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Transport Geography Research Group

1. 32nd International Geographical Congress, Cologne 2012 and the International Geographical Union's Commission on Transport and Geography

The four yearly International Geographical Congress meeting of university geography researchers was held at the University of Cologne, Germany from 26th to 30th August with over 2500 attendees from more than 100 countries and a focus on four major themes: Global change and globalisation; Society and Environment; Risks and conflicts; Urbanisation and demographic change. During the Congress, the International Geographical Union's (IGU) Transport and Geography research Commission held five joint sessions with the IGU Urban Geography Commission on 'Large scale transport infrastructure and regional and urban impacts' attended by 70–100 researchers. Seventeen papers were presented by researchers from 13 countries including topics as diverse as Regional Impacts of the Channel Tunnel, the Øresund Bridge between Copenhagen and Malmö and the future Fehmarnbelt tunnel between Denmark and Germany; Spatial spillovers and commercial flows to evaluate the regional integration value of transborder projects; the Rotterdam-Genoa transport corridor and logistics clusters; Impacts of large transport infrastructure investments in the development of Poznan and Wielkopolska; Effects of high speed rail as gateways of the knowledge economy and on metropolitan areas; Planning for Inter-City railways in China's Mega-City Regions; Viability of a Mass Rapid Transit system in Kolkata, India; and Foreign direct investment in large scale Polish transport infrastructure. The IGU Transport and Geography Commission also held a session with four papers on Port hinterlands and urban logistics.

It was agreed by Commission members that future Transport and Geography Commission sessions would be held during the IGU regional meetings in Kyoto, Japan in August 2013 and Krakow, Poland in August 2014 and at a special conference convened by the Commission on Seaports and CBDs in Cape Town, South Africa in 2013 or 2014.

2. *Journal of Transport Geography*: Thomson Reuters Impact Factor of 2.538

In June 2012 the *Journal of Transport Geography* achieved its highest ever Impact Factor of 2.538 when Thomson Reuters released their international Journal Citation Reports for 2011. This is the 2nd highest Impact Factor in Transport out of 24 international Transport research journals (2010 Impact Factor = 1.706; ranked 7th). and the 7th highest Impact Factor in Geography out of 73 international Geography research journals (2010 ranked 16th).

This high Impact Factor score of 2.538 shows the very high esteem in which The Journal of Transport Geography is held in the international Transport and Geography research communities. Papers published in the *Journal of Transport Geography* are now cited on average much more often than those in most leading international Transport or Geography research journals including Transportation Research A, D, E and F, Transport Reviews, Accident Analysis and Prevention, Transport Policy, Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Environment and Planning A and D, Professional Geographer, Area, Geographical Analysis and Regional Studies.

3. Journal of Transport Geography's Editor retires after 20 years and 100 Issues

Professor Richard Knowles is retiring as Editor of the *Journal of Transport Geography* after the publication of Volume 27. This follows twenty years service as the journal's Editor totalling 100 Issues since its first publication in March 1993. The journal is published by Elsevier in association with the Transport Geography Research Group of the Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers (TGRG; RGS-IBG). TGRG nominated Dr. Tim Schwanen (Oxford University) to be the journal's new Editor from 2013 at its Annual General Meeting in July 2012 during the RGS-IBG Conference in Edinburgh. Professor Richard Knowles will remain on the journal's Editorial Board as Founding Editor.

4. Transport Geography Research Group's Postgraduate Prize

The Transport Geography Research Group awards a Postgraduate Prize for the best conference paper by a research student presented at the annual Royal Geographical Society Conference which next meets in London in August 2013. The annual prize consists of a certificate and book or cash award and an external sponsor is being sought. Candidates are assessed by a panel of at least three judges drawn from the TGRG Committee. Quality is judged on the basis of the Abstract submitted to the RGS-IBG Conference session organisers, a full written paper and the presentation at the conference. Abstracts of papers need to be submitted via the RGS Conference website by February 2013. Please contact TGRG Secretary Dr. Kate Pangbourne for further details at K.Pangbourne@abdn.ac.uk

5. Hoyle Lecture in Transport Geography

The Brian Hoyle Lecture in Transport Geography, is named in recognition of Dr. Brian Hoyle (Southampton), who has an eminent research record in the sub-discipline and is a former TGRG Chair and Secretary. It is sponsored by Ashgate Publishing and is a stand alone presentation during the annual RGS-IBG Conference. Hoyle Lecture presenters are chosen by the TGRG committee but nominations can be made by any TGRG member to the TGRG Secretary.

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Past presenters of the Hoyle Lecture in Transport Geography include:

John Adams (University College, London) 2001: Managing Risk in a Hypermobile World.
John Preston (Oxford) 2004: Moving Transport Geography Forward.
John Farrington (Aberdeen) 2005: Accessibility: A new narrative and a critique.
Derek Hall (HAMK University, Finland & Seabank Associates, Scotland) 2008: Transport Geography and new European realities.
David Banister (Oxford) 2010: Distance, Speed and Time: The Fundamentals of Transport Geography.
Markus Hesse (Luxembourg) 2011: Cities and Flows.
Richard Knowles (Salford) 2012: Transport Shaping Space: Before and After Peak Oil.

Papers based on Hoyle Lectures in Transport Geography and published, after reviewing, in the Journal of Transport Geography (JTG) include:

Banister D (2011) The trilogy of distance, speed and time, JTG 19(4), 950–959.
Farrington J H (2007) The new narrative of accessibility: its potential contribution to discourses in (transport) geography, JTG 15(5), 319–330.
Hall D (2010) Transport geography and new European realities: a critique, JTG 18(1), 1–13.

6. Hay Award in Transport Geography

The Alan Hay Award in Transport Geography is named in recognition of Professor Alan Hay (Sheffield and Canterbury Christ Church) who has an outstanding research record in the sub-discipline. It is presented annually to a researcher who has made significant contributions to Transport Geography. Hay Award winners are chosen by the TGRG committee but nominations can be made by any TGRG member to the TGRG Secretary.

Past recipients of the Hay Award in Transport Geography are: Brian Graham (Ulster) 2008, David Banister (Oxford) 2009, Richard Knowles (Salford) 2010, John Farrington (Aberdeen) 2011 and Derek Hall (HAMK University, Finland & Seabank Associates, Scotland) 2012.

Richard Knowles
Editor, Journal of Transport Geography,
Chair, International Geographical Union's Commission on Transport and Geography,
TGRG Committee Member,
School of Environment & Life Sciences,
University of Salford, Salford M5 4WT, UK
E-mail address: r.d.knowles@salford.ac.uk