ITS SEMINAR

CHARGING FOR TRANSPORT:
SOME QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Co-sponsored by the
Department of Economics and the
Department of Urban and Regional Planning

Stef Proost
Center for Economic Studies
Catholic University of Leuven
Leuven, Belgium

FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2003
12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.
Social Ecology I, Room 306

This presentation will survey recent European research on transportation pricing. The following questions will be addressed: How can we measure transportation pricing inefficiencies? How can we achieve optimal pricing in multi-modal systems? What can imperfect pricing instruments accomplish? What are the revenue impacts of optimal transportation pricing in different European Union (EU) countries? What are the effects of imposing budget balances by mode? Dr. Proost will also discuss transportation pricing with imperfections (optimal commuting taxes in the presence of labor taxes, optimal freight taxes in the presence of insufficient passenger and labor taxes, and equity aspects of transportation tax reform); transportation pricing and the environment (diesel penetration and fuel efficiency); and vertical and horizontal tax competition between levels of government.

Stef Proost is a professor of economics at Belgium's Catholic University of Leuven (K.U. Leuven), where he directs an 18-person group of researchers who are exploring issues related to transportation, energy and the environment. He also teaches environmental and transportation economics, and is a member of the board of the K.U. Leuven's Energy Institute. He has published widely on the use of partial and general equilibrium models to address public policy questions; optimal pricing of transportation; the choice of policy instruments for environmental policy; and energy pricing. He has participated in and coordinated several large-scale European research consortia, and participated in transatlantic U.S.-European networks on environmental policy. Dr. Proost studied economics at the universities of Namur (Belgium), Essex (United Kingdom), and Leuven. Before joining the faculty at K.U. Leuven, he worked at CORE (Belgium) and for the Belgian government.