



# Westernite

Official Publication of the Institute of Transportation Engineers, Western District

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## President's Message

Edgar Perez



**The Annual Meeting will be here before you know it!**

This is a recap of past events, some announcements and reminders to keep you in the loop:

Mid-year meeting. Western District Board members, Western District Committee Chairs, some Section Presidents and Guests attended the Mid-year's meeting held in San Diego, California on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011. A very productive meeting took place in which we discussed upcoming programs and events including the approaching meeting in Alaska, student programs and general business of the District.

Annual Meeting in Anchorage, Alaska, July 10-13 <http://ite2011.blogspot.com/>. The time to make last minute reservations will be here before you know it, so book your room now at the Hilton Anchorage,

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## 2011 Mid Year Board Meeting Highlights

Walter Okitsu, PE, PTP, PTOE

On February 4, 2011, Western District Board members, committee chairs, section leaders and guests met at the Bahia Resort on Mission Bay in San Diego for the 2011 Western District Mid-Year meeting. Among the honored guests in attendance was International Vice President Rock Miller who provided International ITE's perspective on the state of the Institute and transportation.



To set the mood for the day, President Edgar Perez opened the meeting by asking the committee chairs to each read a paragraph from the Western District Strategic Plan so that all present were reminded of the direction approved by last year's Board. He then described the recent Board changes due to International Director-Elect Jennifer Rosales' move out of our District. Past President Michael Sanderson was appointed to replace her by Board vote on September 22, 2010, and his 3-year term began January 1, 2011. Monica Suter, whose term as Past President ended June 2010, was appointed to serve another term as Past President effective January 1. Monica was also appointed as Advisory Committee Chair, effective through winter 2012.

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## International Director's Report

Ken Ackeret, PE, PTOE, PHD

The International Board of Direction met on Friday April 1<sup>st</sup> and Saturday April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 at the Walt Disney Swan Resort in Orlando, Florida, immediately prior to this year's Spring Technical Conference. The theme of the conference was "Moving Toward Zero" as 2011-2020 has been proclaimed the "Decade of Action for Road Safety" and our conference supported this global call to drastically reduce transportation related injuries and fatalities worldwide. Our conference theme and associated presentations directly supported ITE's Strategic plan Goal for Safety: The public will experience an improved quality of life through the elimination of road fatalities.



The Board discussed and took action on several key issues that will directly benefit our members. These actions included:

A review of the present Communication Media of the Institute in order to remain current and relevant to our membership

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# ITE Western District Officers Election

## Electronic Voting

The Western District is again offering its members the convenience of on-line voting. Your on-line ballot to vote in the Western District election will be accessible beginning **Wednesday, June 8, 2011**, and on-line voting will close **Monday, July 11, 2011** at midnight EDT. If you are a voting member of ITE, and had a valid e-mail address on file with International Headquarters as of June 1st, you will receive an e-mail message from ElectionsOnLine with instructions on how to vote electronically. Login at [www.electionsonline.us/election](http://www.electionsonline.us/election) with your username and the password provided in the e-mail message from "election" with the subject of "Vote Now!"

## Paper Ballot Voting

Members wishing to vote by paper ballot can request them via phone (323) 260-4703 x 3121, fax (213) 985-0761, e-mail: woki-tsu@koacorporation.com or by regular mail to:

Walter Okitsu, P.E., PTP, PTOE  
ITE Western District Secretary-Treasurer  
Principal, KOA Corporation  
1100 Corporate Center Drive, #201  
Monterey Park, CA 91030

Paper ballot requests must be received no later than **Monday, June 27, 2011**, and completed ballots returned to the Secretary-Treasurer no later than **Wednesday, July 6, 2011**. Completed ballots may also be returned in person at the Annual Business Meeting on **Tuesday, July 12, 2011**.

If you need help voting electronically or have questions on the electronic or paper ballot, please contact the District Administrator, Jenny Grote, at 602-262-7217 or [jenny.grote@phoenix.gov](mailto:jenny.grote@phoenix.gov).

## Don't mix them up

Elections for ITE International officers may be occurring simultaneously as Western District's, so you may receive multiple messages from ElectionsOnLine. Please be sure to read each one to ensure that you vote in both elections.

## Please Vote

All members are encouraged to vote. Regardless of how you vote, please vote and make your voice be heard. The deadline for voting electronically has been set as late as possible to allow you to meet and/or learn about the Western District candidates before voting. Thanks for helping the Western District serve its members efficiently and effectively!

## Candidate for President

### Alyssa Reynolds, P.E. City of Henderson

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



During these challenging times, relevancy is particularly important for a professional society. Why should an individual spend precious funds to maintain society membership? The District should provide training, services and information exchange that are useful to the average member while keeping costs affordable. Efficient and 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. Additionally, fiscal

responsibility should also be a primary consideration of the District. District funds should be used efficiently and prudently, while maximizing relevancy to members.

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. Shortly after arriving in Nevada, I was elected to the Nevada Chapter Board, and 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. This structure 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 Western District Student and Faculty Initiatives Chair in 2005, which allowed me to continue my contact with students and young professionals. During my service with ITE, I have 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 all members.

I'm currently employed with the City of Henderson, a progressive and customer-service oriented agency. My primary duties include traffic engineering studies, asset management, safe routes to school, and citizen interaction. Prior to joining the City I worked for Orth-Rodgers & Associates performing a variety of duties from travel demand forecasting to traffic signal design. My employer supports and encourages ITE participation.

## Candidate for Vice President

Walter Okitsu, PE, PTOE, PTP (Fellow)  
Principal, KOA Corporation



In my current term as Secretary-Treasurer of ITE's Western District, I have developed not only a better understanding of the financial and administrative aspects of this district, but also the processes involved in running an efficient and successful operation. I have developed a deep appreciation for the efforts of the various officers, directors, and committee chairs, and I vow to match their vigorous efforts as District Vice President.

I recognize that the last few years have not been good for most professional technical societies in the US, but our Western District has managed to retain its membership and actually grow. When I talk to officers of societies representing electrical engineers, chemical engineers, and mechanical engineers, they are envious of ITE's success in avoiding the shrinkage that they've been suffering. We can attribute our success in part due to the student initiative program of the last decade that has provided a youthful vitality to our District. We also benefit from having what was effectively a "rainy day fund", building decent financial reserves during the boom years so that we could maintain our programs.

One more thing that works in our District's favor is that we cover the most wonderful geographic area in the world, making for some outstanding travel opportunities for our families in conjunction with the Annual Meetings. My wife and two elementary school-aged children have attended the last 5 Annual Meetings, ever since I served as technical session chair for the Honolulu 2006. It's been a pretty easy sell since then: Portland, Disneyland, Denver, and San Francisco. I hope to encourage more of our members to take advantage of the benefits of combining of career training and vacation time. I look forward to seeing all of you in Anchorage this summer.

Our members are seeing the value of ITE membership, and I will strive to have our District live up to that loyalty. I am honored to be nominated for this important position, giving me the opportunity to continue serving the Western District.

## Candidate for Secretary-Treasurer

Cathy Leong, P.E., ITE Fellow



I am honored to be selected as a candidate for Secretary-Treasurer for the Western District and look forward to the opportunity to continue serving ITE. As the Chair of the District's Student Endowment Committee, I have become acquainted with a number of Western District officers and, through this interaction, have developed a keen understanding of the goals and needs of the District.

### Vision and Goals

Continued support for the Student Endowment Fund and

student initiatives programs. The implementation of the strategic and investment plans that I helped to develop for the Endowment Fund will ensure the sustainability of our student programs.

Advocate fiscal responsibility for our District including promoting the affordability of District meetings and events. Improve District responsiveness to the needs of our members. Coming from the Hawaii Section, I understand that rapid responses are necessary to overcome the physical separation between our sections and chapters.

### ITE Service and Leadership Roles

During my 15+ years as an ITE member, I have had the opportunity to serve in a variety of service and leadership roles that have provided me with first-hand experience regarding the needs of members at both the student and full member levels. Since 2008, I have served as the Chair of the District's Student Endowment Fund Committee and have worked diligently with my committee to grow the Endowment Fund from \$50k to over \$250k. Prior to that, I served as the LAC General Chair for the 2006 District Annual Meeting held in Hawaii which was a great success with over 400 attendees. I have also remained active on the Section level serving as mentor for the University of Hawaii ITE Student Chapter for their Western District Data Collection Fund projects.

### Professional Qualifications

Currently, I am a Project Manager and Senior Traffic Engineer with the Traffic and Transportation Group at Wilson Okamoto Corporation (WOC) in Honolulu, Hawaii. Over the last 13 years at WOC, I have had the opportunity to work on a wide variety of traffic and transportation projects. In addition, I have been fortunate to receive a number of ITE and professional awards during my career including the following:

- 2007-2008 Young Professional Achievement Award by the Western District
- 2007 Young Engineer of the Year, selected by the Hawaii Society of Professional Engineers
- Presidential Proclamation, 2005, for service as 2006 Annual Meeting LAC General Chair

## Candidate for Secretary-Treasurer

Karen Aspelin, P.E., P.T.O.E.



After a dozen years of service to the District, I am excited by the prospect of serving in a leadership position. My experience serving the Institute includes:

- Technical Committee Chair, Western District, 2003-present
- International Student Data Collection Liaison-2009-2010
- New Mexico Section Officer, 1999-2002
- Local Arrangements Committee General Chair, District 6 Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2001
- ITE International Outstanding Executive Committee Member, 2000-2001
- Traffic Engineering Council Executive Committee, 1995-2001
- ITE Member since 1994

I received a B.S. in civil engineering from the University of Virginia (1991) and an M.S. in civil engineering from Texas A&M University (1993). Although A&M had a very active student chapter, it was not until I started working as a professional in Las Vegas, Nevada that I was introduced to ITE, when my co-workers invited me to an ITE chapter luncheon. When I moved to Albuquerque in 1995 I received a warm reception from the New Mexico ITE section, too. Soon afterward I became the general chair of the year 2001 District annual meeting, which I have compared to orchestrating a three-day wedding for 400 of your closest friends. From 2002 to 2007 I put my career on the back burner to raise my two children and be primarily a stay-at-home mom until they were both in school. During that time I continued my service to ITE as the technical committee chairperson.

I believe all of these experiences have provided me with an excellent background to serve as the District's next secretary-treasurer. As an officer, I will have the following three main priorities:

Fiscal responsibility – I will vote to spend the District's money as if it were my own, carefully considering what the District is getting in return for each dollar spent.

Make student participation in the annual meetings meaningful. Students receive full registrations for our annual meetings for nearly free, with nothing expected in return. We need to ensure that this opportunity is used by these students as a stepping stone into our industry and not just as a junket subsidized by other meeting attendees.

Focus on the technical products of our District. We often get wrapped up in meeting just to plan the next meeting. Our members and student members have a tremendous amount of knowledge that it is ITE's responsibility to share among its members.

Thank you!

## Candidate for International Director

**Douglas E Smith, P.E. (Member)**  
Vice President, URS Corporation,  
Santa Ana, CA



I am honored to have been offered the opportunity to be a candidate for International Director (ID) of the Western District. As ID, you act as a liaison between the district and international ITE. This provides me with the opportunity to continue to work with people I respect through ITE. As your representative at the international board level, I bring 30 years of professional experience obtained while serving in many different elected or appointed positions at ITE Section and Western District levels. I believe that ITE is the best professional organization available to planners and engineers. I will work to represent our district and improve the international organization.

In past involvement, I have served many roles within ITE. Locally, I have worked my way through the Southern California section from Technical Chairman to Past President. I served as the Technical Co-Chair for the 2002 Annual Meeting in Palm Desert. Most recently, my experience as WesternITE Managing

Editor provided me with knowledge of the functions of the institute that will guide my actions. I have attended most of the Western District Annual Meetings since 1991. Recently, I have focused on becoming more involved at the national level through work on the Traffic Engineering Council executive committee and the Sustainability Task Force.

ITE is a great organization. I want to continue the strong initiatives that have been supported previously. In addition to supporting ITE's Mega Issues, I have five primary goals as International Director:

- Represent the district at the international level with emphasis on keeping the district strong
- Continue to support the successful Student Endowment Fund while expanding it to insure that students we support find jobs in our industry
- Provide members with solid programs that are *affordable* and family friendly
- Control spending to insure our financial stability as an organization
- Finally, work at the national, state and local level to educate our political leaders and the public on why we should continue to fund transportation programs

In the current environment, we have many challenges facing our industry. Keeping our eye on long term goals is very important. As International Director, my goal will be to think and act in the long term interests of International ITE and the Western District. I look forward to your support in these efforts.

## Candidate for International Director

**PATRICK A. GIBSON, PE, PTOE**  
FELLOW, ITE



I am a second generation traffic engineer – ITE is in my DNA. Growing up, most family vacations were spent at hotels that just happened to be hosting the International ITE Annual Meeting.

My father was Deputy Traffic Engineer for the City of Detroit and then Director of Traffic Safety Engineering for the Auto Club of Michigan (AAA), so I started counting cars and reading collision diagrams very early.

He was General Chairman of the 1974 Annual Meeting in Detroit, and I got drafted for the Local Arrangements Committee. He was elected to the International Board of Directors, serving from 1975-78.

Over the past 42 years, I have been an active member of three different Sections – Illinois, San Francisco, and Southern California.

My son – third generation ITE – is a member of the San Diego Section.

I have been on the Western District Board as the WesternITE Editor, a member of the Student Initiatives Committee, and as the Chair of the Student Endowment Fund. I ran the James H. Kell

Student Competition multiple times, and I serve as the UCLA Student Chapter Faculty Advisor.

I have participated in International and Section Technical Committees on shopping center design, shared parking, trip generation, stop sign applications, and mixed-use development.

My 15 years of part-time teaching at San Jose State University, East Los Angeles College, and UCLA give me an appreciation for how fast the profession is changing and how tough it is for students to find a job.

Two years ago I started my own transportation consulting firm. I have a staff of ten talented people that make it possible for me to run for International Director.

### ITE DIRECTION

In the current economy, ITE faces real challenges as we struggle to find jobs for our young engineers and keep our current staffs trained and gainfully employed.

ITE must spend its limited resources delivering services that most directly benefit its members. Tough choices must be made about which existing services to maintain and which new initiatives to pursue.

Student-focused programs that attract talent to the profession must continue.

ITE's recent use of email and webinars are examples of cost-effective technical applications that maximize communication with our members.

I consider it an honor to be one of the two people nominated by the Western District Board to run for International Director. I will do my best to represent you, and I would appreciate your vote.

## Candidate for International Director

**Monica M. Suter, PE, TE, PTOE**  
City of Santa Ana, CA



I'm honored to have served as Western District President (2008-2009). "**Promoting the Profession**" is a Western District Strategic Goal. As your President, I shared my "Getting to 'Yes' With the Public & Elected Officials" presentation throughout the District to **promote our profession** through enhanced communication/sales skills. These tools are critical to achieve safety for all transportation users. I manage a traffic engineering team for the City, have 23 years of **private/public** sector experience, and joined ITE as a student. I've presented/published several International and District papers and I'm only one of two District Board voting members from a **public agency**. My passionate involvement and leadership at the International/District/Section levels has prepared me for International Director.

Significant District progress has been made toward the "**Vision and Goals**," below. We had record student attendance at last year's

District meeting and substantial Student Endowment Fund growth. We have also kept registration costs relatively low given the challenging economy and look forward to broadening our transportation knowledge together, this July, in scenic Anchorage, Alaska.

International Directors serve on both the Western District and International Boards of Direction. As International Director, my recent **Western District Board experience** is relevant to further achieving the below goals, internationally. Many Western District ideas have been adopted by International given the strong leadership we've had from our region.

### VISION & GOALS

Promote the Profession/Enhance Communication  
Improve Member Value/Cost Benefit  
Encourage Webinar & Council Participation  
Promote Transportation Safety for All Users  
Ensure International/District Fiscal Responsibility  
Mentor Students/Professionals, Cross-Generationally

### ELECTED LEADERSHIP/SERVICE

*ITE Western District Officer 2006-2010 & \*2011:* Secretary-Treasurer through \*1<sup>st</sup> Past President (\*Twice), **President** 2008-2009

*ITE Southern California Section, 2000-2005:* Secretary-Treasurer through 2<sup>nd</sup> Past President, **President** 2002-2003. Received District 6 and International Best Section Awards 2003 & Section's Young Transportation Engineer Award 2001

*Orange County Traffic Engineering Council 1997-2002:* Secretary-Newsletter Editor/Treasurer through 2<sup>nd</sup> Past President, **President** 1999-2000

### COMMITTEES & COUNCILS

International: Public Agency Council, Vice Chair 2006-2009

Western District Award Committee Evaluator:

Lifetime & Individual Achievement Award 2003 & 2010-2011  
Young Professional Achievement Award 2005  
Student Chapter Reports/Papers Award & James H. Kell  
Student Competition Judge 2004

### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices  
Technical Member 2007-Current & ITE Associate Member 2011

Co-Instructor for "MUTCD Update Course" UC Berkeley Tech-Transfer 2006-2009

I respectfully request your vote, comments & suggestions! (714) 647-5645 & [msuter@santa-ana.org](mailto:msuter@santa-ana.org)



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### President's Message

[http://www1.hilton.com/en\\_US/hi/hotel/ANCAHHF-Hilton-Anchorage-Alaska/index.do](http://www1.hilton.com/en_US/hi/hotel/ANCAHHF-Hilton-Anchorage-Alaska/index.do) using Group/Convention Code "TTE". Alaska is a high season destination in July and booking early will prevent problems.

**Western District Student Raffle.** Help your local Student Chapter(s) by donating items to be raffled off in Alaska. Proceeds will go towards the Student Endowment Fund. A letter has gone out to Student Chapter Presidents, Section Presidents and Faculty Advisors with more information. If you have questions, please call Cathy Leong, Student Endowment Fund Chair.

**Western District Elections.** Please refer to the ITE Western District Officers Election section of this newsletter for news regarding electronic and paper ballots available in June 8. Please vote.

The following are the Western District members that have been nominated as candidates to serve the District for specific offices:

**Western District Candidates** (in alphabetical order, last name):

- For President: Alyssa Reynolds
- For Vice-President: Walter Okitsu
- For Secretary-Treasurer: Karen Aspelin & Cathy Leong
- For International Director: Pat Gibson, Doug Smith, & Monica Suter

Congratulations and good luck during the election!

It has been eight months since my term as President began. This has been a time of learning, problem solving, team work, planning and meeting new people. As I have stated before, ITE is about the people. I've had the privilege of visiting several Sections and Chapters within the Western District and have been privileged to present awards to and recognize individuals who constantly demonstrate support, service and leadership at the local level. These people are indeed the strength of ITE! Please continue to attend meetings, volunteer for service and participate at the local and District levels. It is indeed an honor to work with and to recognize members of the Western District who are making significant contributions and demonstrating leadership service throughout the District. Please let me know if you know of someone who would like to serve the District as the District's Public Relations Committee Chair.

Our hearts and thoughts go to the people affected due to the earthquake, aftershocks, tsunami, and power plant challenges in Japan. If you would like to donate for relief efforts, please visit the American Red Cross at <http://www.redcross.org/>

I hope to be able to see all of you in July, 2011 in Anchorage, Alaska. Until then, work hard, love your family, take care of your friends and be kind to yourself.

## Southern California Section Traffic Bowl

**Neelam Sharma**  
DKS Associate

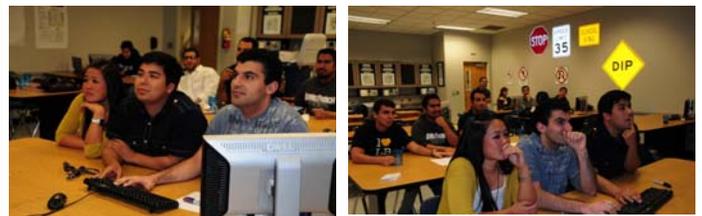


On Sunday February 27th, the Southern California Section hosted their first Student Traffic Bowl. This will become an annual event, in addition to Student Presentations Night. The event rounds up E-week and was hosted by Cal Poly Pomona.

We had participants from four universities (Cal State Long Beach - CSULB, Cal Poly Pomona, UC Irvine, and UCLA) compete in 3 rounds of a Jeopardy-style tournament consisting of questions about transportation engineering and ITE. Pizza and drinks were provided and Traffic Bowl Trophy (pictured below) was given out to our winners, Cal State Long Beach.

Congratulations to the CSULB winning team, which consisted of Emad Elias, Edgar Garcia, and Joseph Khilla, for a stellar performance.

We hope that this event will better prepare our students for the Western District Traffic Bowl in July at the Western District Annual Meeting in Anchorage ([www.westernite.org](http://www.westernite.org)).



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### 2010 Annual Board Meeting Highlights

President Perez announced appointments of Joe de la Garza as Membership Committee Chair, Ahmed Aburahmah as WesternITE Advertising Manager, Janna McKhann as Vendor/Industry Committee Chair, Dr. Wen Cheng as WesternITE Technical Editor, and Robert Crommelin to the Advisory Committee. He also announced the reappointment of Cathy Leong as Student Endowment Fund Committee for another 3-year term.

HelmsBriscoe, a meeting management firm, was selected to assist the 2014 (Rapid City) and 2015 (Las Vegas) Annual Meetings. HelmsBriscoe Representative Jennifer Settle explained her firm's services as Annual Meeting Location Negotiator.

Vice-President Alyssa Reynolds and Secretary-Treasurer Walter Okitsu provided updates on the current state of the Western District budget. A net deficit of \$25,395 was projected for this fiscal year, requiring a dip into the District's reserves. To avoid increasing the deficit, the Board will continue to monitor travel expenses and chose not to provide financial support to the Western District candidates for International Vice-President.

Michael Sanderson, who held the role of Past President through the end of 2010, obtained Board approval for responsibilities of the new Public Relations Committee Chairperson. President Perez will invite applicants and make an appointment for this new position.

The following slate of candidates was announced and accepted during the Past President's report for the 2011 elections:

President: Alyssa Reynolds  
 Vice-President: Walter Okitsu  
 Secretary-Treasurer: Cathy Leong and Karen Aspelin  
 International Director: Doug Smith and Pat Gibson

The District's three International Directors: Ken Akeret, Dalene Whitlock, and Michael Sanderson provided summaries of their activities over the intervening months between Board meetings.

In her District Administrator's report, Jenny Grote described progress she and Alyssa Reynolds made revising the Local Arrangement Committees handbook and updating the Western District Awards descriptions. Jenny submitted, and the Board approved, the Hawaii Section charter and bylaws, the Colorado-Wyoming Section bylaws, and the University of Colorado-Denver Student Chapter charter.

Website Manager Nathan Mustafa displayed a proposed new website format for activation in March that features video, easy RSS feeds, and Twitter and Facebook sharing.

Technical Committee Chair Karen Aspelin informed the Board that for the five student data collection project spots, 18 applications were received from 15 student chapters. Selected were Montana State, BYU, and the Universities of Washington, Hawaii, and Nevada Reno.

Joe de la Garza, Membership Chair, reported the net addition of 50 members, a 1% increase, but a 3% decrease in voting members. The San Francisco Bay Area Section increased by 40 voting members, Alaska increased by 22%, while the Nevada Chapter lost 20 members. We have 1,083 students out of 5,219 total members.

Janna McKhann of the Vendor Committee reported her efforts on the Anchorage and Santa Barbara vendor shows. She contacted IMSA regarding possible coordination of 2013 Phoenix meeting dates.

Endowment Fund Committee Chair Cathy Leong stated that the endowment fund has grown to \$250,000. Of that, \$200,000 was transferred last fall from a savings account into an investment account, with 30% going into securities and the rest into fixed income investments. She is working on a fundraising raffle to be held at the Anchorage meeting.

The San Diego Section was the only respondent offering to host the 2016 Annual Meeting. They will make a presentation at the Anchorage Board Meeting.

Mark Spencer, San Francisco LAC Chair, reported net revenue of \$10,475 from the 2010 Annual Meeting to be donated to the Student Endowment Fund. Anchorage LAC Co-Chairs Anne Brooks and Joann Mitchell outlined the registration cost matrix for the 2011 Annual Meeting and provided Board members with sample duct tape clothing items to be worn at the duct tape-themed banquet.

The Board concluded its meeting on time, and afterwards attended a beach party hosted by the ITE San Diego Section.



## Legislative Update



**Steve L. Eagan**  
Legislative Chair

### President Obama's Partial Draft Transportation Bill is Submitted as a Trial Balloon

#### From DC Streets Blog:

"A partial draft of the president's version of the surface transportation bill, entitled the Transportation Opportunities Act, has started floating around the country's policy circles. This draft is undated and it's not necessarily the final proposal. The draft bill closely follows the outline presented by the White House in February, consolidating 55 FHWA programs into five programs and making minor organizational changes to FTA. Although high-speed rail was completely de-funded in the last budget battle, the president's bill still establishes the National High Performance Passenger Rail System, consisting of a network development program with six-year funding of \$53 billion and a system preservation and renewal program with six-year funding of \$37.6 billion. The proposal also sticks to the language of a "transportation trust fund" rather than a "highway trust fund."

Currently, it is commonly accepted that any proposed federal gas tax increase falls further and further out of the realm of possibility as gas prices remain high, and that fact is tying this Congressional debate up in knots.

The president's bill is useful as a standard to hold up against Congressional transportation legislation. It contains policies that would expand the transit component of surface transportation federal aid. However, by refusing to propose increased fuel taxes during a still-struggling economy with high gas prices, or proposing more borrowing before a deficit-obsessed Congress, the president has rendered his own plan as wildly optimistic. The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee started writing its latest version of a transportation reauthorization bill a few weeks ago. That committee, as well as the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, is moving away from talk of a Memorial Day deadline and are now shooting for "sometime in June" with the president's signature before the end of the fiscal year.

The House bill will likely include funding levels lower than SAFETEA-LU. The Senate's plans are less clear, though insiders are forecasting a bill with more robust investments than the House version, but nowhere close to the president's agenda. Reconciling the House and Senate transportation bills could be nearly as contentious as the battles over the federal budget, so if all goes well, the two houses will leave ample time for knock-down, drag-out fights over funding levels before the current extension of SAFETEA-LU runs out September 30. Experts say if they can't agree to at least some deficit spending, the bill will be too small to garner much support for passage, and that could leave a two-year bill as the only viable option."

#### From Fleet Owner Magazine Blog:

"Two new toll collection options are proposed by the president. The first option focuses on Metropolitan Congestion Reduction and permits state and local governments to impose tolls on existing Interstate and non-interstate facilities for the purposes

of improving or reducing congestion in metropolitan areas with populations over one million people. The second toll collection option is focused on the national Interstate system, permitting state and local governments to impose tolls for the purpose to initially construct Interstate facilities and/or constructing one or more lanes."

The president's bill also seeks to establish and fund a Surface Transportation Revenue Alternatives Office for six years within FHWA to analyze the feasibility of implementing a national mileage-based user fee system. That group will be charged with studying the technologies that might be used to implement mileage-based user charges and deliver a final report at the end of its term detailing what steps would be required to potentially implement such a system.

Other changes proposed in the president's draft bill:

The Federal-aid system will be re-defined as being the National Highway System (NHS). It would also expand the NHS to include all urban and rural principal arterials, the strategic highway network and intermodal connectors. Initially, the NHS would expand from approximately 160,000 miles to 223,115 miles. The USDOT Secretary will have authority to modify the NHS for roadways that meet NHS criteria based on requests made by the States in cooperation with local and regional officials and metropolitan planning organizations. States would be required to develop and implement a risk-based State asset management plan for infrastructure assets on the NHS based on a process defined by the Secretary. State asset management plans would be required to include strategies leading to a program of projects that would make progress toward achievement of the national goals of improving the condition and operation of the NHS.

The National Highway Program would be established with two components: the Highway Infrastructure Performance Program (HIPP) and the Flexible Investment Program (FIP). The HIPP would ensure strategic investments to achieve national goals for preserving and improving the infrastructure condition and performance of the National Highway System. The FIP would provide flexibility to States for investment decisions that improve the condition and performance of all Federal-aid highway facilities and of bridges on public roads.

100% Federal share funding using Highway Safety Improvement Program federal funds would be authorized for roadway safety improvement projects to install centerline and shoulder rumble strips.



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### **International Director's Report**

At this time the key methods of communication for the Institute include the monthly ITE Journal, the just-released first issue of the semi-annual Journal of Transportation (a scholarly peer-reviewed academic journal), the monthly E-newsletter, the website [www.ite.org](http://www.ite.org), and the new "ITE Community" web forum for members to communicate and build relationships.

The Board took action to invest Institute reserves in order to hire two new staff members and provide funding to:

- Have a dedicated staff member to research and write timely content for the E-newsletter and the Institute's 24/7 offerings
- Achieve a new look and timely content to the ITE Journal
- Develop an online Technical Literature Library in order to provide ITE members with a user friendly find and retrieve system

### **Participation in international safety organizations**

Over this coming year the executive committee will review and evaluate opportunities to join/participate in global organizations associated with worldwide safety initiatives. These organizations include The Global Road Safety Partnership (GRSP) and The World Road Association (PIARC).

### **Continued support for an ITE Leadership Training Program**

The Board received a detailed report from the Task Force on Leadership Training. Chairman Jim Westmorland presented various options for the development of leadership training for our membership. The Task Force prepared a Transportation Leadership Development Seminar for the Spring Conference as previously requested by the Board. The PDH approved leadership training modules included Leadership Development Overview, Dealing with Elected Officials and Leadership Communications. The seminar participants included Board members and other invited guests on Sunday morning, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The leadership modules expanded upon the leadership program developed over the past several years within the Southern District of ITE. There is a strong desire by the Board to expand this highly successful leadership program from the Southern District to the rest of our districts and sections. The initiative is to provide our members opportunities to develop their leadership skills at all levels as well as the possibility of developing an ITE Leadership program for our young professionals. A Leadership Development Planning Committee was appointed by President Robert Wunderlich with Jim Westmorland as chair to advance this initiative.

### **Framework for International Communities for Students and Professionals**

ITE staff was directed to prepare a set of rules and procedures, along with a possible pilot program, for Board approval in October. These procedures will give our international members wishing to create sections and student chapters an opportunity to be a part of our new online community website with the creation of virtual international membership groups.

### **Report from Eva Lerner-Lam ITE Ambassador to China**

Eva is a non-voting member of the International Board of Direction. She provided advice to the Board on how ITE should pursue the long term development of relations with the transportation community in China.

### **Metric units in ITE publications**

In response to concerns from our international community the Board defined the policy for the inclusion of metric units in all ITE publications. All new publications will include within the text of the document properly converted metric unit values.

### **Changes to the Institute Policies**

Proposed changes to the Environmental, Economic, & Social Policies were brought to the Board by the Policy and U.S. Legislative Committee. The requested changes were approved by the Board to be published in the ITE Journal for member comment. The Board also approved changing Policy S-4 for a title change from "School Crossing Protection" to "School Traffic Safety."





WESTERN DISTRICT  
STUDENT  
ENDOWMENT  
FUND

The Western District will be hosting a Student Raffle during the 2011 Annual Meeting in Anchorage, Alaska. Please join us during the Get Acquainted Social on Sunday, July 10, 2011, and meet some of our dedicated students. The District's student chapters have banded together to promote the Student Endowment Fund by donating items to be raffled off during the Sunday night event. In addition, the students in attendance will be mingling with attendees and selling raffle tickets with all proceeds from the raffle going towards the Student Endowment Fund. Attendees will deposit tickets into buckets in front of the item(s) they want with a winning ticket selected for each item at the end of the event. Winners must pick up their items from the Endowment Fund booth before the vendor area closes on Tuesday.

The Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) and the ITE Alaska Section are well underway with their preparations for the upcoming Annual Meeting. As with past meetings, the LAC is expecting the meeting to be well attended by our student chapter members. We have already had commitments from the student chapters at Cal Poly Pomona, San Diego State University, University of Washington, and Portland State University regarding their attendance of the meeting. In support of the District's student chapters, LAC Co-Chair Anne Brooks has pledged to make and donate an Alaskan quilt for the Student Raffle. In addition, several student chapters have also pledged to donate items to the raffle including the student chapters at Cal Poly Pomona, San Diego State University, and the University of Hawaii at Manoa.



Cal Poly Pomona

The Cal Poly Pomona (CPP) student chapter has pledged to donate an Ipod Nano to the raffle. As in previous years, the CPP student chapter has worked diligently to raise funds to attend the Annual Meeting in Alaska. They expect to have at least 10 of their student members in attendance at the meeting.



San Diego State University

The San Diego State University (SDSU) student chapter plans to send 4-5 student members to the Annual Meeting in Alaska,



University of Hawaii

enough to participate in the Traffic Bowl!

In addition, they have pledged to donate a golf club to the raffle in support of the Student Endowment Fund.

The University of Hawaii at Manoa, with the support of the Hawaii Section, has pledged to donate a basket of Hawaiian treats to the raffle. Although the students from Hawaii are unable to attend the Alaska meeting, they will be sending their support and Aloha to all attendees!



WESTERN DISTRICT  
STUDENT  
ENDOWMENT  
FUND

Current Status

\$262,330

\$500,000.00

# Calibration of the Highway Safety Manual Model for Application in Cold Regions

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## Abstract

AASHTO's Highway Safety Manual (HSM) provides crash prediction models, which include safety performance functions (SPFs), crash modification factors (CMFs) and calibration factors, that have been developed for specific roadway segment and intersection types. The SPFs are the basis of the predictive model and were developed in HSM-related research from the most complete and consistent data sets available. However, climate-related impacts may cause the crash frequencies to vary substantially from the base model in cold regions. The objective of this paper is to determine the validity of the base predictive model and calibrate the model to account for cold region effects. In order to calculate an appropriate calibration factor for cold regions, several urban four-leg signalized intersections were evaluated. Historic crash data was compared to the predicted crash numbers given by the base model. Once the calibration factor was determined the predictive model was able to accurately predict crashes in other similar intersections in cold regions.

## Introduction

Safety is one of the primary considerations for planners and designers. Safety can be a motivating reason for a project or just a criterion that a designer must satisfy. In either case, safety considerations play a large role in any project. It can be difficult to assign relative safety values, much less quantitative crash numbers to a specific design. However, the ability to do this is important to both alternative selection and making the most effective use of safety improvement funding. The advantage of the Highway Safety Manual (HSM) is that it provides predicted quantitative crash values for road segments, intersections and entire road systems based on locality and physical attributes of the roadway. To do this accurately, a calibration factor must be determined for the area.

## Predictive Model

At the core of the HSM are its predictive model and safety performance functions. The safety performance function (SPF) is a base prediction of the crash rate at a given type of facility and volume of traffic. Since crashes do not vary linearly with volume, the SPFs are nonlinear functions. The SPFs have been determined from national crash data and are available for most types of facilities. Once the SPF has been selected, you must apply the specific site characteristics to the prediction



in the form of crash modification factors (CMFs). The CMFs cover a variety of conditions including shoulder width and type, lighting, superelevation and left-turn phasing. Once these are applied you have a predicted crash rate for your site based on national crash data. To make the predicted value applicable to your area you must apply a calibration factor. This calibration factor is specific to a jurisdiction and takes into account a variety of variables including driver behavior, weather, and latitude.

## Methodology

The process of determining the validity of the predictive method and calibration contains seven steps. First is to identify which facility types are to be analyzed. Since signalized intersection crash data is easier to locate than other facility types, urban four-leg signalized intersections were chosen. Second is to select the intersections to be included in the calibration and validation process. The number of intersections to be used for calibration is suggested by the HSM to be between 30-50. Given this range, 40 intersections were chosen randomly from a list of 126 four-leg signalized intersections in Anchorage, Alaska for which historical crash data was available. The size of the validation sample set was determined to be 35, which were randomly selected from the remaining intersections.

The third step is to obtain information for each intersection. There are nine different CMFs that apply to four-leg signalized intersections that require various types of data from left turn phasing on each approach to the presence of a school within 1000'. This data was gathered from both online resources such as Google Earth and site visits. The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities provided the historical crash rates and traffic volumes. After this data is collected, the fourth step is to apply the predictive model to the calibration data set. For this step a calibration factor was not used. The fifth step is to find that calibration factor by comparing the predicted crashes against the historical crash rate.

*(Continued on page 12)*

(Continued from page 11)

The formula for the calibration factor is:

$$C_f = \frac{\sum_{\text{all sites}} \text{observed crashes}}{\sum_{\text{all sites}} \text{predicted crashes}}$$

In the sixth step the predictive model is applied to the validation data set. This time the calibration factor that was calculated in the previous step is used. Finally, the last step takes the predicted crashes of the validation set and compares them against the actual crashes at those locations.

## Results & Conclusions

The calibration factor was found to be 3.72, which is a relatively high value. This could be attributed to several factors including weather, road conditions and sunlight variations. The statistical comparison between the predicted crash rates of the intersections in the validation set and the historical crashes at those intersections showed no significant differences at 95% confidence level. This indicates that the calibration process is accurate for adjusting predictions to a local jurisdiction. More importantly it shows that the

model as a whole can correctly predict crash rates in cold regions. This is important because the data that created the model came from all across the continent. Based on this analysis, the HSM can be a useful tool for jurisdictions in arctic and cold regions.

### Positions Available Ads:

To place your ad, e-mail it to:

[AAburahmah@sandiego.gov](mailto:AAburahmah@sandiego.gov)

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](http://www.westernite.org). More info on posting ads is available at our web site ([westernite.org](http://westernite.org)).

## Student Raffle during the 2011 Annual Meeting in Anchorage, Alaska



Please join us during the Get Acquainted Social on Sunday, July 10, 2011, and meet some of our dedicated students. The Western District will be hosting a Student Raffle during the 2011 Annual Meeting in Anchorage, Alaska. The District's student chapters have banded together to promote the Student Endowment Fund by donating items to be raffled off during the Sunday night event. Some of our student chapters have solicited items from their schools or local companies to contribute while others have gotten together to make items for the raffle.

Anne Brooks, Co-Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee

(LAC) in Alaska, has crafted a beautiful Alaskan quilt. She has appropriately named the quilt "Blanket Toss" and has generously donated the quilt to the Student Raffle. Don't miss your chance to win this wonderful item at the raffle!



In addition, some of our student chapters have chosen to make items for the raffle. The theme for the Annual Banquet this year is a "duct tape ball" where attendees dress up in items made from duct tape. In the spirit of this year's banquet, the students of Oregon State University (OSU) held an ITE duct tape party and everyone that attended made an item out of duct tape. The students crafted ties, purses, belts, hats, jewelry, and vests! Visit the Alaska LAC Facebook page (ITE Alaska 2011) to see more photos of items by the OSU students. Many of these items will be raffled off at the meeting so don't miss your chance pick up last minute items for the banquet.

# See You in Alaska !



Anne Brooks and Joann Mitchell  
LAC co-chairs

On behalf of the Alaska Section, your Western District Leadership, and the Anchorage Hilton and Egan Convention Center, we'd like to extend a great land welcome to you and your family. Please join us July 10-13 in Anchorage, Alaska. Combine the conference with seem-

ingly endless daylight, moderate temperatures, side trips to Denali National Park, hiking in the Chugach State Park and fishing adventures. The result will be the vacation of a lifetime!

The July Western District ITE meeting is rapidly approaching and your local arrangements committee is working hard to make it a terrific, memory-making event.

### Family Activities

We kick off our family activities with a downtown orientation tour on Sunday—our way of introducing you to the sights and activities within walking distance of the conference hotel. We'll also hook you up with the Anchorage Museum of History and Art and Imaginarium, Botanical Gardens, the Alaska Native Heritage Center, bike and walking tours or some local fishing. We'll equip you with information on local events so you can trek out on your own.

Monday's Family Night features fun activities at Kincaid Park—orienteeing, biking, wildlife viewing and some old fashion games.

### Conference at a glance

We start off with a special visit and welcome from Peter Appel, Administrator of US DOT's Research and Innovative Technology Administration. Tom Warne provides

our keynote address. Four-time Iditarod Dog Sled Racer, Lance Mackey, just off the trail, will inspire us at lunch on Monday with slides and experiences about basic transportation using dog-propelled sleds.

Monday through Wednesday morning, attendees will want to take advantage of technical sessions featuring over 130 papers from professional and student authors representing all 10 states in the Western District.



Tuesday's Annual Awards Banquet will be a treat. The Alaska Section plans a fun filled evening with local entertainer, Mr. Whitekeys, providing a multi-media show featuring fun anecdotes and pictures from Alaska and great music for your listening and dancing pleasure.

Exhibitors and vendors will display their products starting Sunday and continuing through Tuesday. Stop by to see new innovative products and state of the art equipment.

Technical tours will be offered on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Sunday's trip is to the Whittier the Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award in 2001. The facility is the only combined use public railroad/highway tunnel in America. It provides some unique hydronic ice control, interlocked state-of-the-art signal and ITS traffic systems. The "A" Frame portal is designed to withstand a major avalanche.

Monday's technical tour features the Port of Anchorage, which is in the midst of a multi-year, billion-dollar upgrade. Tuesday you will get a behind the scenes tour of the Alaska Railroad Operations Center.

### Student Activities

We bring back the James H. Kell Competition on Sunday and Monday will feature the Student Traffic

Bowl. Western District students can hone their skills and take home the traffic bowl trophy and the honor of representing the district at the international student traffic bowl in St. Louis, Missouri in August.

We encourage the students to enhance their conference experience by volunteering to assist the Alaska local arrangements committee, attending all the functions and networking with transportation professionals.

We look forward to hosting this conference in Alaska—the great land! For more information go to [www.westernite.org](http://www.westernite.org) and click on the conference logo!

See you in July.



# Section and Chapter Activities

## Colorado

A Colorado/Wyoming Section ITE luncheon was held on Friday, March 4, 2011 at the Giuseppe's Depot Restaurant in Colorado Springs. Section President, Greg MacKinnon, presided over the meeting that was attended by 45 members and guests.

Greg MacKinnon welcomed the attendees and the luncheon's honored guests Jake Kononov, Dave Krauth and Dave Millar. Greg also announced that the Section's newly adopted bylaws are posted on the Section's website at <http://www.cowyite.org/SecDocs/>. The Executive Committee has been actively seeking feedback from our members with member surveys at each of the luncheons. Please take this opportunity to let us know how you think the Section can better meet the demands of the members.

Vice President, Chris Sheffer, reminded everyone that the next meeting will be the 9th Annual Spring Transportation Symposium. This year will be jointly hosted by CO/WY ITS, WTS Colorado, ITS Rocky Mountain, ACEC of Colorado, APA Colorado and ASCE of Colorado. A morning panel discussion, keynote speaker and eight technical sessions will address the region's transportation issues.

The annual Colorado/Wyoming ITE Golf Tournament will be held at the CommonGround Golf Course in Aurora on June 10th. A tournament registration form and sponsorship form are now available at [www.cowyite.org](http://www.cowyite.org).

The luncheon was recorded. A video will be available online at [www.cowyite.org/videos/](http://www.cowyite.org/videos/).

The Colorado/Wyoming Section contact is Greg MacKinnon of the Denver Regional Council of Governments, (303) 480-5633; [gmacinnon@drcog.org](mailto:gmacinnon@drcog.org). Also, please visit our Section's website at [www.cowyite.org](http://www.cowyite.org).



### Kari McDowell

Section Scribe and Social Media Manager

## Idaho

Our 2010-2011 year has been fantastic. We started off the year welcoming in new officers. Phil Rust took over as President, Leah Kelsey moved up to Vice President, and Dan Thompson was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

We continued the tradition of monthly luncheons that feature transportation-related topics presented by leading transportation experts from Idaho and around the United States. We also offered several ITE webinars to our members which were sponsored by the Ada County Highway District.

To kick off the new 2010-2011 year, the Chapter held its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Statewide Conference in September at the beautiful Spurwing Golf Club in Meridian, Idaho. The conference was well attended and featured speakers from Idaho, Utah and California. Five students from the University of Idaho made the long six hour drive down to attend for free. Following the conference, the golf club was gracious enough to let our group play 18 holes on their course for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Idaho ITE Golf Scramble. Over 20 sponsors contributed to the event and the Chapter raised over \$1,600 for the student scholarship fund- which sponsors university students' attendance at the annual ITE Intermountain Section Conference in Jackson, Wyoming.

### Leah Kelsey



## Oregon

The 19<sup>th</sup> annual William C. Kloos Traffic Bowl was held on Thursday, November 18th, 2010 at McMenamins Edgefield in Troutdale, Oregon. A total of five schools participated in the event, including the University of Portland, the Oregon Institute of Technology, Oregon State University, the University of Washington, and former traffic bowl champions, Portland State University. It was an exciting event that culminated in a repeat victory by Portland State University and the presentation of the newly designed ITE Traffic Bowl trophy.

The annual Technical Workshop was held

on Monday, January 31, 2011 at ODOT Region 1 in Portland, Oregon. The workshop provided insight into various aspects related to practical design and included case studies that focused on a wide range of issues through the lens of local perspectives.

The Oregon Sections of ITE hosted another Happy Hour/After Work Social on Thursday, February 17, 2011 at Rogue Brew Pub in downtown Portland. These happy hours are purely social events that provide a great opportunity to get together with fellow transportation professionals over drinks and a bite to eat.

Our March Section Meeting was held on Wednesday, March 9, 2011 at the Bridgeport Brewery in Portland, Oregon. Transportation Planning Program Manager with HDR, Sharon Kelly, presented on the state of the industry with respect to streetcars as a transit mode, both nationally and locally. The Portland Streetcar, often cited as the first modern streetcar system developed in the U.S., will celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary this summer.

Upcoming activities include the joint WTS/ITE April luncheon that will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at the Governor Hotel in downtown Portland. The combined meeting will feature guest speaker Raymond Mabey, ODOT's OTIA III State Bridge Delivery Program Manager. Mr. Mabey will share an overview of the agency's first experience using the Construction Manager/General Contractor delivery method and what the agency has learned along the way on the Interstate 5 Willamette River Bridge replacement project in Eugene-Springfield. The May luncheon will be a joint meeting with OTCDC on Friday, May 13, 2011 and will focus on the Willamette River Crossing in Salem, Oregon.

### Jackson Jeremy



## San Diego

The San Diego ITE Section held luncheon meetings in January and February and a joint mini-workshop/luncheon with the Southern California Section in March 2011.

At the January meeting, Section President Saul Kane introduced Tim Thiele of RBF and John Maashoff with the City of Carlsbad. They spoke about the "Carlsbad Coastal Rail Trail". The trail parallels the Coaster rail line. The design of the twelve foot wide trail took into account future expansion of the rail tracks, environmental constraints, connectivity to existing trails and transportation centers, safety, and ADA standards among other goals.

In February, Bill Cisco, with Dowling Associates, Inc., gave a presentation titled, "Complete Streets and Multimodal Level of Service". Mr. Cisco discussed AB 1358, the complete streets bill that requires cities to consider all modes of transportation.

The March meeting was a joint mini-workshop/luncheon with the Southern California Section. San Diego ITE Section president, Saul Kane, introduced the speakers for the workshop. Yara Fisher from AECOM, and Margaret Moore Sohagi and Robert Tyson Sohagi, both from The Sohagi Law Group, all discussed CEQA's interpretation of baseline conditions as it relates to preparation of traffic impact studies. California Section ITE president, introduced Brian Welch of Fehr & Peers. He spoke about a "Simulator Tool for Land Use and TDM".

The Western District Board meeting was held in San Diego in February. Edgar Perez, ITE District 6 President, invited the local ITE members to a bonfire party on February 4th to mark the closing of the meeting. The bonfire was a big success and enjoyed by all who attended.



**Kathy Feilen**

**San Francisco Bay Area**

The San Francisco Bay Area section kicked off the year with its Annual Recognitions Award Ceremony, held on January 20<sup>th</sup> at Ponzu Restaurant's Orpheum Ballroom in San Francisco. 48 people attended this event, which honors the best project and transportation professional in the area. Mark Spencer of DKS Associates was awarded the 2010 Transportation Professional of the Year. The winner of the 2010 Transportation

Project of the Year was "NextBus, Real Time Bus Arrival Information for AC Transit", which was presented by Jon Twichell, from AC Transit Capital Projects. In his presentation, Jon discussed the goals of the NextBus system, -which include providing real time bus arrival information via the internet and making information easily accessible via smart phones and computers.

The second monthly meeting of the year was a joint meeting with the South Bay Traffic Officials Association (SBTOA) at the Silver Dragon Restaurant in Oakland, held on February 17th. 31 people attended the meeting, the theme of which was Statewide Legislation and Transportation. The meeting's technical presentation was given by Lezlie Kimura Szeto, who is the air pollution specialist for the local government outreach group of the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Ms. Sveto presented on "Sustainable Communities for Sustainable States", and focused on CARB's efforts to direct local governments in implementing SB 375. Ms. Szeto discussed the challenges of having SB 375 be only incentive-based, rather than a sanction or a mandate. Already, however, MPOs have greatly improved their analytical planning tools to prepare for the implementation phase. For example, travel demand models have improved, travel surveys have been refined, and MPOs are beginning to develop and monitor performance indicators to track their progress in meeting targets.

Most recently, the section held a joint meeting with ITS-California on Automated Enforcement. 37 people attended this meeting, which was held on March 17<sup>th</sup> at Devry University in Oakland. The first presentation was given by Lieutenant Kevin Davis of the California Highway Patrol (CHP), who spoke about automated enforcement from the law enforcement perspective. According to Lieutenant Davis, the goal of automated enforcement from CHP's perspective is to change driver behavior to save lives. He discussed three specific types of automated enforcement: (1) red light camera systems, which CHP operates in Sacramento and Los Angeles; (2) automated speed enforcement, which is not authorized in California; and (3) automated occupancy enforcement, which is being tested on I-15 in San Diego. The second presentation was given by Julie Dixon from Serco. Serco has been operating San Francisco's parking program since the early 1990s, and was

awarded the management of SFPark, which is San Francisco's project to incorporate new parking management technologies and approaches. Revenue has increased by 50% since San Francisco implemented an integrated parking system; the city made \$37.5 million dollars off of parking last year alone. The next step of SFPark is demand-based pricing, which will involve the integration of traffic data into a parking data warehouse.



**Tiffany Barkley**

**Riverside-San Bernardino**

Our February 2011 Riverside-San Bernardino ITE section meeting was held in the City of Rancho Cucamonga at the Old Spaghetti Factor. John Kerenyi, a Senior Engineer from the City of Moreno, Valley presented on TRansportation ANalysis and SIMulation System (TRANSIMS)

RSBITE held its 28th Annual Golf Tournament on Friday, March 18, 2011 at Menifee Lakes Country Club. We had another successful golf tournament. 95 golfers enjoyed a beautiful day playing golf at Menifee Lakes Country Club. After a round of golf we enjoyed a delicious western BBQ lunch, a raffle with some great door prizes, and recognized the accomplishments of golfers who finished the day with awards.

Congratulations to the Student Chapter of ITE at Cal Poly Pomona. They held a fundraiser on the golf course and received over \$400 from our generous golfers.



**Jonathan Hofert,**

**Washington**

**February ITE/IMSAs Luncheon Meeting**  
Always a well attended event, the annual ITE/IMSAs joint conference and Vendor Exhibition allows the opportunity for cross networking between those involved in planning and design to those that construct and maintain our transportation systems

(Continued from page 15)

along with specialists that supply the necessary tools and materials. The event hosted at Seatac Double Tree gathered about 104 registered for the luncheon meeting, 36 registered vendors, and many others that took advantage of the free technical sessions and vendor training. In parallel, IMSA held several meetings in the morning along with ITS Washington's board meeting mid-day.

This month was especially exciting for the Washington State section of ITE as it proudly hosted the 2011 Quad Conference. For two days, the four sections of Washington, Oregon, Vancouver Island and Vancouver B.C.,



gathered together to present and attend technical sessions, and engage in meaningful dialogue related to the region's transportation challenges. There were 15 technical

sessions and 45 speakers providing a myriad of topics ranging from latest approaches, to facilities planning, to signal and intersection operations, to tolling. Of special note were the strong discussions related to bicycle facilities as a vital part of a complete street.

Washington Section President, Katherine Caseday, started the first day's luncheon with an introduction of the current officers and thanked the committee members involved in organizing the event. She continued by introducing International Vice President, Rock Miller to provide a few words. Among those words was "collaboration." Historically, ITE provided an opportunity for agencies to step beyond the boundaries of their municipalities to engage in local, regional and international challenges that affect the quality of life for ourselves and our children. Rock spoke of the recent United Nations announcement of the world-wide



goals to reduce and eliminate traffic fatalities.

Second day key note speaker, Harold Taniguchi (Director, King County DOT,) spoke about the challenges the largest county in Washington State faces. Our second day's key note speaker, Mark Hallenbeck (TRAC, UW) provided a very probing yet light hearted look at paying for transportation.



Following the luncheon portion of the meeting, Kevin Chang provided information on tours to City of Bellevue's Traffic Management Center and Boeing Facilities VIP tour in Everett. Mr. Chang then concluded the Quad Conference.



Paul Cho

## Section Spotlight



The Arizona Section of ITE held its annual joint meeting with the International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA) on March 9-10, 2011 at the Black Canyon Conference Center in Phoenix, Arizona. Over 500 persons attended the conference this year, under the theme, "Taking the Next Step Together." The keynote speaker on March 9 was Stephen Banta, the CEO of Valley Metro Rail in Phoenix. He discussed the current state of the light rail system in Phoenix and proposed development of future lines to complement the existing 20-mile segment. Break-out sessions at the conference covered topics such as: traffic signals and adaptive signal control, signage and lighting, traffic and roadway safety, roadway design, transit innovations, pedestrian and bike planning, rail system planning, and public education programs within Arizona.



The meeting concluded with a section meeting at lunch on March 10, with Mark Clark of Lake Havasu City speaking on traffic engineering (see photo below). The lunch also featured \$1000 scholarship awards for Ellie Volosin at Arizona State University, for a graduate paper, and Jared Bruns of the University of Arizona for an undergraduate paper, on a transportation topic. Finally, the meeting concluded with the naming of candidates for Section officers for the 2011-2012 year. Photo of Mark Clark, Traffic Engineer, Lake Havasu City, speaking at the Arizona ITE/IMSA Annual Meeting



Dr Mark Hickman

### ASU Student Chapter Activities

The year began with the ASU-ITE Student Chapter organizing a seminar titled "Forgiving Highways" by Mr. Mike Dreznes of Barrier Systems, Inc. This seminar was also broadcast live as a webinar. In the spring semester, the student chapter held a joint meeting with the Arizona Section of ITE. The student chapter was actively involved with organization of the 3rd Conference on Innovations in Travel Modeling (ITM) held in May 2010. This conference, hosted by the Transportation Research Board and ASU, gave students the opportunity to learn about the latest developments in travel modeling while also networking with fellow professionals. The students learned valuable organizational and teamwork skills through this effort. In July 2010, three of the student chapter officers along with the chapter faculty advisor attended the 12th World Conference on Transport Research in Lisbon, Portugal. At the beginning of the Fall 2010 semester, the chapter held a meeting in order to elect new officers. In the Fall of 2010, the chapter was largely involved in the planning and organization of the First International Symposium on Advances in Transport Sustainability (ISATS 2010) held at Arizona State University. The student chapter also undertook several fundraising activities, most noteworthy being the organization of a short course on advanced tools for travel modeling. These fund raising activities helped the chapter sponsor several students to attend the Annual TRB meeting in Washington D.C. Finally, at the end of 2010, the chapter held a social event for students to meet with one another and say farewell to one of their fellow officers.



Vasu Pavitravas

## Candidates for ITE International Vice President

### **ZAKI MUSTAFA, P.E. (F)**

*Bureau Chief, City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation, Los Angeles, CA, USA*

#### **TOGETHER WE ARE THE BEST**



I truly believe that we can accomplish more goals in more meaningful ways when we work together with each other. In preparing my vision statement for this campaign, I contacted all ITE presidents and many past presidents to learn about the issues our leaders are facing throughout the world. I found that there are common themes in all regions and generations of the ITE family: We need to work together to make ITE more **accessible, visible, and affordable**.

My experience gained from more than 30 years of ITE involvement has provided me with a valuable tool: I can recognize the needs and expectations of our members in the many different levels of our organization, and I know how our organization can meet these needs.

I have worked for the City of Los Angeles, Department of Transportation for the last 27 years. As the Chief of Field Operations, I am responsible for crews that install and maintain all traffic control devices for the City. I manage more than 280 employees with a budget of approximately \$30 million.

I have been very fortunate to serve at all levels of ITE leadership: as a Student Chapter President, Section President, District President, and recently as a member of the International Board. This experience has allowed me to contribute my ideas, programs, and enthusiasm throughout the full spectrum of the ITE organization. My ITE career highlights include:

International Director: 2008, 2009, 2010

Western District President: 2005

Initiated the Presidential Proclamation award program

WesternITE newsletter editor

WesternITE web-site manager

LAC Chair Anaheim Annual Meeting: 2008

Traffic Bowl Committee Member

I established the District's Student Endowment Fund and helped establish my local Section's Student Scholarship fund. I also established eight new student chapters throughout the Western U.S.

**Please vote for me!**

### **RAY DAVIS, P.E., PTOE (F)**

*President, RED3Consulting, Emeryville, CA, USA*



"ITE is a multi-million dollar, multi-faceted, volunteer based professional organization. During these fiscally challenging times we need to make sure that the leadership of ITE has a thorough understanding on how ITE operates, and how it impacts our private and public sector members.

We are all affected by fiscal, time, and travel constraints. We need to develop and implement strategic actions to make ITE more accessible to all of our members and to keep them engaged in our professional organization."

#### **My Vision for Bringing ITE to You:**

**Use of existing technology for all ITE Committees, Councils, and Task Forces** to enable all members to participate without having to travel. This will increase participation and enable ITE's use of smaller meeting venues and save on meeting costs.

**Create a Subscription Based On-Demand Electronic Library** of ITE's technical publications, compendiums, best practices, recommended practices, and web training that will provide transportation engineers and planners worldwide to

have immediate access to the best information to assist them in developing solutions to the issues with which they are dealing.

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