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## Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence: EU Jean Monnet Projects



At "The Future of Local Transportation" workshop at Greenberg Trauring — Nov.3, 2016  
From left to right: Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Dominique Bertrand, Dr. Meryem Simsek,  
Dr. Atorod Azizinamini, Alice Bravo, Danye Aboki, Dr. Markus Thiel

Under the framework of the EU Jean Monnet Project, European transportation experts met during 3 days in November with the Miami-Dade Community at large, transportation experts, economic actors (directors of transportation of Miami-Dade County, City of Miami Beach, Coral Gables; Chambers of Commerce members, Consuls, and Miami-Dade Government members). At these workshops and meetings mass transit, clean vehicles, smart transportation, tactile internet and quality delivery of services at affordable prices were the topics of discussion.

The three workshops were the following:

- Nov. 3, 2016: **Transportation** "The Future of Local Transportation" Breakfast-Workshop at Greenberg Trauring Miami Downtown-[Click here](#)
- Nov. 3, 2016: **Transportation** "The Future of Local Transportation" Luncheon-Workshop at the Miami-Dade Beacon Council Miami Downtown - [Click here](#)
- Nov. 4, 2016: **Smart Cities and Transportation**

"The Involvement of French Companies in the Development of Miami as a Smart City" - Business Talk Luncheon at The National Hotel Miami Beach—[Click here](#)

Each workshop brought 50 to 70 people from the Miami-Dade Community at large.

The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence would like to thank its partners and co-sponsors: Greenberg Traurig LLP; The Miami-Dade Beacon Council, the European Chambers of Commerce executive directors and presidents (France, Germany, Italy, Spain, UK) for making each of these events a success. A particular thanks to Antonia Pena, Mario Sacasa, Pamela Fuertes, Séverine Gianese-Pittman, Pascale Villet, the Consulate General of France in Miami, and the French Embassy in Washington DC, for their support.

We look forward to seeing all of our friends and partners at our upcoming events.

By Christine I. Caly-Sanchez

The MF-JMCE received the **Jean Monnet Project**, a 50,000 euro grant over two years (2016-2017) to implement six high-level and high-visibility community roundtables on issues ranging from innovation & research, health, and sustainability to environmental policies.

The Center brings in European policy-makers and experts to discuss and share best practices, and to stimulate strategic discussions among experts from the universities, the private enterprise and the public sector, highlighting the European experience and technical skills in order to contribute to networking, innovation, and business development among its partners. Each Workshop includes at least four experts: two European experts from European companies or NGOs, one American expert from the private sector or the state or federal government – in some cases, – and one FIU faculty expert in the above fields/disciplines.

The MF-JMCE organized four workshops in Spring 2016:

- **EU Funding possibilities for US researchers - Horizon 2020**
  - **Accelerating Smart Cities:** environment, safety, transport, utilities & buildings"
  - **Water, Sustainability & Climate Change:** The use and misuse of water resources
  - **The Future of Local Transportation**
- In Spring 2017, the MF-JMCE will organize the following Jean Monnet projects:
- **Renewable Energy:**  
The future of biofuels
  - **Health and Innovation:**  
Nanotechnology for medicine

For more information on our events, visit our website page: <https://miamieuc.fiu.edu>





## EU Jean Monnet Project The Future of Local Transportation

Breakfast-Workshop at Greenberg Traurig - 11/03/16



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From left to right: Dominique Bertrand, Dr. Meryem Simsek, Alice Bravo, Dr. Aitorod Azizinamini, Danye Aboki

In November, the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence organized three workshops on The Future of Local Transportation. On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, in the morning, European and American experts on "Transportation" met with the Miami-Dade Community at large and infrastructure leaders in the offices of Greenberg Traurig, LLP in Downtown Miami. The workshop entitled **"The Future of Local Transportation"** included a discussion on the pressing transportation issues in Miami. The topics included mass transit, clean vehicles, smart transportation, tactile internet and quality delivery of services at affordable prices. The need for new and improved highways that can sustain the influx of out-of-town visitors generated by the tourism industry and the increase in our local population was also discussed.

Danye Aboki, Counselor, Transport and Sustainability Cities French Embassy in Washington DC, was the moderator for four distinguished experts (to view bios, [click here](#)):

- **Dr. Aitorod Azizinamini**, Professor and Chair, Civil and Environment Engineering Structural and Bridge Engineering, Florida International University
- **Dominique Bertrand**, Senior Advisor, CEREMA - Center for Studies depending on the French Department for Transport, Environment and Energy, France
- **Alice Bravo**, Director, Transportation and Public Works Miami-Dade County
- **Dr.-Ing Meryem Simsek**, Chair of IEEE Tactile Internet Subcommittee, TU Dresden Vodafone Chair Mobile Communications Systems, TU Dresden, Germany

After introducing each panelist, Danye Aboki began the workshop by asking Dr. Azizinamini what the challenges and solutions in the US cities were.

Dr. Azizinamini answered that the mobility trends in US cities with the demographic growth, the needs of younger groups (Millennials), and the economic growth. The challenges are aging infrastructures, congestion, safety, and climate change. Dr. Azizinamini pointed out that the solutions are the development of mass transit, the resilient infrastructures, and new technologies.

Alice Bravo proceeded to talk about **The Strategic Miami Area Rapid Transit (SMART) Plan**

She informed the audience that on February 2016, after several months of consultation with partner transportation agencies, elected officials and the public, the Metropolitan Planning Organization Board of Miami Dade County unanimously approved a policy to set as its highest priority the advancement of 6 Rapid Transit Corridors and transit supportive projects in Miami Dade County.



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## EU Jean Monnet Project



### The Future of Local Transportation

Breakfast-Workshop at Greenberg Traurig - 11/03/16



Dr. Atorod Azizinamini, Professor & Chair  
Civil & Environment Engineering, FIU



Alice Bravo, Director, Transportation &  
Public Works, Miami-Dade County



Dominique Bertrand, Senior Advisor  
CEREMA

Afterwards, Dr. Meryem Simsek used **cases for advanced mobile technologies (5G) for autonomous driving**

"Autonomous vehicles, the next revolution of transportation, is a way to improve road safety and traffic congestion", she said; "Detection of critical safety situation requires real time communication, reliability, and interconnectivity for the future wireless communications systems"

Finally, Dominique Bertrand brought up **the French experience of streetcars**.

He informed the audience that since the 2000's, a majority of French cities have reintegrated streetcars or light rail cars into their transportation systems to fight road congestion and provide an affordable and accessible transport solution for communities.

He added that the key lessons from French local transportation agencies are the following: ridership, revenues, impact on use and

sharing of public space, safety, economical benefits (tourism.. )

The workshop was a success. More than 70 guests from Miami-Dade County attended the workshop. The target audience consisted of Miami-Dade community members at large, transportation company CEOs, European Consuls General and Deputy Consuls General (France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands...), Miami Dade County Economic Development and International Trade officials, executive directors and members of European Chambers of Commerce (France, Germany, Italy, United Kingdom) and Miami City Hall representatives.

The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence would like to sincerely thank our co-sponsor Greenberg Traurig, especially Mr. Antonio Pena and his team, all the European chambers of commerce executive directors, and presidents for making this event a success.

By Christine. I. Cally-Sanchez



Danyé Aboki, Counselor,  
Transport & Sustainability Cities  
French Embassy in Washington DC



- ▶ For more information on the event, [click here](#)
- ▶ For bios, [click here](#)
- ▶ For pictures, [click here](#)
- ▶ To watch video, [click here](#)

▶ To view PowerPoint Presentation, click on each presentation hereafter:

- Dr. Atorod Azizinamini [click here](#)
- Alice Bravo, [click here](#)
- Dr. Meryem Simsek, [click here](#)
- Dominique Bertrand, [click here](#)





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## EU Jean Monnet Project "The Future of Local Transportation"



### Luncheon-Workshop at the Miami-Dade Beacon Council—11/03/16



**Dr. Atorod Azizinami, Professor & Chair, Civil & Environment Engineering, FIU ;  
and Alice Bravo, Director, Transportation Public Works Miami-Dade County**

In addition, the same day, the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence organized a luncheon-workshop on the Future of Local Transportation held at and co-sponsored by the Miami-Dade Beacon Council, the Miami-Dade County's Official Economic Development Partnership, where European experts and infrastructure leaders discussed the future of local transportation.

Topics included mass transit, clean vehicles, smart transportation, tactile internet and quality delivery of services at affordable prices. The County recently created a new Transportation and Public Works Department as a more holistic approach to easing the county's congestion challenges, and placed Alice Bravo, who participated in the panel, as the sole director in charge of road maintenance and cars-for-hire as well as buses and rail.

Distinguished guests, Miami-Dade County government officials, and European Consuls General gathered for this event. We were honored to have the presence of

Clément Leclerc, Consul General of France; and Annette Klein, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany

Pamela Fuytes, Senior Vice President, International Economic Development of the Miami-Dade Beacon Council, welcomed the audience and said that she was very pleased to partner with the Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence and participate in the discussion of this very important topic.

The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence would like to sincerely thank the Miami-Dade Beacon Council, and especially Mario Sacasa, Senior Vice President, International Economic Development; Pamela Fuytes, Vice President, International Economic Development; and its team, for making this second event a success.

► To view pictures, [click here](#)

By Christine. I. Cally-Sanchez



#### Alice Bravo

Director of the Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW), Miami-Dade County

Alice Bravo was appointed Director of the Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) in February 2016. The department includes all functions of the previous Miami-Dade Transit, along with the County Engineer, Traffic Operations, Construction and Maintenance and Highway Planning, as well as the Passenger Transportation Regulation function. DTPW is responsible for Miami-Dade County's entire surface transportation system, the planning, maintenance and operation of our roadways, transit system and taxicab and limousine services.

Prior to the reorganization of Transportation and Public Works functions, Ms. Bravo held the position of Miami-Dade Transit Director. Transit is the 15th largest public transit system in the United States, and the largest in Florida. Ms. Bravo oversees the planning and provision of all public transportation services in the County. She leads the effort of improving and expanding transportation in the community by working closely with the federal government, Florida Department of Transportation, Miami-Dade County Metropolitan Planning Organization and Miami-Dade Expressway Authority, among others.

As Director, Ms. Bravo oversees accessible transportation services in Miami-Dade County. This includes the Metrobus fleet that runs approximately 28.9 million miles through most areas of Miami-Dade County; the electrically-powered, elevated, 25-mile rapid transit Metrorail system; the 4.4-mile elevated Metromover; and the paratransit service (Special Transportation Service) that meets the needs of the disabled.

Throughout her career, Ms. Bravo has been responsible for managing a number of diversified public-private partnership projects involving design, construction, finance, operation and maintenance, including the \$1 billion Port Miami tunnel; the innovative I-95 Express Project; and the \$550 million S.R. 826-S.R. 836 interchange reconstruction project. These projects have helped improve commuter mobility throughout Miami-Dade County.



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# EU Jean Monnet Project "The Future of Local Transportation"



Lunch-Workshop at Miami-Dade Beacon Council—11/03/16



Pamela Fuentes, Vice President, International Economic Development, Miami-Dade Beacon Council

Meryem Simsek

Danye Aboki



Dominique Bertrand, Mario Sacasa, and Danye Aboki



James Kohnstamm, Pamela Fuentes, and Jose Gonzalez



Pamela Fuentes, Meryem Simsek, Christine I. Caly-Sanchez, Dominique Bertrand, Danye Aboki, and Hon. Clément Leclerc



Jimmy Morales, City Manager, City of Miami Beach, and Carlos Cruz-Casas, DTPW, Miami-Dade County





## EU Jean Monnet Project

### "The Involvement of French Companies in the Development of Miami as a Smart City"



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The National Hotel—Miami Beach—11/04/2016



From left to right:  
Hon. Clément Leclerc, Séverine Gianese-Pittman, Jean Monestine, Danye Aboki

On November 4<sup>th</sup>, during French Weeks, the French American Chamber of Commerce Florida organized a business talk luncheon on "The Involvement of French Companies in the Development of Miami as a Smart City". The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence at FIU co-sponsored the event and brought the French expertise of Danye Aboki, Counselor, Transport and Sustainability Cities French Embassy in Washington DC, who talked about Smart Cities and the French Transportation system.

4 experts discussed the French "savoir faire" in terms of smart cities, and development.

- **Hon. Clément Leclerc**, Consul General of France in Miami
- **Séverine Gianese-Pittman**, President of the French American Chamber of Commerce Florida
- **Jean Monestine**, Chairman Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners, District 2

- **Damien Kolosky**, Executive Vice-President USA, Americaribe Inc.

The workshop took place at the National Hotel in Miami Beach. This event was attended by more than 50 people from the Miami community at large and the French community.

The Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence would like to sincerely thank our co-sponsor, the French American Chamber of Commerce Florida, and especially her president Séverine Gianese-Pittman, and her executive director, Pascale Villet.

► To view pictures , [click here](#)

By Christine. I. Caly-Sanchez



**Danye Aboki**  
Counselor, Transport  
and sustainability  
cities, Embassy of  
France in Washington  
DC



Danye Aboki currently occupies the post of counselor in charge of transport and sustainable cities at the Embassy of France in Washington, DC.

Her areas of responsibility include all transport modes (aviation, maritime, rail, road and mass transit) with regard to legislative initiatives, and particularly relating to safety, security, energy and environment. Secondly, an increasing activity is to promote the models of sustainable cities embracing the urban issues related to transportation, mobility, housing, land use, energy, climate etc.

She joined the French Embassy in October 2014, thereby pursuing a career as a transportation and energy expert in public service for the government or for local authorities in France.

From 2010 to 2014 as a project manager in the regional directorate of the Minister for Ecology, she has been responsible for enhancing the public policy to support the development of renewable energy (biomass, solar wind.) and the reduction energy consumption, achieving France and European's climate goals by 2020. She was empowered the regulatory authority for the development of electricity and gas grids, assessing the environmental, economic and social impacts.

Previously as mobility manager for the 8th city in France (Montpellier) she had been responsible for drawing up a new multimodal traffic scheme, coordinating the different transit authorities. Her first experience (2002-2006) was as a traffic planner for highways and rail tracks.

She graduated as a civil engineer from the National School for Civil Engineering in Lyon and also held an Economics of Transportation Degree from the University Lyon 2.