

Valdosta Selected as Finalist for World Smart Cities Award

The City of Valdosta's "[Traffic Monitoring and Communication System to Improve Safety, Connectivity, and Efficiency](#)" project has been selected as a finalist for a 2021 [World Smart Cities Award](#) in the Mobility Category. The Partnership traveled to Valdosta to watch the awards ceremony live from Barcelona with the community on Wednesday November 17, 2021.

"I am most humbled by this entire experience during the past 1.5 years to work as one of the two research Co-PI's of the Valdosta Smart City project, and collaborate with Georgia Tech engineering faculty in research, and with engineers and technicians from the City of Valdosta and two leading technology companies in traffic engineering" Said Dr. Hojjatie, P.E., Professor and Engineering Coordinator from Valdosta State University who supervised a total of eight VSU Junior engineering students in undergraduate research and developed two directed studies courses in traffic engineering and management through which more than 100 VSU engineering students received training related to this project. Another VSU faculty, Dr. Jia Lu, who joined the research team of the Valdosta smart city during the spring semester 2021, also supervised two engineering students in GIS activities related to this project.

"Being one of the three finalist for the World Smart City award is an indication of great capabilities of VSU engineering faculty and junior engineering students in making valuable contributions to the research part of this project and also the outstanding work performed by the engineering and technicians from the City of Valdosta in making the entire traffic system of Valdosta smart and connected", said Dr. Hojjatie.



From Left to right Mr. Pat Collins, P.E. (Valdosta City Engineer), Dr. Barry Hojjatie, P.E (Professor and Engineering Coordinator), Dr. Paul Vincent (PAGET Dept. Head), and Mr. Adrian Baker (Engineer, Temple, Inc.).

See a video from the event below:

<https://pingeorgia.org/valdosta-traffic-calming-and-connectivity-project-selected-as-finalist-for-world-smart-cities-awards/>

Valdosta Smart City Project Team including the VSU Engineering Programs Has Received World Recognition

The Valdosta Smart City project "Traffic Monitoring and Communication System to Improve Safety, connectivity, and Efficiency" has been selected as a finalist for the World Smart Cities Award in the Mobility Category. This project is part of the [Georgia Smart Communities Challenge](#). Valdosta is the only U.S. representative in the Mobility Category alongside projects from the Port of Barcelona and [MOTIONTAG](#). Valdosta is also only one of five American entries in the group of 34 finalists.

The winner will be announced from Barcelona Spain (through a remote connection) on Wednesday November 17, 2021.

More information about the news and the project:

<https://rh.gatech.edu/news/652701/valdosta-traffic-calming-and-connectivity-project-selected-finalist-world-smart-cities>

Project Manager: Pat Collins, Director of Engineering, City of Valdosta

Project Co-PIs Dr. Barry Hojjatie, P.E. (Valdosta State Engineering Program), and Dr. Babak Ashuri (Civil Engineering Dept., Georgia Tech)

VSU Project Collaborator in GIS: Dr. Jia Lu

Industries Partners: Temple and Applied Information

Project Funded by: Georgia Smart Community Challenge from Georgia Tech

Through two directed studies courses developed in traffic engineering and management at VSU, a total of 8 VSU engineering students participated in undergraduate research and experiential learning. Also, more than 100 VSU engineering students received education and training through various workshops, and presentations in two engineering nights and other events organized and performed at VSU.

Other Links related to the project:

- [Partnership for Inclusive Innovation \(pin\)](#)
- https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn%3Ali%3Aactivity%3A6864557800069062656/?midToken=AQFkmFUaLyCAw&midSig=0-Lt8k_m_SdW01&trk=email_notification_single_mentioned_you_in_this_01-notifications-1-hero%7Ecard%7Efeed&trkEmail=email_notification_single_mentioned_you_in_this_01-notifications-1-hero%7Ecard%7Efeed-null-58s0lv%7Ekvv03hyi%7Etp-null-voyagerOffline