Graduate Research Assistant  
2015-2016 Open Position

TREC is seeking a Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) to assist Smart, Shared and Social: Enhancing All-Hazards Recovery Plans with Demand Management Technologies project for the 2015-2016 academic year. Applicants must be graduate students enrolled in at least 9 graduate credit hours at PSU during the 2015-16 academic year and must be admitted to and in good academic standing with a PSU graduate degree program.

This project will develop and test an emergency recovery plan for Portland, Oregon that contains transit and TDM strategies, including use of social media and ITS technologies. This plan will be coordinated with regional emergency response officials and will be included in the All-Hazards Recovery Plans for the Portland region. This plan will serve as a template for the development of a prototype two-day course that will be tested in Portland. The course will be finalized and will equip participants in six host cities to embark on the development of a transportation recovery plan that includes coordinated transit and TDM elements.

Responsibilities will include:

• Conduct literature review on transit, emergency response and the use of social media to communicate information;
• Conduct in-depth, interview-based case studies with an emphasis on recent events such as Hurricane Sandy, Hurricanes Irene, Katrina and Rita, and 9/11 (New York City). Up to five case studies will be developed to document the specific emergency preparedness and recovery plans that included transit, TDM, and/or ITS technologies in those locations. The case studies will identify: 1) the emergency recovery plans that were in place at the time of the incident, 2) the lessons learned by transit and TDM providers during the course of incident recovery, 3) what other transit agencies and MPOs can do to better prepare for emergencies, and, 4) any specific lessons on how to better coordinate transit and TDM providers’ activities with key emergency responders in their respective regions.
• Assist in developing a survey and analyzing data;
• Conduct interviews with transit agencies and other organizations;
• Prepare written reports and papers.

Ideal candidates will possess qualitative skills, interpersonal communication and writing skills, flexibility, ability to multi-task and a willingness to work as a part of a team.

Start Date: September 2015. This is a 9-month position with possible summer employment.

Pay Rate: Graduate tuition remission and a monthly stipend
Hours per week: 16-20 hour

To apply: Email cover letter email and resume to macarthur@pdx.edu.

For more information on graduate assistantships at PSU, visit the Office of Graduate Studies and Research Web site, www.gsr.pdx.edu/ogs. For more information about TREC visit: www.trec.pdx.edu.