

# INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS

## Section Annual Report for the Tennessee Section (TSITE)

### January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013

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## SECTION 1: INVOLVEMENT OF SECTION MEMBERS

The Tennessee Section of Transportation Engineers (TSITE) continued to maintain a full roster of the following Section officers and committee chairs in 2013:

### **2013 TSITE Executive Board Officers**

President	Jason Carder
Vice President	John Hunter
Secretary/Treasurer	Mike Conger
Past President	Steve Bryan
Section Representative (12-13)	Kevin Cole
Section Representative (13-14)	Amanda Snowden
Affiliate Director	Greg Sheehan

**2013 TSITE Committee Chairs**

Audit	Chris Kirby
Awards	Steve Bryan
Career Development	Brian Haas
Legislative	Brad Waldschmidt
Nominations	Steve Bryan
Scholarship	Steve Bryan
Technical	Brandon Baxter
Traffic Bowl	Greg Judy
Section Relations	Mike Conger (Chair) Beth Ostrowski (Membership Coordinator) Mike Conger (Newsletter Editor) Luke Dixon (Website Coordinator) Heather Kraus (Social Media)

**2013 TSITE Student Chapter Liaisons**

Tennessee State University	Luke Dixon
Tennessee Tech University	Brian Haas
University of Memphis	Rick Gafford
University of Tennessee	Brian Haas
Vanderbilt University	Luke Dixon

**2012 TSITE Local Chapter Meeting Coordinators**

Chattanooga Area	Steve Meyer
Knoxville Area	Cindy Pionke
Memphis Area	Patrick Smith
Nashville Area	Brad Waldschmidt
Tri-Cities Area	Jason Carder

### 2013 TSITE Membership Totals

Membership Grade	Membership		Section Annual Dues
	TSITE	Int'l ITE	
<b>TSITE Member Grade</b>			
Honorary			
Fellow	16	16	\$25
Fellow Life	15	15	\$0
Fellow Retired			
Member	215	215	\$25
Member Life	9	9	\$0
Member Retired			
Associate			
Associate Life			
Associate Retired			
Institute Affiliate	4	4	\$25
Institute Affiliate Retired			
Esteemed Colleague	7	7	\$0
<b>TSITE Affiliate Grade</b>			
Local Area Affiliate	18		\$25
<b>TSITE Student Grade</b>			
Student Member	66	66	\$0
<b>TSITE Membership Grand Totals</b>			
Total w/o students	284	266	
Total w/ students	350	332	

94% of TSITE members (not including students) are members of ITE International.

## 2013 TSITE Member Awards

TSITE recognizes the contributions of its members each year through the following awards. These awards are typically presented at the Fall meeting, but since the Fall meeting was a joint meeting with ALSITE, these awards will not be presented until our Winter (February) 2014 meeting.

### Edward E. Watt Volunteer Distinguished Service Award

Purpose of Award: Presented to an individual who, over a period of years, has contributed outstandingly to the advancement of the transportation profession both at the Tennessee Section and at Southern District (District 5) levels.

Recipient's Name: Dr. Martin Lipinski, P.E., PTOE

### Tennessee Outstanding Individual Service Award

Purpose of Award: Presented to an individual who, over the previous year, has contributed significantly to the advancement of the transportation profession and at both the Tennessee Section and Southern District (District 5) levels.

Recipient's Name: Becky Bottoms, P.E.

### Jack B. Humphreys Young Member Service Award

Purpose of Award: Presented to an individual who, under 35 years of age and over the previous year, has contributed significantly to the advancement of the transportation profession and at both the Tennessee Section and Southern District (District 5) levels.

Recipient's Name: Luke Dixon, P.E.

## 2013 SDITE Awards

Several TSITE members were selected as recipients of SDITE awards, presented at the 2013 SDITE Annual Meeting in Charlotte. They were as follows:

- John Van Winkle – Herman J. Hoose Distinguished Service Award
- Jeff Hammond – Marble J. Hensley Outstanding Individual Activity Award
- Cindy Pionke – John F. Exnicios Government Employee Award
- Kim King (co-winner) – Joseph M. Thomas Outstanding Young Member Award



John Van Winkle, Cindy Pionke, & Jeff Hammond

## SECTION 2: FINANCES

TSITE manages its finances in two separate accounts: a checking account to cover operational costs, and a scholarship fund, managed by International ITE, where proceeds to and distributions of student scholarship are managed.

### 2013 TSITE Operational Summary

**Beginning Balance (as of January 1, 2013) \$17,592.11**

Income Summary:

ITE Membership Dues	\$ 4,520.00
TSITE Affiliate Dues	\$ 450.00
Meeting receipts	\$12,344.59
Sponsorship Income	\$ 1,200.00
SDITE Reimbursement	\$ 500.00

**Total Income: \$19,014.59**

Expenditures Summary:

Meeting expenditures	\$12,621.79
TSITE Member Awards	\$ 353.61
TSITE Sponsored Webinars	\$ 1,950.00
TSITE Traffic Bowl	\$ 800.00
SDITE Traffic Bowl	\$ 1,211.09
Leadership Training	\$ 1,281.03
Website design/hosting	\$ 937.26
Student Paper awards	\$ 1,300.00
Deposits to Scholarship Fund	\$ 7,537.79
Misc. (printing, supplies, etc.)	\$ 827.78

**Total Expenditures: \$28,820.35**

**Ending Balance (as of December 31, 2013) \$ 7,786.35**

### 2013 TSITE Scholarship Fund Summary

**Beginning Balance (as of January 1, 2013) \$42,414.91**

**Ending Balance (as of December 31, 2013) \$45,324.26**

The TSITE Board voted in its December 2013 meeting to invest approximately \$16,000 of the scholarship fund balance in a variety of mutual funds. The Board is currently working with Pete Frentz to coordinate that effort.

## SECTION 3: LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

The TSITE Legislative Committee is responsible for reviewing the Tennessee State House and Senate Transportation Committee and Subcommittee calendars and providing reports to our membership at our TSITE meetings. These reports can include the State Legislature's current activity especially the pending bills that pertain to transportation-related issues that affect TSITE.

The TSITE Legislative Committee was only involved with one legislative topic pertaining to transportation engineering: House Bill 0182/Senate Bill 0188, which required the Department of Transportation to advertise bids for contracts by publishing a written notice on the Department's website, instead of or additionally with a newspaper publication. TSITE did not make a formal recommendation to the General Assembly, but was in general support of the legislation. The legislation did pass both Chambers during the 2013 legislative session.

On March 5<sup>th</sup>, the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of Tennessee held the annual Engineer's Day on the Hill at the Tennessee State Capitol. This event provides engineers with an annual opportunity to interface with state legislators. The Engineer's Day on the Hill was attended by several TSITE members including Brad Waldschmidt, the Chair of the TSITE Legislative Committee.

## SECTION 4: MEETING/TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

### TSITE Quarterly Meetings

TSITE meetings occurred on a quarterly schedule and with locations rotated throughout the state. The following is a summary of the TSITE meetings in 2013:

Winter Meeting: February 27, Knoxville  
Spring Meeting: May 14, Murfreesboro  
Summer Meeting: July 25-26, Buchanan  
Fall Meeting: October 17, Huntsville, AL (joint meeting with ALSITE)

### Winter Meeting

Date: February 27  
Location: Knoxville (University of Tennessee)  
Attendance: 78 (including students)

The TSITE Winter Meeting is hosted every year by a TSITE Student Chapter to coincide with the annual TSITE Traffic Bowl competition. In 2013, The University of Tennessee hosted the meeting at the UT Visitor's Center. Teams from four of the five student chapters competed for the honor of representing TSITE in the SDITE Traffic Bowl. These teams included Vanderbilt University, University of Memphis, University of Tennessee, and Tennessee State University. The team from the University of Tennessee won the competition, and subsequently represented TSITE at the SDITE Traffic Bowl, where they also won.



TSITE Traffic Bowl

The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

- TDOT Region 1 Roadway Safety Improvement Projects – Nathan Vatter, TDOT
- Henley Street Bridge Project Update – Amanda Snowden & Kristen Qualls, TDOT
- TSU Evacuation System – Heather House, TSU (student)
- TSITE Traffic Bowl Competition
- TSITE Business Meeting



## Spring Meeting

Date: May 14

Location: Murfreesboro

Attendance: 42

The TSITE Spring Meeting was the first Vendor Day event, where a vendor booth area was available for 17 vendors. Several vendors also provided technical presentations. Lunch was served in the vendor booth area, and a door prize slip was given to each attendee. As the attendees visited each booth, the vendor would mark their slip. An



Vendor Booth Area

attendee whose slip was marked by all 17 vendors was eligible to enter for a chance to win a number of door prizes, provided by the vendors, which were drawn at the end of the meeting. Through the generosity of our vendors, every attendee received a door prize. TSITE received such positive feedback for this event (from both vendors and attendees) that the Board plans to repeat such an event on a regular basis.

The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

- Basic Instinct: Valmont's Enduro Line – Greg Sheehan, Quality Traffic
- Adaptive Traffic Control: Synchro in Real Time – Eric Seabrook, Precision Traffic & Safety Systems
- Sign Retroreflectivity – Jane Greenlee, 3M
- Wavetronix – Dan Vincent, Traffic Technology Integrations
- Accessible Pedestrian Signals – Tim Britt, Temple
- GridSmart – Matt Greenoe, Aldis
- TSITE and Vendor Relationship over the Years – David McGill, Southern Lighting and Traffic Systems
- TSITE Business Meeting



## Summer Meeting

Date: July 25-26

Location: Paris Landing State Park, Buchanan

Attendance: 40

In addition to the annual awards banquet and scholarship auction, the Summer meeting agenda also offered technical presentations, social events, and the Executive Board meeting. Martin Bretherton, SDITE President, was in attendance, and provided a technical presentation.

The awards banquet and scholarship auction was held on the evening of July 25. TSITE members bring items to donate for auction, and then bid on those items. The proceeds from the auction fund our student scholarships. The 2013 auction saw over \$5,400 raised for the scholarship fund. In addition, the awards banquet recognizes student paper winners, student scholarship winners, and the best overall student chapter.

The results of TSITE 2014 officer elections were announced at the business meeting. The new officers for 2014 were Brandon Baxter (Secretary-Treasurer), Brad Waldschmidt (Section Representative), Amy Burch (Section Representative), and Greg Sheehan (Affiliate Director). Beginning in 2014, TSITE will have three Section Representatives.

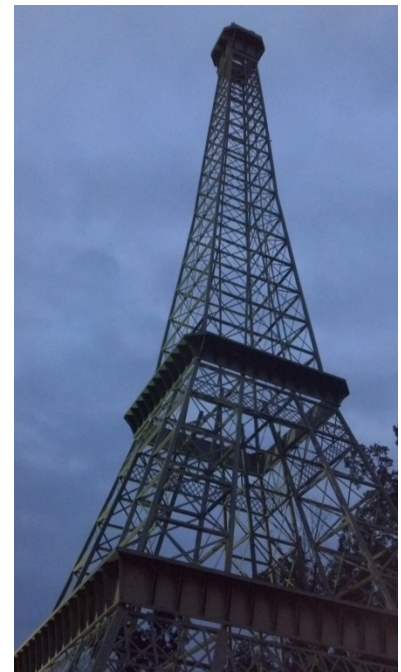
There were opportunities for members to engage in social events as well. The hotel at the park is situated on Kentucky Lake, and accommodations were made for members to take a free pontoon boat tour. In addition, several members drove to nearby Paris to visit a scale model of the Eiffel Tower.

The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

- TSITE/SDITE Leadership Training (Conducting Effective Meetings/Time Management Module) – Chris Rhodes (Kimley-Horn) & Cindy Pionke (Knox County)
- Impact of Freight on Livability in Urban Areas – Annie Wise, University of Memphis (student)
- Documented Safety Improvements of Adaptive Traffic Control – Mark Sullivan, Rhythm Engineering
- Self-Driving Cars and the Effect on ITE – Martin Bretherton, HNTB



Scholarship presentation



Eiffel Tower (Paris, TN)

- Veterans Parkway in Millington, TN – Darek Basin (City of Millington), Drake Danley (Kimley-Horn), & Jason Black (Smith Seckman Reid)
- Chattanooga Riverwalk – John Van Winkle, City of Chattanooga
- Knoxville Transit Center – Chris Kirby, CDM Smith
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Travel Data from NHTS – Jeff Hammond, RPM
- Emerging Traffic Capacity Solutions – Kim King & Matt Meservy, AECOM
- GIS Infrastructure – Justin Abart, Smith Seckman Reid
- TSITE Business Meeting
- TSITE Executive Board Meeting
- Awards Banquet and Scholarship Auction

## Fall Meeting

Date: October 17

Location: Huntsville, AL

Attendance: 24 (TSITE)

The TSITE Fall Meeting was a joint meeting with ALSITE, held at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. An informal dinner at Connor's Steak House was scheduled the evening prior, with several dozen members from both TSITE and ALSITE in attendance. This dinner served as an excellent opportunity for socializing and networking with the members. The meeting contained technical presentations by both TSITE and ALSITE members, and a tour of the Space & Rocket Center was included in the meeting registration cost and made available following the technical presentations.



The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

- Ethics – Jim Meads, Sain Associates
- Project Prioritization & Expedited Project Delivery – Steve Allen, TDOT
- Economic Development & Transportation – Dr. Larry Bray & Dr. Mark Burton, University of Tennessee, Center for Transportation Research
- Communications Skills in the Workplace – Dr. Elizabeth Maples, University of Alabama-Birmingham
- Alabama Statewide Freight Study & Action Plan – Dr. Michael Anderson, University of Alabama-Huntsville
- Section Business Meetings

## **TSITE Local Chapter Meetings**

TSITE also holds local chapter meetings on a monthly basis in the larger metropolitan areas (Nashville, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Memphis, & the Tri-Cities). These meetings are informal and provide our membership with additional opportunities for networking, sharing information, and distributing news among the membership. Attendance varies, but a typical local meeting will have between 4 and 20 members in attendance.

## **TSITE Sponsored Training**

In 2013, TSITE spent \$1,950 for sponsoring webinars for our membership. These webinars are typically held between our quarterly meetings, and are held at various locations across the state, in order to accommodate as many of our members as possible. TSITE sponsored the following webinars in 2013:

- May 22: “Roundabout Operations Software Showcase” by ITE, held at 4 locations, total attendance 26
- June 13: “Transit Signal Priority – Planning and Analysis” by ITE, held at 5 locations, total attendance 36
- September 17: “Ethics for a Contemporary Profession” by ITE, held at 4 locations, total attendance 31
- December 4: “Is Adaptive Signal Control Cost Effective and Operationally Effective?” by ITE; held at 3 locations, total attendance 32

## **SDITE Leadership Training Program**

TSITE sponsored the SDITE Leadership Training Program to a group of 12 TSITE members in both 2011 and 2012. Although the feedback received from the participants was positive, a lack of potential participants led to the decision to not provide the training in 2013. TSITE is planning to have another class in 2014, however.

## **Other TSITE Technical Activities**

In addition to quarterly meeting, local meetings, and webinars, the TSITE Technical Committee also prepared an informational pamphlet and presentation entitled “DID YOU KNOW – Everyone Benefits from Transportation Impact Studies” in 2012, and continued to present this information to various communities across the state. The intent of this pamphlet is to educate smaller communities that do not have dedicated traffic engineering professionals on staff about the need for and benefit of establishing local guidelines for Transportation Impact Studies.

The Technical Committee also oversaw a complete update to the TSITE website ([www.tsite.org](http://www.tsite.org)). The committee solicited proposals from several vendors for this work, and was ultimately able to completely update the website and provide off-site hosting services for less than \$1000. The updated website is easier to maintain and update, and is much more user-friendly.

TSITE also disseminates information to its members through a quarterly newsletter and a Facebook page. The Section Relations Committee is responsible for these efforts.

TSITE sent a survey to its membership in November, in order to solicit feedback on a variety of topics. Some of the highlights of that survey were as follows:

- Increase the number of joint meetings with other professional organizations
- Encourage more participation from public agencies (specifically, TDOT)
- Increase the number of family/social activities at our Summer meeting
- Suggestions to improve our website
- Ideas for future technical session topics
- Overwhelming support for continued Leadership Training (over 90% of survey participants felt it was very important to continue the Training)



## SECTION 5: STUDENT MEMBERS

One of TSITE's primary purposes is to engage transportation students. Currently, TSITE has five Student Chapters, at the following universities:

- Tennessee State University (Advisor: Dr. Deo Chimba)
- Tennessee Technological University (Advisor: Dr. Daniel Badoe)
- University of Memphis (Advisor: Dr. Stephanie Ivey)
- University of Tennessee-Knoxville (Advisor: Dr. Stephen Richards)
- Vanderbilt University (Advisor: Dr. Robert Stammer)

Each of the student chapters has a dedicated TSITE liaison that coordinates and communicates directly with the faculty advisor and student members, sharing information about upcoming TSITE events and informing them of the student paper competition and scholarships. Student members are encouraged to attend TSITE meetings at no cost to the student. TSITE members also occasionally act as guest speakers at the student chapter meetings.

TSITE awarded five scholarships of \$2,000 each in 2013. Of the applications received, each of the five universities were represented, and there were a mix of undergraduate and graduate students. In the end, three of the scholarships went to UTK students, one went to a student from Vanderbilt, and one went to a student from the University of Memphis. Each of the scholarship winners was invited to attend the TSITE Summer Meeting, where their registration and hotel cost was paid for by TSITE.

TSITE also awarded three student paper awards in 2013. The student paper winners were also invited to attend and present their paper at the TSITE Summer Meeting, and their expenses were also paid for. One of the winners (Annie Wise, University of Memphis) attended, and presented the topic of her paper as a technical presentation.

The TSITE Winter meeting is held annually at one of the five universities, in conjunction with the annual TSITE Traffic Bowl. In 2013, the meeting was held at the University of Tennessee. TSITE also reimburses each of the student chapters for their travel expenses to the Winter meeting, to encourage participation in the TSITE Traffic Bowl. The University of Tennessee won the TSITE Traffic Bowl in 2013, which earned the right to represent TSITE at the SDITE Traffic Bowl. UT also won the SDITE Traffic Bowl, and thus advanced to the International Traffic Bowl at the ITE Annual Meeting in Boston. UT advanced to the final round, where they finished as runner-up, only losing to the University of Florida by one point! TSITE is



**UT Traffic Bowl Team**

obviously proud of all of our students, but especially the UT Traffic Bowl team for their hard work and dedication.

TSITE also presents a certificate and \$100 award to the winner of the Robert Stammer Student Chapter Award. This award is based upon the annual report submitted by each student chapter.