President’s Message
Jim Westmoreland (NC)

This year I decided to focus my efforts and leadership on a series of initiatives I call “SDITE Connections 2010”. As the name implies, “SDITE Connections 2010” is a set of goals, strategically targeted, to provide our members with a number of new (and existing) opportunities to get involved and “connected” with each other and SDITE at a much higher level.

Core to “SDITE Connections 2010” are three key elements: enhanced member communications and information sharing; enhanced Section and Student Chapter best practices identification and promotion; and continued focus on the implementation of our Strategic Plan.

Each of these elements have previously been identified by our members as needing extra work and attention (via member surveys, past meeting input, etc.), and all are viewed as critical in helping SDITE fulfill its mission and in providing better service and value to our members.

While “SDITE Connections 2010” is already off to a great start (thanks to the efforts and leadership on many of our members!), we are still early in the year and could use everyone’s help and good ideas to make this even more successful. Get “connected” today!
**Hanchey Appointed as First District Administrator**

*Jim Westmoreland (NC)*

During the Winter Board meeting, the SDITE Board of Directors approved moving ahead with the appointment of a District Administrator. An initiative of Past President Karen Mohammadi, the general purpose of the District Administrator will be to ensure consistency in the administration of finances, policies, and procedures of the Southern District. In addition, the District Administrator will serve as an ex-officio member of the Board and be available to help the President and other Board members fulfill a broad array of work tasks and responsibilities.

The new position is to be appointed by the President, confirmed by the SDITE Board (to be handled at the Executive Board Meeting – April 11th), and will serve a term of three (3) years. The District Administrator is required to be a member of ITE and should have actively participated in SDITE activities for 10 to 15 years.

In early January, I appointed **Craig Hanchey** to serve as SDITE’s first District Administrator. Craig is a Past President of SDITE, has been actively involved in the District for many years, and has been instrumental in the development and upkeep of such items as the District’s Operations Manual, bylaws, current website, etc. Please join me in congratulating Craig on this appointment and for his leadership in taking on this new and very important role for SDITE.

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**Get Ready for the ABD’s… Fun and Adventure from the High Seas!**

*Virginia LAC*

The Associated Business Division’s social on Monday night is always a highlight of the meeting. Portsmouth’s nautical heritage is the perfect setting for “Fun and Adventure from the High Seas!”

We start with an exciting boat ride with beautiful views aboard the Carrie B. The cruise will cast off from your hotel dock and cross the scenic Elizabeth River making port on the Norfolk waterfront at the Nauticus Maritime Center, which includes the Naval Museum and the battleship USS WISCONSIN.

Once ashore you can start your evening by touring the decks of the battleship USS WISCONSIN until dusk and then come inside the maritime center to enjoy drinks and a buffet dinner. Inside the maritime center, you will be immersed in the exhibits that tell the story of naval and maritime rolls and activities that highlight the sea and the heritage of tidewater Virginia. Interactive exhibits challenge your nautical skills and knowledge! The waters will also come alive with living exhibits as you learn about the local waters and some of the marine life of the area.

Care for a little more serene scene? Enjoy the harbor view from the windows or stroll the surrounding grounds while enjoying ship traffic on the river and the beauty of this great maritime harbor center!

At the end of the evening, another short cruise on the Carrie B will provide another opportunity to view this beautiful harbor from the water and then return you to the hotel!

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**Southern District ITE**

*2010 Annual Meeting*

*April 11-14*  
*Portsmouth, Virginia*
Thanks to all the 2010 Annual Meeting sponsors!

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They say all good things must come to an end but, it doesn’t mean we have to agree with it, like it, or be happy about it! James Foster (AL) has announced that the Portsmouth meeting will be his last go round as the head of the “William H. Temple Scholarship Challenge” (aka, The Student Traffic Bowl).

Under Foster’s leadership, the Southern District’s competition has become a favorite event at meetings and the standard against which other competitions are measured. Throughout the years, James has put his heart, soul, and passion into developing, improving, refining, SDITE’s Student Traffic Bowl. Not only has he made an outstanding difference for the District though his actions, he has also helped shape and influence the professional interest and lives of countless Students and young professionals. Great job James Foster!

The 65 acres were part of Colonel Crawford’s extensive plantation and were constituted as a town by an enabling act of the General Assembly of Virginia. The town was named after the English naval port of that name, and many of the streets of the new town reflected the English heritage.

The town was laid out checkerboard style with 122 half-acre lots around its town square at High and Court streets. Streets were organized in a grid pattern with street widths alternating between 32, 50 and 100 feet. Each block or square was named for noted Virginians, Englishmen, or places in England or the United States.

Streets were named similarly. High Street was named for the main commercial corridor in Portsmouth, England. It is 100 feet wide, with two narrow parallel streets of 32-foot widths (Queen and King streets), located to the north and south. Narrower streets served as alleys for High Street, facilitating the access to commercial buildings from the rear.

Because of its excellent location on the Elizabeth River, early Portsmouth was rich in waterfront commerce. The town grew from the river inland. Col. Crawford built his home on Crawford Street, and most of the houses were built in the eastern portion of the city. In 1793 there were 300 homes and a population of 1700 people, and by 1806 there were 700 homes and 3000 inhabitants. A rail line was built to handle the shipping of goods to and from the wharves.

The town already had a rich history by the time it was separated from the county government and given status as an independent city in 1858. Its location as an East Coast deepwater port has been the common denominator of the City’s development throughout its centuries of growth.

From its antique and specialty stores to its shade-drenched streets, Olde Towne Portsmouth is much more than one of the area’s most pleasant places to take a stroll. In a single square mile, the Olde Towne Historic District chronicles 300 years of history in one of the largest collections of antique homes south of Alexandria. Legend has it that Benedict Arnold was held captive in one of the homes. Another was used by Union Forces to issue passes during the Civil War, while yet another concealed medicine for Confederate soldiers. It’s a history lover’s dream come true.

James Foster, left, working behind the scenes to explain the traffic bowl rules to then International VP candidate Kenneth Voigt in 2007.
Highlights from International ITE (the IBOD Report)

Bob Stammer (TN)

The following comments highlight some of the more salient actions by the International Board of Direction (IBOD) held during the Savannah Spring Technical Meeting.

Using the term “MEGA Issues” is now being reconsidered within ITE. ITE on the international level is still working on the mechanics of Strategic Planning. The first meeting of the year of the International Board of Direction (IBOD), typically in March each year, is the IBOD meeting where the ITE Strategic Plan will be revisited each year. Much time was spent in Savannah regarding our Strategic Plan and progress was made.

The four specific goals of the ITE Strategic Plan (and some actions) are in the areas of:

- Quality of Life – webinars and mobility and safety issue efforts
- Professional Knowledge – become THE recognized transp. leader, the trend towards elimination of TE depts... and the forthcoming 2010 Manual of Transportation Studies.
- Transportation Public Policy – be more intentional in both “hearing” and then “acting”.
- The Profession – produce an intro textbook, have more quality articles in ITE Journal, and increase efforts for younger members.

ITE has a flurry of recently released new publications and would welcome their purchase by members. Projected 2010 publications for sale by ITE include:


On the services side, there are discussions about the maintenance, or even expansion of services, in a constrained economy.

Southern District members are encouraged to become more involved in Council activities and to assume leadership positions. The Coordinating Council (COCO) Meetings, typically held the day after IBOD meetings, are an excellent way to better understand the inter-workings of ITE. Anyone chairing a Council will become a member of COCO. A recent mission statement of COCO is as follows:

“The mission of the ITE Councils is to enhance professional collaboration and advance the technical body of knowledge through communities of common interest.”

Our own Tommy Lee has accepted IBOD’s invitation of the emcee’s role for the first International Traffic Bowl to be held in Vancouver in August, 2010!
2010 Candidates for SDITE Secretary/Treasurer:

W. Martin Bretherton Jr., P.E. (F)

I am honored to be nominated for 2011 Secretary-Treasurer for Southern District ITE. My goal for the District will be to “Go the Extra MILE.”

M Membership - improve benefits to members, increase membership

I Involvement - find ways to get more members involved in SDITE

L Leadership - continue to develop leadership for SDITE

E Education - develop educational opportunities for the membership, work with students to get them involved with ITE & their profession

Experience

HNTB Corp, 2009 – present, Senior Project Manager

Gwinnett County Department of Transportation, 1988 - 2009, Traffic Studies Engineer

The RBA Group – Atlanta, Georgia, 1994-1995, Principal Transportation Engineer

City of Conyers/Rockdale County – Conyers, Georgia, 1986-1988, Traffic Engineer

Georgia Department of Transportation – Atlanta, Georgia, 1977-1986, Transportation Engineer II

Georgia Section Activities

President, Georgia Section ITE, 1996

Karl Bevins Distinguished Service Award, Georgia Section ITE, 1999

John D. Edwards Individual Achievement Award, Georgia Section ITE, 1991

President of Best Section of ITE as awarded by District 5 and Int'l ITE, 1997

Southern District Activities

John F. Exnicas Government Employee Service Award, Southern District ITE, 2007

District 5 Representative, 2000-2001

International Activities

Chair, Executive Committee, ITE Traffic Engineers Council (2004-2007)

Member, Executive Committee, ITE Traffic Engineers Council (1997-2010)

Member, Executive Committee, ITE Safety Council (2000 – 2010)

Cindy Pionke, P.E.

Professional Experience:

Presearch Inc., Oak Ridge, TN, 1982-1985

Various consulting firms, Atlanta, GA 1987-1991


Knox County Dept. of Engineering & Public Works, Knoxville, TN, 1998-present

As Director of Planning and Development, she keeps the Director of Engineering and Public Works informed of all transportation related matters including existing and planned roads, sidewalks, bicycle paths, and traffic control devices. She reviews and regulates all new proposed development by the private sector.

ITE Activities:

Tennessee Section Institute of Transportation Engineers

Sec-Treasurer, 2000

Vice-President, 2001

President, 2002

Tennessee Section Operations Manual Update Committee, 2001-2002

Awards, Nominations, Scholarship, Student Paper Competition Committees at various times

Southern District Institute of Transportation Engineers

General Co-Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for 2007 SDITE Annual Meeting in Knoxville, TN

Section Representative for TSITE 2007 and 2008

Member of the ICO Strategic Team 2008

Team Champion of the Annual Meeting 2009-2010

Honors and Awards:

Member of Chi Epsilon since 1981

Member of Tau Beta Pi since 1982

Knoxville/Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission Excellence awarded in 1995 in honor of superior performance and achievement

American Society of Civil Engineers Tennessee Section Government Engineer awarded in 2004

Tennessee Section Award in 2005 for outstanding individual service

Volunteer Distinguished Service Award in 2007 for outstanding service and commitment
Georgia Section Mentoring Program

Todd Long (GA)

This year the Georgia Section ITE has created its first ever Mentoring Program. With the leadership of the ITE Board of Directors, a team of individuals headed by Todd Long and Marsha Anderson Bomar has been developing this program since January 2009.

Our Mentoring Program is similar to an extremely successful program developed by Women in Transportation (WTS) with which some of you may be familiar. Our program is open to both International ITE Members and GA ITE Affiliate Members. GA ITE’s Mentoring Program is designed to provide current leaders in the transportation profession (mentors) an opportunity to share experiences, resources, philosophies, and lessons learned with younger ITE members (protégés) who have demonstrated potential for leadership roles.

The goal is for our mentors to transfer knowledge from one generation to the next. Protégés are typically transportation engineers/planners with at least two years of experience who have demonstrated a potential and desire for future promotions to leadership positions within their organizations; they are highly motivated individuals with a willingness to learn.

The program accommodated six mentors and six protégés, and took place over a six-month period beginning in August 2009 and ending in January 2010. The program included recognition at the GA ITE Annual Awards Dinner. There was one formal session per month with all the mentors and protégés. These meetings lasted approximately two hours and occurred over a meal.

Topics included:
- Politics and Relationships
- Dealing with the Media
- Basic Financial Management
- Business Etiquette and Presentation Skills
- Gender, Cultural and Age Issues
- Leadership Development

Our 2009 mentors and protégés are:
- Scott Mohler - Andrew Antweiler
- Marion Waters - Paul DeNard
- Bayne Smith - Travis Hurt
- John Hibbard - Alvin James Jr.
- Patrece Keeter - Kristin Turner
- Andy Phlegar - Scott Younker
News of the South — Newsletter of the Southern District (5)

“News of the South” is the official publication of the Southern District (5) of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). Any comments or suggestions are welcome and should be submitted to Jeff Hammond, Editor (615) 370-8410, jeff-hammond@rpmtraffic.net

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