Message from the Chair

Dear ITS Colleagues:

The first ITS Conference of 2012 took place in New Delhi, India this past February 22-24. The theme of this Conference was Telecom Policy, Regulation, and Management as Drivers for Transforming Emerging Economies. It was hosted and co-organized with ITS by the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA)-IDEA Telecom Centre of Excellence. Ably lead by Dr. Rekha Jain of IIMA, the local organizing team for the 2012 New Delhi Conference is to be commended not only for the very high calibre of the scientific/academic program but also for the warm hospitality shown to all attendees, the friendly and engaging atmosphere of the Conference sessions, the quality and convenience of all selected hotel facilities, and the attention paid to every logistical detail in ensuring a pleasant and truly memorable experience for all. The success of this first-ever ITS Conference to be

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Vienna Set for 23rd European Regional ITS Conference and 3rd ITS Ph.D. Seminar

ITS2012Vienna

The last time ITS held its European Regional Conference in Vienna the Eurozone was still three years from its inception, James Cameron's movie “Titanic” had not yet been released, Steffi Graf was still the top female tennis player in the world, the Presidents of Russia and America were Boris Yeltsin and Bill Clinton, respectively, and the summer Olympic Games had just wrapped-up in Atlanta, Georgia. That was in 1996.

Now, sixteen years later, ITS returns to Vienna to convene the 23rd European ITS Regional Conference, July 1-4 and the 3rd ITS Ph.D. Seminar, July 4-5. The theme of ITS2012 Vienna is Technology Drivers and Market Changes. It is being hosted (together with the Ph.D. Seminar) by the Vienna University of Economics and Business, RTR – The Austrian Regulatory Authority for Broadcasting and Telecommunications, and SBR Juconony Consulting (Vienna).

The principal ITS organizers for ITS2012Vienna are ITS Vice-Chair, Brigitte Preissl (ZBW - Leibniz Information Centre for Economics, Hamburg) and Jason Whalley (University of Strathclyde Business School, Glasgow). Local organizers include Wolfgang Briglauer and Klaus Gugler of the Vienna University of Economics and Business, Paul Pisjak (RTR), and ITS Board member, Ernst-Olav Ruhle (SBR Juconomy Consulting – Vienna). Both the Conference and Ph.D. Seminar will be held at the Vienna University of Economics and Business.

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Message from the Chair (cont’d)

Looking out towards the remainder of the year, ITS has scheduled several more conferences to engage its members in scientific inquiry, discussion and lively debate. The 23rd European Regional ITS Conference will be held in Vienna, Austria, July 1-4. The theme of this Conference is Technology Drivers and Market Changes. It will be hosted by the Vienna University of Economics and Business, The Austrian Regulatory Authority for Broadcasting and Telecommunications (RTR), and SBR Juconomy Consulting (Vienna). The principal ITS organizers for the European Regional Conference are ITS Vice-Chair, Brigitte Preissl (ZBW - Leibniz Information Centre for Economics, Hamburg) and Jason Whalley (University of Strathclyde Business School, Glasgow). Further details on this Conference are available elsewhere in this (May 2012) issue of Interconnect and on the Conference web site at http://www.itseuropeanconference2012.org.

ITS will hold its 3rd Ph.D. Seminar for promising graduate students July 4-5, immediately following the Vienna Conference. As in prior years, papers addressing a broad range of ICT-related topics will be accepted from approximately 10 to 15 Ph.D. students. A panel of some 15 to 20 leading academics and industry professionals from the broader ITS community will be invited to review these papers and then, based on their many years of research and industry experience, provide their personal insights on the ideas presented together with suggestions on how they may be developed further. Additional information on the Ph.D. Seminar is likewise available in this issue of Interconnect and at http://www.itseuropeanconference2012.org/content/3rdPhDSeminar.html.

Preparations are well underway for the 19th ITS Biennial Conference to be held in Bangkok, Thailand, November 18-21. The theme of this Conference, which is being hosted by the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) of Thailand, is Moving Forward with Future Technologies: Opening a Platform for All.

ITS members who would like to present a paper at this Conference are reminded that the deadline for submissions is May 30. Complete details on this Conference, including the Call for Papers and information on registration, accommodation and travel in Thailand is available at http://www.its2012bangkok.com. See, also, the article on the 2012 Biennial Conference in this issue of Interconnect.

I would also like to remind all interested participants that the registration fee for all ITS Biennial Conferences, including the 2012 Bangkok Conference, includes a two-year complimentary ITS membership. Among the many benefits, in turn, of membership in our organization is an annual subscription to the journal, Telecommunications Policy, 11 issues of which are published and delivered to ITS members every year. Moreover, Conference attendees will have the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with professional colleagues and industry experts from scores of different countries all gathered together in one of the most interesting and beautiful cities in the world. For all of these reasons, I would very much encourage you to place the 2012 ITS Biennial Conference in Thailand on your schedule for this November.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that ITS has endorsed and is providing its support to the Columbia Institute for Tele-Information (CITI) Conference on Broadband as a Video Platform: Strategies for Africa. It will be held in Lusaka, Zambia, May 22-23. For complete details on this Conference please visit the CITI web site at http://www.citi.columbia.edu/Africa/. See, also, the article on the Lusaka Conference in this issue of Interconnect.

In other news, I am delighted to report that four major new corporate members have joined our organization since the beginning of 2012: KDDI Research Institute, Inc. (Japan), TIM Cellular S.A. (TIM Brazil), RTR – The Austrian Regulatory Authority for Broadcasting and Telecommunications and the ZBW – German National Library of Economics – Leibniz Information Centre for Economics. A brief description of each of these new corporate members is provided in a separate article in the current issue of our newsletter.

It is also my pleasure to inform you that ITS has elected three new Directors since the beginning of this year. Please join me in warmly welcoming Dr. Hee-Su Kim, Mr. Sohee Shinohara and Colonel Settapong Malisuwon as the newest members of the ITS Board. As can be seen from their bios which appear in a separate article in the current issue of Interconnect, all three bring exceptional skill sets and industry experience to their new role as ITS Board members. I have every confidence that each will make a strong and positive contribution to the success of our organization in the years ahead.

The ITS Board also saw the departure of one of its members effective May 1, 2012. Dr. T. Ayhan Beydogan stepped down as a Director of ITS after having served on the Board for the past eight years as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee. On behalf of the entire Board I wish to sincerely thank Dr. Beydogan for his many years of dedicated service to ITS and to acknowledge, in particular, his significant contribution to the organization and critical success of the 18th European Regional ITS Conference held in Istanbul, Turkey in 2007. We wish him well in all of his future endeavours.

As always, I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in the months ahead at one or more of our upcoming Conferences and to engaging you in discussions on the issues and subjects of greatest interest and concern to the telecommunications and broader ICT industry.

Sincerely,

Erik Boblin
ITS Chair
Major sub-themes to be addressed at the Conference include the following:

- The role of government in telecommunication markets
- Internationalization of operators - strategies and the relationship between operators and host operators
- New players and platforms in telecommunications
- User roles and social networking
- Investment, innovation and return on investment
- NGN and NGA policies - supporting supply and its impact on efficiency
- Role of regulation in promoting superfast broadband and Europe's 2020 Agenda
- Super-broadband - needed by a niche, while the mass market is served by mobile?
- The relationship between telecommunications and economic development
- 4G licensing and launching
- Spectrum allocation, re-farming and the use of the digital dividend
- Innovative business models for broadband delivery and mobile applications
- Technological, economic, regulatory and institutional convergence
- Media convergence
- The relationship between content, equipment producers and infrastructure industries
- Regulatory institutions - resources, success factors etc.
- Experiences on the implementation of the new regulatory framework
- Tools and techniques to investigate regulatory and economic issues

Although the Conference program has not yet been finalized, it is anticipated that well over 100 papers will be presented on these and related topics.

The journal *Telecommunications Policy* will consider publishing selected Conference papers based on merit and pursuant to a rigorous double blind, peer-review process.

Early registration is encouraged for all interested attendees. The early-bird registration deadline is June 1, 2012. An additional registration fee discount is available for all ITS members. Individuals interested in attending this Conference who are not yet ITS members, are encouraged to visit [www.itsworld.org](http://www.itsworld.org) to become one now.

For many years now, Vienna has been rated by various international organizations as being among the best cities in the world for its quality of life. For the past seven years, Vienna has also been the world’s number one destination for international congresses and conventions. The city attracts some five million visitors a year. In 2001, Vienna's city centre was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in recognition of its historic architecture, including Baroque castles and gardens, as well as the magnificent buildings, monuments and parks lining the city’s famous Ringstrasse -- the circular road built in the latter half of the 19th century which surrounds the city’s core.

ITС invites all of its members and interested colleagues in other scientific and research-oriented organizations to gather in Vienna this July for an intellectually stimulating Conference in one of the world’s greatest cities.

Further details on ITS2012 Vienna, including information on registration, accommodation, the Conference program (once it is available), and sightseeing opportunities in and around Vienna can be found at [http://www.its europeanconference2012.org/](http://www.its europeanconference2012.org/).

Conference-related inquiries should be directed to ITS Board member and Vienna-based organizer, Dr. Ernst-Olav Ruhle, at its2012vienna@sbr-net.com.

**3rd ITS Ph.D. Seminar**

ITS will convene its 3rd Ph.D. Seminar immediately following the closing ceremony for ITS2012 Vienna.

As with the first two ITS Ph.D. Seminars (held in Copenhagen in 2010 and Budapest in 2011), the objective of the 2012 Ph.D. Seminar is to allow leading academics, industry experts and researchers to share their knowledge and expertise with a select group of graduate students in a highly focused learning environment.

Five principal subject areas will be explored through the student papers to be presented at the Seminar:

*continued on page 7*
Deadline for Submissions Nears for 2012 ITS Biennial Conference in Bangkok, Thailand

Authors wishing to present papers at the 19th ITS Biennial Conference will need to hurry if they have not yet submitted their abstracts for consideration by the Conference Program Committee. The deadline for abstract submissions is May 30, 2012.

The theme of the 2012 Biennial Conference which will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, November 18-21, is “Moving Forward with Future Technologies: Opening a Platform for All”. The Conference host is the Office of the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) of Thailand.

The Conference Call for Papers invites submissions “from every segment of the telecommunications and broader ICT industries, from every corner of the globe, from all perspectives, and from as many professions and as many authors as possible - be they engaged in international research, policy-making, industry, government, consulting, non-profit endeavours or academic pursuits, including established scholars or students just starting their careers. The principal criterion governing the selection of papers for this Conference is research quality."

Suggested areas of research include, but are not limited to, the following sub-themes:

• Open Platforms and New Services
• Competition and Regulation in Transition Economies
• Innovative Solutions for the Business Sector
• ICT, Culture and Social Rights
• ICT and Economic Development
• Spectrum Policies and Frequency Allocation
• Convergences Between Telecommunications and Broadcasting
• Access Policies for Broadband Networks
• New Frontiers in Intellectual Property
• Digital Inclusion, Sustainability and Open Networks

Other proposals for Conference sessions will also be considered.

The Conference venue is the Plaza Athénée Bangkok, a Royal Méridien 5 Star Luxury Hotel located on Wireless Road, a beautiful tree-lined boulevard in the heart of the city’s cultural, commercial and entertainment district. The hotel is exceptionally well-served by public transportation and offers quick access to major sightseeing and shopping destinations.

The Conference will begin with a Welcome Reception on Sunday evening, November 18, 2012. Conference proceedings begin the next day (Day 1) with a morning plenary session followed by two sets of parallel sessions in the afternoon. Four more parallel sessions follow on Day 2 of the Conference. Day 3 begins with two parallel sessions in the morning followed by a closing plenary session in the afternoon. Lunch will be provided to Conference attendees on all three days. In addition, there will be a Welcome Dinner at the end of Day 1 and a Farewell Party at the end of Day 3.

Online registration for the 2012 ITS Biennial Conference is now available at the Conference web site at www.its2012bangkok.com. Registration fees are extremely reasonable considering that every Conference registration includes a two-year individual ITS membership which, in turn, includes a two-year subscription to the ITS membership journal, Telecommunications Policy, 11 issues of which are published every year. Further savings are possible by taking advantage of early-bird registration rates, the deadline for which is September 30, 2012. The deadline for online registration, meanwhile, is November 15, 2012.

For complete details on the Conference, including information on the Call for Papers, accommodation and registration, as well as other vital information including visa requirements for travelers from certain countries, please visit the Conference website at www.its2012bangkok.com.

All Conference-related inquiries should be directed to contact@its2012bangkok.com.
Impressive Line-up of Speakers for Africa Regional Conference

ITS has endorsed and is providing its support to the Columbia Institute for Tele-Information (CITI), Columbia University Business School Conference on Broadband as a Video Platform: Strategies for Africa. It will be held in Lusaka, Zambia, May 22-23.

This Conference will examine how public policy and regulation can be used to encourage the deployment of broadband as a platform with sufficient speed for video to stimulate commerce and economic growth, and improve the quality of life in Sub Saharan Africa.

The Keynote Speaker for this Conference is Brahima Sanou, Director, ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau. The title of Mr. Sanou’s keynote address is “The Cost of Not Moving Swiftly”.

Other invited speakers include:

- Mrs. Margaret Chalwe-Mudenda, Director General Zambia Information Communications Technology Authority
- The Hon. Dina Pule, Minister of Communications, Dept. of Communications of South Africa
- Dr. Tim Kelly, Lead ICT Policy Specialist, Infodev, the World Bank

The roster of distinguished speakers for this Conference also includes several senior executives from leading regional and international telecommunications carriers, as well as a number of prominent academic and private and public sector experts in the field of ICT and economic development.

The principal Corporate and Academic sponsors for this Conference are AT&T, Liquid Telecom, Gordon Institute of Business Science, Research ICT Africa and the University of Capetown.

For complete details on this important Conference please visit the CITI web site at [http://www.citi.columbia.edu/Africa/](http://www.citi.columbia.edu/Africa/).
Long-time ITS Board member, Dr. Hidenori Fuke, is currently Professor of Info-Communications Industry at the Faculty of Global Media Studies, Komazawa University in Tokyo, Japan. The University, one of Japan’s oldest, was founded by the Soto-shu sect, one of the two main Zen Buddhist traditions in that country. Professor Fuke recently stepped down as Dean of the Faculty after being asked by the University to serve as the first Dean of the new Graduate School of Global Media which will open next year.

Dr. Fuke was elected to the ITS Board of Directors in 1998 and, since then, has contributed to the scholarly and scientific work of ITS both in his current capacity as a member of the Conference and Seminars Committee and, for a number of years, as Chair of that Committee. Over the past 14 years, Professor Fuke has assisted with the organization and program development of numerous ITS Conferences around the world. He was especially active in the organization of the 15th Biennial and ITS Silver Anniversary Conference held in Tokyo in 2010.

Dr. Fuke has a strong background in telecommunications with a particular focus on regulatory policy. Earlier in his career, he served as a senior executive at Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT) Corporation and has done extensive research on the info-communications industry and related regulatory policy as a member of the Board of Directors of InfoCom Research, Inc., a non-profit Corporate member of ITS. For a number of years, he also held the position of Professor of Network Industry, Faculty of Informatics, at Kansai University in Osaka.

Professor Fuke received his B.A. in Economics from Tokyo University, and his M.Litt. from Glasgow University in Scotland where he was sent for two years of post-graduate study by NTT. He received a Ph.D. in International Public Policy from Osaka University in 2004. His major areas of specialization include the economic analysis of the telecommunications industry and regulatory policy. In addition to being a frequent speaker and presenter on these subjects at international conferences, Dr. Fuke has published numerous books and articles in scholarly journals in both English and Japanese on his research interests.

Professor Fuke’s current research focuses on changes in the structure of the info-communications industry occasioned by the wide deployment of cellular and broadband internet, as well as the policy implications of these structural changes.

His special interest is directed at international roaming services on mobile networks. One of the difficulties he has encountered while undertaking research in this area, however, is that few countries, other than EU members, have established institutions for the collection of data and monitoring of these services. As such, Dr. Fuke welcomes any input, information or advice on this subject from ITS members with similar research interests.

When he is not engaged in research, writing or teaching, Professor Fuke likes to travel abroad. He was particularly inspired by his trip last year to Dunhuang, an oasis city along the old Silk Road at the edge of the Gobi Desert that is famous for its Mogao Caves, and to Xi’an, one of the four great ancient capitals of China. He was impressed by the enterprising spirit of old China and the remarkable artistry and energy with which this ancient civilization built the Terracotta Army. One of his favourite pastimes while at home in Japan is taking long drives in the countryside for the inspirational scenery and serenity they offer. He remains hopeful that the landscape of northern Japan and, more especially, the economic, physical and spiritual condition of the people living there, will some day be restored to what it once was following the devastation that was wrought by last year’s earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster.

It is a hope and sentiment shared by his family, friends and fellow countrymen and, no less so, by all members of ITS.

Professor Fuke may be reached at fuke@komazawa-u.ac.jp.
ITS Welcomes New Corporate Members

ITS is delighted to announce that four new corporate members have joined our organization since the beginning of 2012: KDDI Research Institute, Inc. (Japan), TIM Celular S.A. (TIM Brazil), RTR – The Austrian Regulatory Authority for Broadcasting and Telecommunications and the ZBW – German National Library of Economics – Leibniz Information Centre for Economics.

KDDI Research Institute, Inc. is a member of the KDDI Group which comprises more than 30 different companies engaged in numerous (predominantly) ICT-related lines of business including mobile; fixed line; internet; content and media; CATV; R&D; network construction, operation and maintenance; construction and engineering; data communications engineering; research and consulting; telemarketing and several other business lines including financial and (non-life) insurance.

TIM Celular S.A. is a major provider of mobile telephony services in Brazil, and is the only carrier licensed to provide such services in every part of the country. It currently offers wireless telecommunications services in over 700 cities in Brazil. TIM Celular S.A. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of TIM Brasil Serviços e Participações S/A, a Brazilian holding company of Group Telecom Italia.

RTR (Austria) became a Societal Corporate member of ITS on May 1, 2012. RTR’s mandate is to provide operational support for the Austrian Communications Authority (Komm-Austria) and the Telekom-Control Commission (TKK) in the fulfillment of their duties. In performing their duties for Komm-Austria, “RTR’s employees manage the Digital Platform Austria working group, perform tasks in the fields of broadcasting frequency management, legal supervision and advertising monitoring, and support the authority in procedures carried out under broadcasting law. In providing operational support for the Telekom-Control Commission, RTR’s various teams are responsible for approvals of general terms and conditions of business, electronic signatures, frequency allocation procedures and competition regulation. RTR also provides operational support for the Postal Service Regulation Commission (PCK), specifically in the field of post office regulation, general terms and conditions of business, competition regulation and supervisory measures.” (See, http://www.rtr.at/en/rtr/rtrgmbh).

The ZBW – Leibniz Information Centre for Economics is the world’s largest specialist library for economics, with more than four million publications in printed or electronic format and subscriptions to nearly 32,000 periodicals and journals. The ZBW collects economics literature and subject-specific information from all over the world as well as books, journals and digital media from management practice. It then makes them available to users via interlibrary lending, document delivery and local lending. These materials form the basis of its sophisticated online information services. The ZBW is also a WTO depositary library and maintains a European Documentation Centre at its two locations in Kiel and Hamburg.

KDDI and TIM Brazil both joined ITS as Global Corporate members and, accordingly, each became eligible to nominate a qualified representative of their corporation for election to the ITS Board. Effective May 1, 2012, KDDI’s nominee, Mr. Sobee Shinohara, was elected to the ITS Board. The process of nominating and then electing a Board representative from TIM Brazil, which only became an ITS Corporate member on May 1, 2012, had not yet begun at the time this issue of Interconnect went to press. An announcement of the new Board member from TIM Brazil will be published in the September 2012 issue of Interconnect.
IT Chair, Professor Erik Bohlin, is pleased to announce the election of, and to warmly welcome, the following three individuals to the ITS Board of Directors: Dr. Hee-Su Kim, Mr. Sobee Shinohara and Colonel Settapong Malisuwan. Dr. Kim was elected to the Board effective January 1, 2012, while Mr. Shinohara and Colonel Malisuwan joined the Board effective May 1, 2012. As can be seen by their brief bios which follow, all three are exceptionally qualified to serve as ITS Directors.

Dr. Kim is Senior Vice President, Economics and Management Research Lab, KT Corporation and, concurrently, holds the position of Head of Corporate Relations Strategy Department, also at KT, at its headquarters in Seoul, Korea. Prior to joining KT, Dr. Kim was a Research Fellow at the Korea Institute of Industrial Economics and Trade (1993-95) and a Senior Research Fellow at the Korea Information Society Development Institute (1995-2005). He obtained his B.A. in Economics from Korea University, Seoul in 1986 and was awarded his Ph.D. in Economics at the University of California, Los Angeles in 1992. Dr. Kim’s research interests span telecommunications regulation, interconnection/access pricing, antitrust in telecommunications and market analysis for competitive assessment. He has published or co-authored numerous scholarly articles (in both English and Korean) in peer-reviewed journals including the Review of Network Economics, Information Economics and Policy, Economics Letters, Telecommunications Policy, the Seoul Journal of Economics, Korea Telecommunications Policy Review, and The Korean Journal of Industrial Organization, among others.

Mr. Sobee Shinohara holds the position of Director, Telecommunications Regulatory Affairs at both KDDI Corporation and KDDI Research Institute, Inc. He began his professional career in 1990 in the Wireless Mobile Division and Satellite Broadcasting Division of the former Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MPT) in Japan. He was promoted to Section Chief, Data Communications Division, Telecommunications Bureau in the (former) MPT in 1994 and two years later was hired by a predecessor company of KDDI as Manager, Government and Industrial Affairs Department. Mr. Shinohara holds several degrees including a Bachelor and Master of Engineering from Tohoku University (Sendai, Japan 1992 and 1994), an LL.B degree from Hosei University (Tokyo 2009) and is currently a Ph.D. candidate at the Graduate School of Applied Informatics at the University of Hyogo, Kobe, Japan.

Colonel Settapong Malisuwan was elected as Vice Chairman and a member of the Board of the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) of Thailand in October 2011. He holds a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering (Telecommunications) from Florida Atlantic University (Boca Raton, Florida 2000), two Master of Science degrees in Electrical Engineering – one in Mobile Communications Systems (George Washington University, Washington, D.C. 1996) and the other in Telecommunications Engineering (Georgia Institute of Technology, U.S.A. 1992), and a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy, Nakhon-Nayok, Thailand 1990). Besides having a very distinguished career and record of service in the Royal Thai Army during the past quarter century, Colonel Malisuwan has an enviable record of scholarly publications in refereed academic and scientific journals and has presented scores of scientific papers at major international conferences over the same span of time. For several years, Colonel Malisuwan was also a lecturer in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the prestigious Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy in Thailand, where he also conducted, and later for a period of six months (June-November 2000) managed, numerous research projects as Director of the Academy’s Electromagnetic Laboratory.

The ITS Board also saw the departure of one of its members, Dr. T. Ayhan Beydogan, effective May 1, 2012. Dr. Beydogan had served on the ITS Board for the previous eight years as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee. In a personal letter on behalf of the entire Board, ITS Chair, Dr. Erik Bohlin, thanked Dr. Beydogan for his many years of service to ITS acknowledging, in particular, his significant contribution to the organization and critical success of the 18th European Regional ITS Conference held in Istanbul, Turkey in 2007.
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Department of Economics
Korea University, Seoul, KOREA

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Associate Professor, Dean
Faculty of Law, The University of Thai Chamber of Commerce
Bangkok, THAILAND

**ITS Secretariat and ITS Newsletter Editor**
Don Romanuk
Email: secretariat@itsworld.org

**ITS Web Site Editor**
Stephen R. Schmidt
Email: stephen.schmidt@telus.com

**ITS Web Development Coordinator**
Hal Reirson
Email: hal.reirson@telus.com

**ITS ListServ Manager**
Gene Mesher
Email: gemesher@yahoo.com
**Calendar of Events**

### ITS Conferences

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| 2012 | May   | 3rd ITS PhD Seminar<br>Vienna, Austria • July 4-5, 2012<br>[http://www.itseuropeanconference2012.org/content/3rdPhDSeminar.html](http://www.itseuropeanconference2012.org/content/3rdPhDSeminar.html)

### ITS-Endorsed Conferences

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Further information on these upcoming Conferences will be posted on the ITS website at [www.itsworld.org](http://www.itsworld.org) as it becomes available.