B210 – Automated Shuttles and Buses for All Users

Sharad Agarwal
Easy Mile

Sharad is currently SVP, EasyMile, in charge of the Americas region. While at EasyMile he has again demonstrated a unique combination of strategy, sales, and operations management and innovation, bringing in new business models and commercialization opportunities for autonomous vehicles. He has increased revenue, and developed successful commercial relationships with state agencies, city innovation groups, and universities. Prior to EasyMile, Sharad held various strategic and innovation positions with First Group, PLC, where he was deeply involved with operations and management before becoming Group Director of Innovation. Before First Group, Sharad held various leadership positions in the mobility arena, focusing heavily on operations efficiency and market capture.

Achille Fonzone
Edinburgh Napier University

Achille is Associate Professor of Transport Analysis and Planning at Edinburgh Napier University. He has a background in Civil Engineering, a PhD in Transport and Planning, a Post Graduate Certificate in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. He has authored 50 peer-reviewed publications, 20 presentations in conferences, and several book chapters and scientific reports. He has published in the top-ranking transport scientific journals, including Transportation Research Part A, B and C and Analytic Methods in Accident Research. He is Associated Editor of the Journal of Intelligent Transport Systems and member of the Editorial Board of Sustainability. He has edited special issues of Transportation Research Part A and Journal of Intelligent Transport Systems. He is leading the evaluation of the large Horizon 2020 project SUNRISE, promoting sustainable mobility at the neighborhood level through co-creation in 6 countries in Europe, and the societal research in the Innovate UK/C-CAV flagship project CAV Forth, which will build and operate a fleet of level 4 full-size buses for the first time in the world. In response to the challenges generated by the outbreak of COVID-19, Achille has established and is leading a research group on the impacts of the pandemics on transport and location choices. He has active research collaborations with leading researchers in the UK and the rest of Europe, Japan, and the USA. He has been invited to give talks at top international Universities and transport organizations. He is full member of the EPSRC Review College and fellow of the Higher Education Academy.

Ann Foss
City of Arlington, Texas

Ann W. Foss, Ph.D., AICP; Ann has been with the City of Arlington since 2016 and currently serves as the Principal Planner for the Office of Strategic Initiatives. As Principal Planner, Ann performs comprehensive planning for the City and is heavily involved in transportation planning for the City, working to secure grant funding and pilot new technologies, including autonomous vehicles and demand response ride sharing. She is also responsible for managing the Arlington Urban Design Center, a collaboration between the City of Arlington and the University of Texas at Arlington that provides free conceptual design services to residents, nonprofits, and businesses. Ann holds a BA in Anthropology and Environmental Science from Haverford College, a MS in Urban Planning from Columbia University, and a Ph.D. in Urban Planning and Public Policy from the University of Texas at Arlington. She has

worked as a professional planner in New York, NY, Dallas, TX, and Arlington, TX. Ann is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners and a certified Chief Operator of the EasyMile autonomous vehicles.

Jeffrey Kupko
Michael Baker International

Jeff Kupko is a Senior Associate with Michael Baker International with 16 years of experience. He is an Assistant Program Manager in Michael Baker's emerging technology practice and leads the smart communities initiatives. He served as embedded staff in the Smart Columbus Program Management Office as a City project manager and was responsible for leading the AV shuttle and Smart Mobility Hubs projects. He led the deployment of the first two self-driving shuttles in Ohio. His career has encompassed ITS, tolling, TSMO, and large event planning. He has a bachelors and masters of civil engineering from the University of Pittsburgh, is a licensed PE in four states, and a licensed PTOE.

Olav Madland
Applied Autonomy AS

Olav Madland is responsible for the coordination of the National Testarena in Kongsberg regarding autonomous transport integrated with Public Transport. The test arena is integrated with the municipality, county administration and NRPA. Olav has an Honours degree within Information Technology, Statistics and Administration from the University of Bergen (1989), and followed by a series of business management courses from Europe's prestigious and leading business school INSEAD (1999), in Paris, France. His background is a balanced mix of management roles within the telecom, banking and finance sectors, involving the issuing of credit cards, acquisition and settlement of transactions. Olav has 10 years of experience in R&D from Telenor (1988-1998), Telia Sonera (2000-2002) and Alcatel (1998-2000), both as a manager and as director.

Pruthvi Manjunatha
University of Florida

Pruthvi Manjunatha is the I-STREET Living Lab Manager and a Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil and Coastal Engineering. His experience has been in Connected and Autonomous Vehicle (CAV) infrastructure, Human Factors and Driver Behavior, Traffic Simulation, Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), traffic operations and data management. In his current role as I-STREET Living Lab Manager at the UF Transportation Institute (UFTI) he co-ordinates with the City of Gainesville and Florida Department of Transportation in the planning and implementation of I-STREET projects. He works with project PIs and industry partners to coordinate software, hardware and application efforts and ensures consistency and interoperability of various components.

Justin Mason
University of Florida

Dr. Justin Mason is a Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of Florida. He received his B.S (Psychology), M.S. (Exercise Physiology), and Ph.D. (Sport and Exercise Psychology) from Florida State University. His dissertation investigated the relationships between arterial stiffness and thickness, cognitive function, and driving performance in older adults. Upon graduation, he completed his postdoctoral research in rehabilitation science at the University of Florida. His research interests are in the role that lifestyle factors have in influencing cardiovascular health, community mobility, and cognitive function. Dr. Mason and the Institute for Mobility, Activity, and Participation (I-MAP) are working in collaboration with the University of Alabama at Birmingham and the City of Gainesville to investigate the perceptions of automated vehicles among persons with and without disabilities across the lifespan. The acceptance and use of innovative technology (e.g., vehicle automation) may enable adults with disabilities, functional decline, or inadequate access to transportation to become more active in the community and enhance their quality of life.

Brendan Riley
GreenPower Motor Company Inc.

Brendan Riley is President & Director of GreenPower Motor Company Inc. a company that designs, builds and markets, medium and heavy duty, zero emissions, trucks and buses. Mr. Riley has over 25 years of executive leadership experience in the areas of Business Development, Sales Strategy and Operations. Previously, Mr. Riley was North American Vice-President and the first employee of BYD Motors, where he started-up and ran multiple electric vehicle business units including the material handling, truck and the bus groups. He was also instrumental in negotiating the purchase and setup of two manufacturing facilities for BYD (an electric bus assembly plant and an EV battery assembly plant in California). Mr. Riley served two terms as the President of the Southern California Chapter of the AVS for Science and Technology.

Steven Suder
National Park Service

Mr. Suder is the National Alternative Transportation Program Manager for the National Park Service stationed in Washington, DC. He has over 30 years of transportation and environmental planning experience covering a range of local, regional, state and Federal government positions. Since 2017, he has focused on NPS multimodal transportation improvements (roads, transit, trails and technology) connecting to, through and within national parks. Previously, he was National Transportation Program Manager at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service overseeing transportation improvements and analyses at wildlife refuges across the U.S. He is an expert in the development of long-range transportation plans and their implementation. In 2020, he completed a six-year tenure as chair of the National Academy of Sciences-Transportation Research Board's Committee on Transportation Needs of National Parks and Public Lands. This caucus of academia, consultants and government staff is a forum to discuss important research needs and prioritize efforts to move the practice ahead. Considering automated vehicles and new innovations in a park setting continue to be regular topics during these sessions. Steve holds a B.S. degree in Geosciences from the Pennsylvania State University and a Master's in Urban & Environmental Planning from the University of Virginia.

Kimberly Williams
Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County

Kimberly J. Williams heads up the Office of Innovation (OOI) for the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, Houston, Texas (METRO). She led implementation of Houston's first Autonomous Vehicle (AV) shuttle service and deployed public private partnerships to begin Wi-Fi on Transit and microtransit service. She Chairs Team Houston of the Texas Innovation Alliance, a collaboration of the region's and state's mobility stakeholders. She is also a member of the City of Houston's Rapid Mobility Working Group, Smart City Advisory Council and Resiliency Council. Active in the Houston Innovation community, she is a member of the Density and Inclusion Working Group of Houston Exponential (HX), Houston's innovation non-profit and the Greater Houston Partnership's Innovation Corridor Committee. Kimberly is active in the industry as a member of the American Public Transit Association's (APTA) Board of Directors, Co-Chair of the Procurement & Supply Chain Committee, its Strategic Planning Steering Committee, Automated & Connected Vehicles Committee and the Innovation Officer Peer Exchange Group. Kimberly is also a graduate of Leadership APTA, ENO's Senior Transit Executive and Transportation 4 America's Smart City Programs. She was previously Deputy Chief Procurement Officer where she was responsible for Procurement and prior to that, Chief Administration Officer (CAO), with responsibility for Finance/Administration, Small Business, Community Outreach, Media/Marketing and Real Estate functions for the agency's light rail expansion program. A graduate of Howard University and Wayne State Law School, where she served as Survey Editor of the Wayne Law Review. She is a proud volleyball mom to daughter, MacKenzie.