

# OMEGA CENTRE

Centre for Mega Projects in Transport and Development

A global Centre of Excellence in Future Urban Transport  
sponsored by Volvo Research and Educational Foundations (VREF)



**HSL- Zuid**  
Brussels to Amsterdam  
*Highspeed TGV railway*



**Jubilee Line Extension**  
London Underground  
*Urban Metro link*



**City Link,**  
Melbourne  
*Highway extension*



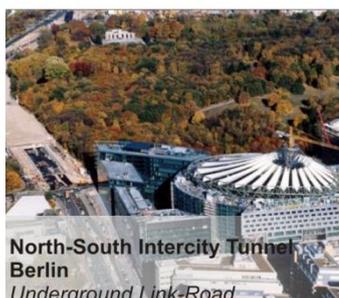
**Millau Viaduct**  
A75, Midi-Pyrénées  
*Highway bypass*



**Shuto Expressway**  
Greater Tokyo Area  
*Metropolitan Expressway*



**Big Dig**  
Boston, Massachusetts  
*Highway tunnel*



**North-South Intercity Tunnel**  
Berlin  
*Underground Link+Road*



**Monorail**  
Chiba  
*Urban Metro link*



**Rion-Antirion Bridge**  
*Bridge over the Gulf of Corinth*



## The OMEGA Centre Seminar Series was launched in January 2009 to focus on topics related to the planning, appraisal and evaluation of mega transport projects and their impacts on development.

The event allows the OMEGA Centre to present findings for

both recently completed and ongoing research projects, and to engage with a wider audience both from academic and industrial sectors.

The Centre has undertaken a wide range of research on several pressing issues related to "The treatment of Risk, Uncertainty and Complexity", "The Importance of Context" and "Sustainability" for the study of mega projects in transport and development. The seminar series invites a number of speakers who are involved in a variety of aspects of transport projects of this kind in order to encourage cross-disciplinary

collaboration and knowledge transfer.

Programmes of these seminars comprise contributions from the OMEGA Centre and external speakers including journalists, bureaucrats, planners, industry leaders, and academics. The OMEGA seminar series is open to everyone who is interested in these issues, especially those associated with major transport project development. The seminars are recorded and where permission allows they are published on the OMEGA Website.

By drawing on experts from many disciplines, we can stimulate debate and further discussions on certain crucial topics, such as transport infrastructure investment, challenges of sustainability, and financing mechanisms within the global market. The OMEGA Seminar Series can illuminate emerging issues surrounding the major transport projects and foster the generation of ideas on tackling problems, threats and risks in contemporary and future environments

## 2012 SEMINAR PROGRAMME

- 18<sup>th</sup> January Major infrastructure developments in a globalized economy – it's strategic role in the national, regional and urban development of Australia  
*Professor Sonja Lyneham, University of New South Wales, Australia*
- 1<sup>st</sup> February What constitutes a 'successful' mega urban transport project: OMEGA study findings of 30 international case studies  
*Professor Harry T. Dimitriou, Phil G. Wright and Dr. E. John Ward, UCL, UK*
- 29<sup>th</sup> February Strategic challenges to UK's infrastructure development in a time of austerity  
*Professor Brian Collins, UCL*
- 14<sup>th</sup> March Strategic water, utility & transport infrastructure planning for Auckland metropolitan region  
*Dr. Jim Bentley, University of Auckland, New Zealand*
- 21<sup>st</sup> March Energy: Pre-conditions for making a quarter of GDP sustainable: regulatory needs for mega projects  
*Oliver Sparrow, Director, the Challenge Network, UK*

### OTHER FORTHCOMING 2012 SPEAKERS/TOPICS INCLUDE (on dates to be confirmed)

The Gotthard Tunnel: why traditional cost benefit analysis was not used in its planning and appraisal  
*Dr. Heinz, Ehbar, Alp Transit Gotthard Ltd., Switzerland*

Mega urban transport and sustainability challenges: a selected review of international project developments  
*Professor Nick Tyler, UCL*

EIB funding for urban development and the challenge of appraising mega projects  
*Brian Field, European Investment Bank, Luxembourg*

Mega projects in Saudi Arabia as agents of change: a review of 21<sup>st</sup> century project management challenges  
*Dr. Salaman Al Sudairy, Sometime of the Ministry of Interior, Saudi Arabia*

Mega urban transport projects and land-value capture: a 'solution' to infrastructure funding/investment in UK  
*Dr. Tony Vickers, Professional Land Reform Group, UK*

Financing mega urban transport projects: international evidence from the OMEGA Project  
*Professor Frederik Pretorius, University of Hong Kong, PRC*

**Time:** Typically Wednesdays, 5.30pm - unless otherwise specified

**Venue:** Room 401, Bartlett School of Planning, UCL

Wates House, 22 Gordon Street, London WC1H 0QB

Directions at: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/locations/ucl-maps>

**All are welcome and participation is free.**

Further details of each seminar will be circulated nearer the time; for enquiries and to join the mailing list, please contact Dan Durrant [daniel.durrant.09@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:daniel.durrant.09@ucl.ac.uk) or 020 7679 4882.