai Maritime University, *Seeking More Opportunities from Smarter and Connected Transportation* (Left)
- Xuesong Zhou, Arizona State University, *Building Ride-sharing and Routing Engine for Autonomous Vehicles: A State-space-time Network Modeling Approach* (Right)



Dr. Yanyan Cheng



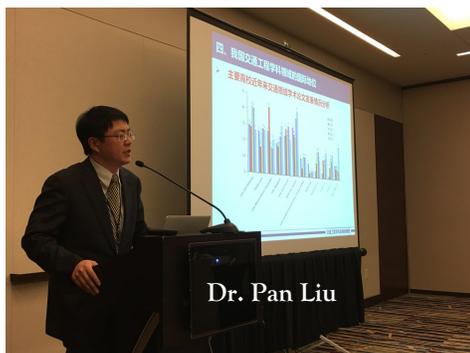
Dr. Binyam Reja

- Yanyan Cheng, Beijing University of Technology, *Urban Transportation Energy Saving and Emission Reduction Comprehensive Strategies-Beijing Case Study* (Left)
- Binyam Reja, World Bank, *Emerging Priorities for China's 13<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan: One Belt, One Road and Public Private Partnership* ( Right)



The speakers and their presentations are:

## The 19th COTA Annual Symposium



- Pan Liu, Sun Southeast University, Introduction to the NSFC Five-year Strategic Plan for Transportation Engineering Program (Left)
- Xuesong Wang, Tongji University, Traffic Safety Improvements Activities in Shanghai (Right)



- Zhigang Xu, Chang'an University, CU-CVIS: A Test Bed of Cooperative Vehicle-Infrastructure System (Left)
- Xiaobo Liu, Southwest Jiaotong University, Optimization of Transportation Facility Location and Layout Problem based on Greenhouse Gas Emission - A Case Study at Shenzhen (Right)



- Yuche Chen, Transportation and Hydrogen Systems Center, On the Road to Real-World Emissions-NO<sub>x</sub> Emission of Diesel Cars in Europe (Left)
- Yiheng Feng, University of Arizona, Intelligent Traffic Control in a Connected Vehicle Environment (Right)



## *COTA Dissertation Award Ceremony*



Based on the recommendation from the Awards Committee, Dr. Yiheng Feng, who received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Arizona under the supervision of Prof. Larry Head, is the winner of the inaugural 2015 COTA Best Dissertation Award. Congratulations to Dr. Yiheng Feng!

## *Panel Discussion on “Career Development for Young Professionals”*



The symposium concludes with a panel discussion on “Career Development for Young Professionals” Chaired by Dr. Guohui Zhang . Panelists include: Dr. Xiaobo Liu, Southwest Jiaotong University; Dr. Pan Liu, Southeast University; Dr. Xuesong Wang, Tongji University; Dr. YingEn Ge, Shanghai Maritime University; Dr. Yanyan Chen, Beijing University of Technology; Dr. Wenjing Pu, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments; Mr. Ken Yang, AECOM; Dr. Luke Liu, City of Ann Arbor; Mr. Ning Li, Virginia DOT.

## COTA Reception at 2016 TRB

COTA hosted its annual reception again during the 2016 TRB. This year more than 350 transportation professionals and students attended the event. The reception provided a great venue for Chinese transportation professionals across the world to meet and socialize.

### *COTA Reception at TRB 2016*

6:00-10:00PM

Jan 12, 2016

Tony Cheng's  
Seafood Restaurant  
Washington, DC

2007



Reception (1)



Reception (2)