

Westernite

Official Publication of the Institute of Transportation Engineers, Western District 6

May-June 2009 Vol. 62, No. 9

District 6 Candidates for Office

The following slate of candidates for District officers was approved at the mid-year Board meeting held on February 6, 2009:

President: Michael Sanderson

Vice President: Edgar Perez

Secretary-Treasurer:

Alyssa Reynolds, Scott L. Thorson

International Director:

Larry Wymer, Dalene J. Whitlock

Statements for each of these individuals are presented in this issue.

Candidate for President

Michael Sanderson, PE, PTOE

Principal, Sanderson
Stewart, Billings,
Montana



For the past 2 years, I have been privileged to serve as an officer of the Western District. Over this time, I have gained valuable insight into the operations of the District.

I've worked with the other officers, international directors and the District's dedicated committee chairs to serve the members of ITE and to help achieve our common goals. Now I'm honored to be nominated as President and would appreciate your vote.

Prior to my service at the District level, I have served ITE in many past roles and each has added to the perspective I bring to my role as a District leader. From the Montana Chapter, to the Intermountain Section, to Local Arrangements Committee Chairman

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See You in Denver, Colorado July 12-15, 2009

Western District Annual Meeting



**New Hotel Rooms Rates at \$130
per Night for the Conference**

Bicycle Facilities in San Francisco

Oliver Gajda, SFMTA Bicycle Program Manager

Mike Sallaberry, PE, SFMTA Traffic Calming

With a majority of trips in the US under 3 miles long (about 20 minutes by bike) and with the growing interest in sustainable and low impact systems, public health, the strained environment, and efficient transportation the bicycle is becoming increasingly popular as a transportation choice. Though there are the classic "three E's" to effective transportation systems: "engineering, enforcement, and education," the engineering in bicycle transportation planning seems to have the most exciting potential for enabling the average person to feel comfortable using a bike.

Encouraging cycling in San Francisco is a multi-faceted program requiring the...

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Candidates Statement

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for the 2005 District 6 Annual Meeting and Professional Advisor for the Montana State University student chapter, I have gained valuable insights to the issues of the Institute.

When I originally campaigned for District office, I campaigned on the following themes, and they still resonate today:

Serve our current members first. Carefully considering the value of the services we provide is paramount in the current economy as our members scrutinize the use of their discretionary dollars.

Support the student initiatives endowment. Students are the future of our profession and the Institute and should remain one of our highest priorities.

Increase membership. As many organizations look for ways to cut spending, we will need to develop new and creative ways to attract members.

Elevate the public image of transportation professionals. Starting as early as elementary school, we must work to create a positive "brand" for our profession so the public recognizes our significant contributions to their quality of life.

Maintain ITE's family-friendly meetings and reduce registration fees. Our family-friendly meetings distinguish ITE from other organizations. As a board we must work hard to keep registration fees and hotel costs affordable.

ITE Experience

District 6 2005 Annual Meeting Local Arrangements Committee (Kalispell) - Chairman
Intermountain Section Officer, 2003-2007 (President, 2006-2007)
Montana Chapter Officer, 1997-2000 (President, 1999-2000)
Montana State University Student Chapter, Professional Advisor
ITE Transportation Planning Council
ITE Transportation Consultants Council, Executive Committee member

Education

MBA, University of Montana
MSCE, Montana State University
BSCE, Montana State University

Registrations/Certifications/Recognitions

PE – Montana & Wyoming
PTOE, since 2002
District 6 Individual Achievement Award
MSU Engineering Advisory Council

Candidate for Vice President

Edgar Perez, P.E. Fellow

As Vice-President for the Western District I pledge to dedicate the necessary time to continuing making ITE the professional organization of choice for existing and new members. I commit to dedicate my efforts to the betterment and growth of the Western District at all levels.



I've been a member of ITE for 21 years and thank you for the privilege to serve this past year as your Secretary-Treasurer for the District. Prior to serving at the District level, I served at the local level including: Newsletter Chair, Student Scholarship Chair, Student Chapter Liaison, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-President, President and Past President of the San Diego Section and as Student Endowment Fund Liaison.

I've enjoyed serving ITE and have actively participated with the local sections where my employment assignments have taken me including the following Sections: Salt Lake City, Utah; Riverside/San Bernardino, Southern California and San Diego Sections.

I'm currently a Senior Project Manager/Traffic Engineering Area Manager with Parsons supporting five Southern California offices.

As a family man, I enjoy the full support of my wife and kids to take on the duties and responsibilities pertaining to this position.

I am honored to be nominated to continue serving the District and would appreciate your vote.

Candidate for Secretary-Treasurer

Alyssa Reynolds, PE, PTOE

As Western District Secretary-Treasurer, I pledge my time and effort to maintaining the excellent service, programs, and outreach Western District members have come to expect of our leaders. I also pledge to continue the innovation and progressive nature that has been the hallmark of our District.

To meet this pledge, I will uphold the following four tenets during my service to the District:



Fiscal responsibility. District funds should be used efficiently and prudently, especially during challenging economic times, while maximizing...

Value for members. The District should provide relevant training, services and information exchange while keeping costs affordable. Efficient, regular...

Communication through appropriate and accessible mediums can assist in this effort. Extra communication effort should be focused on...

Outreach to students, younger members, and agency members to ensure connectedness and continuity within the Institute.

I've been a member of ITE since my undergraduate years at Montana State University. I served as the student chapter president in 2000/2001. During that time I had the good fortune to attend ITE conferences at the Section, District and International levels and to learn firsthand how positive and beneficial those experiences can be for students.

Shortly after arriving in Nevada, I was elected the Nevada Chapter Board. Following my service in Nevada, I was elected to the

Intermountain Section Board. The geography and structure of our section is unique to the District, which affords extra years of ITE experience as well as experience dealing with both local and region-wide ITE issues. In addition to serving as an officer, I was appointed to be the District 6 Student and Faculty Initiatives Chair in 2005, which has allowed me to continue my contact with students and young professionals.

Professionally, I have worn many hats. From distributing surveys at highway rest areas to travel demand forecasting to traffic signal design, I've worked on numerous facets of the transportation industry. I'm currently employed with the City of Henderson, a progressive and customer-service oriented agency. My primary duties include traffic engineering studies, safe routes to school, and citizen interaction. My employer fully supports and encourages ITE participation.

I am honored to be selected as a candidate for Western District Secretary-Treasurer. ITE has meant a lot to me both professionally and personally, and I value every opportunity to give back to the organization.

Candidate for Secretary-Treasurer

Scott L. Thorson, PE, PTOE

Scott L. Thorson, PE, PTOE is a Senior Project Engineer with Orth-Rodgers & Associates, Inc. in Carson City, NV. Mr. Thorson obtained his BSCE from North Dakota State University. Scott is a registered Professional Civil Engineer in the states of Nevada and California and is certified as a PTOE.



Professional Affiliations

Member of ITE
 ITE Intermountain Section President 2004-2005
 ITE Nevada Chapter President 1999-2000
 Member of ASCE
 ASCE Nevada Section President 1997-1998
 ASCE Capital Branch President 1989-1990, 1992-1993 and 1998-1999
 Member of APWA
 Member of TRB Committees
 Member of Markings Committee for the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for the MUTCD
 Member of AASHTO Subcommittee on Traffic Engineering
 Vice Chair of AASHTO NTPEP Raised Pavement Markers and Adhesives Panel
 Member of Operating Management Committee for FAST/LVACTS
 Member of Nevada Traffic Control Devices Committee
 Co-Chair of Traffic Control Devices Consortium Pooled Fund study for FHWA
 Member of Reducing Crashes at Rural Intersections Pooled Fund study for FHWA
 2006 recipient of American Traffic Safety Services Association's National Safety Award

Professional Experience

Scott Thorson has over 26 years of experience in the public and private sectors. Scott was the Chief Traffic Engineer for the Nevada Department of Transportation for over 11 of his 19 years in the Traffic Engineering Division. He was in charge of the design of signals, lighting, signing, pavement markings, traffic control, ITS and traffic operations for NDOT. Scott retired from NDOT in 2007 after more than 25 years of service. Scott is now a Senior Project Engineer with ORA in Carson City. He conducts Roadway and Traffic Engineering Design and Transportation Planning projects.

ITE Activities

Scott has attended and/or made presentations at numerous Nevada Chapter, Intermountain Section, District 6 and International meetings. He also co-taught a young professionals class on "Intersection Design" at the 2008 Intermountain Section meeting.

Vision and Goals for District 6

Reduce the cost of District meetings to support and encourage more Public Agency and student attendance.
 Continue and expand mentoring of students and Young Professionals throughout District 6. Increase efforts to recruit and retain more members into ITE.
 Attract and encourage more students to become interested in and enter the Transportation Engineering field of studies.

Family

Scott and Mary, his wife of 28 years, have two children. Christopher will graduate this year from the University of Nevada, Reno in Civil Engineering. Rachel is a junior at Carson High School.

Candidate for International Director

Larry Wymer, T.E., P.E. (FL), PTOE (M)

Traffic Engineering Manager, Gene E. Thome & Associates, Inc., Cameron Park, CA



Service to Community.
 Advancement of the Transportation Engineering Profession.
 Friendship.

These are what ITE mean to me. All of us who serve in the profession of transportation engineering can take pride in our knowledge that we provide a valuable service to the community, and help advance the profession in our own way. But it is through a spirit of friendship and professional camaraderie within ITE where we are able to join

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Student Chapter Spotlight Montana State

Whether it is some of the world's best fly fishing rivers, the snowy blizzards in May, or Montana State's student ITE chapter that brings you to Bozeman, Montana, we are glad to call it our home.

The Montana State University ITE student chapter (MSU-ITE) hosted several technical presentations and socials throughout this past year. In October, The Transpo Group along with Sanderson Stewart hosted a student social to meet the student members. Also in October, Dr. Grant Schutz from Brigham-Young University presented on his experiences as a professional transportation engineer. In November, MSU-ITE joined forces with MSU's chapter of ASCE to bring in Mr. Steve Moore. Mr. Moore is a private consultant who spoke about the collapse and reconstruction of the I-35W Bridge in Minneapolis, Minnesota. In March, MSU-ITE was proud to welcome WesternITE President Monica Suter to MSU to discuss the public-relation challenges she encounters in her job.

The chapter has been involved in numerous activities during the year including: fundraising, promotion of transportation engineering, and public service activities. In the fall, MSU-ITE was awarded a 2009 WesternITE Data Collection Grant for the proposal "Trip and Parking Generation: Study of Small Office Buildings." Every year, MSU-ITE hosts a golf fundraiser event held in conjunction with the Intermountain ITE Section Meeting in Jackson, Wyoming. This past year the chapter had another successful turnout with about 20 golfers. Over the past few years, the chapter has established an endowment fund that provides funding for activities and travel to

conferences. MSU-ITE would like to thank all who have donated to the endowment fund.

MSU-ITE officers and members presented Chapter activities to professionals at the Spring Engineering Festival held in Bozeman, Montana, the Montana chapter of ITE, MSU Civil Engineering Advisory Board, MJ Murdoch Charitable Trust Organization, and the Joint Engineering Conference in Helena, Montana. The chapter also hosted a side event at the ASCE Northwest Regional Competition in Helena, Montana. ASCE students from 10 different schools participated in the crash test attenuator competition that challenged the students' designs through multiple impacts. The student chapter has adopted a two-mile section on US 191 (connecting Bozeman to Yellowstone Park) and commits to picking up the roadside litter a couple times per year.

MSU-ITE students attend ITE conferences at the state, section, district, and national levels. In May 2008, the chapter sent several students to Jackson, Wyoming to attend the Intermountain section meeting. Students were able to attend technical

presentations and the student specific sessions. In addition to technical presentations, MSU-ITE students networked through social activities at local restaurants with young professionals and ITE officers. In August 2008, MSU-ITE was able to send five students along with both academic advisors to the Annual ITE Meeting in Anaheim, California. The students competed in the James H. Kell Student Competition. MSU-ITE had several students represented on the top awarded teams in the competition. In addition to the several technical session presentations, the students were able to attend the vendor showcase, a student social at the ESPN Zone in Downtown Disney, WesternITE business meeting lunches, and the WesternITE Traffic Bowl. In general, the Annual ITE Meeting was a great opportunity for the MSU-ITE students to sit in on professional presentations and network with numerous professionals in the transportation industry. After recently attending the 49th annual Intermountain Conference (2009) with seven students MSU-ITE is excited for the upcoming ITE conferences this summer.

More information about the MSU-ITE student chapter and upcoming events can be found on the chapter's website: <http://www.coe.montana.edu/ce/ite/default.html>.



MSU-ITE's Lili Liang, Joey Staszczuk, Kyle Stahley, Brian Church, Zack Freedman, and Pat McGowen at the James H. Kell Student Competition

presentations and the student specific sessions. In addition to technical presentations, MSU-ITE students networked through social activities at local restaurants with young professionals and ITE officers. In August 2008, MSU-ITE was able to send five students along with both aca-

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

ASSISTANT ENGINEER-TRAFFIC
MONTHLY SALARY: \$4839 to \$5830

ASSOCIATE ENGINEER-TRAFFIC
MONTHLY SALARY: \$5571 to \$6728

ASSISTANT ENGINEER-TRAFFIC: Produce travel forecasts using TRANPLAN and ARCINFO; perform traffic accident analyses, field surveys, and studies of statistical data; recommend changes to striping, pavement markings, signage, and parking to facilitate safe and efficient traffic flow; evaluate and recommend locations for traffic signals, street lights, stop signs and other traffic control devices; prepare signal timing plans and coordinate signal timing using SYNCHRO; design traffic signals, street lights, and interconnect systems; review traffic signal and traffic control plans; review transportation studies; and perform other duties as assigned.

ASSOCIATE ENGINEER-TRAFFIC: Assign and review the work of Assistant Engineers and/or support staff; interpret traffic engineering data; conduct complex traffic studies; develop the transportation circulation element of community plans; coordinate with other departments, agencies, contractors and citizen groups; prepare and present technical reports to other agencies, community groups, or other groups; manage traffic improvement projects through design and construction; train and evaluate the performance of subordinates; and perform other duties as assigned.

For more information and requirements, www.sandiego.gov/empopp or the City of San Diego Personnel Dept., 1200 3rd Ave., Ste. 101A, San Diego, CA 92101-4107. EOE

Parametrix

SENIOR TRAFFIC / TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER

Project Manager and Business Development

Parametrix is seeking a full-time senior level, enterprising, forward-thinking TRAFFIC ENGINEER/TRANSPORTATION PLANNER to steward the growth of the planning arm of the Transportation Division in our Lacey, WA office. Responsibilities include marketing/business development; project management for public/private transportation improvement projects; cross office collaboration to support growth of Transportation Business Line; and mentorship of junior staff.

Thorough knowledge in transportation planning and traffic engineering; expertise in preparing technical documents/analysis;

working with private/public clients and multi-disciplinary teams; conducting interchange, corridor, and local impact studies; and transit and non-motorized planning. Marketing/business development focus, including established relationships with local clients and market familiarity within Western Washington. Experience developing and managing scope, schedule and budget for multiple projects; proven ability to lead project and interdisciplinary teams. Qualifications: BSCE (MSCE preferred); WA PE license; 10-15 years experience; and strong written and verbal communication skills. Knowledge of geometric design, stormwater design, plan preparation, specifications, cost estimates, and project permitting for transportation highly desired. PTOE certification; knowledge and understanding of VISSIM, SYNCHRO, SIDRA, RODEL and other traffic analysis tools; and LDT/AutoCAD and InRoads preferred. Our firm is 100% employee-owned, and this shared stake in the company has become a hallmark of our culture. Please submit a letter of interest and resume through our website:

www.parametrix.com

Parametrix

*Inspired People... Inspired Solutions... Making a Difference
Equal Opportunity Employer*

DKS Associates, celebrating our 30th year, is a leading Traffic Engineering and Transportation Planning firm and recognized as one a "Best Firm to Work For" by Civil Engineering News. We work on exciting and progressive projects that address the nation's congestion issues.

Senior Project Manager- Irvine, CA:

We are seeking a Senior Project Manager for our Irvine, California office who is a registered engineer and can manage large transportation projects. Responsibilities include contract and staff management for projects that include Caltrans corridor planning, ITS and traffic signal engineering for public agencies. This position requires excellent communication skills and a strong ability to lead teams of professionals in the development of comprehensive, state of the art transportation solutions.

Requirements: BS/MS in Civil or Transportation Engineering or Electrical Engineering; 10+ years of relevant transportation industry experience; knowledge of traffic

signal control systems; experience preparing technical reports; leadership skills; presentation skills; engineering registration in California; and knowledge of regional transportation institutional issues.

Signal Timing Engineer - Irvine, CA:

We are seeking a Traffic Engineer with extensive signal timing experience who will be responsible for planning, development, implementation, fine tuning and evaluation of traffic signal timings. The successful candidate will oversee the growth and management of the office's signal synchronization activities. Your responsibilities will include analysis of traffic signal operation on arterials and networks, specification of applicable data collection, development of new signal timing parameters based on detailed analysis, inputting traffic signal plans via central control systems and/or directly into local controllers, and design and analysis of traffic surveys to evaluate signal timing effectiveness.

Requirements: Engineering Degree and 7+ years transportation systems experience; engineering registration; good verbal and written communication skills and experience preparing technical reports.

DKS has offices nationwide, ranked by CE News in the top 15 mid-sized firms "Best Firm to Work For" and INC Magazine's list of the 5000 fastest growing firms. DKS provides competitive salary, ESOP and bonus program, among other benefits.

Please send your resume in confidence to careers@dksassociates.com and learn what sets us apart from other firms.

Positions Available Ads:

To place your ad, e-mail it to:

nate_larson@urscorp.com

The deadline is the 25th of the previous odd-numbered month.

The cost is \$1.50 per word, with a minimum cost per ad of \$100.00.

Ads are printed in this newsletter and posted at www.westernite.org. More info on posting ads is available at our web site (westernite.org).

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together to make even greater contributions to our communities and the profession.

I am deeply honored to have been selected as a candidate for International Director of District 6 because it provides yet another opportunity to continue serving my community and profession through ITE. As one of your representatives to the International ITE Board of Direction, I would bring to the table not only my twenty years of professional experience, but also knowledge and experience obtained while serving within a dozen different elected or nominated positions within ITE's Northern California Section and District 6. I will work with enthusiasm and dedication to represent the collective will of all of the District 6 members, and look forward to the opportunity to get to know you so that together we can continue to help District 6 lead the way.

Foremost among the goals I would continue to pursue would be the nurturing of incoming talent through the varied programs our District is developing including fully funding the Student Endowment Fund, supporting and expanding student chapters (and establishing effective professional liaisons for each), improving communication with student chapters (as well as students and younger members in general), and promoting our profession with young people.

ITE Experience

I joined ITE as a Student Member at the University of Texas at Arlington in 1988 while serving as ASCE Student Chapter President, and helped lay the groundwork for the founding of their ITE Student Chapter.

ITE Northern California Section

- Past President (2008-09)
- Administrator (2008-12)
- President (2007-08)
- Vice President (2006-07)
- Secretary (2005-06)
- Treasurer (2004-05)
- Membership Chair (2004-present)
- Archivist (2007-08)
- Technical Chair (1999-2000)
- Career/Student Guidance Chair (1997-2000)

ITE District 6

- Vice Chair for Student Initiatives (2008-present)
- Student Endowment Fund Grassroots Committee (2008-present)
- Candidate for Secretary-Treasurer (2008-09 term)
- Presidential Proclamation recipient (2008)

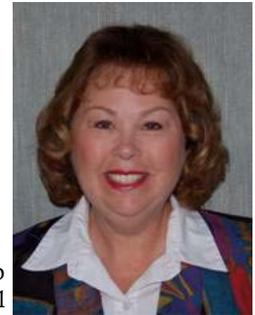
Candidate for International Director

Dalene J. Whitlock, P.E., PTOE, ITE (Fellow)

Professional Qualifications

Principal, Whitlock & Weinberger Transportation (W-Trans)
Western District President (2006-2007)

San Francisco Bay Area Section President
(2002-2003)
Registered Traffic and Civil Engineer,
California
Professional Traffic Operations Engineer
BSCE, San Diego State University



Statement

I am honored to have been nominated to run for Western District International Director, and thank the committee members and Board for selecting me as a candidate. When elected to serve as the District's Secretary-Treasurer in 2004, I found that the position was very different from what I'd expected based on my experience as a Section officer. My four years of service on the District's Board gave me a chance to meet the leaders in each of our Sections and from other Districts and to gain familiarity with the District's structure and policies. It is this knowledge that makes me qualified to now serve as an International Director.

During my term on the District Board we focused on the need to increase the number of students entering the profession. Toward this end we were able to reduce student dues and fees for meeting attendance, established the Student Endowment Fund to provide increased funding for student initiatives, and grew it to about \$100,000. We initiated e-registration for meetings and e-balloting for elections. Both of these changes reduced our reliance on paper and increased convenience for the membership. None of these actions could have been achieved without the efforts of the many dedicated individuals with whom it was my pleasure to serve.

The challenges facing our profession today are quite different from those of five years ago due to our nation's faltering economy. We must look for ways to maintain the value of our organization and make participation more financially viable. While the District has kept the cost of attending our annual meeting fairly low, the cost of attending an International Annual meeting has become prohibitive to some members. As a member of the International Board I would do my best to try and bring meeting costs down so that more members can attend. If elected, I would like to hear from you about what the Institute can do to make your job easier and our profession better. If you have ideas, questions, or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (707) 542-9500 or dwhitlock@w-trans.com.

District 6 Election Information

In accordance with Section 5.2 of the District 6 Bylaws, additional nominations may be made by petition signed by not less than five members. Each petition shall be accompanied by the written consent of the nominee to run for the office for which nominated, and must be received by the Secretary-Treasurer not later than 60 days prior to the election. No member shall be a candidate for more than one office.

ITE 2009 Annual Meeting and Exhibit

August 9-12

Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center



President's Message

Monica M. Suter

Moving Forward—Spring is Here!”

With spring here, let's move forward toward positive signs of economic recovery. Although remaining economic “humps” rest in the road, a portion of the vast market deflation appears to be based in fear and a lack of trust about portions of the system. If key issues can be addressed (sooner than later), perhaps a faster than expected market recovery could occur which would be helpful to transportation. While careful caution continues to be wise, let's hope that sunshine will smile at us from the horizon!



As preferred by many, an economic stimulus package which included some transportation projects was implemented before March 2009. While some feel it should have been larger, and others think it should have been different or smaller, hopefully it will help to achieve some of our nation's transportation and economic goals.

During the first five months of 2009, I had the opportunity to visit several Sections, Chapters & Student Chapters. I was also able to share my “Engineering Recommendations: Getting to ‘Yes’ With the Public and Elected Officials”^{**} and my “Careers in Transportation”^{***} presentations, where one and two asterisks are shown, respectively, for those locations. These include: Arizona State University Student Chapter^{**} March 23, 2009; Arizona Section* April 23, 2009; and the joint University of Arizona Student and Southern Arizona Chapter* meeting on April 24, 2009. I also had the opportunity to participate in the Quad and Intermountain Section Meetings on May 1, 2009 and May 15, 2009, respectively, and debuted my “Do Speed Limits Really Matter and If So, How Do We Sell Them” presentation. Both meetings included participants from a broader region and the Quad Meeting includes three District 6 Sections (Washington, Oregon and the Greater Oregon), and two District 7 Sections (The Greater Vancouver and Victoria Sections), which provides a venue to share transportation expertise across US/Canadian Boundaries. Presidential Proclamations were given to John Pavsek of the Montana Chapter, Terry Little of the Idaho Chapter, Ken Shackman, James (Jim) R. Hanks and Brian Genovese of the Greater Oregon Section (Quad Meeting), Mark A. Maden of the Washington Section (Quad Meeting), Doyt Bolling of the Utah Chapter, and Timothy (Tim) P. Harpst of the Intermountain Section. Others are already planned and will be reported on in the next newsletter.

I am pleased that a new “student zone” was added into WesternITE by our Managing Editor Rachel Donovan. This highlights activities occurring within our student chapters. Stay tuned for other continuing enhancements such as the new “Council Corner” segment.

This issue also contains the candidate's statements for your review in preparation for our District's election beginning in early June 2009. We look forward to your participation in this process and have found that the electronic voting alternative can increase par-

ticipation.

The preliminary program for Denver's Annual Meeting on July 12-15, 2009 has been available on the website since March and was also mailed. Registration can be completed through direct on-line registration, or by mailing or faxing-in the registration form.

For registration information, go to:

<https://www.newmedia1.net/westernite/registration/index.php>.

For preliminary program information, go to:

http://www.westernite.org/annualmeetings/denver09/denver2009PrelimProgram_Web.pdf.

Reservations for the conference hotel can be made at:

<http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/ITE>.

This is one of the best values in our industry and it includes much more than just program presentations. We made sure to keep the early registration prices low, especially in light of the economy. Denver's Western District meeting is anticipated to be informative, family-friendly, fun and well-planned with several enlightening presentations, vendor exhibits and poster sessions. We look forward to seeing our extended ITE “family” in Denver this summer and staying current on the latest in our industry!

One of my goals this year has been to enhance communication by “bridging across” the generations for all members, private industry, DOTs (state departments of transportation) and other agencies, ITE International, and our entire District. One way to achieve this has been to recognize and bring-in leadership from DOTs and other agencies into ITE which I did as a prior Section President and am aiming for as your District 6 President. Through various Chair, Vice Chair and other Ex-officio Board member appointments and Presidential Proclamations, we have broadened our reach within the District. This year, we have also highlighted successful projects in WesternITE that were completed by both public and private agencies to provide recognition throughout our region.

In an effort to enhance the interaction of students and younger members with middle-level and more experienced professionals, I have encouraged participation from sections and chapters to provide social and professional mixers, ski and boarding events along with our other more traditional meetings. By providing alternative “add-on” events to our more traditional meetings and golf tournaments, we further our festive reputation as an organization that extends well beyond our historical technical strengths. This also furthers our reach within the industry and enhances our relationships with our peers. Our District 6 diversity is a great strength and I am very pleased with our tremendous team of Chairs and Vice Chairs along with new additions to the District 6 Board leadership. I have also seen enthusiastic leadership at the student, chapter and section levels. This will serve us well as we pursue our District goals well into the future!

With spring flowers and fresh greenery around us, we have a bright future ahead in our transportation profession!



2009 Inter Mountain Meeting Highlights

From May 14-16, 2009 the Intermountain Section of ITE hosted its 49th Annual Meeting in Jackson, Wyoming. With attendance approaching 130 members, the Section was pleased with the turnout considering the tough economic climate. A strong technical program provided the foundation for the meeting and covered varying topics including: sustainability, public participation and buy-in, and design/operational analysis. In addition, 20 vendors attended the meeting which added a strong marketplace component to the event.

The Thursday afternoon session is a relatively new addition to the Intermountain Section Meeting format and is generally dedicated to a single topic. This year, the Federal Highway Administration, in partnership with Vannase Brustlin Hangen, Inc., presented a course on Non-Traditional Intersection and Interchange design. The course provided design considerations, cost and right-of-way information, and introduction to a new tool for identifying potential site specific nontraditional applications.

Notably, students from six of the seven student chapters within the section attended the meeting, bringing the total student attendance to 33. Following the new District model, the Intermountain Section recently appointed Joey Markuson (Las Vegas, NV) as the Section's Professional Liaison to the student chapters. One of Ms. Markuson's first duties was to organize a student social following the Thursday night technical session. Free pizza was provided and students were encouraged to mingle through a modified poker challenge. Each attendee was provided a playing card at the door and then challenged to find four others with cards creating the best poker hand; the winners received iTunes gift cards.

During the Friday business meeting, the Section received reports from the four member Chapters: Montana, Idaho, Nevada and Utah. Each of the student chapters also provided reports. Over \$1,500 dollars in scholarship funds were donated from the Chapters, and the Section plans to add over \$6,000 to the scholarship fund as a result of the donations and dues collection. Alf Guebert, International Past President, and Tom Brahms, ITE Executive Director, provided insight into International ITE's current operations and focus areas. The Western District President, Monica Suter, was also in attendance and in addition to providing a District update Ms. Suter presented two special awards. Western District Proclamations were presented to Doyt Bolling and Tim Harpst for their service to the Utah Chapter and Intermountain Section, respectively. The Intermountain Section was also pleased to have International Vice President Candidates Robert Wunderlich and Hibbett Neel attend the meeting. The business meeting finale was the announcement of the election results. The Section is pleased to announce the new Board members: Joseph Tate, III – President (Boise, ID)
Danielle Scharf – 1st Vice President (Bozeman, MT)
Jay Nelson – 2nd Vice President (Sandy, UT)
Molly O'Brien – Secretary/Treasurer (Las Vegas, NV)

The section would also like to recognize the following individuals for their contributions to the section:
Terry Smith (Billings, MT) – Registration and records
Pamela Pyle (Logan, UT) – Vendor registration and Friday social
Phil Rust (Boise, ID) – Webmaster
Joey Markuson (Las Vegas, NV) – Professional Liaison

The Friday afternoon Vendor Social was very well attended, as usual. This event allows attendees to mingle with each other while

investigating the latest products available to the industry, and a prize giveaway marks the end of the Social. Congratulations to the winners of the coveted Intermountain Section ski jackets!

Prior to heading to the golf course for the Montana State University Annual golf tournament, conference attendees converge for the Annual Luncheon and Awards Ceremony. This year's guest speaker was a volunteer from the Jackson Hole Historical Society whose presentation covered the history of the valley, and set the tone for next year's Annual Meeting. Awards were presented to the following:

Scholarships

Joseph Staszczuk – Montana State University
Scott Shea – Brigham Young University

Student Paper Award

Xuan Wang – University of Nevada, Reno
Peifeng (Patrick) Hu - University of Nevada, Reno

Engineering Project of the Year

Winner: Shiloh Road Corridor, Sanderson Stewart (Billings, MT)
Runner-up: Casino Center Bus Rapid Transit Project, Kimley-Horn and Associates (Las Vegas, NV)

Outstanding Technical Paper

A Fiscally Constrained Comparison of Roundabout Benefits and Costs
Ryan Lancaster and Phil Rust (Boise, ID)

The Section also presented the infamous "Missing In Action Award", but since what happens in Jackson stays in Jackson, we will keep that one to ourselves.

Next year marks the 50th Anniversary of the Intermountain Section. The Section has formed a distinguished committee of long-time members to organize several special celebratory events. Presentations will highlight the history of the Section, transportation history within the Section over the last 50 years, and distinguished members spotlights. We'll also be offering the Jim Pline registration special: register 49 times, get the 50th free.

For those who have never been able to attend an Intermountain Section meeting, the event provides an excellent technical program, magnificent scenery and recreation opportunities, networking opportunities with some of the founders and leaders of our industry, and a laid-back western attitude. Next year will be a fantastic event that you will not want to miss. Leave your ties at home and join us for a **50-year celebration.**





Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009



Steve L. Eagan
Legislative Chair



Roberta McLaughlin
Legislative Vice Chair

On Tuesday February 17, President Barack Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. The law authorizes \$789 billion in spending with the hope of saving the U.S. economy and generating jobs by investing in infrastructure, energy, healthcare, and education. The ARRA includes \$48 billion for the Department of Transportation. Specifically, the proposal includes \$27.5 billion in Federal Highway Administration funding and \$8.4 billion in Federal Transit Administration funds.

Below are the statewide allocations for the ITE Western District States for highway and transit funds from FHWA and FTA websites. For the latest and most detailed information for a given state go to the website www.recovery.gov and click on either the State Progress and Resources link or the Agency Progress and Resources link. Be sure to check for customized details on forthcoming highway and transit projects developed by individual state Departments of Transportation (DOTs) and metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) on their individual websites.

Distribution of Transit ARRA funds in the ITE Western District Region:

Omnibus Appropriation Act of 2009

On March 11, 2009 President Obama signed into law the Omnibus Appropriation Act of 2009 which appropriated \$10.1 Billion nationally for

transit and \$40.7 billion for highways for the remainder of Federal Fiscal Year 2009. This was the last annual appropriation act for USDOT in which the surface transportation programs are authorized by SAFETEA-LU. On September 30, 2009, SAFETEA-LU expires, thus requiring new federal reauthorization legislation for federal aid for highways and transit.

State Legislation:

New Mexico

State Senate Bill 258, which was detailed in the March-April 2009 Westernite Legislative News and would have prohibited state contractor political contributions died in committee along with a similar State House bill. In its stead the New Mexico Legislature passed and the Governor will sign an alternative, more appropriate, bill affecting the general public that limits the maximum value of cash contributions to political campaigns of candidates to state elective offices that will take effect in 2011.

Because of operating budget problems and the reduced price for crude oil and natural gas, capital outlay bills based on severance tax bond revenues were severely curtailed. In terms of new surface transportation related capital projects, little more than \$8 million for only seven projects was approved and signed into law.

California

For more details on California transportation related legislation see these ITE section websites:
<http://www.westernite.org/Sections/itesocal/>
<http://sfbayite.blogspot>

Passed FY 2009 Budget Provides Authority for Select Transportation Projects

On February 19, 2009, the California Legislature passed its 2009 budget. To close a \$42 billion shortfall the budget features more than \$14 billion in cuts and \$12 billion in new taxes with the remaining billions slated to be borrowed. According to ACEC California the budget bills include: design-build authority for 10 state transportation projects, five local non-state highway projects, 10 state non-transportation projects, 10 local redevelopment design-build projects, and unlimited authorization using design-build for infrastructure projects that will have to be started by 2017.

California Traffic Engineers Might Become Practicing PE's

Senate Bill 275 is the latest attempt to fix the Professional Engineers Act in California. Currently only licensed civil engineers are allowed to practice engineering dealing with fixed works. Furthermore, civil engineers are free to practice electrical and mechanical engineering while the reverse is not true for EE's and ME's. Registered PE's in 9 other disciplines, including traffic engineering, have no license to practice at all. Their only benefit being protected titles.

SB 275 would convert the 9 title disciplines into practices, and would allow overlap among the various disciplines within the license holder's own expertise. Thus, electrical and mechanical engineers would benefit from this bill as well.

Assembly Bill 766 Proposes to Make 85th Percentile Irrelevant

Existing California law permits a local authority to decrease or increase a prima facie speed limit on any street, (other than a California state highway) based on an engineering and traffic survey, and for enforcement purposes requires that the survey be redone after a certain number of years. Assembly Bill 766 would allow a local authority to retain a prima facie speed limit on any street, (again, other than a state highway) if the local authority makes a finding, after a public hearing, that a higher speed limit is not the most appropriate for the orderly movement of traffic upon the street and does not promote a safe environment for the neighborhood or pedestrians. Engineering and traffic surveys would not have to justify use of radar at the lower speed limit. If passed, this law could generate numerous public hearings sponsored by local governments.

Arizona

At press deadline time the following transportation related bills were still being reviewed in the Arizona Legislature:

HB 2396 ADOT; transportation facility pilot projects. Adds a requirement to the existing ADOT statutes regarding privatization projects, that any foreign private entity must be licensed to do business in the state of Arizona.

(Continued on page 11)

HB 2481 Joint legislative committee; transportation; Mexico. Creates a 13-member committee to study and make recommendations on how to improve commercial travel between Sonora and Arizona.

SB 1261 Public-private partnerships in transportation. This bill would repeal the current statutes for ADOT in ARS Title 28, chapter 22 regarding Privation, and replace with new statutes regarding privatization for transportation projects.

SB 1359 Toll Road authority; cities; towns. This bill would allow a city or town to construct, operate and finance toll roads located within city limits.

SB 1458 Procurement; construction; specialized services. This is an update to the current statutes for Alternative Procurement Delivery (Design-Build, Construction Manager at risk and Job order contracting). It is supported by cities, counties, contractors and engineering groups.

Oregon

Over 30 bills related to transportation have been introduced in the Oregon Legislature and are being reviewed in various legislative committees. For details head to the link below maintained by the ITE Oregon Section.

<http://www.oregonite.org/legs/legs2.php>

Colorado

Devolution of Commuter Highways

House Bill 09-1114 would devolve certain identified Colorado state highway segments into city streets or county roads if a study reveals that such roadway segments are both located within a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and have 80% or more of both the trip origins and trip destinations of the traffic on the segment located within the boundary of the MPO. Such roadway segments would then be defined as commuter highways and would be transferred to the jurisdiction of the local government in which it is located.

State	Amount
Alaska	\$41,632,703
Arizona	\$100,561,948
California	\$1,068,448,693
Colorado	\$103,469,063
Hawaii	\$43,837,375
Idaho	\$18,398,968
Montana	\$15,611,710
Nevada	\$49,463,771
New Mexico	\$27,749,995
Oregon	\$75,716,939
Utah	\$58,084,648
Washington	\$179,046,604
Wyoming	\$9,300,398
Total Apportioned	\$1,791,322,815

DISTRIBUTION OF HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT FUNDS
PURSUANT TO THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009, ITE Western District States

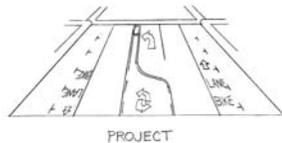
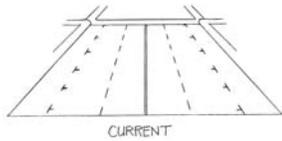
STATE	TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	MANDATORY TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENTS	DIVISION BETWEEN URBANIZED AREAS OVER 200K POPULATION AND OTHER AREAS			AVAILABLE FOR USE ANY AREA
			AREAS OVER 200K	AREAS ≤ 200K	AREAS UNDER 5K	
ALASKA	\$175,461,487	\$5,263,845	\$18,953,911	\$0	\$33,684,535	\$117,559,196
ARIZONA	\$521,958,401	\$15,658,752	\$110,710,953	\$35,198,112	\$10,678,455	\$349,712,129
CALIFORNIA	\$2,569,568,320	\$77,087,050	\$609,756,706	\$134,336,616	\$26,777,174	\$1,721,610,774
COLORADO	\$403,924,130	\$12,117,724	\$74,875,946	\$34,387,670	\$11,913,623	\$270,629,167
HAWAII	\$125,746,380	\$3,772,391	\$22,362,203	\$12,161,981	\$3,199,730	\$84,250,075
IDAHO	\$181,934,631	\$5,458,039	\$11,502,033	\$35,127,027	\$7,951,329	\$121,896,203
MONTANA	\$211,793,391	\$6,353,802	\$0	\$51,814,260	\$11,723,757	\$141,901,572
NEVADA	\$201,352,460	\$6,406,574	\$48,912,258	\$3,738,315	\$7,755,165	\$134,906,148
NEW MEXICO	\$252,644,377	\$7,579,331	\$26,021,866	\$39,204,830	\$10,566,617	\$169,271,733
OREGON	\$333,902,389	\$10,017,072	\$50,649,701	\$38,563,322	\$10,957,694	\$223,714,600
UTAH	\$213,545,653	\$6,406,370	\$46,165,488	\$10,825,970	\$7,072,238	\$143,075,587
WASHINGTON	\$492,242,337	\$14,767,270	\$83,466,861	\$53,074,554	\$11,131,286	\$329,802,366
WYOMING	\$157,616,058	\$4,728,482	\$0	\$39,585,763	\$7,699,054	\$105,602,759
TOTAL	\$5,841,690,014	\$175,250,702	\$1,103,377,926	\$488,018,420	\$161,110,657	\$3,913,932,309

Bicycle Facilities in San Francisco

(Continued from page 1)

commitment of many agencies and groups to succeed. This article focuses on some of the innovative traffic engineering work that the SF Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) Bicycle Program has completed.

Road Diets: San Francisco has completed more road diet projects (30) than any other city in North America. Road diets are projects where excess travel lane space is removed and/or reallocated. This generally results in slower, safer traffic, and allows space to be provided for bike lanes and/or pedestrian islands.



Shared Roadway Marking (“sharrow”): These markings are a relatively new tool for marking roadways that are shared by cyclists and motorists. They can be used to encourage proper placement of cyclists and inform motorists that cyclists are allowed in the lane. There are over a thousand sharrow in San Francisco, with many more to come.



Bicycle Signal: Recently two sets of bicycle signals were installed on the popular Panhandle Multi-Use Path, one at Fell/Masonic and the other at Fell/Shrader. Both allow protected movements by cyclists using the path.



Signage: Current manuals in the US do not provide a complete toolbox for traffic engineers developing safe and attractive facilities for cyclists. As with



many of the bicycle facilities discussed here, signage options are often limited. San Francisco uses existing sign designs and standards as much as possible as it creates new bicycle-specific signage.

“Floating Bike Lane” – On the Embarcadero there was a need for parking, an additional commute hour travel lane, and a continuous on-road bikeway. The result was the “floating bike lane,” a design where space for cyclists shifts according to the time of day.



Contra-Flow Bike Lane – East Conservatory Drive in Golden Gate Park used to be a one-way road before it was converted to two-way for cyclists. Prior to the conversion cyclists were riding illegally on pedestrian paths or against traffic or taking the long way around. The street now functions as a two-way street with cars not allowed in one direction.



Bike Boxes – Bike boxes are advanced stop lines that provide space for cyclists to queue in front of motorists. On Scott Street at Fell Street and on 14th Street at Folsom Street bike boxes are used to help cyclists position themselves for an upcoming left turn.



On-Street Bicycle Parking – In front of the Main Library in the Civic Center, what used to be about two car parking spaces is now parking for 38 bikes. This



frees up the sidewalk and creates a more welcoming parking area for cyclists. The space protects bicycles from moving traffic and includes bollards, racks, and concrete scoring designed to match the design of the Main Library itself.

Colored Bike Lane Experiment San Francisco has an approved Request to Experiment from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the California Traffic Control Device Committee (CTCDC).

The elements of this experiment are unique to other colored bike lane experiments and should help inform policy makers of the best use of this promising approach.



One result of this work and related efforts has been a steady rise in the number of people bicycling. Another effect is the designation of San Francisco as a Gold Level Bicycle Friendly Community, as determined by the League of American Bicyclists. Plans are in place for much more bicycle related development in the next few years.

More details on some of these projects can be found at: <http://www.sfmta.com/cms/rbikes/3172.html>

Section and Chapter Activities

New Mexico Chapter

On Thursday, May 7, the New Mexico Section held its monthly luncheon meeting at the new Centennial Engineering Center on the University of New Mexico campus in Albuquerque. Each spring the NM Section sponsors and judges a traffic engineering paper competition for UNM Student Chapter members enrolled in Dr. Jerry Hall's CE 482/582 Highway Traffic Engineering class. Prior to the meeting, ten students presented their papers before a distinguished panel of NM Section past presidents who then selected the top three papers. The three winning students were recognized at the May 7 meeting where they presented their projects to the Section. The first place award and a check for \$200 went to Emmy Foley for, "Redesign of Northbound Oak Street between Central Avenue and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue." Second place awards and checks for \$100 each went to Trent Simpler for, "Widen Wyoming Blvd. on Kirtland AFB," and Bryan Esvanko for, "Roundabout Design."



Jim Barrera

Colorado/Wyoming Section

The 7th Annual Spring Transportation Symposium was held on April 3, 2009. The event, jointly hosted by the Colorado/Wyoming ITE Sections, the WTS Colorado Chapter and the Rocky Mountain Chapter of ITS had 120 attendees, and was held at the Denver Pepsi Center. The keynote speaker was Honorable Dan Gibbs, Colorado State Senator, District 16. Dan Gibbs provided his background and his influences including a memorable story about his youth including having President Carter eat pickles off his lunch plate. Senator Gibbs then discussed the current Colorado FASTER legislation, and its current and future implications to funding.

A Colorado/Wyoming Section ITE luncheon was held on Friday, May 14, 2009 at the Embassy Suites in Centennial. Section President, Craig Faessler, presided over the meeting that was attended by 51

members and guests. Craig Faessler announced that the Section is selling ITE polo shirts to benefit the Student Endowment Fund.

Dave Hattan announced Scott Thomas as the recipient of the Section's Transportation Professional of the Year Award.

The Colorado/Wyoming ITE Section is proud to welcome all ITE members and their families to Denver, Colorado, for the 2009 ITE Western District (District 6) Annual Meeting. Whether this will be your first annual meeting or you are a frequent attendee, we are confident that the City of Denver, the Rocky Mountains, and all of the surrounding beauty, attractions, and activities will encourage you to arrive early and stay late to enjoy Colorado. We invite you to Take the High Road and join us, July 12-15, 2009.

The Colorado/Wyoming Section is proud to introduce a new feature for the website. Videos of the Section's business and presentations are now available to those who cannot make it to the actual meeting. This allows everyone to follow Section business and to enjoy the presentations made at the meetings.

This year's Colorado/Wyoming Section ITE Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, June 26th at the West Woods Golf Club in Arvada, Colorado.



Kari McDowell

Hawaii

The Hawaii ITE had its monthly luncheon meeting on April 24, 2009 at the City's Frank Fasi Municipal Building.

The speaker, Mr. Steven Hogan, updated ITE members the City's Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project. Mr. Steve Hogan is the City's consultant, the Transportation Planning lead for PB Americas, Inc. He explained the rail technology selections and some examples from other metropolitans. The project cost, funding, and the construction techniques were discussed as well. The first segment of the project from East Kapolei to Pearl Highlands will break ground by the end of 2009 and is expected

to be completed in 2013. The Minimal Operational Segment (MOS) from Kapolei to Ala Moana Shopping Center is projected to be operational in 2018.

The members asked the questions such as the comments received on FEIS, the project's coordination with different City and State agencies, the project's procurements process. Mr. Steve Hogan concluded by noting that the correct information regarding the project can be accessed at www.honolulutransit.org or the hotline 566-2299.



Hong Li

Editor's Corner

Hello all! This edition marks the return of myself as your editor for the Western ITE newsletter. Our previous editor Rachel has decided to step out for a year in order to finish up her masters and I will be assisting in lieu. I would like to take the opportunity to issue a request to the reader: this newsletter is a window into the comings and goings of Western ITE and as such I am asking that members actively increase their participation with the newsletter. Any form of contribution is welcome whether it be advice, coverage of an event, technical writing, opinions etc. A newsletter about an organization can only be as good as the organization allows; it is my goal to issue a newsletter that best represents Western ITE as a whole. On the topic of content: I would like to ask that section scribes ensure that all section reports are submitted in a timely manner. It is my hope that this newsletter can take a step forward in its scope, sending in any content you would like to see published is the quickest way to advance the relevance of this publication. Simply put, there is always room for improvement and it is through your help that I hope to improve this newsletter.

Together we are the Best.
Zaki Mustafa

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August 9-12, 2009

We would like to extend an invitation for you to attend the Institute of Transportation Engineers 2009 Annual Meeting and Exhibit in San Antonio, TX, USA, August 9–12, 2009. This year's meeting is chock full of opportunities to meet and network with peers, vendors and influential industry leaders

Now more than ever, you want to make the most of your learning experiences. ITE realizes the challenges facing transportation professionals in these trying economic times and has developed a meeting program to maximize your collaboration and networking experience.

If your company registers three or more people for the meeting you will receive a 20 percent discount. Positions available/wanted booklets to assist members in hiring the best and the brightest and to find employment. Plans for the meeting include an exhibit catered to making the most of your limited time and resources, 52 technical sessions ranging from roundabouts and pedestrian bike issues to new trends in parking and emerging green technologies, discussion on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and its impact on our community and student poster sessions where you can meet the next generation of transportation professionals.

For information about these opportunities and a complete list of technical and special sessions, tours and exhibit information, visit www.ite.org/annualmeeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sallie Dollins at +1 202-289-0222 ext. 149 or sdollins@ite.org. We hope to see you in San Antonio!

Ransford S. McCourt, Zaki Mustafa, Kenneth W Ackeret

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2009 Annual Meeting

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