



# 海外华人交通协会

Chinese Overseas Transportation Association

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

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July 20, 2011

Dear COTA members and friends:

On behalf of the Chinese Overseas Transportation Association (COTA) board of directors, I would like to appreciate your firm support to COTA business and wish you a very happy and fruitful Rabbit Year!

The most important event over the past year was that North America Chinese Transportation Association (NACOTA) changed its name to COTA to reflect the increasing global influence of our organization. COTA has over 2000 members and friends worldwide. Dropping the regional constraint, i.e. North America, is the first step to make COTA a truly globalized transportation organization. COTA's new website ([www.cota-home.org](http://www.cota-home.org)) has been built up and in operation. COTA has also hired our first employee, Ms. Huina Wang, who will work part time to support the COTA board for regular operations.

Collaboration between COTA and the Transportation and Development Institute (T&DI) of American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) has been further enhanced. COTA was a co-sponsor of the first conference of ASCE T&DI. COTA and T&DI have reached the agreement in treating each other's membership equally when attending each other's conferences.

COTA continues its success in organizing both the summer conference and winter symposium. The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual COTA/WCTA Technical Symposium on Transportation Operations and Planning in Mega-Regions was successfully held in Washington DC by COTA and Washington D.C. Chinese Transportation Association (WCTA) in January 2011. Professor Lei Zhang was the executive co-chair of the symposium at the COTA side. He did a terrific job to ensure the success of this symposium. This symposium attracted many high level speakers, including those from top research institutes and consulting firms in both China and the US. An important highlight of this symposium is the Government Forum, in which government representatives introduced government functions, resources, and procedures that are helpful for transportation professionals to bid government projects. At the end of the symposium, a special memorial event was held to celebrate the life of Professor Fang Zhao, previous president of NACOTA, who passed away in December of 2010.

The 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Chinese Transportation Professionals (ICCTP 2010) jointly hosted by COTA and Beijing University of Technology (BJUT) set a new record of attendance -- approximately 800 people attended ICCTP 2010. It is for the first time in COTA history to have a complete English track from the beginning to the end of the conference. Internationally recognized scholars, including Professor Michael Walton, member of the National Academy of Engineering in the US, Professor Markos Papageorgiou, chief editor for Transportation Research Part C, etc. delivered keynote speeches at the plenary session. Additionally, Mr. Ede Ljjasz, Sector Manager for Sustainable Development in China and Mongolia of World Bank and Ms. Marsha Anderson Bomar, president of ASCE T&DI gave important talks at the opening ceremony. Many well-recognized transportation professionals in China, including Professor Xiaoming Liu, Professor Wei Wang, Professor Haijun Huang, Mr. Xiaojing Wang, Mr. Lin Ma, etc. made great speeches at the conference. The 2010 Dean's

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**Contact: Dr. Yin Hai Wang**  
**Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering**  
**University of Washington**  
**Seattle, WA 98195-2700**

**Tel: 206-616-26966**  
**Fax: 206-543-1543**  
**Email: [yinhai@uw.edu](mailto:yinhai@uw.edu)**



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Forum of Transportation Colleges in China was held concurrent with ICCTP 2010. Deans from over thirty institutes in China participated in the forum and discussed important issues on transportation research and education. World Bank and COTA jointly hosted the First COTA-World Bank Forum on Urban Public Transportation during ICCTP 2010. Credit for the great success of the forum goes first and foremost to Mr. Jun Wang, who dedicated a lot to the forum organization. Under his persistent endeavors, World Bank is on its way to host its second forum on traffic safety during ICCTP 2011 in Nanjing.

A total of 890 submissions were received from authors of seven countries and regions, including Mainland China, Taiwan, the United States, Canada, Germany, Singapore, and Korea. To ensure the quality of the ICCTP 2010 proceedings, rigorous technical evaluation and English editing efforts were made. As a result, only 443 papers were accepted for publication. All the papers published in the ASCE-sponsored ICCTP 2010 proceedings have been included in the EI database. As the executive chairs of ICCTP 2010, Professors Heng Wei and Jian Rong made tremendous efforts to ensure the success of ICCTP 2010. Their outstanding contributions were one of the keys for ICCTP 2010's success.

These accomplishments achieved in the Tiger's Year continue COTA's great success over the past years. Thanks to Professor Ping Yi, immediate past president of COTA, and other advisor board members for their timely advices and supports. I would like to take the opportunity to thank members of COTA board for their dedications and hard work. Of course, supports from all COTA members and friends are essential for all the accomplishments COTA have achieved to date and hence are highly appreciated.

One new board member, Mr. Jianming Ma, was elected this January. Mr. Ma works for Texas Department of Transportation (TDOT). He will bring his expertise in traffic safety and knowledge in state DOT operations to COTA board.

COTA board added a new task force called Industry Partnership Development. Since Professor Fang Zhao passed away, Mr. Kyle Liang will be the new lead for the Special Issues Task Force. Other organizational structure remains the same as last year. Details are as follows:

COTA Headquarter:  
President: Yinhai Wang  
Immediate Past President: Ping Yi  
Vice President: Heng Wei and Hongchao Liu  
Secretary: Lei Zhang  
Treasurer: Clara Fang  
Academic Affairs Officer: Yafeng Yin  
Membership and PR Officer: Yu Zhang  
Newsletter Editor: Zhanping You  
Information Officer: Ken Yang  
Student Representative: Qinyi Shi

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**Contact: Dr. Yinhai Wang**  
**Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering**  
**University of Washington**  
**Seattle, WA 98195-2700**

**Tel: 206-616-26966**  
**Fax: 206-543-1543**  
**Email: [yinhai@uw.edu](mailto:yinhai@uw.edu)**



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The task forces and committees set up by last board have been carried over to the current board, but with minor modifications as follows:

**Academic Affairs Committee:**

Mission: handle academic affairs of NACOTA business

Chair: Yafeng Yin

Members: Heng Wei, Ping Yi, Zhanping You, and Yinhai Wang

**Fundraising Committee:**

Mission: handle the planning and operation of the fund raising activities

Chair: Heng Wei

Members: Clara Fang, Ken Yang, Jun Wang, Yu Zhang, and Kyle Liang

**Pavement Committee:**

Mission: academic research and engineering practice exchange in pavement

Chair: Linbing Wang

**Bylaw Revision Task Force:**

Mission: review bylaws and recommend for changes

Chair: Hongchao Liu

Members: Kyle Liang, Jason Wang, Heng Wei, Clara Fang, Yinhai Wang, and Yafeng

Yin

**Industry Partnership Task Force:**

Mission: set up connections with industry partners

Chair: Hongchao Liu

Members: Jianming Ma, Ken Yang, Heng Wei, Jason Wang, and Kyle Liang.

**Special Issue Task Force:**

Mission: handle the important issues raised by COTA members

Chair: Kyle Liang

Members: Clara Fang, Xiaoduan Sun, Yujiang Zhang, Ping Yi, and Eva Lerner-Lam

COTA board shall continuously lead COTA toward the four organizational objectives: (1) promote transportation development in China by providing technologies and expertise through its members; (2) strengthen the links between oversea transportation professionals and students and their counterparts in China; (3) promote networking among Chinese overseas transportation professionals and students; and (4) disseminate information on transportation developments and major events in China to COTA members and partners globally. Special efforts shall be made to (1) promote the academic reputation of COTA through enhancing the quality of the COTA winter symposium and summer conference; (2) update and revise COTA by-law and relevant rules to make its organizational system more complete and effective; (3) improve services to all COTA members; and (4) set up strong connections with peer organizations, such as Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), ASCE, and IEEE.

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**Contact: Dr. Yinhai Wang**

**Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering**

**University of Washington**

**Seattle, WA 98195-2700**

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As always, your comments are needed to improve our work and your supports are essential to accomplish our organization goals. Feel free to send your opinions, critiques, and/or suggestions to me or any directors on the board. COTA is our own organization. Let us work together to bring it up to the next level of success.

Sincerely yours,

Yinhai Wang, PhD  
President of NACOTA

Tel: (206) 616-2696  
Fax: (206) 543-1543  
Email: [yinhai@u.washington.edu](mailto:yinhai@u.washington.edu)

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