

**Bridging Transport History and Mobility Studies:  
Recent Developments and Future Agendas**

**Call for Panel Contributions**

“The sociological imagination enables us to grasp history and biography and the relations between the two within society”, C Wright Mills famously wrote. In practice, exercising the capacity to shift from one perspective to another faces a range of barriers. Some of these are intellectual, some institutional and others distinctly ideological. Improving dialogues and finding ways to bridge across the various divides promises not only interesting intellectual opportunities but also valuable possibilities for building further bridges to link academic worlds with those of practice.

*The Journal of Transport History*, *Transfers* and *Mobilities* have each provided valuable space in which some of these questions have been aired and this panel is designed to contribute to and to extend this dialogue. Other areas of transport studies remain outside these dialogues. The joint conference provides a valuable opportunity to bring together those interested in forging links between historical and the contemporary, between transport history and mobilities study and to open up a space in which to consider the implications of inter- and trans-disciplinary work. Importantly, these questions of disciplinary dialogue also suggest potential for creating new spaces in relation to the application of academic research in the policy and political realm, both now and in future shaping of shared research fields.

The intention is for contributors to present shorter work-in progress papers to contribute to an open and shared dialogue, rather than to provide definitive analyses.

Potential themes and questions include:

- Are distinct fields of study necessary?
- Designs to bridge the gaps
- How do we talk with each other?
- Institutional challenges to interdisciplinarity
- What might good practice look like?
- Is the struggle for policy relevance a distraction?
- What can we learn from other interdisciplinary endeavours?

We invite papers that address ways in which to bridge transport history and mobilities and to consider the future of the field.

**Submission**

Please send your abstracts (max 300 words) to Dr. Peter Cox ([peter.cox@chester.ac.uk](mailto:peter.cox@chester.ac.uk)) and Gijs Mom ([G.P.A.Mom@tue.nl](mailto:G.P.A.Mom@tue.nl)) by **15 April 2017**

(Please, let me know if you have travel funding to attend the conference.)

We look forward to hearing from you!

Further information about the Mobile Utopia: Past, Present and Future conference can be found at: <http://wp.lancs.ac.uk/t2mc2c/>

**Panel Organisers**

Dr. Peter Cox ([peter.cox@chester.ac.uk](mailto:peter.cox@chester.ac.uk)) and Gijs Mom ([G.P.A.Mom@tue.nl](mailto:G.P.A.Mom@tue.nl))