

Cristina Olaverri-Monreal



## Achieving Climate Neutrality Through the Technological Aspects of Transportation

Transport-related decisions can make a significant contribution to achieving climate neutrality, the adaptation of transport systems being not only a factor for transport efficiency but also part of the technological aspects of the digital transformation. In this context, the application of digital technologies for use in automation, sensors, and communication technologies as they pertain to the field of intelligent transportation systems (ITS) makes it possible to respond to transportation needs through sustainable solutions. The IEEE Intelligent Transportation Systems Society promotes research for cleaner and more efficient transportation that helps to mitigate the consequences that transport has for climate change.

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Therefore, to recognize the efforts and, most important, sustainable innovative approaches around the globe that contribute to accelerating climate-neutral transport, it is a great honor to announce the establishment of the IEEE ITS Society Presidential Award for Sustainability in Transportation. The ITS Society, as a pioneer in the recognition and promotion of technologies toward sustainable transport, will use this award to increase awareness of sustainable transport solutions to contribute to a reduction of greenhouse emissions.

In this context, sustainable mobility performance affects the quality of life, and smart mobility in cities is thus a decisive component that can be advanced by using ITS-related technologies. It is already possible to compile massive amounts of real-time data to optimize the urban infrastructure. The efficiency of public transport services, from both user and service-provider perspectives, is associated with these achievements. For example, an analysis of location-based data makes it possible to determine which services could be useful for citizens at a certain time, thereby improving people's ability to navigate the most efficient routes and modes of travel.

The synergies between the fields of intelligent transport and smart cities are evident. Therefore, it is my great pleasure to announce that the ITS Society is joining the IEEE Smart Cities Community and will lead the effort to create *IEEE Open Journal on Smart City*. In addition, the introduction of autonomous vehicles on our roads will

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These joint efforts aim to promote networking activities among students, young professionals, and experts in ITS to contribute to new ideas for future research.

change cities as we know them. In this context, our Society, in collaboration with the Institute of Transportation Engineers, has compiled, in a white paper, 27 potential areas regarding the gaps in international standards that address the development of infrastructure for supporting autonomous vehicles.

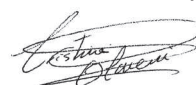
Collaboration among ITS Society Chapters is also bearing fruit through joint initiatives. In particular, the

European Chapters in Austria, Germany, Italy, and Spain are providing support to local communities and encouraging technological innovations in the area of ITS. This is happening by establishing and moderating a forum for the exchange of knowledge among universities, industry, and research institutes, supporting the formation of interest groups as a base for common research projects. The goal is to cultivate a professional network

within European cities that are represented through Chapters.

These joint efforts aim to promote networking activities among students, young professionals, and experts in ITS to contribute to new ideas for future research and discover new opportunities to advance the field in an international context. As members of this great community that is our Society, I invite you to continue to participate in our activities and thank you for your involvement and dedication.

Sincerely,



Cristina Olaverri-Monreal  
President, IEEE ITS Society

ITS

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