Faculty Achievement, Professor Kenneth A. Small

Named a fellow of the Regional Science Association International in 2006, Professor Emeritus of Economics Kenneth A. Small is recognized as this year's UCI Lauds & Laurels Faculty Achievement honoree. Specializing in urban, transportation, and environmental economics, Professor Small has conducted significant research studies on urban highway congestion, analysis of toll-lane demonstration projects, measurement of value of time and reliability, effects of highway pricing on public transit, and the role of fuel taxes in managing congestion, pollution, and accidents associated with motor vehicle travel. Professor Small is particularly known for his work on congestion pricing—the idea that congestion can be reduced by charging drivers a toll to use the highway, a toll whose size increases with the added delay their travel imposes on others. When Professor Small first presented the idea some twenty years ago, it was met with disbelief, but Professor Small persevered, showing that congestion arises when a driver does not consider the added delay he causes to others, Dr. David Brownstone, Economics Department Chair, says of Professor Small's work, which has contributed to the adoption of congestion pricing on highways in Singapore, London, Stockholm, and San Diego. As one of the world's leading urban transportation economists, Professor Small received the Distinguished Member Award of the Transportation and Public Utilities Group of the American Economic Association in 1999, and the Distinguished Transportation Research Award of the Transportation Research Forum in 2004. Serving for five years as co-editor of Urban Studies, an international journal for research in urban and regional studies, Professor Small is now associate editor of Transportation Research Part B: Methodological, an international publication aimed at developing solutions to transportation systems design and/or analysis issues. "Not only is Ken Small a world leader in understanding the impacts of transportation on urban life and the environment, he is a strong mentor of our students and has made major contributions to the direction of Economics at UCI," says Dean Barbara Dosher. Professor Small will be honored at the 2007 Lauds & Laurels Awards Ceremony on May 10, 2007 for his many accomplishments and achievements in the field of economics, and for his contributions to the university and surrounding community.