Fresno State announced the opening of its new Fresno State Transportation Institute (FSTI) on September 12, 2017 after the Fresno Council of Governments Policy Board and the Fresno County Transportation Authority approved the utilization of nearly $3 million from the Measure C New Technology Reserve funds. The Transportation Institute is a collaboration between the 15 cities within Fresno County, Fresno State’s Lyles College of Engineering, Craig School of Business and College of Social Sciences. Building on a diverse set of activities, FSTI is intended to be an innovation enabler for the development and implementation of advanced multimodal and transit projects in Fresno County and beyond.

The institute offers 12 paid positions for both Student and Graduate Fellows. Each position includes a variety of experience, including research and project proposals as well as identifying potential community partners for the institute.

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The Fresno State Transportation Institute holds innovative summits designed to provide an opportunity for hundreds of residents, professionals, and stakeholders to become familiar with the latest advanced, clean transportation technology through an up-close and personal experience. This year, the Institute is partnering with Fresno’s sister city—Münster, Germany—to promote active transportation best practices.

**Technical Service**

Through a close partnership, FSTI will partner with and provide agencies with resources and technical expertise to facilitate the pursuit and securement of professional project grants for the development, implementation, and operation of advanced multimodal and transit projects in Fresno County.

**Proposal**

FSTI provides technical support for cities to develop a proposal for funding of a project or infrastructure repair. The institute provides cities in need of assistance by reviewing and searching for suitable funding opportunities based on their infrastructure needs.

**Funding**

FSTI assists cities interested in seeking funding for transportation-related projects through the proposal review. The institute’s faculty are available to help develop proposals for cities looking to apply for state or federal grants.

**Outreach**

Through education and outreach activities, the Institute will increase public knowledge, acceptance and expectations for advanced multimodal and transit systems. A main focus of the institute is to organize an annual K-12 competition and other public and educational events that will specifically focus on multimodal and transit challenges and local transportation solutions.

**Education**

The Institute supports the development and offering of undergraduate, graduate, certificate and other professional development programs, workshops, and conferences in areas of advanced multimodal transit systems and other related fields, such as city and regional transportation planning, economics and business, among many others.

**Research**

The Institute will incentivize Fresno State students and faculty to pursue and establish innovative research programs that focus on advanced multimodal and transit solutions and optimization of existing systems, facilitating mobility, improving air quality, and reducing traffic congestion and energy demand.

What makes Fresno State’s partnership with the University of Cantabria a one-of-a-kind academic and research exploration is the students’ opportunity to “Study and live in both systems, gaining insight into the ideological differences of each system, and identifying the strengths and weaknesses of both systems within their respective social, environmental, and economic constraints.”

The management of transportation projects is interdisciplinary and different from country to country. However, few courses address this topic from the lens of different disciplines and locations.

The program’s objective is to provide students with an international perspective and experience in Transportation Business. Students will have the opportunity to engage in a course that has been developed collaboratively by the School of Business and the School of Engineering with the unique approach of combining instructors from both schools and a 2-week experience abroad to learn about transportation projects in a different country.