President’s Message

By Neelam Dorman, P.E., ITE Western District President

One of the best parts about being on the Western District Board is the opportunity to install officers for our Sections and Chapters. I have had the honor of installing the new officers for the Idaho Chapter, Central Coast Section, and the Arizona Section this past month. Congratulations to all the new Section/Chapter officers and as always please let the District know how we can help you serve our members.

The month of September has been busy for the Western District OneITE Task Force but it has been great to be able to meet with so many of our members and wonderful to see the Section/Chapter leadership engagement with the Western District. In doing outreach for the OneITE Initiative, members of our board have been able to meet in person with all but two Sections and two Chapters.

To update you on the OneITE Initiative, the Western District Task Force is working on potential transition timelines for restructuring which we will submit in a letter to the International Board of Direction (IBOD) for the October meeting. In addition, we will submit the notes from all our meetings with our Sections/Chapters along with written input from the leadership of each Section/Chapter. I will provide updates from the October IBOD meeting in the November E-News.

Other activities the District is gearing up for in the coming year is our Social Media Initiative to hopefully use these platforms to better communicate with our members. We are also closing out our finances for the 2017-2018 fiscal year and preparing for the Mid-Year Board Meeting to be held in Oakland in conjunction with the 2019 Student Leadership Summit at UC Berkeley.

I’d like to take this opportunity to recognize all the agencies and firms for encouraging our volunteers and supporting them as they serve on the Western District Board and Committees. Thank you to: Kittelson & Associates, Lee Engineering, Ganddini Group, W-Trans, KOA, MaxGreen Transportation Engineers, Advantec, Wilson Okamoto, Iteris, Nelson\Nygaard, WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff, SF Municipal Transportation Agency, Sanderson Stewart, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Kimley-Horn & Associates, NexTech Systems, DKS Associates, City of Thousand Oaks, and CRW Engineering Group.

If you haven’t already, mark your calendars for the 2019 Western District Annual Meeting to be held in Monterey June 23-26 and follow the LAC on Facebook and Twitter (@ite2019monterey) for updates.
2018 Annual Board Meeting Highlights
By Paul Barricklow, PE, ITE Vice President

The Western District Annual Board Meeting assembled committee chairs, LAC Chairs, and section and chapter leaders. The voting members of the board are the President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Past President and three International Directors.

Western District President Mark Spencer called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Attendance and introductions were made. Mark gave the President’s report which included: a recap of the Section/Chapter visits, action items, OneITE task force, and Local Activities Committees (LAC) Task Force.

Vice President Neelam Dorman gave her report which included updates on awards, committee travel budgets, and leadership directory updates.

Secretary-Treasurer Paul Barricklow provided fiscal year-to-date financial report, confirmed the Endowment Fund accounts, and provided a 2018-2019 proposed budget. The budget was later reviewed and approved.

Past President Cathy Leong gave updates on the Lifetime and Individual Achievement Awards.

International Director (ID) Walter Okitsu discussed the proposed fees for student members at annual meetings, OneITE subtask force, section dues collection systems, and teared dues structure for younger members.

ID Karen Aspelin provided insight into the ITE Policy handbook and gave updates on the STEM subcommittee progress.

ID Carlos Ortiz gave updates on the International budget and membership, progress of initiatives, and future planning and collaboration meetings.

International Executive Director Jeffrey Paniati gave updates stabilizing budgets and communities, Section & Chapter Leadership Calls, Vision Zero Initiatives, annual meetings, new Trip Generation products, membership, strategic plans, Institutional sustainability, and new websites, programs, products, and partnerships.

International Vice President Michael Sanderson reported on significant progress in ITE transformation, branding “Community of Transportation Professionals”, board initiatives, OneITE direction, and strategic plans. An open discussion about OneITE followed Michael’s report.

District Administrator Dalene Whitlock reported she is still working on the non-profit status. WesternNITE Managing Editor Erica Jensen, Advertising Manager Robert Sweeting, Website Manager Justin Link, Technical Committee Chair Amit Kothari, Membership Committee Chair Joe De La Garza, Legislative Committee Chair Tom Mericle, Career Guidance Committee Chair Josh McNeill, Student & Faculty Initiatives Committee Chair Danielle Scharf, Student Endowment Fund Committee Chair Kimberly Leung, and Local Activities Committee (LAC) Liaison Randy McCourt gave updates on their respective committee status and goals. Justin Link rendered his resignation; Cameron Shew is the new Web Manager.

Annual Meeting updates were given by the LAC Chair or representative including: 2017 San Diego (Joe De La Garza), 2018 Keystone (Ben Waldman), 2019 Monterey (Kimberly Leung and Justin Link), 2020 Honolulu (Cathy Leong and Neelam Dorman), 2021 Portland (Randy McCourt), 2022 Palm Springs, and 2023 (Joshua Saak).

Additional items discussed included California SB1 and Student Leadership Summit. The next board meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, January 25th, 2019 in Oakland/Berkeley. The meeting adjourned at 3:40.

Call for Candidates & Nominations

The Western District Board is seeking nominations of qualified candidates for Secretary-Treasurer and International Director (ID) to run in the June 2019 election. Typically, nominations are rotated between inside/outside California, but for the upcoming elections the District is putting out an open call for nominations. Secretary-Treasurer and ID nominations can be submitted for individuals regardless of where they reside.

Anyone who would like to submit a nominee for consideration, or who would like more information about the election process, should contact Western District ID Elect Cathy Leong at cleong@wilsonokamoto.com. Nominations will be accepted until December 1, 2018.

We are also requesting nominations for Individual and Lifetime Achievement Awards. Award information and nomination forms are available at westernnite.org/annual-meetings/awards/. If you plan on recommending someone for either award, please fill out the nomination form as completely as possible. Nominations for the Individual and Lifetime Achievement Awards are due to Western District Past President Mark Spencer at mspencer@w-trans.com by November 1, 2018.
The 2018 Annual Business Meeting for ITE’s Western District was called to order on Tuesday, June 26th by President Mark Spencer. The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance, National Anthem, and a moment of silence for deceased members Frank Barnes, Richard Barrera, James Chen, Robert Crommelin, Roy Fielding, Juliana Iturrizaga, Phillip Rowell, Richard Sheridan, and Richard Tilles.

Awards were presented by the Student Endowment Fund Committee, Technical Committee, Career Guidance Committee, Membership Committee, Website Manager, and WesternITE Manager. The final call for ballots was followed by the convening of the teller’s committee by Mark.

Mark Spencer addressed the membership and provided a recap of the past year’s highlights, including district communications with the membership, WesternITE publications, and social media outreach. Mark informed the members that the Student Endowment Fund is over its initial goal of $500,000 and has moved forward with the next phase of the program, expanding the student initiatives and outreach. Mark encouraged continued support of LeadershipITE and the Student Leadership Summit. The breadth and geographic diversity of the district membership and leadership were highlighted along with an announcement of the formation of the Western District OneITE Task Force to coordinate ongoing initiatives with ITE International and our Sections and Chapters.

Addressing President Mark Spencer and the Board, Jonathan Upchurch presented a motion for the Board to consider a resolution regarding the OneITE initiative to restructure the Western District: to strongly encourage the International Board of Direction to follow a transparent decision-making process that informs the entire District and seeks input and comment from not only leaders but also grassroots membership.

Noteworthy membership discussion followed. The resolution was modified through continued friendly modifications and discussion amongst the membership and the Board to clarify the resolution’s application to “any” proposed initiative to the divide the district. The resolution was passed.

Secretary-Treasurer Paul Barricklow summarized the state of the District’s accounts for 2017-2018 and introduced the draft budget for FY 2018-2019. The budget was approved by the membership.

The final order of business was the announcement of the winners of the 2018 election: President Neelam Dorman, Vice President Paul Barricklow, Secretary-Treasurer Giancarlo Ganddini, and International Director Cathy Leong. The meeting was then adjourned.
# 2018 Annual Meeting Award Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>2018 Recipient</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Endowment Fund Contributor Recognition</td>
<td>Jenny &amp; Wulf Grote</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment Fund: Highest Contribution per Member Award</td>
<td>Utah Chapter</td>
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<td>Endowment Fund Highest Overall Contribution Award</td>
<td>Intermountain Section</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section/Chapter Activities Award, Large Section</td>
<td>SF Bay Area Section</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section/Chapter Activities Award, Small Section</td>
<td>San Diego Section</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wayne T. Van Wagoner Award (for best paper by a Western District member published in ITE Journal in prior calendar year)</td>
<td>Peter Koonce, Portland Bureau of Transportation (for his paper titled “Inclusion of Equity in an LED Citywide Street Light Replacement Program”)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Employer Recognition Award</td>
<td>Kittelson &amp; Associates, Inc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Chapter Award Winner</td>
<td>Oregon State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Chapter Award Honororable Mention</td>
<td>Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; University of California, Berkeley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Paper Competition</td>
<td>Jianqing Wu, “An Automatic Procedure for Vehicle Tracking with a Roadside LiDAR Sensor” University of Nevada, Reno</td>
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<td>Outstanding Undergraduate Student</td>
<td>Henry Hammel (University of California, Berkeley)</td>
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<td>Outstanding Graduate Student Award</td>
<td>Kayla Fleskes (Oregon State University)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outstanding Transportation Educator</td>
<td>Dr. David Hurwitz, Oregon State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Young Professional Achievement Award</td>
<td>Lou Davenport</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Achievement Award</td>
<td>Justin Link</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lifetime Achievement Award</td>
<td>Rock Miller</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Meeting Best Paper Award</td>
<td>Paul Van Dyk, “Right of Way Watchers - The Popular Way to Diet Your Roads: How Long Beach is Earning Support for Road Diets in the Car Culture of Southern California”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual Meeting Best Paper by a Young Professional Award</td>
<td>Christopher Sobie, “ATSPM Deployment in Albuquerque, NM”</td>
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<tr>
<td>MiteY Race Awards</td>
<td>Family/Friends - 1st: yAyTA; 2nd: Kickin’ Aspelins; 3rd Place: E-squared Students - 1st: The Commuters; 2nd: The Roommates; 3rd: SLO Transit”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Best Web Site Award</td>
<td>San Diego Section</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Chapter Web Site Award Winner</td>
<td>Cal Poly San Luis Obispo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wisest and Windiest Scribe Award</td>
<td>Molly McCormick (Oregon Section)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Traffic Bowl</td>
<td>California State University, Fullerton</td>
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<tr>
<td>James H. Kell Student RFP</td>
<td>Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo “Amass Transit”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Award: Highest Number Gain</td>
<td>Arizona Section</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Award: Highest % Gain</td>
<td>Arizona Section</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Chapter Annual Meeting Award Winner</td>
<td>Cal Poly San Luis Obispo</td>
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2018 Best Paper

The District’s Best Paper Award is one of the most prestigious presented each year. The winning paper is presented here.

Right of Way(t) Watchers: The Popular Way to Diet Your Roads

How Long Beach is Earning Support for Road Diets in the Car Culture of Southern California

By Paul Van Dyk; Long Beach Public Works

Long Beach, California, spent the better part of a century developing rights-of-way that led residents to rely on their cars as their primary (and in some cases, only) method of transport. Ocean Boulevard along the Pacific coast had been a prime example of wide, auto-dominated roadways, but that five-lane arterial was converted to a three-lane local collector in 2016. This roadway with excess capacity was the first high-profile corridor to be considered for a road diet in Long Beach. The outreach and traffic studies conducted during the road diet implementation process provide a template for successfully completing future projects that require a shift in modal priorities.

Background

Once part of the Pacific Electric railway, 100 years ago Ocean Blvd. featured passenger rail down its center with parallel vehicle lanes that crossed the San Gabriel River toward Orange County via a bridge at the end of a peninsula. That railway and bridge were demolished over 50 years ago, diverting intercounty travel to another road and converting the railway to a landscaped median and a second vehicle lane in each direction. In the following decades, roadway has had excess capacity, leading to frequent concerns from residents regarding vehicle speeds and an environment unfriendly to pedestrians. The roadway was two miles long with five 4-way stop-controlled intersections and many minor intersections of low-volume one-way residential streets to the north. Four beach parking lot entrances exist to the south.

Numerous requests had been submitted to the Public Works department asking for additional stop signs, flashing lights, and speed humps to ‘control speeders’. Concerned residents proclaimed that more stop signs were needed to control traffic while they also lamented that cars would not stop at stop signs. Rather than continue receiving and refusing multiple requests for stop signs, city staff began a traffic study and outreach effort in 2016 to holistically address the excess capacity on Ocean Boulevard.

Projected Impacts

Before engaging the community with proposals for changes to the roadway, the existing conditions were quantified. Radar speed surveys, traffic counts, and corridor travel times were all recorded in two periods, once when school was in session and once during the peak summer season. Daily volumes rose as Ocean Blvd. neared downtown Long Beach to the west, increasing from 6,500 vehicles at the base of the peninsula to 15,000 vehicles at Termino Ave. Analysis revealed a level of service of A at every intersection under existing conditions, with 85th percentile speeds at 40 mph. Models showed that a lane reduction in each direction would still maintain an A level of service at most intersections, with the most impacted intersections still operating at a C level of service during peak hour conditions. From a technical analysis, it was apparent that a road diet would be the best approach to calm traffic. Further public outreach was needed to determine what should be done with the additional area within the right-of-way that would be gained when a vehicle lane was removed.
Community Cooperation

To gather local input, in-person meetings were held with local businesses, and multiple workshops at community meetings and town halls were hosted by the City Councilperson. Residents were given control over what the new space in the public right-of-way would be used for. At the community workshops, a brief presentation by a city engineer gave a calculated number on the amount of vehicle delay that could be expected when a lane was removed. That presentation was followed by an hour for residents to provide individual comments by leaving stickers on maps of the project area or, for more private comments, filling out a half-page survey on the project. Responses overwhelmingly requested better pedestrian crossings and reduced speeds.

The input received was processed into a traffic study report that recommended utilizing the additional right-of-way to shorten pedestrian crossing distances, increase available parking, and calm traffic. Projected changes in vehicle speeds were included in memos and distributed to the community through the local newspaper (Saltzgaver, Grunion Gazette) and the councilmember’s email newsletter. Honest and frequent conversations with the public about the costs and benefits of the project helped to combat misinformation that was being spread about the project via social media in the neighborhood.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intersection</th>
<th>One Vehicle Lane (Proposed)</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AM Peak</td>
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<td>ICU LOS</td>
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<td>Termino</td>
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<td>Bennett</td>
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<td>Granada</td>
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<td>LaVerne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claremont</td>
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<td>54th</td>
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Construction began in December 2016 and included removing the existing lane markings and replacing the #2 southbound lane with angled parking on the coastal side of the street. A few months later, the #2 northbound lane was replaced with an additional buffer next to the median and a buffer adjacent to the class II bike lane. All new markings were installed with paint instead of thermoplastic since the road diet was touted as a pilot project.

Previously, the roadway narrowed south of 55th Place and did not have a bicycle facility. For that final mile of the project, the #2 lane was changed from a vehicle lane to a class II bicycle lane.

Results

Twelve months after the initial study and six months after implementation, traffic data were collected and analyzed, confirming the projected speeds and delays. 85th percentile speeds dropped from 40 mph to 34 mph, allowing the speed limit to be rounded down to 30 mph. Average increase in travel delay was measured at 14 seconds per mile. The number of vehicles traveling within the 10 mph pace improved from 65% to 76% with fewer instances of vehicles traveling more than 5 mph over the speed limit. For less than $400k, two miles of roadway were calmed. Requests for traffic calming and stop signs have been nearly eliminated.

Future Projects

The Mobility Element of Long Beach’s General Plan identified 30 corridors to be analyzed for character change. Character change is identified in the plan as a redesign to better accommodate the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders by reducing the width or number of travel and parking lanes. Ocean Blvd. was one of the first of the thirty corridors to receive a road diet based on the character change analysis. A successful and popular implementation of the Ocean Blvd. project was critical to provide proof of concept for future character
change projects. Ocean Blvd. served as an excellent primary case, since it is a prominent roadway that most Long Beach residents are familiar with due to its proximity to multiple coastal recreational uses.

During preliminary outreach for later projects, city staff have pointed to Ocean Blvd. as an example of how road diets can provide safety benefits and how Public Works’ traffic modeling was accurate in predicting the changes in travel time and vehicle delay. Long Beach continues to apply road diets strategically, prioritizing streets that have excess capacity and are also burdened with a relatively high collision rate. Four more road diet projects covering 4.5 miles are entering construction in 2018.

Current outreach for future traffic calming projects have followed the Ocean Blvd. template. Entire corridors are modeled before outreach begins, in order to provide a projected traffic impact for the community to weigh when considering the benefits of a character change on the street (Ruiz, Long Beach Post). Neighborhood associations and parent-teacher organizations are the primary contacts at the beginning of the outreach schedule. Each public meeting begins with a presentation on the streets’ current speed and collision statistics followed by a summary of the Ocean Blvd. project. Surveys are distributed after the presentation to allow all attendees to individually comment. Recent responses from local organizations for a proposed road diet on a six lane arterial yielded support for removing a travel lane for expanded bus stops and a protected bikeway.

**Conclusions**

- Early community engagement with support of local councilmembers is critical for political support of the project.
- Local critics of proposed road diets have insinuated that too high a priority is being placed on bicyclists at the expense of the majority of the roadway users, doubling or tripling motorists’ commutes (Zahniser LA Times). Thorough analysis of the corridor allows implementers to engage the community with quantitative numbers about the project’s impacts. Providing hard numbers that commutes would increase only by seconds, not tripling, help to facilitate earnest conversations.
- Workshop meetings with interactive boards and individual comment cards generated a broader spectrum and greater quantity of community responses than formats where individual attendees were able to hold the floor and provide their comments while the rest of the group waited and listened.
- Holding more than three community meetings within the same neighborhood tended to result in fatigue among community members. At the first Ocean Blvd. workshop, a large turnout yielded a wide array of input with general sentiment that the city should make a change on the street. From that initial meeting, recommendations were made for the corridor and the second meeting again had a large turnout. Those who had their concerns addressed in the initial recommendations then stopped attending the meetings, but attendees who had comments that were not incorporated into the plan (do nothing, add more stop signs, prohibit cyclists) continued to attend the fourth, fifth, and sixth meetings and continued to voice their same concerns, growing more frustrated that their points were not being included.

Committee Updates

Student Endowment Fund
by Kimberly Leung, Chair

In 2017, the Western District Student Endowment Fund expanded its Student Initiatives Program to increase student support from $15,000 to $18,000 annually. New initiatives included four Regional Travel Scholarships and a sixth Data Collection Fund project. This year, eight students applied for the Travel Scholarships to attend the Annual Meeting in Keystone, and 13 student chapters applied for the Data Collection Projects. These numbers alone exhibit the excitement that the students have for ITE! This year’s Travel Scholarship winners were Cadell Chand from Oregon State University, Jordi Berrett from Brigham Young University, Dario Qiu from University of California, Los Angeles, and Henry Hammel from University of California, Berkeley.

On a bimonthly basis, student chapters are sharing with the District membership about what excites them about ITE and the transportation field and the ways in which the Endowment Fund has benefited their chapters. You can hear directly from the students from UCLA, USC, University of Idaho, and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo about the impact that ITE has had on their college experiences at westernite.org/endowment-fund.

Student Initiatives Committee
by Danielle Scharf, Chair

Student Chapter Award

The Student Chapter Award recognizes student chapters that have shown outstanding accomplishments and activities. This year we received annual reports from 22 student chapters and the winner was Oregon State University.

Student Paper Award

This award encourage student members of the District to conduct and report on independent research of transportation engineering subjects and provides a means for recognizing outstanding accomplishment in this area. This year we received five papers that were reviewed by a committee. The winner was Jianqing Wu from the University of Nevada, Reno for his paper entitled “An Automatic Procedure for Vehicle Tracking with a Roadside LiDAR Sensor.”

Student Traffic Bowl

The student traffic bowl was held at the annual meeting in Keystone with 10 different student chapters participating. The top 3 teams were: 1st Cal State Fullerton, 2nd Oregon State University, and 3rd Portland State University. Cal State Fullerton received the Western District student traffic bowl traveling trophy and $1000 from the Western District for travel assistance to participate in the Collegiate Traffic Bowl Grand Championship.

James H. Kell RFP

The James H. Kell Student Competition gives student members attending the annual meeting an opportunity to apply transportation and traffic engineering classroom knowledge to a specific “real-world” problem. The District issues a request for proposals inviting the student chapters to define and run the student competition at the annual meeting. The winning student chapter is awarded $1,500 to cover material costs and help defray travel expenses for students and their Faculty Advisor to attend the Annual Meeting. The winner of the RFP process this year was Cal Poly San Luis Obispo for their “Amass Transit” challenge. Nearly 50 students from across the Western and Texas Districts participated in the event.

Outstanding Student Awards

These awards recognize both an undergraduate and graduate student that have shown exceptional dedication to the transportation profession, extraordinary enthusiasm for ITE, and unwavering professionalism in transportation research or an intern position. The 2018 winners were undergraduate Henry Hammel from Cal Berkeley and graduate student Kayla Fleskes from Oregon State University.
Outstanding Educator

The Outstanding Educator award recognizes an educator who has shown extraordinary creativity in teaching, taken exceptional measures to spark student interest in the transportation profession, provided unwavering encouragement for student endeavors, or shown unequaled service to ITE. The 2018 Outstanding Educator award winner was Dr. David Hurrwitz from Oregon State University.

Student Chapter Annual Meeting Award

This award recognizes overall participation by a student chapter in all of the annual meeting activities. The winning student chapter is recognized with the District’s traveling trophy. The winner of the 2018 Student Chapter Annual Meeting Award was Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Congratulations to all of our student award winners and thank you to all of our student chapters for all of your hard work this year. The Student Initiatives Committee is currently seeking volunteers to serve on the review committees for the various student and faculty awards for the coming year. If you are interested in volunteering, or would simply like more information about these awards and activities, please contact Danielle Scharf, Student Initiatives Chair at dscharf@sanderstewart.com.

Legislative Committee

By Tom Mericle, Chair

Well, another legislative year is done. This was an even numbered year so Montana and Nevada did not have a legislative session; all of the other states did. Most states finished their legislative sessions by the end of the spring except California, which ended in August.

A complete update on relevant legislation that was approved is listed on the WesternITE website at http://westernite.org/news/legislation/. Please visit the site to see what is happening in your state.

If you have any state legislative activity that you want Western District ITE to follow up on please let the Western District Legislative Committee Chair, Tom Mericle, know. He can be reached at (805) 654-7774 or at tmericle@cityofventura.net.

Future Annual Meetings:

- 2019: Monterey, CA
- 2020: Honolulu, HI
- 2021: Portland, OR
- 2022: Palm Springs, CA
- 2023: Boise, ID

MiteY Race Recap

By Cathy Leong, PE, ID elect

Thank you to all of the teams that participated in the MiteY Race at the Western District Annual Meeting in Keystone, CO! We kicked off the meeting on Saturday with the 10th installment of the race with 4 family/friends and 3 student teams completing fun, but challenging tasks.

The top family & friends teams were:

- 1st Place: γAyT (Claire Fukuoka, Eric Imada, and Cristina Rodrigues)
- 2nd Place: Kickin’ Aspelins (Klara and Neil Aspelin)
- 3rd Place: E-squared – Victoria and Lisa Edington

The top student teams were:

- 1st Place: The Commuters (Cal State Fullerton)
- 2nd Place: The Roommates (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo)
- 3rd Place: SLO Transit (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo)

Congratulations to all of our teams for completing the race and we look forward to seeing you in Monterey, CA next year where we hope you will discover why we are “Not Like the Otters.”
Section and Chapter Updates

Alaska Section

by Renee Whitesell, Secretary

The Alaska Section marked the start of summer with our member appreciation barbeque in June. The barbeque was attended by ITE members and families and was a great opportunity to catch up in a relaxed environment.

Also in June, the Alaska Section and ITS Alaska hosted a one-day Autonomous Vehicle Forum, which was well-attended by more than 60 guests from government organizations and companies.

In September Jeanne Bowie from Kinney Engineering gave a presentation on Adapting the Roadside Safety Analysis Program for Localized Conditions in Alaska, which she also gave at the ITE Western District Annual Meeting at Keystone.

Efforts are currently underway to organize our annual scholarship fundraiser Beer and Wine Tasting Event, which is held in November. Thank you Morgan Welch for organizing the fundraiser.

Colorado/Wyoming Section

by Devin Joslin, Section Scribe

- In March, the section meeting was a joint meeting with the ASCE Southern Colorado Branch and was held in Colorado Springs.
- Our section joined with WTS to host a ski bus trip to Copper Mountain Resort on March 24.
- The full-day, 15th Annual Spring Transportation Symposium was held on April 6 in Downtown Denver.
- In May, the section hosted two events: the lunch meeting which included an opportunity to learn about Douglas County’s new, state-of-the-art striping truck and a hike and happy hour.
- The annual golf tournament was held on June 8. Thanks to the generous donations from corporate sponsors and 104 players, the event raised over $6,000 for the section’s scholarship fund.
- After five years of careful preparation, the 2018 ITE Western/Texas District Joint Meeting in Keystone from June 23-27 was a smashing success with over 600 attendees!

Montana Chapter

by Dillon McLain, Secretary/Treasurer

- Current officers are Tessa Wermers (President), Lisa Fischer (Vice-President), Dillon McLain (Secretary/Treasurer) and Sarah Patterson (Past President)
- ITE Montana is sponsoring 12 sessions at the state’s Joint Engineer’s Conference in November featuring transportation related topics such as autonomous vehicles, noise analysis, and MDT’s Vision Zero safety program.
- ITE Montana was able to contribute a total of $4,000 to the Leadership ITE program, Intermountain Section, and the Western Transportation Institute for their annual Summer Transportation Camp to promote transportation related careers for high school students.
- ITE Montana is engaged in a planning effort with the student chapter at Montana State University to become more involved with their activities this coming academic year.
Oregon Section

by Molly McCormick

The Oregon Section recognized several groups and individuals during 2017-2018. The Section provided $8,550 in awards to various students and ITE Student Sections throughout the greater Northwest. The awards and scholarships granted over the past year are summarized below.

• Scholarship Award, Undergraduate: Travis Larson
• Scholarship Award, Graduate: Kayla Fleskes
• Student Leadership Summit: Oregon State University
• ITE Student Grant: Oregon Institute of Technology

The Oregon Section held many events including:

GOITE Workshop
• Monthly luncheons
• 2018 ITE Quad

The Oregon Section of ITE brought together unique, innovative, and (dare we say) wild transportation projects from all across the Pacific Northwest. Attendees were able to share their experiences, connect with other professionals across the region, and explore wild Portland.

The Quad Conference is an annual transportation conference held in the Pacific Northwest representing transportation professionals from British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, and beyond. The Greater Vancouver, Vancouver Island, Washington State, and Oregon State Sections each take turns hosting; the 2018 Quad Conference was held in Portland, OR.

The event was three days, including two days of technical sessions, panel discussions, and vendor booths and half-day technical tours. Technical sessions covered everything from design, safety, planning, policy, active modes, and more! There were approximately 200 attendees, including professionals from our 21 sponsors and 16 vendors. The event website was http://www.2018itequad.com/.

Southern California Section

by Sowmya Chandrasekhar

The ITE-SoCal Section continued to actively engage our professional community through meetings, survey and supporting our local student chapters. Between the months of April and September, we held five monthly meetings, including joint meetings with other professional organizations.

As part of other initiatives, ITE-SoCal Board sent out a survey regarding section activities seeking input and comments in June to all of the section members and colleagues. We learned a lot in this effort, and we are excited to begin the year with some fresh ideas. Some general feedback: People seem to enjoy the joint meetings, they do not like to drive far for them, and they enjoy a diverse set of transportation topics. There does seem to be more interest in discussing traditional traffic engineering topics. We also saw a few interesting ideas for workshops and site visits that we are excited to start working on.

The Section launched its new logo in early September and hosted many events throughout the year including:

• Monthly meetings
• Joint happy hour and bowling night was with ASCE Young Member Forum
• Annual Student Presentation Night
• Ping Pong Tournament
• Annual workshop and joint meeting with ITS
• Dine & Chat
• National Travel Monitoring Exposition and
• Annual Summer Mixer
• Autonomous Vehicle Policy Conference
Together we are the best!
The 2018 Western District meeting was the first ever joint meeting with the Texas District. The meeting was held on June 23 through 27, 2018 in Keystone, Colorado, located in the heart of the Rocky Mountains. The joint meeting attracted speakers from the two districts which resulted in an exceptional technical program and a huge turnout. Total attendance was the second largest ever for a Western District Meeting with 604 total attendees including 108 students.

The week started with the annual MiteY Race on Saturday and Technical Training on Sunday morning. For this year’s welcome social we brought a little TexITE tradition to the meeting with a Texas Hold Em’ tournament that went late into the evening. On Monday morning we received a warm welcome from Summit County Commissioner Dan Gibbs and a keynote address from the Colorado Department of Transportation Executive Director Michael P. Lewis, followed by the kick off of the technical sessions. At lunch, Dan Katz of Hyperloop One provided an update on the development of the hyperloop technology and spoke about their vision for this new innovative mode of transportation. Monday concluded with a family night cookout at the Keystone Stables. The weather was perfect, and the setting was incredible for outdoor activities including dancing lessons, roping, a golf pitch, wagon rides and pony rides for the little ones. On Tuesday, after another amazing day of the technical program and the individual district lunches, we introduced the Texas District to our tradition of a themed awards banquet. This year brought back Boogie Night Disco with ample decorations and attire to accentuate the evening. The decor was electrifying, and the dance floor was full the entire night. Wednesday wrapped up the week with a variety of presentations, exciting technical tours and one last joint feasting before everyone had to say goodbye for another year.

A huge thank you to the local arrangement committee for all their hard work and to all the vendors and sponsors who help make our meetings possible. Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in the meeting and thank you to the Texas District for making this a historic event.
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Neelam Dorman, T.E.
Kittelson & Associates
750 The City Drive, Suite 410
Orange, CA 92868
(714) 468-1182
neelam.dorman@gmail.com

Vice President
Paul Barricklow, P.E., PTOE
Lee Engineering
8220 San Pedro Drive NE, Suite 150
Albuquerque, NM 87113
(505) 338-0988
pbarricklow@lee-eng.com

Secretary-Treasurer
Giancarlo Ganddini, T.E., PTP
Ganddini Group, INC.
550 Parkcenter Drive, Suite 202
Santa Ana, CA 92705
(714) 795-3100 x 101
giancarlo@ganddini.com

Past President
Mark Spencer, P.E.
W-Trans
505 17th Street, 2nd Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 444-2600
mspencer@w-trans.com

District International Director
Walter Okitsu, P.E., PTOE, PTP
KOA Corporation
1100 Corporate Center Drive,
Suite 201
Monterey Park, CA 91754
(323) 859-3121
wokitsu@koacorp.com

District International Director
Karen Aspelin
MaxGreen Transportation Engineers
P.O. Box 62538
Colorado Springs, CO 80692
(719) 661-4127
kaspelin@maxgreenengines.com

District International Director
Carlos Ortiz, P.E., T.E., PTOE
Advantec
1200 Rosevelt
Irvine, CA 92620
(949) 960-6222
cortiz@advantec-usa.com

District Administrator
Dalene J. Whitlock, P.E., PTOE
W-Trans
505 17th Street, 2nd Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 444-2600
dwhitlock@w-trans.com

Advisory Chair
Mark Spencer, P.E.
W-Trans
mspencer@w-trans.com

Career Guidance Chair
Josh McNeill, PE, TE
Iteris
JMcNeill@iteris.com

Legislative Chair
Tom Mericle, PE, TE
Nelson\Nyggaard
tmericle@nelsonnygaard.com

Membership Chair
Joe De La Garza, PE
WSP Parsons Brinkerhoff
joe.delagarza@wsp.com

Technical Committee Chair
Amit Kothari
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
amitonekothari@gmail.com

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Ken Ackeret
Kimley-Horn & Associates,
ken.ackeret@kimley-horn.com

Vendor Committee Chair
Janna McKhann
NexTech Systems, Inc.
nextech@cox.net

Webmaster
Cameron Shew, P.E., T.E.
DKS Associates
chs@dksassociates.com

Advertising Manager
Robert Sweeting, T.E.
City of Thousand Oaks
rsweeting@toaks.org

Managing Editor
Erica Jensen, P.E., PTOE
CRW Engineering Group
EJensen@crweng.com

President
Neelam Dorman, T.E.
Kittelson & Associates
750 The City Drive, Suite 410
Orange, CA 92868
(714) 468-1182
neelam.dorman@gmail.com

Vice President
Paul Barricklow, P.E., PTOE
Lee Engineering
8220 San Pedro Drive NE, Suite 150
Albuquerque, NM 87113
(505) 338-0988
pbarricklow@lee-eng.com

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Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 444-2600
mspencer@w-trans.com

District International Director
Walter Okitsu, P.E., PTOE, PTP
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1100 Corporate Center Drive,
Suite 201
Monterey Park, CA 91754
(323) 859-3121
wokitsu@koacorp.com

District International Director
Karen Aspelin
MaxGreen Transportation Engineers
P.O. Box 62538
Colorado Springs, CO 80692
(719) 661-4127
kaspelin@maxgreenengines.com

District International Director
Carlos Ortiz, P.E., T.E., PTOE
Advantec
1200 Rosevelt
Irvine, CA 92620
(949) 960-6222
cortiz@advantec-usa.com

District Administrator
Dalene J. Whitlock, P.E., PTOE
W-Trans
505 17th Street, 2nd Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 444-2600
dwhitlock@w-trans.com

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Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
amitonekothari@gmail.com

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Janna McKhann
NexTech Systems, Inc.
nextech@cox.net

Webmaster
Cameron Shew, P.E., T.E.
DKS Associates
chs@dksassociates.com

Advertising Manager
Robert Sweeting, T.E.
City of Thousand Oaks
rsweeting@toaks.org

Managing Editor
Erica Jensen, P.E., PTOE
CRW Engineering Group
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