

News of the South

A Publication of the Southern District of the Institute of Transportation Engineers



Spring 2008

President's Message

Volume 26, No. 1

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Craig Hanchey (TN)

This year should be a busy, but productive year for the Southern District. I will focus on implementing our strategic plan, SDITE 2010. We have the opportunity to make great strides in its implementation and this should result in tangible improvements to SDITE membership. I also hope to work on revising and enhancing our operational procedures and materials to improve the operation of the Section and assist future officers in their duties.



Listed below are the items that I plan to work on this year.

1. Support SDITE 2010
2. Review need for change in nomination process (under old business)
3. Review Organizational/Operational Changes to Better Serve Membership
 - a. Establish new Committee Structure
 - b. Change Board Meeting Agendas
 - c. Change the Role of Section Representatives Review need for District Administrator
4. Continue to enhance new website www.sdite.org
5. Establish an award for excellence in teaching (under new business)
6. Review District Budget and Finances
7. Review Electronic Voting Possibilities
8. Update/Enhance SDITE operations manual
9. Update SDITE Bylaws if necessary

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Congratulations to SDITE's Award Winners!

Marsha Anderson Bomar (GA): Herman Hoose Service Award

Kenny Voorhies (GA): Marble Hensley Activity Award

John Van Winkle (TN): John Exnicios Public Service Award

Alison Catarella Michel (DS): Joe Thomas Young Member Award

Georgia Section: Group I Award

South Carolina: Group II Award

Clemson University: Student Chapter Award

Zachary Bugg (MSU): Student Paper Award

Katharine Osborne (UM): Student Paper Runner-Up

Candidates for ITE International Vice President

Paul Eng-Wong, P.E., Fellow ITE

President, Eng-Wong, Taub & Associates, PA, New York, NY, USA



You, Me & ITE: Working Together

I am honored and humbled to be a candidate for International Vice President. ITE represents the highest standards of professional development and technical advancement in the transportation engineering profession and continues to bring tremendous value to its membership, industry and the traveling public. Professional enrichment through active and meaningful member participation is the centerpiece of my vision for ITE. The organization must serve as a conduit between individual spirit and collective resolve if ITE is to continue playing a central role in elevating our profession. My vision includes these key areas:

Professional Development – The heart of ITE is its membership, and nurturing the careers of transportation professionals requires effective programs for leadership development. We need to have the membership's pulse at our fingertips; understanding your needs and interests should help guide everything that we do. I will strive to communicate with you and continue to invest in our future.

Technical Advancement – ITE must remain at the forefront of technical expertise to satisfy the needs and demands of transportation systems that are constantly growing in

magnitude and complexity. We have an opportunity to bring the best and brightest minds to bear on a wide-array of technical challenges, and I will promote ITE as the premier resource for technical excellence and technological innovation in the transportation industry.

International Partnership – As a worldwide organization, ITE should persist in its commitment to increase collaboration with the international community. I will encourage an exchange of ideas, technology and research that can be developed globally and applied locally.

These areas of emphasis have something very important in common; they rely on the participation, enthusiasm and commitment of an active membership. Both member and employer involvement in shaping the future direction of ITE is integral to its growth and success.

I have always believed that ITE is both a resource and a responsibility, and I have seen first-hand the benefits of investing my time in all that the organization has to offer. Every time I give to ITE, I get back so much more in return. With you, me and ITE working together, we can ensure that ITE continues to be the organization of choice for the transportation profession.

Eugene M. Wilson, P.E., PTOE, Honorary Member of ITE

Transportation Engineering Safety Consultant, Wilson and Associates, Laramie, WY, USA



Strengthening the ITE Team

ITE is an outstanding professional society—it would be an honor to serve as your International Vice President.

OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES

- Strengthen ITE by helping to solve critical professional and societal core issues.
- Strengthen ITE by working together as a community of transportation professionals.
- Strengthen ITE's global network of members.
- Strengthen ITE member communications and educational training

SELECTED SERVICE TO ITE AND THE PROFESSION

- International Board of Direction, Technical Council Representative, 1991–1994
- ITE's representative to the Transportation Professional Certification Board Inc. (TPCB), 1998–2007
- Technical Council, 1982–1994, Chair, 1991–1994
- Transportation Safety Council, Executive Committee, 1997–2007, Emeritus Member, 2007
- Assistant Editor, *Traffic Control Devices Handbook*, ITE, 2001

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- ITE 2006 Theodore M. Matson Memorial Award
- 2006 Wyoming Eminent Engineer
- ITE 2004 Edmund R. Ricker Traffic Safety Award
- 59th Honorary Member of ITE, 1999
- ITE 1997 Burton W. Marsh Award
- ITE Colorado/Wyoming Section's Lifetime Achievement Award, 1996
- National Association of Local Technical Assistance Programs representative to the WIN
- ARTBA 1994 S. S. Steinberg Outstanding Educator Award

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Active in ITE for nearly 40 years, I have a broad base of experience.
- As a University of Wyoming Professor Emeritus, I have been privileged to prepare young engineers for a career in transportation.
- I have worked for DOTs providing research, traffic engineering and transportation planning expertise.
- Past activities with ASCE, ARTBA, NACE, APWA, TRB, NLTAPA, NCHRP and the MUTCD National Advisory Committee.

Continued on Page 3.

Student Chapter Activities

Dyan Damron (TN)

Each year, SDITE requests that student chapters from across the District develop reports outlining their activities during the year. We received chapter reports from 13 universities this year. We were very excited to receive these—it was up from nine submittals for 2006!

In addition to regular email updates to student chapter officers and advisors, we have chosen to take advantage of the new Southern District's website to post a biannual online newsletter. We have posted our first edition of the online student newsletter, The Chevron.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2007 Undergraduate Student Paper Competition. Zachary Bugg from Mississippi State University. Took first prize with his paper entitled "Traffic Signal Warrant – Summer Study."

The runner-up for the competition was Katherine Osborne from University of Mississippi with a paper entitled, "Geospatial Analysis of Transportation Related Air Pollution Impacts."

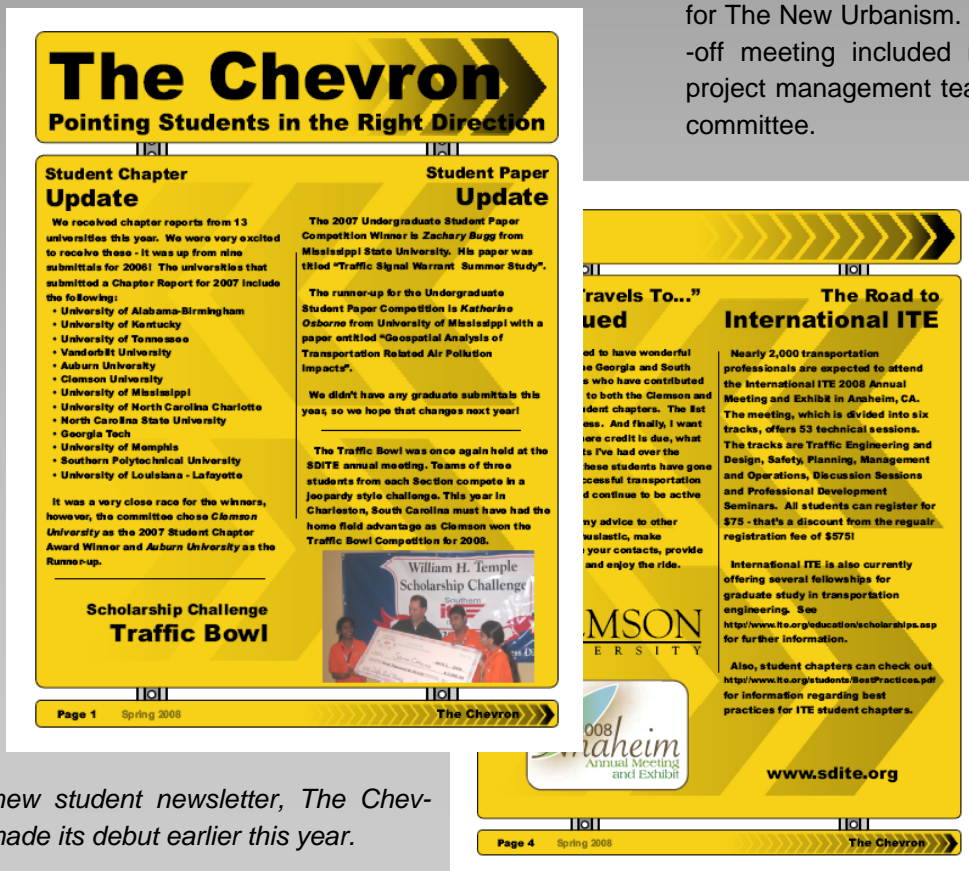
Also a special congratulations to the student chapters of Clemson and Auburn Universities—the winner and runner-up of the student chapter award.

News From International

What is a Wiki? It is a Web site that provides an opportunity for collaborative input. The ITE Wiki is an avenue for members to participate in the shaping of future ITE positions. The current discussion focuses on how we can improve or mitigate the impact of transportation on society. The discussion will be used to seed the development of an overall ITE green policy. This discussion topic will conclude on June 30, 2008. It is open to all ITE members. Visit www.ite.wikispaces.net.

On April 23, 2008, ITE hosted the project kick-off meeting for advancing the current Proposed Recommended Practice, Guidelines for Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) in Designing Major Urban Thoroughfares for Walkable Communities, to a Recommended Practice. This document provides guidance and demonstrates to practitioners how CSS concepts and principles may be applied in roadway improvement projects that are consistent with their physical settings.

The project is being co-sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Federal Highway Administration and is being performed by a joint partnership of ITE and The Congress for The New Urbanism. Those present at the kick-off meeting included members from both the project management team and the CSS steering committee.



The new student newsletter, The Chevron, made its debut earlier this year.

News From the Sections

ALABAMA SECTION

The Alabama Section currently has two active service projects ongoing. The first is a job shadowing program, which allows college students to spend a day with an ALSITE member "on the job". The second service project is support for the Safe Routes to School program, in which ALSITE members provide free assistance to cities, counties, and school boards in the development of SRTS projects.

In 2007, ALSITE Scholarships, Inc. awarded two scholarships in the amount of \$6,500. Our current fund balance is \$121,000.

In 2007, ALSITE hosted what may well be the world's only fishing tournament dedicated to the advancement of transportation engineering.



GEORGIA SECTION

The Georgia Section was a sponsor of the Annual Georgia Engineers Week. The Georgia Engineers Week is a cooperative effort of the professional engineering

organizations in the State of Georgia designed to promote the engineering disciplines to students, help expand public recognition of the engineering profession and celebrate engineering accomplishments.

Carla Holmes, with support from Keith Strickland, Rick Day and Susan Walker, updated the Section's Strategic Plan. One key component of the update was a

member survey which showed an 80% approval rate for section activities and confirmed that the Section's overall mission statement is accurate and acceptable.

The Georgia Section was a cosponsor of a new scholarship program for GA Tech's Masters of Civil Engineering, Transportation Engineering degree. The program provides a full one-year scholarship to recipients who agree to work a minimum of three years for GDOT after graduation. The Georgia Section contributed \$3,000 for the first year of the program.

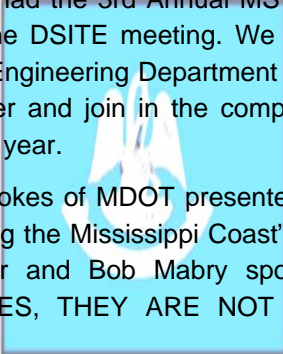
In 2007, the Georgia Section instituted Electronic Meeting Registration and Electronic Balloting for elections. These new services streamlined the processes for meeting registration and eliminated the need for paper ballots, saving both time and money.

The Georgia Section sponsored the Exploring Engineering Academy in 2007. This is a week-long program for 10th and 11th grade students to explore engineering as a career through hands-on activities.

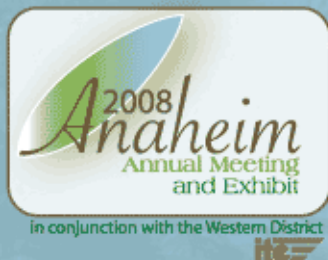
DEEP SOUTH SECTION

On February 22, 2008 we had the 3rd Annual MS Traffic Bowl in conjunction with the DSITE meeting. We invited the newly accredited JSU Engineering Department to create an ITE Student Chapter and join in the competition, but they did not make it this year.

February 22, 2007 Mike Stokes of MDOT presented "ITS on the US 90 Corridor Along the Mississippi Coast" to the Ole Miss Student Chapter and Bob Mabry spoke on Nov15, TRAFFIC CRASHES, THEY ARE NOT ACCIDENTS.



Register now at www.ite.org



August 17-20



Anaheim Convention Center
Anaheim, CA, USA

News From the Sections

KENTUCKY SECTION

KYSITE website (formerly known as kysite.org) was changed to kysite.com. The website was updated and improved and now has all information for upcoming meetings and annual events. We are very grateful to Scott Walker for the time and effort to accomplish this improvement. Scott was awarded the Ron Herrington Young Member Award in 2006.

KYSITE Director, Ron Herrington routinely monitors and provides comments on transportation-related bills each Kentucky legislative session. Bills being monitored include Senate Bills 24 (relating to driver training schools) and 93 (relating to operation of golf carts on a public roadway), and House Bills 55 (relating to booster seats), 56 (relating to operation of a motor vehicle), 180 (relating to traffic regulations), 229 (relating to highway work zones), 267 (relating to railroad grade crossings) and 325 (relating again to highway work zones).

SOUTH CAROLINA SECTION

The section had several members assist with the review of the proposed revision to the South Carolina Department of Transportation's Access and Roadside Management Standards. Specifically, section members helped develop the state's traffic impact study guidelines (see Appendix) and provided guidance on driveway spacing and location standards.

The South Carolina Department of Transportation went through a complete reorganization in 2007, and many of our sections members were actively involved with this process, which included various meetings with subcommittees of the South Carolina House of Representatives.

In 2006, the South Carolina Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors worked on legislation to address the Category B Engineering Registration. This registration was written into South Carolina Law in the late 80s and provided a designation for engineering technology majors who could not otherwise be registered in South Carolina.; however, the designation had no practical use. The P. E. Board Legislation was introduced in the 2007 legislature and allowed a window during which engineering technology majors can be registered through a rigorous portfolio review process. After that window, engineering technology majors will not be able to be registered in South Carolina.

NORTH CAROLINA SECTION

- Expanded Membership by over 12% to 604 and created an electronic 2006 Membership Directory
- Increased financial status of Section by over 15% compared to 2005 including transfer of additional \$20,000 to Scholarship fund maintained by International ITE
- Overhaul of Website
- Enhancements to Mentoring Program. 10 new pairs of participants.
- Conducted 21 meetings throughout the year. Expanded "Lunch and Learn" activities in Charlotte. Experimented with a multi-day mid year meeting with enhanced spouse activities (mid year meetings have been 1 day in the past).
- Over 400 members attended mid year and annual meetings
- Extensive Student Chapter activities with 3 Chapters including regular meetings, a Student led NCSITE meeting and quiz bowl
- Continue to experiment with ability to attract future leaders to transportation profession by mentoring, contributing funding and judging of Statewide Future Cities competition that includes transportation planning and targets 8th graders. Established new committee to recommend actions to address future workforce issues, including if Scholarship Program should be revised.
- Board of Directors has hired our first-ever Executive Associate. The Executive Associate will perform many tasks that include: preparation of the monthly *Involver* newsletter, maintenance of our membership database, assistance to LAC's in preparation for Annual and Mid-Year Meetings, preparation of agendas and minutes for all Board of Directors meetings, and other tasks as directed by the Board.
- NCSITE for the first time now also has office space. The space is located in Greensboro, NC. It houses a small conference room, dedicated NCSITE phone line and file system.

News From the Sections

TENNESSEE SECTION

Recognizing the opportunity for ITE to be a leader in technical advancement, TSITE is currently promoting an increased level of technical committee participation. Three new programs have been spearheaded to accomplish this:

1) *Drafting of Statewide Traffic Impact Study Guidelines for Smaller Communities.* The scope of this document is currently being established and peer works are being reviewed. The objective is to provide recommended practices in the form of an "informational guide" to smaller communities.

Concepts being considered for inclusion are: requiring a traffic study, key study concepts, major data items that should be included in studies, and recognized standards.

2) *Technical Information Clearinghouse.* Initiated as part of SDITE's strategic planning effort, the TSITE Technical Committee has developed contact information for local engineering standards across the state. The Section has partnered with Tennessee Tech University to maintain this list of web links to ensure up-to-date information. This will be introduced on tsite.org in the months ahead.

3) *Professional Development Day.* To provide training to the membership on a topic of general interest, the technical committee is investigating a 1 to 1 ½ day workshop/seminar. This meeting would be in addition to the Section's four quarterly meetings and held in one location.

VIRGINIA SECTION

The Scholarship Program continues to be a very important function for our organization. Currently, \$3 of each individual's membership dues go directly to the scholarship fund. A scholarship was awarded to Daniel Markham of Virginia Beach. Daniel is a rising senior at the University of Virginia in the Civil Engineering Department where he has focused his studies in structural and transportation related courses. Daniel was awarded a \$1,500 stipend at VASITE's Fall Meeting in Wintergreen.

VASITE presently has 382 members and affiliate members. We have a marketing program ongoing to increase our membership. Two years ago we changed the rates charged for our conferences and continuing education courses to provide discounts to our members and for early registration.

University of Memphis, Auburn Get ITE Data Grants

The ITE International Board of Direction, at the request of the Coordinating Council and Parking Council, has approved funds for student chapters to collect relevant trip and parking generation data. The purpose of the student chapter grants is to generate relevant technical data for transportation engineers and planners while facilitating ITE student chapter activity and student mentoring by transportation professionals. The projects focus on practical, day-to-day research in transportation engineering and planning through the collection of basic data.

The grant selection criteria included a detailed scope of work, level of effort chart and schedule. In addition, the application required a section on the role professionals would play in the project. Use of active or retired ITE members to provide oversight, assistance and mentoring to students with the data collection effort is mandatory.

Grants awardees and their project's land use for 2008 are:

- Oregon State Free-standing discount store/superstores (Land Use 813)
- **University of Memphis Senior adult housing/assisted living/congregant care facility**
- University of Waterloo Stand-alone specialty food
- University of Nebraska Fast food-sandwich store
- Texas A&M University Self-storage facility (Land Use 151)
- **Auburn University Free-standing discount store/superstores (Land Use 813)**
- Brigham Young University Senior adult housing
- University of Utah Senior adult housing/assisted living
- University of Massachusetts Self-storage facility (Land Use 151)

News of the South — Newsletter of the Southern District (5)

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