The Board of Directors (BOD) of Chinese Overseas Transportation Association (COTA) renewed five positions in 2014, including one Student Member position. Dr. Haizhong Wang, Dr. Xiaokun Wang, Dr. Shanjiang Zhu, and Dr. Lei Zhang were elected as new BOD members; and Ms. Yi Liu was elected as the student BOD member. The election took place between December 2 and December 23, 2013, and was administered by the 2014 COTA Board Member Election Committee. Effective from January 12, 2014, the new COTA BOD members include:

Yafeng Yin
President
Associate Professor
University of Florida

Heng Wei
Immediate Past President
Associate Professor
University of Cincinnati

Yu Zhang
Vice President
Assistant Professor
University of South Florida

Haizhong Wang
Outreach and Membership Officer
Assistant Professor
Oregon State University

Shanjiang Zhu
General Secretary
Assistant Professor

Yi Liu
Chair of Student Affairs
PhD Candidate
University of California, Berkeley

Xiaokun (Cara) Wang
Communication Officer
Assistant Professor
Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst.
Dear COTA Members and Friends:

It's been the honor of my life to have served the President of Chinese Overseas Transportation Association (COTA). Building on the success of former president, Dr. Yinghai Wang, we have steadily been moving forward on the track that we have set up towards a better, stronger COTA community. I want to say much thank you for your strong support and care for COTA’s development and growth during my term as the president in the past two years. I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve.

As you have been aware of, the former International Conference of Chinese Transportation Professionals (ICCTP) was renamed as the COTA International Conference of Transportation Professionals (CICTP) in 2012. While the change was an inevitable tendency with the successes of the ICCTP series, particularly since the ICCTP 2009 in Herbin Institute of Technology, it reflects a long-run goal that the COTA Board of Directors (BOD) has envisioned to make the event ultimately free any geographic or national implication. In any case, there is no nationality in the conference, just like TRB in the US, or broadly, like in the acquisition of knowledge. To this end, it is always my pleasure to remind you of specific additions that have formulated spotlights of the CICTP series. They typically include: TRB Standing Committee Chairs Forum, COTA-World Bank China Transport Forum, Government Forum, and COTA Education Workshop. Those programs have greatly promoted the CICTP to be an internationally recognized and respected event. Those prestigious international scholars and experts who have made tremendous contributions to those programs are highly acknowledged. Their impressive talks and presentations at the CICTP have been well received by our audience and recorded in our newsletters. On the other hand, I am glad to see the CICTP has become more than just a conference – not only a platform connecting professionals in China and other countries, but also an event that has a tremendous impact on those who attend. More significantly, the Dean’s forum has been well sustained in conjunction with the CICTP. It is an invited-only session for the deans of College of Transportation (or equivalent institutes) to gather and discuss critical issues in education, research and development of colleges of transportation. It is a unique platform and has become the most influential forum which attracts the largest number of deans in transportation area during each CICTP. By this chance, I therefore want to express my sincere appreciation to the hosts of the CICTP 2012 and CICTP 2013, Beihang University and Tsinghua University, Graduate School in Shenzhen for their wonderful organizations of those great events.

In addition, we have built up the mechanism of organizing pre- and/or post CICTP workshop or symposium series, which have added supporting combustion to the CICTP series. The 2013 Pre-CICTP Workshop on Assessment of Transportation Networks and 2013 Post-CICTP International Workshop on Multimodal Transportation were successfully held at Sun Yat-sen University and Beijing University of Technology before and after the CICTP 2013, respectively. The post-CICTP 2012 Workshop in Shanghai Jiashan University also attracted a big attendance. Certainly our current BOD will keep those traditional programs up in the following years.
Several current and past COTA BOD members, including Drs. Yinhai Wang, Yafeng Yin, Jianming Ma, and Yu Zhang, as well as Mr. Jun Wang, have dedicated tremendous outreach efforts with attempt to create more potentials and opportunities of collaborating with other outstanding organizations in the US and China for both the summer conference in China and COTA winter symposium during TRB in Washington DC, as well as COTA official publication in the future. Typical milestone efforts or progresses are marked as follows.

- Transportation Research Board (TRB) first agreed to be an official co-sponsor to the CICTP series in January 2012. COTA was permitted to use TRB logo as a co-sponsor at the CICTP website starting from the CICTP 2012. COTA activities would be since then provided with publicity in the TRB newsletters and TRB links on the website. That was a milestone progress as a result of Drs. V. Setty Pendakur and my personal long-time efforts, as well as all the COTA BOD members’ strong supports.

- At the further step, the 1st TRB Standing Committee Chairs Forum was successfully organized and held at the CICTP 2012 in Beihang University. And then, the 2nd Forum was continued at the CICTP 2013 in Shenzhen.

- An ad hoc subcommittee of TRB ABE90 Committee on Transportation in Developing Countries, ABE90-COTA China Conference Planning Subcommittee - ABE90(3), was established in January 2012. The first committee meeting was organized by myself and held extremely successfully on January 24, 2012 TRB Hilton Northwest. That meeting received many warm and active responses from our COTA members and friends. The meeting resulted in a solid plan to jointly organize a Sunday Workshop with ABE90 during 2013 TRB annual meeting.

- As the result of the ABE90(3) and COTA’s joint efforts, TRB Workshop 188: “Policies, Strategies, and Technologies for Sustainable Transport in China” was successfully held on Sunday, January 13, 2013 at 1:30PM - 4:30PM, in Hilton, Columbia Hall 1 in Washington DC. On the same day, 2013 COTA Winter Symposium, i.e., the 16th COTA Annual Symposium on Sustainable Transportation and Development in China, was successfully held in conjunction with the 2013 TRB Annual Meeting in Omni Shoreham, Washington DC. More than 80 transportation professionals attended the symposium. Some scholars from China and the U.S. presented their most up-to-date research in various transportation areas. The success of those events was attributed to active involvement of COTA BOD members and support of COTA members and friends, under great leaderships of Drs. Yu Zhang, Jianming Ma, Fang Fang, Dr. V. Setty Pendakur (Emeritus member of ABE90), and myself.

- Several COTA BOD members, including Drs. Yinhai Wang (Past President of COTA), Jianming Ma and myself, have actively outreached with several publication venders for CICTP proceedings publications and associated special issues of SCI journals (e.g. Journal of ITS), as well as exploration of establishing future COTA journal. Those contacted publication venders include Elsevier, IEEE Compute Society, Omnipress, and ASCE
T&DI. COTA has by far performed stable collaborations with ASCE T&DI and Elsevier for the CICTP proceedings publication.

Collaboration between COTA and the Transportation and Development Institute (T&DI) of American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) has been further enhanced. COTA was a co-sponsor of the first Congress conference of ASCE T&DI in 2012. COTA and ASCE T&DI have reached the first agreement in treating each other’s membership equally when attending each other’s conferences in 2012. As a result, the First ASCE-COTA Form was organized into the CICTP 2012 programs, as a joint effort of COTA and Research Institute of Highway (RIOH), China Ministry of Transport (MOT).

Additionally, we have actively outreached with other non-profit organizations, and public and industrial sectors to pursue sponsorship for COTA’s events, such as Reason Foundation (in the US), EMBARQ - Center for Sustainable Transport World Resources Institute (WRI) (in Germany and China), SI-Tong ITS, Inc., Shenzhen ITS Association, China Highway and Transportation Society, Transport Planning and Research Institute and RIOH under MOC, Beijing Municipal Commission of Transport, China Natural Science Foundation, as well as lots of universities in China with strong transportation programs. Those outreach efforts have resulted in strong supports of various programs and sponsorship for some programs involved in CICTPs and COTA Winter Symposi- ums in past.

I am proud of the BOD under my term. I am proud of all the members who have served for the COTA community. I would like to acknowledge the following members for their great contributions to major COTA events and development in the last two years:

- Drs. Fang (Clara) Fang and Jianming Ma: Organizing and Executive Chairs for the CICTP 2012 in Beihang University, August 3-6, 2012
- Dr. Lei Zhang: Organizing and Executive Chair for the CICTP 2013 in Shenzhen, August 13-16, 2013.
- Dr. Yafeng Yin: leader of the COTA Award Selection Committee that has done excellent efforts to select excellent awardees for COTA Lifetime Achievement Awards, COTA Outstanding Service Awards, and Best CICTP Paper Awards under the designated categories.
- Dr. Yu Zhang, the Executive Chair for the 16th COTA Annual Symposium on Sustainable Transportation and Development in China in Washington DC, January 13, 2013.
- Dr. Xiaokun (Cara) Wang, the Executive Chair for the 16th COTA Annual Symposium on Transportation in the Context of Rapid Urbanization in Washington DC, January 12, 2014.
- Drs. Yu Zhang, Xiaokuan (Cara) Wang, and Jianming Ma for their effective coordination with international VIPs for travel arrangement, participation in CICTPs and pre- or post-CICTP workshops in 2012 and 2013, respectively. They also played a great role in organizing the events.
Mr. Qingyan (Ken) Yang for his persistent dedication to maintaining COTA website, in particular for his launching the COTA E-News that is released every two or three weeks. This E-News timely shares the up-to-date information about the state-of-the-art/practice development in China and worldwide transportation fields. It is worth noticing that the E-news also greatly helps increase the visibility of COTA among Chinese and international professionals.

- Dr. Jianming Ma for his patient, careful work for treasuring administration.
- Drs. Lei Zhang and Shanjiang Zhu for their time and efforts in coordinating facilities services and determining places for COTA activities during TRB annual meetings.
- Dr. Hubo Cai, Editor-in-Chief for COTA Newsletter. Each issue was designed in a decent way.
- Dr. Henry Liu for his leadership in maintenance of membership registrations.
- Mr. Jinghui Wang helped establish the first Student Chapter in Southern Regions of Texas.
- Drs. Ning Wu, Ronghui, and Xiaoliang Ma for their great endeavors in establishing and operating the COTA-Europe chapter.

Finally, special gratitude goes to Huina Wang who worked as part-time assistant in supporting the COTA BOD in terms of regular operations and photography and news for CICTPs. Mr. Zhuo Yao and Hao Liu, my PhD students, are also greatly appreciated for their timely helps whenever I was under busy schedules. In particular, Mr. Zhuo Yao designed a brand new, high-quality COTA website in 2012, which has been highly praised by many COTA members and friends.

We have been generous in using our time and energy in past, and our new BOD will be more generous in the future as we are able to. Under the leadership of the new president, Dr. Yafeng Yin, COTA will surely continue on the track towards long-term success. I expect his continued endeavor to elevate COTA to the next level.

With my best wishes,

Heng Wei, PhD, PE
Immediate Past President of COTA
February 2014
Dear COTA Members and Friends,

Back at the 2014 TRB Annual Meeting, Washington DC, it was a special honor and a privilege to begin my term as the tenth president of COTA (formerly NACOTA). I am grateful to all the former presidents and the Board of Directors (BOD) members who have volunteered their time and talents to build and grow an organization and community of our own since 1996. Our former and outgoing presidents Drs. Yinhai Wang and Heng Wei deserve an enormous thank you. Under their outstanding leadership in the past four years, COTA has grown tremendously. I also want to thank Dr. Clara Fang, Dr. Hubo Cai and Mr. Jinghui Wang, who stepped down from the BOD on January 12, 2014, for their hard work and dedication to our COTA community.

The new BOD consists of 11 members, including Dr. Heng Wei (Immediate Past President), Dr. Yu Zhang (Vice President), Dr. Lei Zhang (Vice President), Dr. Henry H. Liu (Chair of Academic Affairs), Dr. Jianming Ma (Treasurer), Mr. Ken Q. Yang (Communication Officer), Dr. Xiaokun Wang (Communication Officer), Dr. Haizhong Wang (Outreach and Membership Officer), Dr. Shanjiang Zhu (General Secretary), Ms. Yi Liu (Chair of Student Affairs) and myself. The new board is young, but capable and passionate. We have set our goals and work plans to provide broader and better services to our members and increase COTA’s positive impact in the transportation communities in China and worldwide. The only way we can accomplish these is through the participation of our members and friends. On behalf of the new BOD, I would like to thank you for your contribution and involvement in various COTA activities over the years, and encourage you to continue your support to COTA and join our effort to bring COTA to the next level in the near future.

There are a few new developments and initiatives that I would like to share with you. As part of our continued efforts to reengineer and streamline the membership registration and management process, we are launching a new web-based system soon to...
members to register themselves and renew their membership safely with payment via PayPal. Stay tuned for more details. In the meanwhile, if you have any suggestions or comments for our membership management, please feel free to contact our Membership Officer Dr. Haizhong Wang at wanghzhong@gmail.com.

As you know, one of the major activities that COTA routinely organizes every year is the COTA International Conference of Transportation Professionals or CICTP (formerly International Conference of Chinese Transportation Professionals or ICCTP). The CICTP series is the premier gathering for transportation professionals worldwide who are interested in making contributions to or gaining a deeper understanding of the transportation development in China. Through consistent efforts over the past thirteen years, CICTP has built up its reputation as one of the most influential academic conferences in China. Being the fourteenth conference in the series, CICTP2014 will be held July 4–7, 2014 in Changsha, China. The conference is jointly organized by COTA and Central South University, China. We sincerely invite you to attend this event. Although the full paper submission is past due, if you still have an interest to contribute one, please contact immediately Dr. Jianming Ma, the Chair of Organizing Committee of CICTP2014, at mjming@gmail.com.

COTA also has long planned to establish regional chapters to engage Chinese transportation professionals in other geographic regions outside of China and North America. I am very pleased to announce the official launch of our COTA Asia-Pacific Chapter in February, 2014. The founding team of the chapter consists of Drs. Qiang Meng (President), Junyi Zhang (Vice President) and Xiaobo Qu (Vice President and Secretary). Dr. Meng is an Associate Professor at National University of Singapore, Singapore; Dr. Zhang is a Professor at Hiroshima University, Japan; and Dr. Qu is an Assistant Professor at Griffith University, Australia. The chapter plans to enhance the connections among Chinese transportation professionals in the Asia Pacific region and collaborate with regional transportation societies such as Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies (EASTS) to promote transportation research and development in the region. COTA Asia–Pacific is the second regional chapter of COTA. Back in June 2011, COTA Europe was established, under the leadership of Drs. Ning Wu (of Ruhr–University Bochum, Germany), Ronghui Liu (of the University of
Leeds, UK) and Xiaoliang Ma (of the Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden). We encourage our COTA members, friends, and fellow transportation professionals to participate in and support COTA and COTA regional chapters’ events and activities. For additional information about COTA regional chapters, please visit http://www.cota-home.org/Organization_regional_Chap.html.

Invited by the Transportation and Development Institute (T&DI) of ASCE, COTA has become a non-financial Cooperating Organization for the 2nd T&DI Congress. The conference is being held at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel, Orlando, Florida, June 8–11, 2014. The content of the conference is broad-based in transportation engineering, planning and development. The preliminary program can be found at http://content.asce.org/files/pdf/TDI2014-Pre-ProgramWebFINAL.pdf. T&D has kindly agreed to extend the T&D/ASCE member registration fees to COTA members who are interested in attending the conference. You are encouraged to take advantage of this offer to register for and attend the conference. COTA and T&D/ASCE have a long history of collaboration and cooperation. This is another instance of the two organizations cooperating for the mutual benefits of our members.

I will keep you informed of our progress and latest developments. For timely update on COTA activities, and other useful information and resources, please visit the COTA website at www.cota-home.org. Do not hesitate to write to me if you have any suggestions or comments. If you have news or announcements to share with the COTA community, please contact our Communication Officers Mr. Ken Yang at kqy@iteris.com and Dr. Xiaokun Wang at wangx18@rpi.edu.

Sincerely,

Yafeng Yin, Ph.D.
COTA Asia-Pacific Chapter

Launched in February 2014, COTA Asia-Pacific Chapter aims at serving as a platform to

- Establish and enhance linkages among Chinese transportation professionals in the Asia Pacific region;
- Promote collaboration between Chinese transportation professionals in the region and their counterparts in China;
- Assist in linking Chinese transportation professionals in the region to the other members of COTA

Also, COTA Asia-Pacific chapter will collaborate with the regional transportation research societies such as Eastern Asia Society for Transportation Studies (EASTS) to promote transportation research and development. The founding team of COTA Asia-Pacific Chapter comprises:

**President**
Dr. Qiang Meng
Associate Professor
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Email: ceemq@nus.edu.sg

**Vice President**
Dr. Junyi Zhang
Professor
Transportation Engineering Laboratory
Hiroshima University, Japan

Email: zjy@hiroshima-u.ac.jp

**Vice President and Secretory**
Dr. Xiaobo Qu
Assistant Professor (Lecturer)
Griffith School of Engineering
Griffith University, Australia

Email: x.qu@griffith.edu.au
The Chinese Overseas Transportation Association (COTA) and Central South University (CSU) are jointly organizing the **14th COTA International Conference of Transportation Professionals (CICTP2014)** on July 4-7, 2014, in Changsha, China. The CICTP2014 proceedings will be published by ASCE, and all the proceedings papers will be indexed via the EI Compendex, which can be accessed worldwide.

The CICTP conference series, established by COTA and sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), is the premier gathering for transportation professionals worldwide, and for those who are interested in contributing to or gaining a profound understanding of transportation development in China and other countries. Through COTA’s persistent endeavors in past years, CICTP has become the most influential academic conference in the transportation field in China.

The CICTP2014 has received more than 500 paper submissions. We expect that the conference will attract more than 1,000 participants and continue to be the biggest transportation conference in China.

The CICTP2014 will address critical issues and challenges emerging from the development of safe, smart and sustainable multimodal transportation systems. The conference will provide a platform for exchanging and sharing of the international experiences in developing and applying innovative solutions and advanced technologies in transportation. In addition to regular technical sessions, several plenary sessions are planned for internationally prestigious experts and scholars to discuss the state-of-the-art/practice transportation development. Other special forums will be focused on issues that are of great interest to the audience of various backgrounds, including the World Bank Transportation Development Forum, Dean Forum for Chinese University Transportation Schools, and COTA Professional Development Forum for Young Scholars and Students. The best-paper awards and other professional awards will be granted to the authors of excellent papers or institutes/enterprises which have made outstanding contributions to the development of transportation systems in China. The 3rd China Transportation Research and Technology Exhibition will be also held in conjunction with the CICTP2014 to showcase the latest achievements of research and practices, which include the exhibition of innovative and creative research results by graduate students.

Please visit [http://cictp.csu.edu.cn/](http://cictp.csu.edu.cn/) for more information about the conference.
The 17th COTA Annual Symposium on Transportation in the Context of Rapid Urbanization

2014 COTA Winter Symposium, i.e., the 17th COTA Annual Symposium on Transportation in the Context of Rapid Urbanization was successfully held on January 12, 2014, in conjunction with the 2014 TRB Annual Conference in Hilton (one of the TRB conference hotels) in Washington DC.

Twelve speakers from China and the U.S. presented their most up-to-date research in various transportation areas, including transportation planning, transportation management and operations, traffic safety, and so on. The symposium organization and steering committees put in great efforts in soliciting these highly recognized speakers. Dr. Xiaokun Wang organized and chaired the symposium. Dr. Yingyan Lou, Dr. Yu Zhang, Dr. Shanjiang Zhu, and Dr. Haizhong Wang moderated these sessions.

The speakers and their presentations are:


- **Jinxian Weng**, Beijing Jiaotong University, *A Cluster-based Lognormal Distribution Model for Accident Distribution Prediction*


- **Yibing Wang**, Zhejiang University, *Real-time Freeway Traffic Incident Detection Based On Parameterization of Traffic Flow Abnormality*
The 17th COTA Annual Symposium at TRB 2014

- Yanyan Chen, Beijing University of Technology, *Travel Behavior and Integrated Strategy for Multimodal Transit System - Case Study in Beijing*
- Danya Yao, Tsinghua University, *A National 863 Program on Intelligent Vehicle-Infrastructure Cooperation System (i-VICS) in China*
- Daizong Liu, China Sustainable Transportation Center, CSTOUR - *Comprehensive Solution for Transit Oriented Urban Redevelopment*
- Ming Li, Beijing Jiaotong University, *Identification of Prior Factors Influencing Mode Choice of Short Distance Travel*
- Wei Wang, Southeast University, *Effective Allocation and Collaborative Control of Multimodal Transit Systems in Metropolitan Areas*
- Yiming Shao, Chongqing Jiaotong University, *Integrated Simulation of “People-Vehicle-Roads” for Accidents*
- Guizhen Yu, Beihang University, *A Cost-effective Fuel Consumption Monitoring Method for Trucks*
- Tianjia Tang, FHWA, *Brief Overview of the US Transportation System Management Mechanism*
The 17th COTA Annual Symposium also features the panel discussion on “Career Development for Young Professionals.”

Panelists include

- Lei Zhang, Associate Professor, University of Maryland
- Daizong Liu, Senior Program Specialist, China Sustainable Transportation Center
- Jianming Ma, Transportation Engineer, Texas Department of Transportation
- Allen Yongliang Yang, Vice President, Precision Systems, Inc.

Dr. Mike Houh from Precision Systems, Inc. also joined the discussion. The panelists cover academia, NPO, public agencies, and private sector in China and the U.S. They offered valuable insights in career development for young professionals.

More than 100 transportation professionals attended the symposium. The presentations and the panel discussion were well received by the audience.
COTA hosted its annual reception again during the 2014 TRB. This year more than 300 transportation professionals and students attended the event. The reception provided a great venue for Chinese transportation professionals across the world to meet and socialize.
COTA BOD’s Successful Meeting with World Bank Representatives during the TRB 2014 Annual Meeting

Under the warm invitation of the World Bank Beijing Office, Dr. Heng Wei, Mr. Jun Wang and Dr. Jianming Ma met with Work Bank representatives on January 15, 2014 at the Headquarter of The World Bank Groups in Washington, D.C. Mr. Binyam Reja (Director of the World Bank Beijing Office), Mr. Jean-Paul velez (World Bank representative for Eastern Asia sustainable development), and Mr. Arturo Ardial Gomez (World Bank representative for urban transport and disaster risk management), as well as Mr. Haitao Zhang, the Director of EMBARQ China attended the lunch meeting. Mr. Binyam Reja highly spoke of the collaborations between COTA and World Bank Beijing Office via the joint organization of the COTA-World Bank Transportation Development Forum that was started at the COTA’s summer conference at Beijing University of Technology in 2012. He hopes the collaboration will be sustainably continued in the future. In the end of the lunch meeting, both World Bank and COTA representatives reached an agreement that the fifth COTA-World Bank Transportation Development Forum will be held on July 7, 2014 at the CICTP 2014, which will be held on July 4-7, 2014, in Changsha, China. The World Bank will be responsible for inviting speakers and providing simultaneous interpretation in Chinese and English. COTA will be coordinating with Central South University (the local host of the CICTP 2014) to arrange the space for the Forum. In addition, Dr. Heng Wei suggested that both World Bank and COTA set up the mechanism in exchanging information each other via communication means that will be managed by both sides (e.g. website, newsletter, e-news, etc.). The World Bank representatives positively echoed with the suggestion and verbally agreed to the plan.

From left: Jean Paul velez, Binyam Reja, Heng Wei, Jun Wang, Arturo Ardial Gomez, and Jianming Ma