

**International Association for Travel Behaviour Research – IATBR
Executive Board Meeting**



Monday, July 16, 2018

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Beachside Bar Café, Santa Barbara, California

<https://www.beachside-barcafe.com/>

Presiding: Elisabetta Cherchi, Newcastle University

Members Present: Elisabetta Cherchi, Kostas Goulias, Pat Mokhtarian, Yusak Susilo, Ricardo Daziano, Abdul Pinjari

Matt Roorda and Charisma Choudhury could not attend.

Minutes

1. Welcome from the Chair (Elisabetta Cherchi)

2. 2018 IATBR conference (Kostas Goulias)

Overview and attendance:

- The conference was off to a great start, with 300+ registrations of which 70 were students.
- 40 students were given travel scholarships; thanks to sponsors of IATBR 2018.
- A total of 278 presentations and 8 workshops were scheduled in the conference.
- A post conference workshop in honor of Economics Nobel Laureate, Prof. Dan McFadden is planned the day after the conference.

Finances:

- The IATBR 2018 financial situation looks healthy. Kostas will finalize the conference finances after the conclusion of the conference and inform the details to the Board.
- IATBR transferred USD 25,000 to Kostas as a loan for IATBR 2018. Kostas will finalize the conference finances and return the USD 25,000 to the IATBR Bank account. Depending on the conference finances, he might contribute some additional funds generated by IATBR 2018. Please see the next point.

- There was initial discussion on increasing the membership fees from USD 25 per year to USD 35 per year, to account for increases in cost of living etc. Kostas suggested the possibility of increasing the fees from this conference year so that IATBR 2018 registration fees could be charged accordingly. That is, instead of accounting for USD 75 for 3-year membership in the IATBR 2018 registration fees, he suggested accounting for USD 105 (i.e., an increase in annual membership from USD 25 to USD 35). The new scheme would be:

Duration (years)	Fees @ \$35/year	Proposed fees (\$)	Discount (\$)
1	35	35	0
2	70	70	0
3	105	100	5

Permanent conference website and conference proceedings/preprints: The IATBR Board plans to host a permanent conference website to host conference proceedings for the long-term. There are plans to involve a webmaster in the IATBR Board, who will maintain the website. In the meanwhile, Kostas suggested the idea of subscribing to EasyChair for hosting the IATBR2018 conference proceedings (extended abstracts and presentation files) temporarily.

Conference book: An Elsevier Conference Book is planned with 24 chapters, workshop reports, and introductory chapters on the themes covered in the book. The plan is to publish the book within a year of the conference. Priority is given to the book, followed by special issues in journals.

Special issues in journals: Several journal special issues are planned from the papers presented at the conference.

3. Financial report and bank account of the association (Abdul Pinjari)

Currently the IATBR treasury is still in the Nordea bank in Denmark maintained by Elisabetta. Abdul placed on record sincere thanks to Elisabetta for continuing to handle the bank account till date. Efforts are ongoing for seeking non-profit status as well as opening an IATBR bank account in the Europe.

There are about USD 4200 in PayPal and about USD 5000 in the Nordea Bank account (at a rate of 7 DKK per 1 USD), which is being maintained by Elisabetta.

4. Membership report (Abdul Pinjari)

Membership of most IATBR 2015 attendees expired before the beginning of IATBR 2018. All registered attendees of IATBR 2018 becomes members of the association. Until the date of this meeting, close to 300 people had registered.

For those who membership has lapsed because they could not attend IATBR 2018, Abdul will send reminders asking them to renew membership.

5. Selection of location for IATBR 2021 conference (Elisabetta Cherchi)

A strong proposal was submitted by the Department of Transport Engineering and Logistics (DTEL) at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (PUC) of Chile for organizing the IATBR 2021 conference. The PUC DTEL has an excellent academic reputation in the field of travel behavior research and experience in organizing large scale conferences. The following four of the 14 full-time professors of DTEL propose to be fully involved in the organizing committee:

- Dr. Sebastián Raveau, Assistant Professor at DTEL, proposed Chair of IATBR 2021
- Dr. Juan de Dios Ortúzar, Emeritus Professor at DTEL
- Dr. Luis I. Rizzi, Associate Professor at DTEL
- Dr. Ricardo Hurtubia, Assistant Professor at DTEL

The DTEL team proposes to organize IATBR 2021 in the coastal city of Viña del Mar, which is part of a conurbation with Valparaíso, a World Heritage Site of UNESCO.

Given the strong academic record, experience in organizing conferences of similar magnitude, and the proposed organizational and financial plans, the IATBR Board is happy to accept PUC DTEL's proposal for organizing IATBR 2021. The Board made the following suggestions to PUC DTEL in this context:

- (a) Give first priority to the Conference Book and then special issues of journals, to keep up the tradition of well-regarded books from IATBR conferences.
- (b) Make a presentation about the conference avenue and plans at the concluding plenary session of IATBR 2018 on Thursday, July 19.

6. Proposal for a journal of IATBR (Junyi Zhang)

Junyi Zhang had proposed a journal of IATBR. The Chair of IATBR, Elisabetta Cherchi constituted a committee to discuss the pros and cons of hosting a journal of the association (as well as the topic of such a journal). The committee comprises the following members: Kay W. Axhausen, Hani Mahmassani, Juan de Dios Ortúzar, and Junyi Zhang. The committee's report was submitted to the IATBR Board on July 16. Since the Board did not have sufficient time to review the report, Junyi Zhang summarized the committee's views. The Board members also discussed the pros and cons of the proposal. The Board will further discuss this topic after the conference.

7. Poll on IATBR Constitution Amendments

A previously conducted poll on IATBR Constitution amendments (proposed by Past Chair, Pat Mokhtarian) failed due to lack of quorum in the poll turnout. Therefore, current Chair, Elisabetta Cherchi proposed a second poll for the same proposal during the IATBR 2018 conference. The Board unanimously supported the idea. Abdul will organize the poll (through electronic ballot) such that it starts during the conference and closes a few weeks after the start date. It is hoped that the poll will have the required quorum this time.

8. Other announcements and business

The Chair of IATBR, Elisabetta Cherchi proposed that the roles and responsibilities of Secretary/Treasurer and that of Vice Chair of IATBR be revised. She expressed that the current roles and responsibilities allocated to the Secretary/Treasurer are disproportionately higher, where the roles and responsibilities allocated to the Vice Chair are minimal.

The Board Members supported the idea of including a webmaster in the IATBR Board, so that the secretary need not maintain and update the website. Also, the Board Members supported the idea of splitting the Secretary/Treasurer roles into two – Secretary and Treasurer, and or in transferring to the Vice-Chair some of the Secretary tasks. Similarly, the Board Members supported the idea of having some responsibilities assigned to the regular board members who are not officers of IATBR.

While this topic still needs some discussion, the IATBR Board supported the overall idea of reallocation of the roles and responsibilities.

Adjourn