



IBEC Message from the Chair of IBEC

It is my distinct pleasure to be the Chair of IBEC as we enter our sixth year as the International, Benefits and Costs Working Group. The past year has seen IBEC successfully migrate from an organisation with significant direct funding for Secretariat activities to an organisation with a reduced level of direct funding provided by the Welsh Assembly Government. The change has meant that members of the Management Committee have taken on a wider role in IBEC functions via employers' or other external support.

Plans for the next 12 months include continuation of our well-established track record of promoting outreach activities, and organising and hosting panels, workshops and Special Sessions for the annual ITS World Congress and other international events. The next year will comprise completion of revamping the IBEC website, teaching a two-hour training course on how to evaluate ITS projects at the Pan American ITS Congress (Santiago, Chile, November 2006), sponsoring panel and poster sessions at the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting (Washington, D.C., USA, January 2007), perhaps teaching a training course on how to evaluate ITS projects or sponsoring an IBEC session at the ITS South Africa Annual Meeting, (Pretoria, March 2007), and hosting several Special Sessions and possibly organising a special training course on the evaluation of ITS projects during the next ITS World Congress (Beijing, October 2007).

With so many activities being promoted and hosted by IBEC, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all those involved in IBEC (management committee members, volunteers, IBEC members and the Secretariat) who will ensure that these plans become a reality.

As we embark on another year of activities, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all new and potential new IBEC members. We now have over 350 members from 40 countries and we are keen to expand the participation from other countries and regions around the world. If you would like to become involved in IBEC, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email. **Steve Morello** (E: s.morello@egisprojects.com, T: +33 1 20 24 90 66).