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+1 732 562 3946

Fax: +1 732 981 1855

ss.ieeemedia@ieee.org

www.ieee.org/ieeemedia



Christoph Stiller  
and Matthew Barth

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Every two years a new president of the IEEE Intelligent Transportation Systems Society is elected. Since January 1, 2014 the former President Christoph Stiller has become Past President and Matthew Barth has become President.

### Thank You for Two Exciting Years!

#### Dear IEEE ITS Society Members:

Today, I am writing to you for the last time in my capacity as President of the Society. When I started my term two years ago, my goals were to consolidate our activities, to carefully foster further expansion of the society's technical fields and activities and to further increase the benefits that our society offers to its members.

Foremost, I was overwhelmed by the huge interest that our society receives from the media, the public, and experts. I have received countless e-mails from all over the world about our conferences, publications, meetings, educational activities, and the expected evolution of technology in our field and I hope I have satisfactorily answered or forwarded these to the appropriate contact persons. Our membership has grown substantially. Last year, ITSS has even been the fastest growing society in IEEE.

Our publications have grown by any measure. The Transactions on ITS have doubled in submissions and hold an excellent Impact Factor. Our young *ITS Magazine* has more than tripled the submissions and we expect to receive a high Impact Factor in mid 2014. Our Newsletter has a 16,000+ subscriber base. Two new publications have been launched with new formats: *ITS Now!* organized by Daniel Zheng is a new topical online publication. The ITS Podcast edited by Javier Sanchez Medina disseminates cutting-edge science and engineering research.

In the last years our conferences have been breaking records in terms of submissions and participants and have become the gathering point of experts. We have initiated a student activities program under guidance of Brendan Morris. I am very much looking forward to see these activities evolve in the near future.

The recent growth and achievements show that our Society is on a good way to serve its members and to offer solutions for transportation demands of humanity. These goals can only be approached through a joint effort of a broad variety of experts. We are fortunate to have many of those in our society and even more fortunate that many individuals volunteer in our society as reviewers and editors for our conferences and journals, organizers of chapters, conferences, and meetings and as members in the society's self-organizing boards.

Indeed, I am deeply grateful to the numerous Society members who serve as reviewers, associate editors, editors, conference chairs, committee members, and officers,

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all of them offering their valuable time as volunteers! I'd like to recognize the effort of all the individuals that worked with me during my term as President, and in particular the members of the IEEE ITS Executive Committee and the Editors-in-Chief of our publications.

Being President was an honor and an exciting experience for me. Now, I am passing on the Presidency to Prof. Matthew Barth, our new President for 2014-2015. I know Matt from many years of successful work as member of our Board of Governors and as Vice President successfully managing our conference portfolio. As a personal note, I am delighted by his election. I am convinced that the Society will further flourish under his guidance.

Much success to you, Matt, and to our Society for a bright future!

*Christoph Stiller*  
Past President IEEE ITSS

## Let's Advance ITSS!

*Dear IEEE ITS Society Members:*

It is my privilege and honor to serve as the IEEE Intelligent Transportation System Society's newest President. I have watched the society grow from its inception, attending nearly all of its conferences and events along the way. I am in awe of the efforts that the past presidents have made in growing our society into what it is today, and hope I can continue the trend.

We are a very progressive IEEE society and I am certain we will continue to flourish and expand in



Past President Christoph Stiller (left) and President Matthew Barth (right).

the years to come. Interest in ITS is now at an all-time high—we have been getting a significant amount of media attention lately with all of the discussions on automated vehicles, transportation electrification, and vehicles becoming increasingly connected to each other, along with the infrastructure. The future of ITS looks very promising!

Intelligent Transportation Systems, by nature, has a very wide scope—extending all the way from vehicle sensor design to advanced traffic management algorithms. If you follow our conferences, transactions, magazine, *ITS Now!*, and our latest ITS Podcasts, you will see the wide breadth of topics that we cover. Because of this breadth, our conferences and events get a great mixture of researchers from different disciplines, making for lively discussions. In many ways we are unique in

that aspect, other IEEE societies tend to be more narrowly focused. One of my goals is to continue to encourage the multi-disciplinary nature of our ITS society, bringing it greater strength, diversity, and interest.

Along with this, our membership will continue to grow for years to come. I am hopeful that we can exceed 2015 members by the end of my term in 2015.

Another key goal will be to encourage formation of more chapters and student branch chapters in our society. This has multiple benefits, including: 1) members can be better served by having local activities and contacts; 2) it will better engage our student members into the ITS field; 3) it should encourage better communication between society

officers, chapter chairs, and members to solicit feedback and suggestions for improvements to our society.

I look forward to serving as your President over the next two years. We have an excellent set of society member volunteers who serve in many ways, including our Executive Committee, our Board of Governors, the various conference organizers, and last but-not-least, all our reviewers that guarantee the quality of our publications.

Christoph, our outgoing president, has done an excellent job of leading our society forward. I hope to build on the momentum he and other past-presidents have created.

*Sincerely,*  
*Matt Barth*  
President IEEE ITSS

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