



Special Seminar

The Role of Car Ownership in Attitudes Towards Public Transport:

A comparative study of Guangzhou and Brisbane

by Dr. Sui Tao



ABSTRACT

Car ownership has often been linked to a strong commitment to car use and a tendency to undervalue alternative transport modes, thereby potentially biasing people away from using more environmentally friendly transport modes such as public transport. Although a considerable body of research has shed light on the attitudinal dimensions of car ownership and usage, few have investigated the potential influence of car ownership on attitudes towards alternative transport modes from an international comparative perspective. This study aims to bridge this knowledge gap by investigating the relationship between car ownership and attitudes towards public transport in two vastly different metropolises, Guangzhou, China and Brisbane, Australia, while taking account of environmental concerns, past behaviour and socio-demographic characteristics. Drawing on two survey data sets, measurements were derived to directly compare the perceived difference between bus transit and cars. Analysis using structural equation modelling (SEM) showed that car ownership contributed significantly to the perceived disparity between public transport services and car use in Guangzhou, but less so in Brisbane. Furthermore, environmental concerns were found to have a stronger influence on transport-mode attitudes in Brisbane. Recommendations are developed to inform local policies to promote more sustainable urban transportation.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Dr. Sui Tao is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Institute of Future Cities (IOFC), CUHK. He received a PhD in Urban Design and Regional Planning from the University of Queensland (UQ), Australia in 2015. Prior to joining IOFC, he was a postdoctoral researcher at the School of Civil Engineering of UQ. Dr. Tao's research expertise sits at the interface of transportation, urban planning and human geography. He is particularly interested in addressing questions related to travel behaviour, mobility, big data and urban infrastructure. His currently ongoing projects involve assessing the MTR expansion and spatial planning of Hong Kong from a socio-spatial perspective. He also has most read and cited articles in *Applied Geography*, *Journal of Transport Geography* and *Transportation Research Part C*.

31 OCT 2019 | 4:30 PM - 6:00PM

RM221 CHEN KOU BUN BLDG, CUHK

For inquiries, please contact Prof. Harry Lee at 3943 8478 or harrylee@cuhk.edu.hk.