

January 31, 2017



INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS



TENNESSEE SECTION (TSITE) ACTIVITIES REPORT

January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016

A member of the Southern District of ITE



INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS
2016 TENNESSEE SECTION ACTIVITIES REPORT

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I. INVOLVEMENT OF SECTION MEMBERS

A. Section Officers

TSITE maintained a full roster of Executive Board members during 2016. The TSITE Executive Board governs the annual and special activities of TSITE as established in the TSITE Operations Manual and Bylaws and is responsible for reviewing and approving changes to the TSITE Operations Manual and/or Bylaws. The Executive Board members for 2016 are shown below.

- President..... Brandon Baxter, P.E., PTOE
- Vice President..... Kevin Comstock
- Secretary/Treasurer Greg Dotson, P.E.
- Immediate Past President Mike Conger, P.E.
- Section Representative (2015 – 2016) Jonathan Cleghon, P.E.
- Section Representative (2016 – 2017) Karen Anderson, P.E.
- Section Representative (2016 – 2017) Ben Ledsinger, P.E.
- Affiliate Director..... Tim Britt

The 2016 TSITE Executive Board was comprised of members representing Tennessee’s four largest metropolitan areas – Nashville, Memphis, Knoxville, and Chattanooga.

B. Committee Chairs

TSITE has nine (9) active committees with duties and responsibilities to support the Executive Board and/or provide services to the TSITE membership. Each committee and the 2016 chairman of that committee is shown below.

- Audit..... Chris Kirby, P.E.
- Awards..... Mike Conger, P.E.
- Career Development..... Brian Haas, P.E.
- Legislative Brad Waldschmidt, P.E.
- Nominations Mike Conger, P.E.
- Scholarship Mike Conger, P.E.
- Section Relations Kevin Comstock
- Technical..... Luke Dixon, P.E.
- Traffic Bowl Greg Judy, P.E.



C. Membership

Membership in the Tennessee Section continues to exceed 300 persons representing various occupational sectors including public, private, academic, student, and retired members. Table 1 below shows a tabulation of TSITE member types and totals.

TABLE 1			
2016 TSITE MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY			
Membership Grade	Membership		Section Annual Dues
	TSITE	ITE International	
Fellow	13	13	\$25
Fellow Life	15	15	\$0
Fellow Retired	1	1	\$0
Member	197	197	\$25
Member Life	22	22	\$0
Institute Affiliate	4	4	\$25
Sub-Total w/o Students	252	252	-
Student Member	42	42	\$0
Total	294	294	-

The analysis of membership by occupational sector is shown in Figure 1. As the chart illustrates, TSITE membership is well distributed with representation from many sectors of the transportation engineering profession.

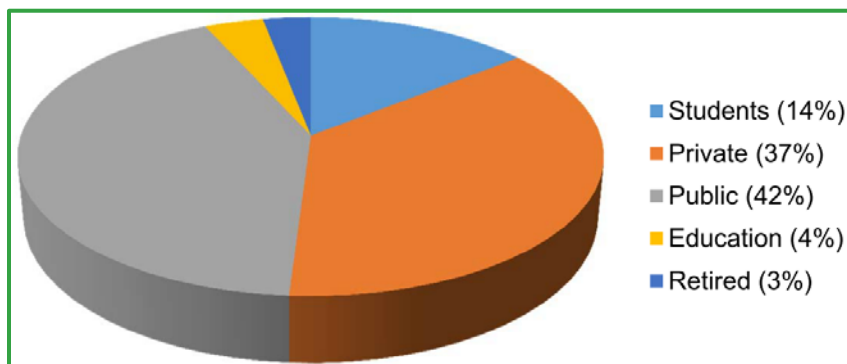


Figure 1 - Membership Sector Summary



D. TSITE Awards

TSITE currently awards recognition to members for contributions each year. In July 2016, these awards were presented by TSITE Immediate Past President Mike Conger at a special Awards Banquet held as part of the Summer Annual meeting in Gatlinburg, TN.

Ed Watt Volunteer Distinguished Service Award

This recognition is given to a TSITE member who has contributed both to the advancement of the transportation profession and to ITE at the Section and district levels. Established in 1975, this high award is only presented to an engineer active in the profession for more than 10 years and who has exhibited outstanding service above and beyond the normal duties of his position over a number of years.



Recipient: Steve Meyer, P.E. (on the right)
Meyer Transportation Consultants, Inc.



Tennessee Section Outstanding Individual Award

This recognition is given to a TSITE member who has demonstrated outstanding service to the profession and to ITE at the State and District levels. Established in 1975, this award recognizes the recent achievements of members over the past few years.

Recipient: Kevin Cole, P.E. (on the left)
CDM Smith

Jack B. Humphreys Young Member Award

This recognition is given to a TSITE member who has contributed significantly to the Section or the profession over the past few years. Established in 2002, this award recognizes the achievements of members under the age of 35.

Recipient: Amy Burch, P.E. (on the left)
Collier Engineering Co., Inc.





E. Other Awards

At the 2016 Southern District ITE (SDITE) Meeting, Dr. Martin Lipinski was announced as the recipient of the SDITE Excellence in Transportation Engineering Education Award. Dr. Lipinski is TSITE member, a professor of civil engineering at The University of Memphis, and is also the Director Emeritus of the Intermodal Freight Transportation Institute at The University of Memphis.



In addition to the SDITE Excellence in Transportation Engineering Education Award, Dr. Lipinski's involvement and recognition by the Institute of Transportation Engineers includes the following:

- TSITE Past President
- TSITE Ed Watt Volunteer Distinguished Service Award
- ITE International Coordinating Council, Best Project Award
- ITE International Transportation Safety Council, Edmund R. Ricker Traffic Safety Award

Congratulations to Dr. Lipinski on this recognition!



III. MEETING/TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

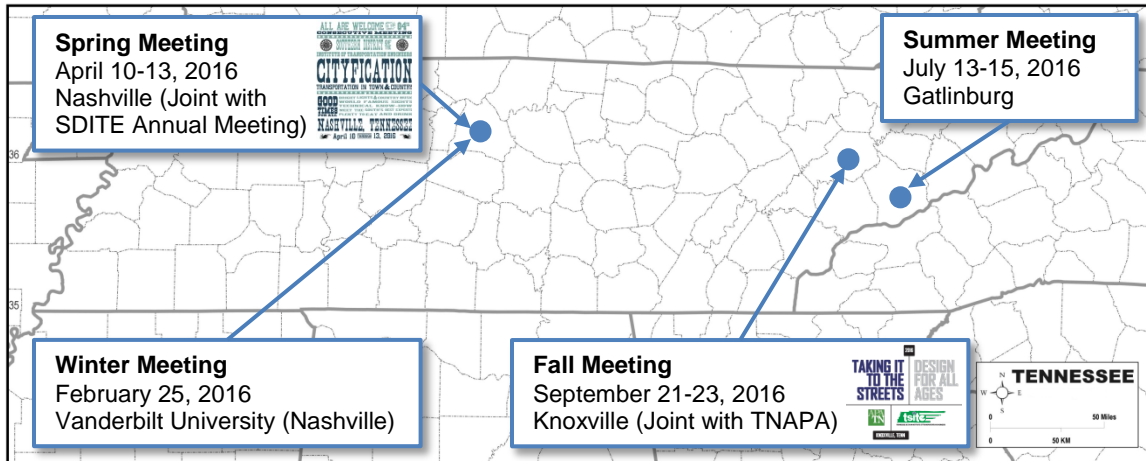
TSITE holds four quarterly meetings each year at locations across the state of Tennessee. These meetings begin with the Winter Meeting, typically held in February, and end with the Fall Meeting, typically held in October. As described below, the meeting locations are strategically rotated to ensure that TSITE members in all major areas of the state have the opportunity to attend.

- **Winter Meeting:** The TSITE Traffic Bowl is held each year at the Winter Meeting. The location for the Winter Meeting rotates among the five (5) universities in Tennessee with ITE student chapters. This rotation provides each school the opportunity to host a TSITE quarterly meeting and the student chapter traffic bowl on a regular basis.
- **Spring Meeting:** The TSITE Spring Meeting is typically held in late April or early May. The location for the Spring Meeting is decided by the TSITE Executive Board based upon the location of other TSITE meetings during the year and in an effort to avoid overlapping with the meetings of other professional organizations similar to TSITE.
- **Summer Meeting:** The TSITE Summer Meeting typically occurs in mid-to-late July and recently has been held in Gatlinburg on an annual basis. The TSITE Awards Banquet, Scholarship Auction, and Summer Executive Board Meeting occur as part of the Summer Meeting.
- **Fall Meeting:** The TSITE Fall Meeting is typically held in October. The location for the Fall Meeting is decided by the TSITE Executive Board based upon the location of other TSITE meetings during the year. Recently, the Fall Meeting has been used as an opportunity to hold joint meetings with other professional engineering and/or planning organizations.

The quarterly meetings are where the majority of TSITE's professional development and technical activities are found. In addition to the continuing education and valuable professional development hour (PDH) credit opportunities provided at these meetings, there are opportunities for important peer networking and committee meetings to increase socialization within TSITE and to support the Executive Board and membership. TSITE has a strong core of dedicated members that travel to multiple meetings each year who are often joined by a strong local presence of professionals working in and near the host location.



The 2016 meeting locations are illustrated on the map below:



A summary of the 2016 meeting is included below:

Winter Meeting

Date:	February 25, 2016
Location:	Nashville (Vanderbilt University)
Attendance:	87
Member Registration Cost:	\$60
PDH's Offered:	2.5 hours

The TSITE Winter Meeting is hosted every year by a TSITE Student Chapter to coincide with the annual TSITE Traffic Bowl competition. In 2016, Vanderbilt University hosted the meeting on their campus at the University Club of Nashville. Teams from all five (5) of the five student chapters competed for the honor of representing TSITE in the SDITE Traffic Bowl. The team from the University of Tennessee won the competition, and subsequently represented TSITE at the SDITE Traffic Bowl held in conjunction with the 2016 SDITE Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee.



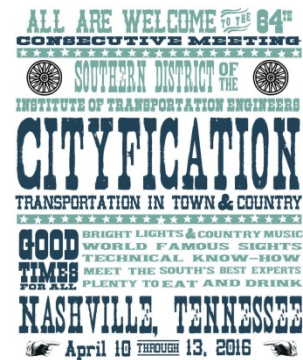


The agenda for the meeting included the following items.

- Georgia Regional Traffic Operations Program (RTOP) – Dr. Sharam Malek (Arcadis)
- Nashville MTA/RTA nMotion Strategic Plan – Felix Castrodad (MTA)
- Murphy Road Compact Roundabout Design – Brandon Taylor (RPM Transportation Consultants)
- IHSDM – HSM Predictive Method Software Model – Lauren Gaines (Barge, Waggoner, Sumner, & Cannon)
- TSITE Business Meeting
- TSITE Traffic Bowl

Spring Meeting

The TSITE Executive Board decided not to hold a separate Spring Meeting for 2016 due to the SDITE Annual Meeting that was held in Nashville on April 10-13. Based on the participation of many TSITE members from across the state in the planning and daily operations of the SDITE Annual Meeting, the board anticipated that attendance at a separate meeting held within a few weeks of the SDITE Annual Meeting would be low and may detract from the volunteer efforts needed at the SDITE meeting.



Information related to the SDITE Annual Meeting is shown below.

Date:	April 10-13, 2016
Location:	Nashville (Sheraton Grand Nashville Downtown)
Attendance:	300+ (including representation from 32 states, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and Canada)
Member Registration Cost:	\$500
PDH's Offered:	Up to 12.5 hours per attendee

Summer Meeting

Date:	July 13-15, 2016
Location:	Gatlinburg (The Park Vista)
Attendance:	69
Member Registration Cost:	\$140
PDH's Offered:	8.5 hours



The TSITE Summer Meeting has recently been held each year at The Park Vista Hotel and Conference Center in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. The Summer Meeting includes technical presentations, an executive board meeting, committee meetings, a social event for TSITE members and their families, the annual awards banquet, and the annual scholarship auction.

On the first evening of the meeting, an outdoor social event for TSITE members and their families was held on the grounds of The Park Vista. Sponsor donations were used in order to cover the costs of the use of the outdoor pavilion and catering of drinks and food. Many generous sponsors made the event possible and a great success. Since 2016 was TSITE's 50th Anniversary, the event was themed to represent this 'golden' anniversary including an appropriately decorated cake, music that originated in



the 1960's, and even some TSITE members dressed the part. A highlight of the event was the outdoor fun and games for adults and children alike! Several of the outdoor toys that were used were subsequently placed in the scholarship auction the following evening!

The awards banquet and scholarship auction was held on the evening of Thursday, July 14. Items were donated from many TSITE members for the auction. The proceeds from the auction fund the student scholarships awarded by TSITE. The 2016 auction saw approximately \$6,900 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 2017 officer elections were announced at the section business meeting held on Friday, July 15. The new officers for 2017 were Amy Burch (Secretary-Treasurer) and Chris Kirby (Section Representative)

The agenda for the meeting included the following items.

- McCain Inc. Signal Performance Measures (SPM) for Traffic Signals Maintenance – Don Maas (McCain, Inc.)
- Chapman Highway Safety Improvements – Andy Padgett (TDOT)



- A Note on Heterogeneity Assessment of Incident Durations – Comparison of Fixed and Random Parameter Regression Models – Behram Wali (University of Tennessee – Student)
- The Impact of Click-It-Or-Ticket Campaign and Saturation Patrol Interventions on Nighttime Seat Belt Use – Kwaku Boakye (University of Tennessee – Student)
- Family Social Event – Drinks and Dinner at Park Vista Outdoor Pavilion
- Ethics Session – Dr. Christopher Pionke (University of Tennessee – Professor)
- Update on the ASCE Report Card – Lukas Saylor (Forterra Pipe and Precast)
- City of Memphis Pedestrian and School Safety Action Plan – Shashi Nambisan (University of Tennessee - Professor)
- Panel Discussion: 50 years of TSITE: Visions of Yesterday/Today/Tomorrow – Ed Watt (Retired), Brandon Baxter (Ragan-Smith Associates), and Lauren Gaines (Barge, Waggoner, Sumner, & Cannon)
- Awards Banquet & Scholarship Auction
- TSITE Business Meeting with Officer Election Results
- Design Meets Reality - Steve Allen (TDOT)

Fall Meeting

TSITE often joins with another professional organization or society to hold the fall meeting. In 2016 the Fall Meeting was held in conjunction with the Tennessee chapter of the American Planning Association (TNAPA). The Fall Meeting was held at the Crowne Plaza hotel and conference center in Knoxville on September 21-23 and included technical presentations and events to promote networking and socialization with members of TNAPA.



Information related to the SDITE Annual Meeting is shown below.

Date:	September 21-23, 2016
Location:	Knoxville (Crowne Plaza)
Attendance:	30 TSITE Member (150+ total)
Member Registration Cost:	\$350
PDH's Offered:	Up to 18.0 hours per attendee



Local Monthly Meetings

TSITE also holds monthly meetings in each of the larger metropolitan areas (Nashville, Knoxville, Chattanooga, and Memphis). These meetings are informal and provide our membership with additional opportunities for networking, sharing information, and distributing news among the membership. Attendance does vary at these meetings but typically there are between 5 and 20 members in attendance.



IV. 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 brought a few pieces of proposed legislation to the attention of the TSITE Board and membership and most were determined to not require formal input. Two of the more contentious transportation-related issues in the recent past that TSITE specifically tracked were related to legislation that would exclude gas tax revenues from being used on sidewalks and bicycle facilities and legislation that would seek to limit or ban altogether the usage of unmanned traffic enforcement cameras (red-light running and speed enforcement) throughout Tennessee by mandating signal timing and phasing criteria and policies.

As the legislative session went on the gas tax exclusion legislation was amended so that it avoided conflict with Federal accessibility and funding requirements. However, it became evident that the legislation addressing traffic enforcement cameras moving forward as Senate Bill 2492 and House Bill 2510 included the requirement of a minimum yellow interval time of five (5) seconds at an intersection with a red-light running camera. TSITE felt strongly that this amendment crossed the line from the political arena to the engineering arena and that matters such as signal timing should not be legislated, but rather required to be based on engineering analysis.

TSITE coordinated with the Tennessee Section of Professional Engineers (TSPE) to lobby the legislation sponsors and the Tennessee Senate Transportation & Safety Committee. Additionally, TSITE and TSPE members attended the committee meetings to testify, if needed, about the specifics of signal timings. The TSITE Board was subsequently notified that the legislation was amended so that there would be no impacts to traffic signal phasing or timing.



V. STUDENT MEMBERS

A. Introduction

One of TSITE's primary purposes is to engage transportation students in order to provide them with professional development and networking opportunities. 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.

In addition to TSITE subsidizing meeting attendance cost and travel costs to attend Traffic Bowl competitions for students, there are monetary awards provided through annual scholarship awards and a student paper competition.

B. TSITE Scholarships

TSITE awarded four (4) scholarships of \$1,200 and one (1) scholarship of \$2,000 in 2016. All five (5) universities with ITE student chapters in the state of Tennessee were represented in the scholarship applications that were received. Each of the scholarship winners was invited to attend the TSITE Summer Meeting, where their registration and hotel cost was paid for by TSITE. Four of the five scholarship recipients attended the Summer Meeting. Photos of the scholarship recipients are included below.



John R. Harper Scholarship

John Harper was a long-time TDOT employee who headed up the Department’s GIS work unit. Proceeds from a charity golf tournament held in his honor each Spring are donated to TSITE and a scholarship given in his name to promote students’ involvement in the transportation field. The award amount of this scholarship for 2016 was \$2,000.

Recipient: Alexandra Marie Boggs



William Moore Scholarship

Bill has been actively involved in ITE since 1971 including serving as President of the Tennessee “Division” in 1975-76. This scholarship was named in his honor in 2004 as a tribute to his commitment and leadership in furthering the transportation profession. The award amount of this scholarship for 2016 was \$1,200.

Recipient: Bumjoon Bae

T. Darcy Sullivan Scholarship

Darcy was actively involved in ITE throughout his lifetime beginning in 1961 including serving as President of the Tennessee “Division” in 1976-77. This scholarship was named in his honor in 2007 as a tribute and memorial to his commitment and leadership in furthering the transportation profession. The award amount of this scholarship for 2016 was \$1,200.

Recipient: Behram Wali





Bill D. Kervin Scholarship

Bill was an active member of ITE and served both TSITE and our Country admirably, his term as TSITE President in 2004 was interrupted by a military deployment to Iraq as part of the Tennessee Army National Guard. This scholarship was named in his honor in 2015 as a tribute and memorial to his commitment and leadership in furthering the transportation profession. The award amount of this scholarship for 2016 was \$1,200.

Recipient: Michelle Lynn Edwards

TSITE Undergraduate Scholarship

This scholarship is specifically directed to be awarded to an undergraduate student who otherwise meets the previously noted eligibility requirements. The award amount of this scholarship for 2016 was \$1,200.

Recipient: Darrel Warberg (not pictured)

C. TSITE Student Awards

TSITE typically provides three student paper awards each year (\$500 first place award, \$250 second place award, and \$100 third place award). The student paper winners were also invited to attend and present their paper at the TSITE Summer Meeting with expenses paid for by TSITE. Two of the winners attended, and presented the topics of their paper as a technical presentation. TSITE feels that this provides an invaluable opportunity for our student members to gain experience in public speaking and potential networking as they begin their career paths in transportation engineering.

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

Student Paper Award – 1st Place

Recipient: Ziwen Ling (not pictured)

Paper Title: *“How to Prevent Railroad Crossings from Becoming a Hazard to Bicyclists”*



Student Paper Award – 2nd Place

Recipient: Behram Wali
Paper Title: *“A Note on Heterogeneity Assessment of Incident Durations – Comparison of Fixed and Random Parameter Regression Models”*



Student Paper Award – 3rd Place

Recipient: Kwaku Boakye
Paper Title: *“The Impact of Click-It-Or-Ticket Campaign and Saturation Patrol Interventions on Nighttime Seat Belt Use”*



Robert Stammer Student Chapter Award

This recognition is given to one of the four ITE student chapters in the state of Tennessee who, for the school year, has contributed outstandingly to the advancement of the transportation profession in the Tennessee Section. Established in 2003, this award recognizes the recent achievements of chapters and encourages more participation with the Southern District.

Recipient: University of Tennessee – Knoxville



VI. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

In 2015, TSITE President Mike Conger launched a strategic planning effort for TSITE that would include the five initial focus areas of TSITE operations listed below.

- Mission/Vision Statement
- Operating Budget
- Membership
- 50th Anniversary Planning
- Professional Development

At the end of 2015, two subcommittees had been established to target the Mission/Vision Statement and 50th Anniversary areas. Within these subcommittees, TSITE members collaborated and brainstormed during the course of several meetings to develop recommendations or actions related to a Mission/Vision Statement and TSITE's 50th Anniversary. The recommendation and actions of these committees included the following items.

- Development of the tag line "*Advancing Transportation in Tennessee*" that will become a part of the TSITE logo, letterhead, and other communication/graphic materials beginning in 2017
- Design of a 50th Anniversary logo (shown on the cover and in the header of this report) to be used on all TSITE logo, letterhead, and other communication/graphic materials in the year 2016
- Distribution of TSITE 50th Anniversary commemorative notepads at the 2016 SDITE Annual Meeting in Nashville
- 50th Anniversary themed social event at the TSITE Summer Meeting in Gatlinburg

In 2016, the TSITE Board continued work in these focus areas by beginning a review of membership by the Secretary/Treasurer and the Membership subcommittee of the Section Relations committee. The work on streamlining/clarifying the application process and on ways to identify and recruit new members will be ongoing into 2017.

The TSITE Board recognized in 2016 that several factors were beginning to increase or make more difficult the workload of the Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer beyond



levels that were considered comfortable for a member to volunteer in. The factors identified as increased or more difficult included but was not limited to the following.

- Increased communication need through email and other electronic means
- Increased communication with ITE International staff due to Section initiatives such as tax filing status and scholarship account management
- Increased communication with ITE International staff due to staff turnover
- More stringent requirements from meeting facilities for contracts, early deposits, credit card requirements, etc.
- Loss of institutional knowledge/experience due to 3-year cycle TSITE Board turnover

To respond to this increased and more difficult workload, the TSITE Board discussed the creation of a Section Administrator position that would assume some of the duties of the Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer. The goal of establishing a Section Administrator position would be to enable the President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer to work more effectively on TSITE member services and events by becoming a steady point of contact, communication, and knowledge for the Southern District of ITE, ITE International, meeting facilities, financial institutions, student chapters, and others. The TSITE Board will continue reviewing the establishment of a Section Administrator in 2017 by presenting the TSITE membership with a vote proposing changes to the TSITE Bylaws and Operations Manual that would either establish the position or keep the TSITE Executive Board as it currently is organized.