



1 - More about the Young Researchers Seminar 2015

Why?

The common vision for the Young Researchers Seminar is the preparation of a new generation of transport scientists and science based professionals in the area of transport.

Aims?

- To enable the networking of young transport researchers belonging to the Supporting Organizations Members, ECTRI, FEHRL, FERSI and from TRB.
- To train young researchers, by tutorial means through a retroactive manner, to elaborate, prepare papers and present oral scientific communications.

Therefore, this conference is not only aimed at scientific excellence, but also at presentation skills and the ability to put science into practice.

When and where?

On June 17-19, 2015 at Centro di ricerca per il Trasporto e la Logistica (CTL) of "Sapienza" University of Rome, Italy.

What?

1. The indicative research domains covered during this seminar are:
 - Transport economics, policy and transport behaviour
 - Transport sustainability and environment
 - Transport safety
 - Intelligent transport systems - ITS & Traffic
 - Transport civil and road engineering
2. Besides the scientific activities, where tutors shall moderate the content sessions that are organised under the supervision of the Steering Committee and retroact to the presentation, there will be networking activities such as technical visits, conference dinner and preferably all participants will be staying at the same hotel.
3. The format of the seminar will be:
 - content oriented through technical sessions with oral presentations of 20 minutes and 10 minutes Q/A.
 - cross cutting oriented sessions of two types:
 - small key note session on specific subjects
 - scientific methods on tools and research process sessions.



4. Based on the final papers and oral presentations, the three best papers and presentations will be selected for awards by the Steering Committee based on the tutor recommendations and announced at the closing session of the Seminar.

Who?



The **young researchers** are incited to participate by their own institutes.

They are preferably post-doc (less than 5 years after PhD).

They are involved in one of the 5 research domains.

The abstracts and best papers will be selected by the Steering Committee on the basis of the scientific quality. Attention will also be put on ensuring a balanced representation among the institutes based on the following criteria:

- Maximum 1 participant per research domain for institutes with more than 300 staff
- Maximum 3 participants in total for institutes with less than 300 staff
- And 1 US young researcher per domain

The **tutors** are senior researchers from the Supporting Organizations but also from USA (international cooperation through ECTRI-TRB Memorandum of Understanding).

How much?



The young researcher fee of 280 € covers:

- the attendance to the conference
- the pre-proceedings of the conference (technical content)
- the coffee breaks and lunches for the three days
- the conference official dinner

The fee does not cover travel and accommodation expenses of young researchers, which are to be covered by their institutes.

Tutors are exempted from paying the conference fee. Their hotel costs are covered by the Seminar budget, only travel expenses are at their Institute cost.

More information?



Information on the seminar will be made available at www.ectri.org/YRS15/



2- Submission Procedure

Abstracts

The proposed abstracts should be presented according to the following format:

- Draft paper title
- Keywords and topics
- Research domain covered among the 5 research topics of the seminar
- Half page description of the paper. The body of the text should be prepared in 12 point, Times New Roman, with 1.25 line spacing. Text should be justified (across whole page width). The margins should be 2.5 cm.
- Author's full contact details

The abstracts will be reviewed by the Steering Committee that will accept or reject them and decide in which part of the programme they will be included, depending on the domains selected by the authors, the topics indicated through the keywords and the abstract content.

Authors whose abstracts have been accepted will receive a notice from the organising committee by the beginning of December 2014. **The deadline for abstracts submission is planned for 10 October 2014.**

Papers

Precise guidelines for the papers presentation will be given to Young Researchers whose abstracts are accepted. Authors whose abstracts have been accepted must submit the **first version of their papers by 14 February 2015**.

Exchanges between Young Researchers and Tutors will take place between 14 February 2015 and 15 May 2015.

Final papers must be submitted by 15 May 2015 and Power Point presentations by 22 May 2015.

Oral presentation

The oral presentation will be supported by slides and is organized as follows:

- 30 minutes including:
 - o 20 minutes for presentation
 - o 10 minutes for questions

The official language of the seminar is English.

Slides

A model will be prepared by the organizing committee and provided to the Young Researchers in due time.



3- Role of tutors

- 1- It is proposed during this seminar not only to have scientific activities, where the tutors shall moderate the content of the sessions organised under the supervision of the Steering Committee and retroact to the presentations, but also to have networking activities. The presence of the tutors for the whole duration of the Seminar is therefore greatly recommended.
- 2- The tutors are proposed by the institutes for chairing one of the domains of the Young Researchers Seminar. Then the Steering Committee selects the tutors based on defined criteria and assigns to each tutor 3 to 4 papers composing one session of the seminar.
- 3- The tutors are first traditional session chairperson, as chairperson, they have to :
 - a. chair a session composed of 3 to 4 papers
 - b. introduce their session
 - c. take care of the respect of time allocated to each young researcher.
- 4- They are reviewers of the papers, which means they have to :
 - a. read the papers of the young researchers composing their session
 - b. make written comments before the seminar
 - c. have exchanges with the young researchers composing their session before and during the Seminar, in order to help them to improve their paper and presentation.
- 5- During the cross cutting sessions, tutors have to moderate a sort of lesson-learned debriefings. These debriefings are a way to identify, analyse, and capture experiences, what worked well and what needs improvement, so that the young researchers can learn from those experiences. The analysis of the presentations will be done in order to make comments, not only on the scientific perspective, but also on the form of the presentation. The aim is to advise the young researchers on the way to improve their written and oral presentations. For maximum impact, these lesson-learned debriefings will be done immediately after the session, with results quickly shared among those who would benefit from the gained knowledge. Even if each tutor will decide at best how to organize such a session, there are some mandatory points to respect:
 - a. ensure that the session finishes on time to avoid having to shorten the cross-cutting session that is the most important aspect of the seminar, according to its tutorial/training scope;
 - b. do not make a repetitive synthesis of the presented papers;
 - c. act as a trainer: observe the problems, point them out and explain how to avoid them the next time;
 - d. focus on both the scientific aspects and the presentation;
 - e. provide opportunities for exchange and interaction with the tutored young researchers to ensure that the comments made are well understood and thus, helpful;
 - f. use something to highlight your message: a slide, a photo/image, a video, an object; whatever you think is effective to leave a mark on them and support them in their future career.

To optimize the organization of such session, tutors are highly recommended to prepare it prior to the Seminar.
- 6- After the seminar, they are a support to the young researchers for helping them fine-tuning their papers for potential publication.



- 7- Tutors are invited to recommend young researchers of their session for award if they think that there is some noteworthy contribution (based on the excellence of both the oral and written presentations) and inform the Steering Committee accordingly. To this end, a form will be provided prior to the Seminar by the Organizing Committee to the tutors, who should send back their first recommendations no later than **29 May 2015**. The tutors will be again consulted to confirm (or not) their recommendations after their session. Based on these recommendations, the Steering Committee will select the best presentations of the Seminar and award the related young researchers in the final closing session.

