



Newsletter June 2014

from the ITS Postgraduate school (NFITS)

Below is some brief information on a selection of activities that have taken place during spring 2014 and information about activities that are planned during the autumn.

Information about NFITS activities during the spring 2014

Thesis defences

During the spring, NFITS had the pleasure to congratulate the NFITS alumnus Niklas Strand (leftmost photo) from VTI/Chalmers, to receive a doctoral degree, and the NFITS Ph D student Ellen Grumert (right) from VTI/Linköping University to receive the licentiate degree.



Niklas Strand defended his doctoral thesis "When Driving Automation Fails. Drivers' Experiences and Interactions" on June 13th at Chalmers.

Ellen Grumert defended her licentiate thesis "Cooperative Variable Speed Limit Systems – Modeling and Evaluation using Microscopic Traffic Simulation" on June 11th at Campus Norrköping, Linköping University.



Ellen gives a short presentation of the scope and motivation of her research for the Swedish television in Östnytt on June 20th: www.svt.se/nyheter/regionalt/ostnytt/hon-skapar-framtidens-trafiksystem.

If you are interested in reading the theses or other publications associated with the Ph D students, please visit the publication list on our website <http://www.its-sweden.se/Forskarskolan>.

Transportforum January 8-9th 2014

During Transportforum 2014 there were several presentations held by NFITS members:

- Ellen Grumert and Andreas Tapani, VTI/LiU, "Jämförelse av tre algoritmer för styrning av variabla hastigheter – en trafiksimuleringsstudie".
- Athina Tympakianaki, KTH, "Estimation of Dynamic Origin-Destination matrices – application for mesoscopic models".
- Andreas Allström, Sweco/Linköpings Universitet, "Hur kan nya datakällor komplettera resvaneundersökningar?".
- Erik Jenelius, Mahmood Rahmani and Harilaos Koutsopoulos, KTH, "Restidsfördelningar på rutten från floating car-data".
- Albania Nissan, KTH, "Trafikeffekter av parkering och angöring i olika typer av gaturum".
- Jana Sochor, Chalmers, " The impact of parenthood on perceptions of positioning technologies".

Doctoral courses

The NFITS course *Quantitative analysis of transport systems* organized and held by Linköping University continued until February, 2014. A total of 19 doctoral students, among then five belonging formally to NFITS, took at least one of the six modules included in the course.

The course "Diffusion and Adoption of ITS applications" was planned to run during the spring, 2014, but was cancelled due to a low number of registered participants. The course will be offered during 2015 if the number of potential participants is sufficiently high.

The International Conference on Dynamics in Logistics (LDIC) in Bremen in February

During LDIC, Åse Jevinger (Ph D student at Malmö University) presented the paper "Toward Dynamic Expiration Dates: An Architectural Study" co-authored with Paul Davidsson (Malmö University).

The 5th International Conference on Ambient Systems, Networks and Technologies

During the 5th International Conference on Ambient Systems, Networks and Technologies (ANT-2014) on June 2nd-5th in Hasselt, Belgium, Banafsheh Hajinasab (Ph D student at Malmö University) presented a paper titled "A survey on the use of computational models for ex ante analysis of urban transport policy instruments". Co-authors are Paul Davidsson and Jan A. Persson (Malmö University).

The European ITS Congress in Helsinki June 16-19th

During the 10th European ITS congress in Helsinki, a Special Interest Session (SIS) was organized by Jennie Martin (ITS UK) which addressed the importance in finding strategies to recruit the "Next generation ITS professionals". Jan Lundgren was representing Linköping University and the ITS postgraduate School and talked about the importance of education on all levels in the ITS domain and the current challenges and ways to tackle these.

In another SIS with title "PIARC RNO-ITS web resource: A new tool for ITS professionals" NFITS was represented by Stig Franzén, Chalmers.

Planned NFITS activities for the autumn 2014

Retreat and yearly gathering planned to take place in the end of November

The yearly 2-day retreat organized by NFITS, where we gather NFITS researchers, alumni, representatives from the funding agencies and external guests, is planned to be held November 27-28th, 2014 in the vicinity of Stockholm. Program and practical information will follow.

Courses planned to start during autumn 2014

Later this year new courses are planned to be given (with preliminary course titles and starting dates):

- *Freight transport and ITS/ICT (8 credits)*: Starting end of September 2014 and is organized by Per-Olof Arnäs and Gunnar Stefansson, Chalmers. More information can be found on our website <http://www.its-sweden.se/Forskarskolan> under "Research education".
- *Agent systems and ITS applications (5 credits)*: Preliminary start in the end of 2014/beginning of 2015, and is jointly organized by Jan Persson, Paul Davidsson and Johan Holmgren from MaH.

Thesis defences

During the autumn, additional licentiate and thesis defences will be organized and information about these will be published accordingly on our website.

Finally, we would like to thank all of you whom have been involved in NFITS. Especially, we would like to thank VINNOVA, Trafikverket, ITS-Sweden and our ambitious Ph D students.

About the Swedish ITS Postgraduate school - NFITS

The area of Intelligent Transportation Systems and Services (ITS) is known to be multi-disciplinary where different areas of competence meet to achieve sustainable, safe and cost-effective traffic and transport systems. The research frontier in the ITS area has earlier primarily been divided according to the different disciplines while there has been a need for research projects and researchers which go beyond their specific domain with a wider perspective to address relevant issues in a larger context than before.

Based on this need of a broaden multi-disciplinary research scope and in conjunction with the discussions of the organization of the ITS World Congress 2009 in Stockholm, the idea of a Swedish ITS Postgraduate School (NFITS) was formed. The establishment of NFITS was then made by VINNOVA (The Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems), Banverket (The Swedish Rail Administration) and Vägverket (The Swedish Road Administration) together with ITS-Sweden and a number of Swedish companies and Swedish universities.

One main purpose of the ITS Postgraduate School is to provide for a good, multi-disciplinary research education based on the different areas of competence of the participating universities. Another important objective is to initiate and run research projects highly relevant for the industry and the society defined in cooperation with the companies involved in the ITS Postgraduate School.

Information about courses and other activities can be found on our website:
<http://www.its-sweden.se/Forskarskolan>.

NFITS research educational support and grants

NFITS provides support in various forms for the associated Ph D students in order to stimulate their research education. NFITS is open to any Ph D student in the ITS research domain whom is associated with any Swedish university and in the beginning of the research education. As an enrolled Ph D student, there are certain types of financial support available that can be applied for and these are important to know about:

- **Travelling and accommodation support:**

When the enrolled Ph D students participate in the courses offered by NFITS, the associate relevant travelling and accommodation costs can be reimbursed by NFITS. The NFITS also give financial support for participation in other courses, conferences, meetings etc after announcements by NFITS.

- **Conference scholarships**

If an enrolled Ph D student has gotten a scientific, full paper accepted to a relevant scientific conference, NFITS can grant a scholarship of 10tkr. Only one grant can be obtained each year. The Ph D student needs to apply for this grant by sending the accepted paper and name of the corresponding conference to the Director of NFITS.

- **Travelling scholarships for research visit abroad**

If an enrolled Ph D student intends to conduct a research visit abroad, NFITS can grant a scholarship of 10tkr/month. The minimum length of the stay should be 1 month and a maximum total amount of 50tkr per visit can be paid. The main supervisor of the Ph D student needs to apply for this grant prior to the start of the visit by sending an outline of the purpose and details of the research visit to the Director of NFITS. When the visit has terminated, the Ph D student should write a summary of the experiences gained by the visit for NFITS.

Organization

Below is a list of the Ph D students associated with NFITS. * indicates NFITS alumni (with a licentiate or doctoral degree).

Gideon Mbiydzenyuy*	Blekinge Institute of Technology
Shoaib Bakhtyar	Blekinge Institute of Technology
Tor Skoglund	Chalmers University
Niklas Strand*	Chalmers University
Jana Sochor*	KTH Royal Institute of Technology
Mahmood Rahmani	KTH Royal Institute of Technology
Athina Tympakianaki	KTH Royal Institute of Technology
Qichen Deng	KTH Royal Institute of Technology
Lars Backåker*	Linköping University
Andreas Allström	Linköping University
Ellen Grumert	Linköping University
Gerasimos Loutos	Linköping University
Annika Larsson*	Lund University
Omar Bagdadi*	Lund University
Banafsheh Hajinasab Razlighi	Malmö University
Åse Jevinger	Malmö University
Taline Jadaan	Viktoria Institute

The ITS Postgraduate School is mainly funded by VINNOVA and Trafikverket (formerly known as Banverket and Vägverket) which are represented in NFITS by Eva Schelin (VINNOVA) and Bengt Hallström (Trafikverket). The work in NFITS is planned and executed by a research council (Sw. Forskarutbildningsråd, FUR) which currently is composed of the following members:

Christer Karlsson, ITS-Sweden
Johan Holmgren, Blekinge Institute of Technology
MariAnne Karlsson and Stig Franzén, Chalmers University
Harilaos Koutsopoulos and Albania Nissan, KTH Royal Institute of Technology
Jan Lundgren and Johanna Törnquist Krasemann, Linköping University
András Várhelyi, Lund university
Paul Davidsson and Jan Persson, Malmö University

NFITS is coordinated by ITS-Sweden. The main and assisting director for the ITS Postgraduate School are Prof. Jan Lundgren and Dr. Johanna Törnquist Krasemann, Linköping University.