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TGRG page

TGRG (The Transport Geography Research Group of the Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers) celebrates three milestones in 2009.

1. Journal of Transport Geography Included in the Social Science Citation Index

The *Journal of Transport Geography* has come of age with its inclusion for the first time in Thomson Scientific's Social Science Citation Index (SSCI). Starting in 1993 the *Journal of Transport Geography* was published by Butterworth-Heinemann as Transport Geography's first-ever international research journal as a result of a successful initiative by TGRG's predecessor (the then Transport Geography Study Group of the Institute of British Geographers) with the support of the Transportation Geography Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers. The editorial in the first Issue of the quarterly journal stated that "The *Journal of Transport Geography* has been created to stimulate research and debate and to provide a hitherto missing focus for published research in the subdiscipline" (Knowles, 1993, p. 3) and identified a variety of research agendas. In 2006 the journal, now published by Elsevier, increased in frequency to bi-monthly with a page budget expanded to 504 pages per volume. The editorial in Volume 14 (1) noted that "The growing influence of the *Journal of Transport Geography* in the international research communities reflects the continued resurgence in Transport Geography" (Knowles, 2006, p. 1).

The Thomson Journal Citation Reports for 2008, published in June 2009, measures the standing of the journal in the international research communities in both transport and geography. With an Impact Factor of 1.271 and 428 citations, the *Journal of Transport Geography* is ranked 8th worldwide in impact out of 18 in the Transport section of SSCI and 22nd worldwide out of 51 in the Geography section of SSCI. It is the highest new entry in the Geography section and second highest in the Transport section. Papers published in SSCI accredited journals are important in measuring research performance particularly in the formal research assessment exercises for example in the UK and Hong Kong. Since notification in 2006 of the *Journal of Transport Geography's* inclusion in SSCI, the number of research papers submitted to the journal has increased sharply.

2. International Encyclopedia of Human Geography

The first-ever International Encyclopedia of Human Geography (Kitchin and Thrift, 2009) attempts to capture and trace internationally the state of human geography as a discipline. Transport Geography is included as an important sub-discipline of Human Geography with TGRG's Brian Graham as Section Editor. Nine of the 21 articles on transport are authored by TGRG members and nine by members of the Journal of Transport Geography Editorial Board, four of whom are also TGRG members. Topics include accessibility, aviation, deregulation, everyday mobility, globalization, governance, intermodality, land use, logistics, public transport, railways, regional connectivity, rural transport, social inclusion, sustainability, tourism and ecotourism, transport geography and urban transport. The Encyclopedia is available on-line through Science Direct and also in printed form as a 12 Volume set.

3. Hay Award in Transport Geography

The distinguished recipient of the TGRG's 2009 Alan Hay Award for Contributions to Transport Geography is Professor David Banister. He is based at Oxford University where he is Professor of Transport Studies in the School of Geography and the Environment, Director of the Transport Studies Unit and Fellow and Tutor at St. Anne's College. David Banister, who was previously Professor of Transport Planning at University College, London, is very well known in the international transport research community and has also worked for example in Sydney, Amsterdam and Vienna. He has authored and edited 18 books, authored and co-authored over 100 papers in international refereed journals, produced 35 research monographs, more than 100 reports for research sponsors and numerous other journal papers and contributions to books. His international reputation in transport research focuses on five areas:

- Policy Scenario Building in sustainable urban development and transport exploring the future of cities using backcasting methods.
- Reducing the need to travel including pricing and planning interventions.
- Energy and environmental modelling quantifying the environmental costs of transport.
- Transport investment and economic development measuring the non-transport benefits of transport investments.
- Rural transport and employment identifying transport's role in helping reduce inaccessibility and in encouraging sustainable rural communities.

David has served on Research Council Committees for EPSRC and ESRC, is director of ESRC's Transport and Environment programme, and has been a member of the EU STELLA/STAR TransAtlantic Research Network, ODPM Planning Research Network and the last two HEFCE RAE Town and Country Planning Panels. He has also delivered many keynote speeches for overseas conferences in Europe, North America, China, South Korea and Australia.

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