MEDIA ADVISORY

Noted UC Davis Expert Daniel Sperling Speaks on Sustainable Transportation Challenges

What: Dr. Daniel Sperling, founder of the UC Davis Institute of Transportation Studies (ITS-Davis), will address “Policy Challenges for Sustainable Transportation” at the UC Center in downtown Sacramento.

When: Thursday, May 1, 2014, 12-1 PM

Where: UC Center Sacramento, 1130 K Street, Room LL3, Sacramento, California

Why: California has long been a pioneer on landmark policies on vehicles, fuels, and mobility and land use. These policies include the zero emission vehicle mandate; low carbon fuel standard; the Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008 (SB 375); and carbon cap and trade. At this one hour talk, Dr. Sperling will analyze their effectiveness, how they relate to each other, whether they are replicable models for others, and what comes next.

Background: Sperling is a Professor of Civil Engineering and Environmental Science and Policy, Co-Director of the National Center for Sustainable Transportation, and founding Director of the ITS-Davis. He is an international expert on transportation technology, fuels and policy, with a focus on energy and environment. His research is focused on accelerating the global transition to cleaner, more efficient transportation and energy, and mitigating climate change. Sperling has led ITS-Davis to international prominence by building strong partnerships with industry, government, and the environmental community; integrating interdisciplinary research and education programs; and connecting research with public outreach and education.

He has authored or co-authored more than 200 technical papers and 12 books, including Two Billion Cars. In June 2013, he received the Blue Planet Prize – described as the Nobel Prize for the environmental sciences – from the Asahi Glass Foundation. He was recognized for his unique ability to bring together the top thinkers and strategists in academia, government and industry to develop new vehicle- and fuels-policy approaches.

Appointed to the “automotive engineering” seat on the California Air Resources Board in 2008, he focuses on the oversight and design of the state’s climate change, alternatives fuels, vehicle travel and land use, and zero emission vehicle programs. He was chair of the California Fuel Cell Partnership in 2013 and is the incoming chair of the U.S. Transportation Research Board where he also was the founding chair of the standing committees on Alternative Transportation Fuels, and Sustainability and Transportation. In 2013 and 2007, he was a lead author of the transportation chapters for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reports.

About the UC Davis Institute of Transportation Studies
The Institute of Transportation Studies at UC Davis (ITS-Davis) is the leading university center in the world on sustainable transportation. It is home to more than 60 affiliated faculty and researchers, and 120 graduate students. ITS-Davis is partnered with government, industry, and non-governmental organizations to inform policy making and business decisions, and advance the public discourse on key transportation, energy and environmental issues.