

2001-2002 Multi-Campus Research Unit Profile for the University of California

Description:

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The Institute of Transportation Studies (ITS) at UC Berkeley is one of the oldest and largest transportation research programs in the country. ITS has supported transportation research at the University of California since 1948. It was the first program to combine transportation research and education.

Institute graduates have been leaders in the public and private sectors of transportation. A recent alumni outreach project identified more than 80 who hold academic posts at universities in the U.S. and abroad. Its faculty and students regularly appear in the top ranks of the transportation engineering and planning professions. Three of its four directors have headed the executive committee of the Transportation Research Board, a unit of the National Research Council, the leading national organization for transportation researchers, practitioners and administrators. Faculty have also been recognized for their contributions to research and education by leading associations including the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Council of University Transportation Centers, the Institute of Transportation Engineers, the National Academy of Engineering, and the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning. Institute graduate students regularly appear among the winners of top student awards, including the Eno Fellowship, the Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship and the Women's Transportation Seminar.

On average, its programs receive more than \$25 million in research funds each year, one of the largest award totals for an organized research unit or academic department on the Berkeley campus. Almost 200 faculty members and staff researchers, plus more than 100 graduate students, take part in this program, which crosses a variety of disciplines. Among the departments and programs represented are Business, City and Regional

Planning, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Computer Science, Economics, Industrial Engineering and Operations Research, Mechanical Engineering, Optometry, Public Health, Public Policy and Statistics.

ITS Berkeley has sister institutions on the Davis, Irvine and Los Angeles campuses.

The ITS Web site offers easy Internet access to the transportation programs at UC Berkeley, including freely downloadable research reports. More than half of the ITS research catalog is now available over the Web. The Institute distributes an online edition of its newsletter, the ITS Review. The online edition, along with previously published print versions, can be viewed on the Web at

<http://www.its.berkeley.edu/publications/publications.html>. The complete ITS catalog of more than 1,000 research publications is located at

<http://www.its.berkeley.edu/publications/catalog/catalog.html>. The Institute also helps produce an online quarterly newsletter for the UC Berkeley Traffic Safety Center and sends out a weekly headline service to roughly 500 transportation experts and advocates.

The Institute operates a number of affiliated programs. They are described below:

PATH (Partners for Advanced Transit and Highways) is the nation's largest program of intelligent transportation systems research. PATH's mission is to develop solutions to the problems of California's surface transportation systems through cutting edge research. The PATH charter includes conducting leading research, planning and evaluating field operational tests, developing partnerships between academia, the public sector and private companies, and educating both students and practitioners. PATH's Web site is located at <http://www.path.berkeley.edu>. PATH also supports the California PATH Database-the world's most comprehensive database on intelligent transportation systems. It is located at <http://www4.nationalacademies.org/trb/tris.nsf/web/path>.

The California Center for Innovative Transportation (CCIT) opened its headquarters in downtown Berkeley in 2001. The center works with industry and Caltrans to perform follow-up research, development and field testing of intelligent transportation systems to facilitate their commercialization and deployment. Its Web site is located at <http://www.calccit.org>.

The Technology Transfer Program trains engineers and other traffic professionals with the California Department of Transportation, as well as staff in county and metropolitan transportation agencies. It provides technical support in the form of field engineers, free access to transportation reference materials, research advice from specialized librarians and distance learning and online materials. It also disseminates information through a newsletter and publishes course catalogs that it distributes around the state.

TechTransfer's yearly international symposiums on airport noise and air quality draw upwards of 300 to 400 attendees from government agencies, industry, academia and public interest groups. The TechTransfer Web site is located at <http://www.its.berkeley.edu/techtransfer>.

The National Center of Excellence for Aviation Operations Research (NEXTOR) is a consortium sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) consisting of UC Berkeley, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Maryland at College Park and Virginia Polytechnic and State University. Research areas addressed by NEXTOR include advanced air traffic management systems, air traffic safety and security, and the performance and productivity of the nation's aviation system. Its Web site is located at <http://www.its.berkeley.edu/nextor/index.html>.

The Pavement Research Center (PRC) is an international authority on pavement structures, materials and technologies. Often, it conducts research in partnership with other academic institutions and state departments of transportation, as well as private industry. The PRC's core mission is to research questions for the California Department of Transportation pertaining to the design, construction, rehabilitation and maintenance of the state's 75,000-lane-kilometer network of roads. The Center's Web site is located at <http://www.its.berkeley.edu/pavementresearch>.

The Traffic Safety Center is a joint venture of the Institute and the School of Public Health. Its goals are to reduce traffic fatalities and injuries through multi-disciplinary collaboration in education, research, and outreach, and to make traffic safety information widely available. It sponsors courses on the Berkeley campus, hosts symposia and publishes a quarterly online newsletter about traffic safety, which can be found on the Center's Web site, <http://www.tsc.berkeley.edu>.

The Harmer E. Davis Transportation Library is among the world's leading transportation libraries. It serves academic researchers and students in the entire UC system, as well as local, state and federal transportation agencies. Through a partnership with the Technology Transfer program, it offers subsidized reference services and access to technical materials to TechTransfer program participants. Librarians also manage the California PATH Database of intelligent transportation and the BRT database. Visit the library on the Web at <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ITSL>.