
January 2024: Highlights from NITC at TRB

NITC Newsletter <asktrec@pdx.edu>

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Research and Events
January 2024



NITC Research Highlights at TRB 2024

The 103rd annual meeting of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) will be held January 7–11, 2024 in Washington, D.C., and NITC transportation faculty and researchers will be sharing their expertise at the world's largest transportation conference. The TRB annual meeting attracts thousands of transportation professionals from around the globe to address transportation policy, practice, and plans for the future. A few session highlights to watch for:

- **"Older Adults' Perceptions and Behaviors on Driving: A Mixed Method Study,"** presented January 8 by Juana Perez, Mohammad Rashidi, Jobaidul Boni and Kate Hyun of UTA
- **"Measuring Accessibility for Older Adults based on an Adjusted Two-step Floating Catchment Area Method,"** presented January 8 by Zihao Wen, Xiaoyue Liu and Andy Hong of UU
- **"Using the Real Estate Market to Evaluate Transit Station Proximity Outcomes with Implications for Post-Pandemic Transit and Land Use Planning,"** presented January 8 by Arthur Nelson, Robert Hibberd and Kristina Currans of UA
- **"Exploring Data Fusion Techniques to Estimate Network-Wide Bicycle Volumes,"** presented January 7 by Sirisha Kothuri of PSU

[SEE MORE HIGHLIGHTS](#)

[VIEW NITC TRB SCHEDULE](#)



Meet the 2023 NITC Student of the Year: Justin Delgado, University of Utah

We're proud to announce our 2023 Outstanding Student of the Year, Justin Delgado. Justin is a masters student in the University of Utah's City and Metropolitan Planning Department.

"As both a pedestrian and cyclist, I had the all too common experience of being hit by a vehicle. While working as an instructor and then the eventual Director of the University's Bicycle Learning Center, I interacted with students who experienced the same thing. It was at this period of my life that my planning courses and experiences merged, and I began to consider how transportation system design played a direct role in everyone's lives. "

Justin will be presented with the award for NITC at this year's CUTC student award banquet.

[MEET THE NITC STUDENT OF THE YEAR](#)



Transportation Academy Researchers Win Charley V. Wootan Award

NITC Researchers Nathan McNeil (Portland State University), Keith Bartholomew and Matt Ryan (University of Utah) have been selected for a Charley V. Wootan Award for their NITC-funded paper "Transportation Academies as Catalysts for Civic Engagement in Transportation Decision-making." The article will also appear in a promotional issue of the *Transportation Research Record* journal, physical copies of which will be available in the TRB Annual Meeting Exhibitor Hall in Washington, D.C. during the annual meeting (stop by the TRR Journal booth for a copy!). The Wootan Award, established in 2004, is presented for outstanding papers in the field of policy and organization. The awards will be presented in the Thomas B. Deen Distinguished Lecture session on **Monday, January 8.**

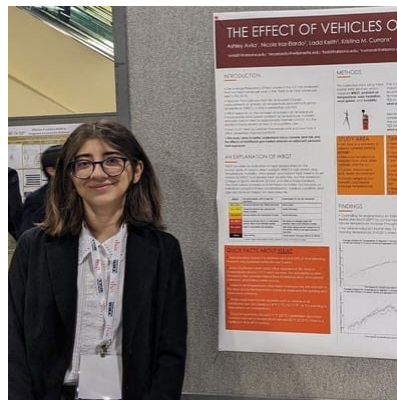
MEET THE WOOTAN AWARD WINNERS



Eisenhower Fellowships Awarded to Eleven NITC Transportation Students

Eleven students attending partner universities of the National Institute for Transportation and Communities (NITC) are receiving Eisenhower Fellowships presented by the U.S. Department of Transportation at this year's annual meeting of the Transportation Research Board (TRB). The Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program advances the transportation workforce by helping to attract the nation's brightest minds to the field of transportation, encouraging future transportation professionals to seek advanced degrees, and helping to retain top talent in the U.S. transportation industry. We are very proud of all the NITC students to be recognized with this honor.

MEET THE NITC EISENHOWER FELLOWS



Ash Avila Featured in TRB News

First-generation college student **Ash Avila** of the University of Arizona has been highlighted by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine in a feature story on the TRB minority student fellows program.

“Being part of the 2022 TRB Minority Scholarship Fellows has really helped connect me to two of the faculty I work with now, Kristina Currans and Ladd Keith. Two years later, I’m still working with them on the intersection of transportation and heat with the Southwest Urban Corridor Integrated Field Laboratory. I don’t think that would have even been on my radar without the program,” she told TRB.

In addition to being a TRB minority student fellow, Avila is also the recipient of NITC scholarships, a **NITC diversity grant under which she has conducted climate research**, and Dwight D. Eisenhower transportation fellowships in 2022 and 2023.

[READ THE TRB SPOTLIGHT](#)



Where to meet up at TRB?

Looking for times and places to connect with your NITC colleagues? Students at NITC campuses have been invited to visit with representatives of the Department of the Interior during TRB to talk with federal agency transportation planners about career and internship opportunities, but there will not be a formal NITC reception this year. Instead we suggest browsing the helpful Google spreadsheet of TRB receptions linked below, created by Greg Rogers of The Mobility Podcast. As the NITC program sunsets in 2024, we would like to thank all of you whose hard work made our center's accomplishments possible!

[EXPLORE TRB EVENTS](#)

NITC Research and Partner Updates

- **Call For Abstracts:** Share your work at the 7th International Women and Gender in Transportation conference to be held in Irvine, CA, Sept. 9–11, 2024. The conference theme is "Progress and Possibilities: Bridging Perspectives." The submission deadline is **Feb 21**.
- **TRB Annual Meeting's Chair's Plenary Session:** Wednesday, January 10 at 1:30 PM, join Executive Committee Chair Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti of the New Jersey Department of Transportation for a fireside chat on the mental wellness



The **National Institute for Transportation and Communities (NITC)**, is a program of the **Transportation Research and Education Center (TREC)** at Portland State University. NITC is one of seven U.S. Department of Transportation national university transportation centers. Led by **Portland State**, the partnership includes **Oregon Institute of Technology**, **University of Arizona**, **University of Oregon**, **University of Texas at Arlington** and **University of Utah**. We pursue our theme—improving mobility of people and goods to build strong communities—through research, education and technology transfer.



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