Dear TGRG members,

The call for sessions and papers for the 2020 RGS-IBG Annual International Conference is now open and we would like to invite TGRG members to submit session proposals for TGRG sponsorship for this conference.

The conference will take place at RGS-IBG in London, from 1st-4th September 2020 and will be chaired by Professor Uma Kothari (University of Manchester, UK). The conference theme is ‘borders, borderlands and bordering’. We would particularly encourage sessions around this theme, but sessions relating to any aspect of transport geography will be considered.

If you would like to have your session sponsored by TGRG, please submit your session proposal to John Austin (john@mobihub.com) AND Helena Titheridge (h.titheridge@ucl.ac.uk) by Friday 20th December.

We will confirm session sponsorship as soon as possible (before the end of December) and you will then have until Friday 14th February to send out your Call for Papers, choose your presenters and submit your full session proposal to RGS.

Please include the following in your session proposal (you do not have to use the AC2020 session proposal form at this stage):

• A title
• Names, affiliations and email addresses of the session convenors (we advise TWO)
• A session abstract (about 200-300 words), and up to five keywords.

Guidance - sessions are scheduled into timeslots of 1 hour 40 minutes long. A session may not normally occupy more than two of these timeslots in the conference programme. Please indicate how many high-quality papers you think you will attract – four or five (max) ‘traditional’ papers will fit into a timeslot, or you can consider holding a debate, or a workshop, or adopt a different format such as a pecha kucha. For session proposals which attract many high-quality submissions, we will consider allowing two timeslots - there are usually 2 or 3 sessions which have two timeslots each. However, we will not necessarily be able to accommodate all such requests, and we are unlikely to sponsor sessions which request more than two slots. TGRG has a ‘ration’ of timeslots, which we will bear in mind when selecting which proposals to sponsor.

In addition to promotion of sessions and support in submitting session proposals, one of the benefits of a TGRG sponsored session is that we are given an allocation of guest passes for non-geographers and/or non-UK conference participants. Session organisers may suggest names of established speakers for whom TGRG can potentially offer a free conference pass, assuming the criteria for guest passes are met and subject to our allocation of guest passes. We also have a prize for the best paper by a postgraduate researcher presented in any TGRG sponsored session (based on Master’s or PhD work, within a reasonable time after completion). On 1st September we hope to have our usual knowledge exchange event with policy makers and practitioners. Presenters for this event are selected by our hosts and are drawn from TGRG-sponsored sessions only.

The following link may be useful in proposing your session: https://www.rgs.org/research/annual-international-conference/programme-(1)/

Best wishes,

Helena Titheridge
Chair, RGS Transport Geography Research Group