

# The UITP Academic Network

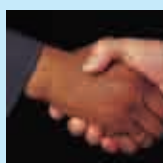
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UITP is an international network of more than 3,200 urban, local, regional and national mobility actors in more than 90 countries. It promotes the development of more efficient and attractive public transport services and acts as a catalyst for new business opportunities. It is the global centre of knowledge and know-how, collecting best practices, gathering benchmarking data, statistics and mobility indicators and analysing future trends. UITP is the advocate for public transport and sustainable mobility and its role is also to promote innovation and forward-looking solutions.

Within UITP, there is a dedicated Academic Network for its academic and research members. Reasons to join:



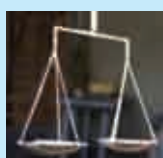
**Strengthen the links between research and practice**



**Boost your research opportunities**



**Join thematic meetings in line with your research interests**



**Transfer your knowledge to the sector**



**Be part of a pool of scientific expertise**

# Guiding principles

The Academic Network was founded in 2004 and gathers academic members from more than 20 countries to exchange expertise in a range of areas related to the public transport sector.

The Academic Network aims to strengthen the links between research and practice through the development of joint activities. It also constitutes a pool of scientific expertise that practitioners can call upon in relation to specific issues.

Academics members are only involved in activities in direct relation to their specific research areas.

The purpose of the activities developed by UITP is to facilitate the networking and exchange of information between researchers and practitioners as a starting point for possible future co-operation.



# Flexible approach

The relationship between researchers and practitioners is strengthened by facilitating and organising the following activities:

**Thematic meetings** are organised around specific topics to support the implementation of the work programmes of UITP's Commissions and Committees. These meetings gather academics and practitioners on a specific topic for a specific purpose (preparation of a report, policy position, etc.). Academics have the opportunity to discuss the most recent research developments in a given area with other academics and practitioners in order to consider the implications and applications for practitioners. As they will be set up on an ad-hoc basis, the frequency and the focus of these meetings depends on the UITP work programme.

**Invitations for academics to take part in a meeting** of a UITP Committee or Commission to share their expertise on a specific issue.

**Delivery of additional support to a working group** for the preparation of a publication or event (arrangements to be decided on a case-by-case basis).

**Establishment of contact with members** requiring specific expertise (establishment of a scientific advisory panel or individual contacts).

**Participation in a UITP Committee or Commission** of an academic member as an observer to serve as a link with the Academic Network. The list of current representatives is available on the UITP website (Members only section) and further applications are welcome.

**Plenary meetings** of the Academic Network can be set up, usually in combination with other events of interest to academic members (EU Research Info Day, etc.).

**Information on EU-funded research opportunities** will be provided by the Academic Network, which will continue to be a catalyst for the development of project proposals.

## In practice

The Academic Network is presided over by a Steering Board comprising four academic members from complementary academic fields acting as co-chairs. In order to identify possible synergies between the Academic Network and other UITP working bodies, coordination is ensured on a regular basis between its Steering Board and UITP. The topics identified by the Steering Board are regularly circulated to the members of the Academic Network, who are invited to signal their interest in a particular subject to the UITP team managing the Academic Network.

# Additional services

## ➤ **Research Inventory**

The Academic Network gathers a wide range of data on research interests to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and cooperation between its members.

## ➤ **Traineeship liaison service**

A traineeship liaison service is also available to members to enhance traineeship possibilities within operating companies, organising authorities and industry suppliers. Both lists of companies welcoming a trainee and students looking for a traineeship are published in the Members only section of the website.

## ➤ **Directory of educational programmes**

A directory of educational programmes is available online and is updated on a regular basis.

## ➤ **Mobi+**

All academic members and their students have access to UITP's Information Centre, which provides 11,000 references on all public transport-related topics through the online library MOBI+.

## ➤ **Public Transport International (PTI)**

Academic members also receive Public Transport International magazine, UITP's bimonthly magazine covering worldwide public transport hot topics and have the opportunity to publish articles and join the reader panel (PTI editorial advisory board).

# Join the Academic Network



**Connecting the world of public transport**



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