



## Outline for Western District Committee-level Strategic Plans

1. Committee Name: Student Initiatives

2. Committee Mission Statement:

The mission of the Student Initiatives Committee is to promote the advancement of the profession by attracting and developing the most talented students into transportation professionals and fostering the close association of professionals with students.

3. Long-term Strategic Goals (5+ years)

The following are the long-term goals of the Student Initiatives Committee, all of which are directly related to the Western District's Strategic Focus Area on Student Initiatives.

- Strengthen and replenish the nation's pool of transportation professionals through increased student and faculty involvement in ITE.
- Encourage increased communication and networking among ITE students, faculty and professionals.
- Foster student and faculty involvement by defining and publicizing appropriate ITE roles, responsibilities and opportunities.
- Provide adequate and equitable recognition of student and faculty contributions to ITE and the profession.
- Institute long-term financial mechanisms for student and faculty services and activities.

4. Short-term Objectives (1 – 3 years)

The following are specific initiatives that will be undertaken or maintained in the relatively near future to move the committee toward its long-term goals.

*Goal: Strengthen and replenish the nation's pool of transportation professionals through increased student and faculty involvement in ITE.*

- Continue to provide annual membership dues vouchers for active (denoted by Student Chapter Annual Report submittals) faculty advisors
- Continue to waive registration fees for faculty advisors
- Continue to provide reduced registration fees for students (\$25)
- Continue to offer the following student activities at District annual meetings
  - James H. Kell Competition
  - Student Traffic Bowl
- Expand/modify student roundtable session offered at past annual meetings.
- Invite faculty and student chapter liaisons to participate on Student Initiatives Committee

*Goal: Encourage increased communication and networking among ITE students, faculty and professionals.*

- Expand on existing student newsletter and solicit contributions from faculty and students
- Distribute WesternITE electronically to student members
- Create a student member email list for distributing information about awards and annual meeting activities
- Work with Web Manager to update student pages on website
- Encourage more active participation by student chapter liaisons

*Goal: Foster student and faculty involvement by defining and publicizing appropriate ITE roles, responsibilities and opportunities.*

- Review and update “Student Chapter Best Practices” document
- Encourage existing and new student chapters to use the “Student Chapter Best Practices” document

*Goal: Provide adequate and equitable recognition of student and faculty contributions to ITE and the profession.*

- Continue offering the following awards for students and faculty advisors
  - Student Chapter Award
  - Student Paper Award
  - James H. Kell RFP
  - Outstanding Educator, Outstanding Graduate Student, Outstanding Undergraduate Student
  - Western District Fellowship
  - Student Website Award
- Consider increasing the dollar amount offered for awards listed above (likely to occur after endowment fund goal is reached)
- Increase nominations for Outstanding Educator Award by sending specific information/call for nominations directly to student members

*Goal: Institute long-term financial mechanisms for student and faculty services and activities.*

- Continue to support Endowment Fund Committee in their efforts to reach the goal of \$500,000
- Continue to offer existing Data Collection Fund grants
- Offer additional Data Collection Fund grants (likely to occur after endowment fund goal is reached)
- Offer additional grant opportunities for travel to annual meetings and field trips (likely to occur after endowment fund goal is reached)
- Publicize and define student chapter fundraising opportunities (through “Student Chapter Best Practices” updates)

5. Actions (6-12 months)

The following are a list of specific actions corresponding to the objectives listed above that the Student Initiatives Committee will undertake in the current fiscal year.

- Invite faculty and student chapter liaisons to participate on Student Initiatives Committee

- Create a student member email list for distributing information about awards and annual meeting activities
- Work with Web Manager to update student pages on website
- Encourage more active participation by student chapter liaisons
- Increase nominations for Outstanding Educator Award by sending specific information/call for nominations directly to student members
- Support Endowment Fund Committee in their efforts to reach the goal of \$500,000