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Matt Barth

## ITS Society in "Review"

The IEEE ITS Society is off to a fast start this year: we recently had an ITS society executive committee meeting in early March, a Board of Governors teleconference in April, and we will have our Intelligent Vehicle (IV) Symposium starting June 8th in Dearborn, Michigan. The Intelligent Vehicle Symposium is one of our society's key conferences, highlighting some of the best oral presentations, posters, workshops, and papers that are focused on intelligent vehicles and associated intelligent transportation systems. I'm looking forward to attending and seeing many of you there.

When I started my role as president of the ITS society, little did I know that each society gets reviewed every five years by the IEEE, sort of an "audit" to see how well each society is doing. I received an e-mail in March that our ITS society was up for review this year, and that we had to assemble a fairly comprehensive report by May. This report is comprehensive in the sense that it covers all of what we do: our strategic plan, operations, conferences, publications, education, membership, finances, administration, and governance. With the help from our executive committee, we recently submitted our report and now I will meet with the review committee in late June. First of all, what a great way to quickly learn every detail of what our society does. In addition, it really taught me what a great ITS society we have and its potential for growth. We are still one of the younger and smaller societies, but we are expanding in a number of different areas. Here are just a few of the highlights:

Our "field of interest" has always been in ITS, but there is a lot more focus now on intelligent, connected, and automated vehicles, which is reflected in our most recent strategic plan. Our conferences have never been stronger, with our two flagship conferences: Intelligent Vehicles Symposium (this year in Dearborn, Michigan, June 2014), and the Intelligent Transportation Systems Conference (in Tsingtao, China, October 2014). These conferences keep growing each year, currently ranging from 300–600 attendees. There are a number of other specialized conferences that we also support, including the growing International Connected Vehicle Conference and Expo (ICCVE), and the International Electric Vehicle Conference (IEVC). In terms of our publications, we have one of the highest impact factors for transportation journals with our *Transactions on ITS*, and we expect to get our first impact factor rating for our *ITS Magazine* later this year. One of the key efforts underway is our society creating a new journal: *Transactions on Intelligent Vehicles (T-IV)*. It is a year-long process to start these transactions, but it certainly makes sense: we already have an "ITS" conference and an "Intelligent Vehicles" symposium, why not have an equal *Transactions on ITS* and a *Transactions on Intelligent Vehicles*? Stay tuned, this will be launching soon.

In terms of new educational efforts, we are also launching a "Distinguished Lecture Series" in ITS, where over the next two years, we will see lectures from the top

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Dr. Bai is working hard to focus his research on the discovery of fundamental principles, which are used to guide the analysis and design of protocols/systems for next-generation vehicular networks and a variety of ITS applications relevant to every commuter's real-life needs.

feasibility. Beyond the safety critical real-time applications, Dr. Bai also focused on the non-safety or utility applications with the provision for delay-tolerant networks (DTN) that allows store and forward mechanisms for sparse vehicular networks.

Dr. Bai has made significant contributions in developing the industry standards for the connected vehicle technology. He was the DSRC Standard task group leader of the CAMP (Crash Avoidance Metrics Partnership) working group which involved several automakers like Ford, General Motors, Honda, Hyundai, Mercedes-Benz, Nissan, Toyota and Volkswagen. He served as the task group leader for Alternative Video Link working group of the Car Connectivity Consortium (CCC) which resulted into the

development of the open industry standard—MirrorLink, connecting smartphones with vehicles through Bluetooth/Wi-Fi/USB. He was also the Vice Chair for the automotive segment working group of the Wi-Fi Alliances. Dr. Bai is very much active within the research community through his professional services. He has been involved with numerous IEEE and ACM conferences in various capacities starting from reviewer to organizing Chair. Some of those vehicular communication conferences where he regularly serve as TPC member include ACM VANET, IEEE VNC, IEEE VTC, IEEE WiVeC, IEEE MoVeNet, and IEEE INFOCOM etc. He has served in editorial boards or guest editors for many reputed journals including *IEEE Transaction on Vehicular Technology*, *IEEE Transaction on Mobile Computing*, *IEEE Transaction on Internet of Things*, *IEEE Vehicular Technology Magazine*, *IEEE Wireless Communication Magazine*, and *Elsevier Ad Hoc Networks* etc. He

had also served as a panelist for the National Science Foundation (NSF) on vehicular networks several times in the past few years.

Dr. Bai has authored and co-authored over 60 peer-reviewed articles which are published by top IEEE journals and conferences. His articles received numerous citations all over the world within the research community and were taught in graduate courses at various schools. As of now, he has co-authored two books and six book chapters. He has supervised a total of 6 Ph.D. students from different universities including Carnegie Mellon University, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign and University of Southern California.

Still in his early stage of research career, Dr. Bai is working hard to focus his research on the discovery of fundamental principles, which are used to guide the analysis and design of protocols/systems for next-generation vehicular networks and a variety of ITS applications relevant to every commuter's real-life needs. At the same time, as an industry researcher, his enthusiastic efforts in building empirical ITS systems help to move research concepts from laboratory into the real-world deployment.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued from page 5)

ITS researchers in Japan, the U.S., Europe, and China. We are also planning on starting an ITS "summer school" for graduate students and others that want to learn more about ITS. Our membership continues to grow and our finances and administration are strong. We recently had two

new ITS society Chapters get started, one in Tunisia Africa, and another in Nagoya, Japan.

As our program continues to expand, we hope our membership continues to increase. Last year, we had one of the highest membership growth rates in the IEEE, at 14.5%.

Let's keep that trend moving forward, and expect to hear a lot more about ITS in the coming months.

Matt Barth  
IEEE ITSS President, 2014–2015

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