

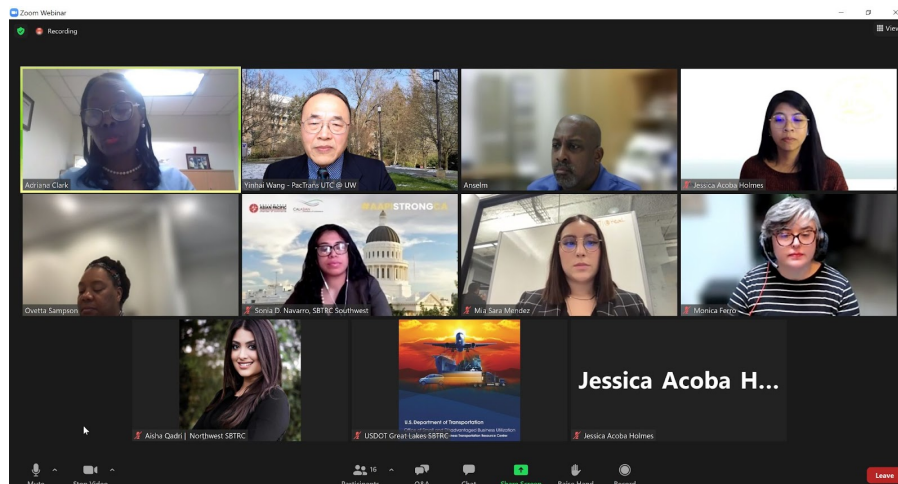
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APRIL 2022 NEWSLETTER

HIGHLIGHTS

PacTrans Director invited as a Special Guest Panelist for the Women and Girls (WITI) Virtual Symposia



PacTrans Director, Yinhai Wang recently served as a Special Guest Panelist during the Women and Girls (WITI) Virtual Symposia featuring the topic of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology. Adriana Clark served as program moderator and facilitated the panel discussion. The Symposia was a co-

hosted outreach effort organized by Great Lakes, Northwest, Southeast, and Southwest Regional Offices of the U.S. Department of Transportation Office of Small Business.

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE](#)

PacTrans Partner OSU's Barbara Simpson earns NSF CAREER Award



Barbara Simpson, Assistant Professor of Structural Engineering at PacTrans partner Oregon State University, recently received a Faculty Early Career Development, or CAREER, award from the National Science Foundation. The award includes a grant of nearly \$600,000 over five years.

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE](#)

Two PacTrans Student Researchers from Oregon State University Named 2022 Lifesavers Traffic Safety Scholars



Recently, two students from PacTrans consortium partner, Oregon State University, Logan Scott-Deeter, and Amy Wyman, were named 2022 Lifesavers Traffic Safety Scholars. They were also been invited to attend the Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities on March 12-15.

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE](#)

PacTrans Consortium Partner OSU leads the National Summer Transportation Institute (NSTI) Program



This past summer, PacTrans consortium partner, Oregon State University, under the direction of PacTrans Associate Director, David Hurwitz, successfully facilitated their second annual National Summer Transportation Institute (NSTI) Program. The NSTI Program is an initiative developed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to introduce high school students to transportation-related careers via elaborately designed, hands-on learning experiences.

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE](#)

PacTrans Student Researcher Peter Yu Wins Best Graduate Student Poster Award



PacTrans student researcher Peter Yu recently won the Best Graduate Student Poster Award for his poster titled “Operational Advantages of the Protected Overlapped Pedestrian Intersection Design” at the Transportation Research Board’s Standing Committee on Performance Effects of Geometric Design (AKD10) poster competition.

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE](#)

UW STAR Lab Team Places Second in Transportation Forecasting Competition (TRANSFOR 22)



The Smart Transportation Applications and Research Lab at the University of Washington recently stood second in the Transportation Forecasting Competition (TRANSFOR 22) for their presentation on Identifying and predicting Crossing Speed of High-Risk Pedestrians with Early Stage LiDAR Features.

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE](#)

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE



PacTrans Workforce Development Institute (WDI) is a demand responsive and flexible program to provide training services to working professionals in the Pacific Northwest, including Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. The WDI focuses on short-term training about transportation specific topics, management and communication skills, software and modeling.

PacTrans WDI aims to benefit PacTrans and Region 10 in the following three aspects:

1. It allows Region 10's busy working professionals to access desired training materials and courses at their convenient time and locations, and at their own pace;
2. It provides a forum for working professionals and university researchers to jointly investigate on challenges and opportunities associated with the new technologies, such as connected and autonomous vehicles (CAVs) technologies and their potential impacts, so that transportation agencies and companies can be proactive in incorporating the new technologies into practice; and
3. It directly addresses the continuing education needs of Region 10 working professionals' and thus is critical for enhancing local transportation agencies' organizational strength and

local companies' competitiveness.

PacTrans WDI has recently delivered an online training course about Transportation Data Analysis and Tools to Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) employees. Currently, PacTrans WDI is offering the following training courses:

- **Transportation Data Analysis and Tools**
- **Understanding and Applying the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)**
- **Incorporating Human Factors into Roadway Design and Crash Diagnostics**
- **Geospatial Analysis for Transportation Planners & Practitioners**

Feel free to contact us with your training needs.

In addition, PacTrans WDI is committed to support the K-12 education for the future transportation workforce. PacTrans WDI has partnered with the University of Washington Summer Youth Program to develop an in-person summer course on [Introduction to Autonomous Cars](#). This course is for incoming sixth to eighth graders. In this course, students will learn about important topics related to autonomous vehicles (AVs) and the supporting infrastructure, and work with a team to build their own AV using LEGO Education SPIKE Prime Kits. The course will discuss vehicle dynamics, roadway geometric design, traffic system control, and connected and automated vehicles. Students will practice integrating sensors, algorithms and a computing unit to automate vehicle movements. Students may also take field trips to on-campus labs and hear from UW researchers and scientists.

The Pacific Northwest Transportation Consortium (PacTrans) is the Region 10 University Transportation Center (UTC) established in January 2012 with funding from the US Department of Transportation (USDOT).

PacTrans is a combined effort of transportation professionals and educators from the University of Washington (UW), Oregon State University (OSU), the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF), the University of Idaho (UI), Washington State University (WSU), Boise State University (BSU), and Gonzaga University (GU). With two active centers focusing on both Safety and Mobility, PacTrans serves as an engine and showcase for research, education, and workforce development in the Pacific Northwest.

The goal of PacTrans is to create an environment where consortium universities and transportation agencies within Region 10 work together synergistically. The PacTrans program focuses on the USDOT-identified priority of Improving the Mobility of People and Goods. This priority includes the following nonexclusive topic areas:

- Increase access to opportunities that promote equity in connecting regions and communities, including urban and rural communities;

- Smart cities;
- Innovations to improve multimodal connections, system integration, and security;
- Assistive technologies for those with physical or cognitive disabilities;
- Data modeling and analytical tools to optimize passenger and freight movements;
- Innovations in multi-modal planning and modeling for high growth regions;
- Novel (non-traditional or alternative) modes of transport and shared use of infrastructure; and
- Regional planning and setting of transportation priorities.

The Pacific Northwest offers a unique blend of opportunities to examine a variety of transportation issues, including those related to urban centers, rural communities, diverse geographic features (e.g., coastal plains, mountain ranges), and a growing population of pedestrians and bicyclists. This diversity makes the Pacific Northwest a natural laboratory in which to investigate transportation solutions that are applicable both locally and nationally.

PacTrans is dedicated to collaborating with transportation agencies, companies, and research institutions to jointly develop safe and sustain-able solutions for the diverse transportation needs of the Pacific Northwest.



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