

GPRA 2015

Global Port Research Alliance Conference on “Port and Logistics Connectivity”

Plenary Session

- ❖ **Date: 22 May 2015**
- ❖ **Time: 5:30pm – 6:30pm**
- ❖ **Venue: V1310, Innovation Tower, PolyU**

The plenary session aims to explore two important topics in port research, namely quality of port services and short sea shipping:

Part 1: Quality of Port Services and Port Research

Prof. Talley critically reviews the quality of port services in port research from three perspectives. Port research, especially port empirical research, often overlook that ports provide services and thereby does not consider the variance in the quality of port services. In port DEA (Data Envelopment Analysis) research, where the relative technical efficiency in the provision of port cargo service among a group of ports is investigated, the dependent variable of the port cargo production function is port throughput - the amount of cargo (e.g., TEUs) that carriers provide to the port via their inbound vessels (vehicles) and, in turn, are transferred by the port to outbound vehicles (vessels) for departure from the port.

When the qualities of port services vary, allocations of port resources are also expected to vary. However, port research often has not explicitly considered the relationships between a port's utilization of resources and the qualities of its port services. A port's cargo resource function relates the minimum amount of a resource to be employed by the port in the provision of cargo service as a function of the qualities of the port's cargo service and the amount of cargo received by the port for which port cargo service is provided.

The choice variables for deriving the port's cost function are the port's operating options, which is derived by minimizing its cost subject to its production and resource functions, where the choice variables in the optimization are the port's operating options.

Part 2: Short Sea Shipping in Motion

The early 1990s saw a growing interest in short sea shipping (SSS) both in academic and policy circles. This was particularly visible in Europe where SSS and the later 'Motorways of the Sea concept' gained in importance on the transport policy agenda. During that time, academia, policy-makers and the business community started to have meetings in view of creating the best possible conditions for SSS to flourish.

Prof. Notteboom presents a taxonomy and analysis of the content of published research on SSS. More in particular, a systematic analysis of SSS research published in international academic journals between 1980 and 2014 are provided with a strong economic or managerial focus. The strong increase of SSS-related academic papers since the early 2000s suggests a growing interest in the academic study of SSS. With the objective to assess the level of maturity in this research domain, to understand the interaction with the policy level and business practice, and to identify emerging research challenges, analysis of the themes, approaches and findings of all relevant journal papers is conducted.

Session Moderator: Dr Kee-Hung Lai, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

About the Speakers

Prof. Wayne Talley is the Executive Director of the International Maritime, Ports and Logistics Management Institute, Frederick W. Beazley Professor of Economics, Professor of Maritime and Supply Chain Management and Eminent Scholar at Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia, U.S.A. Current honorary positions include: (1) Honorary Chair Professor, National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan, (2) Honorary Visiting Professor, Centre for Shipping, Trade and Finance, Cass Business School, City University London, United Kingdom, (3) Honorary Guest Professor, Shanghai Maritime University, China, and (4) Honorary Editor-in-Chief, *Transportation Research Part E*. Prevision visiting professorships include those at the: (1) Transport Studies Unit, Oxford University, Oxford, United Kingdom, (2) Institute of Transport Studies, University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia, (3) Institute of Transport and Maritime Management, University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium, and (4) Centre for Transport Policy Analysis, University of Wollongong, Wollongong, Australia. Previous U.S. visiting positions include: (1) Senior Research Fellow, Marine Policy Center, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, (2) Faculty Fellow, Transportation Systems Center, U.S. Department of Transportation, Cambridge, Massachusetts, and (3) Industry Economist, Interstate Commerce Commission, Washington, D.C. In 2013, he was the recipient of the Distinguished Transportation Researcher Award, U.S. Transportation Research Forum. In 2014, he was President of the Transportation and Public Utilities Group of the American Economic Association and Conference Chair and Host of the Annual Conference of the International Association of Maritime Economists held in Norfolk, Virginia. His publications include 170 research journal papers and book chapters and 12 books. The latter include *Port Economics* (Routledge, 2009) and *The Blackwell Companion to Maritime Economics* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2012). During 2000-2012, he was Editor-in-Chief of *Transportation Research Part E* and is currently an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Business Logistics*.

Prof. Theo Notteboom has more than 20 years of experience in port-related research and education. Since November 2014, he holds a full-time position as Foreign Expert / Professor at Dalian Maritime University in China, part-time academic positions at ITMMA - University of Antwerp and the Antwerp Maritime Academy in Belgium and visiting professorships at WMU/SMU in Shanghai and Nanyang Technological University (NTU) in Singapore. Between October 2006 and October 2014 he was President of ITMMA of the University of Antwerp. He is Emeritus President and Council Member of International Association of Maritime Economists (IAME). He published widely on maritime economics and geography. He is editor/author of ten academic books. He has received seven prestigious awards for his study of ports. He is a regular speaker at international conferences and a rapporteur/expert to the OECD and the European Sea Ports Organization (ESPO) and other leading organisations in the field. He has been involved as promoter or co-promoter in about 70 academic research programmes and consultancy studies on the maritime industry and logistics topics. He is Associate Editor of the academic flagship journal *Maritime Policy & Management* and a member of the editorial boards of six other leading academic journals in the field. He is co-director of www.porteconomics.eu, a knowledge dissemination platform on port studies.