



Memorial and Tribute for Professor Hani S. Mahmassani (1956 - 2025)

The Transportation Research Board community gathers to honor and remember Professor Hani S. Mahmassani - a scholar, mentor, colleague, and friend whose life and work profoundly shaped transportation research and the people within it. Professor Mahmassani passed away on July 15, 2025, leaving behind a legacy of intellectual leadership, generosity of spirit, and enduring influence across generations of students and collaborators.

Condolences

Please consider giving to Hani S. Mahmassani Memorial Fund (Click on “MAKE A GIFT NOW”; Type “Hani” in the Designation Box).



Memories

We invite everyone to share your memories and stories about Hani S. Mahmassani on our tribute wall.



Sunday, January 11, 2026
7:00 – 8:30 PM (ET)
Marriott Marquis — Salon 9 & 10 (M2)



About Professor Hani S. Mahmassani

Professor Hani S. Mahmassani (January 6, 1956 – July 15, 2025) was a globally respected scholar in transportation science and a central figure in the advancement of modern transportation systems analysis. He held the William A. Patterson Distinguished Chair in Transportation and served as Director of the Northwestern University Transportation Center.

His research spanned multimodal transportation systems, dynamic network modeling, traffic flow theory, demand modeling, network optimization, and the dynamics of human behavior in complex systems. His work bridged theory and practice and influenced transportation research, policy, and operations worldwide.

Professor Mahmassani earned his B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Houston, his M.S. from Purdue University, and his Ph.D. in Transportation Systems from MIT. He joined Northwestern University in 2007 after faculty appointments at the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Maryland.

A passionate and dedicated mentor, Hani advised more than 75 doctoral students, many of whom now lead research, education, and practice across academia, industry, and government. His honors include election to the National Academy of Engineering, the Robert Herman Lifetime Achievement Award, and recognition as an INFORMS Fellow, among many others.

Beyond academia, Hani was deeply devoted to his family and friends. Born in Beirut, Lebanon, he was known for his warmth, generosity, and humanity. His brilliance and kindness enriched the lives of colleagues, students, and loved ones alike.

His legacy endures in transportation research, in the TRB community, and in the people whose lives he touched.



Agenda

1. Welcome and Introduction (*Presiding Officer: Samer Hamdar*)
2. Introductory Remarks from TRB (*Robert Bertini and Tom Menzies*)
3. Introductory Remarks from Northwestern University Transportation Center (NUTC) (*Breton Johnson*)
4. A Lifelong Devotion to Transportation Research: Hani's Contribution in Numbers (*By Wissam Sleiman: with Contribution from Pedram Beigi, Nachuan Li, and Yanlin Zhang*)
5. An Irreplaceable TRB Scholar and Member: Words from TRB Leadership (*Victoria Sheehan*)
6. Reliving Hani's Moments and Memories: A Short Video (*Alireza Talebpour*)
7. Hani, A Giant in the Transportation Field: Words from the Scientific and Research Community
 - Hani's Contribution to Traffic Flow Theory (*Ludovic Leclercq and Michael Zhang/Sue Ahn*)
 - Hani's Contributions to Network Optimization and Assignment (*Elise Miller-Hooks and Srinivas Peeta*)
 - Hani's Contributions to Demand Modeling (*Patricia Mokhtarian and Roger Chen*)
8. Concluding Words (*Samer Hamdar*)
9. From a Loving Human Being to A Leading Researcher and Mentor in Our Community: Remembering Hani in Pictures (*Hani's NUTC Students and Staff*)

