

President's Message

It's hard to believe that 2014 is coming to a close. The Illinois Section Board has been hard at work this year - both in the forefront and behind the scenes - to improve our organization for our members, and I hope that you have noticed the positive changes so far. But we're not done yet!



Going Out with a Bang

Our year-end activities have been exceptionally good ones: October's Algonquin Bypass presentation and tour hosted by **Jeff Young** of McHenry County and **Mary Young** of Civiltech was a special treat, and the success of this event has inspired us to include more technical tours along with our standard luncheon presentations! Also in October, several ILITE members had the pleasure of attending the **Traffic Engineering & Safety Conference** at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana and participating in the Student-Practitioner Forum hosted each year by the ITE Student Chapter. Thank you so much to the dozens of professionals who joined us at the Forum. The students were so thrilled with the advice provided that 40 of them traveled to Chicago from Champaign in mid-November and were welcomed for office visits at **AES Services, Jacobs, and PB**. We also had a very successful luncheon in Rockford on November 19th, where Wisconsin DOT employees **John Steiner, Kim Schauder, and Wayne Chase** presented to ILITE and ISPE (as well as some visitors from the Wisconsin Section!) on the I-39/I-90 Expansion Project.

Next month, we'll have our final event of the calendar year on **December 17th**, when we will host our joint Holiday Social with **Young Professionals in Transportation (YPT)** and **ITS Midwest** and welcome **Katherine Kortum** of the Transportation Research Board (along with her positions as Chair of both YPT and the ITE Young Member Committee) as a guest speaker on Uber and Lyft. The event will begin with Katherine's speech at 5PM at **Bar Louie** at 47 W. Polk Street in Chicago. Come celebrate the holidays with ITE! And, of course, don't forget to join us on **January 9th, 2015** at our Annual Banquet at Trattoria 225 in Oak Park!

The Year's Progress

As a Board, we set many goals for ourselves this year - beginning with the member survey that we used to get better in touch with what you expected of us and of the Section. We heard you in your requests for more informal events for networking and socializing, different technical topics, and improved distribution of information - especially outside of Chicagoland. We've put several of these requests into action, and several others are in the works.

To help propel us forward in accomplishing these initiatives, we are working on improved communication. You may have noticed that our website has been under construction, as well as the new look to our e-mails and to this newsletter! We hope that these changes will be just the beginning in an improved connection between the Board and the membership, as well as between Section members across the State of Illinois.

The final piece of our annual goals is our new Sponsorship Program. This initiative enables companies to gain new value from ILITE while supporting the Section's efforts to offer scholarships, student programs, and support to organizations that promote transportation engineering careers. ILITE Sponsorship includes many benefits that companies already pay

for in a piecemeal manner, including monthly luncheon registrations, attendance at technical webinars, a table at the annual Student Day Career Fair, and more. To find out more about becoming an ILITE Sponsor, contact **Brian Roberts** at illinoisite+sponsorship@gmail.com.

In Closing

As my term as ILITE President comes to an end, I want to thank each of you for allowing me the honor of serving in this role for the past year. Having traveled to numerous ITE events representing our Section, I am proud to say that Illinois is truly a group that stands apart with high-achieving members, creative events, and a lot of fun. As the Section's Immediate Past President in 2015, I will continue to represent Illinois as the representative to the Midwestern District Board - but no matter how far removed my position may be from the Section Executive Board, I will always be available to hear your ideas for how we can continue to keep our Section at its best. Happy holidays, and thank you!

Farewell & Best Wishes

Chris DeRosia

For the past five-plus years, **Chris DeRosia** has volunteered his personal time for the benefit of the Illinois Section. As Technical Director from 2010-2011, Chris organized and ran several technical seminars that raised several thousand dollars for the Illinois Section, ultimately benefiting our

Section scholarship fund. He was then elected Treasurer in 2012 and has served as a member of the Section Executive Board ever since. For his service, Chris was awarded the 2014 Young Member Award at our Annual Banquet this past February, and he subsequently traveled to the ITE International Meeting in Seattle to represent ILITE.



Chris DeRosia

Before the International Meeting began, Chris spent some time hiking in the area around Mount Rainier and, unfortunately for ILITE, it appears that the call of the mountains was too great to resist. In October 2014, Chris informed the Board that he would be relocating to Colorado. A short two weeks later, he packed up his apartment and his dog to make the trek out West. The Illinois Section Board wishes Chris the best in his new life and his new position as Transportation Engineer at the City of Arvada, Colorado. If you find yourself back in Illinois, don't be a stranger!

In need of a replacement for our Vice President, the Illinois Section Board held a special election, per the bylaws. Secretary **Mike Phan** was elected to the Vice President position for the remainder of the year, Treasurer **Tracy Shandor** was elected to be Secretary, and Operations Director **John Wirtz** was elected to be Treasurer. Congratulations to our newly elected officers!

Featured Article

Recent Studies on Travel Behavior

by **Mary DeBacker** and **Carlee Clymer**, Parsons Brinckerhoff

The topic of travel behavior - the how and why people move throughout their world - is a broad area of interest, with travel

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Calendar

December 17, 2014
ITE IL Annual Holiday Social [Announcement](#)
Bar Louie, Chicago, IL

January 9, 2015
ITE IL Section Annual Banquet [Save the Date](#)
Trattoria 225, Oak Park, IL

January 11-15, 2015
TRB 94th Annual Meeting [Conference Website](#)
Washington, D.C.

January 24, 2015
Future Cities Competition [Event Website](#)
Chicago, IL

February 20, 2014
Illinois Section Monthly Meeting
TBD

[IL ITE Events Calendar](#)

Save the Date



demand forecasters, demographers, politicians, businesses, planners and engineers all trying to figure out what people want, and in the case of the general public, where the next traffic tie-up will be. This article discusses a few interesting macro level studies recently conducted on how travel behavior and demand may be changing.

[Click here to read full article.](#)

Illinois Section Group Reports Activities

Our activities group has been busy these past few months! In September, we held our **4th Annual ITE/WTS Golf Tournament**; in October, over 30 attendees participated in the **Algonquin Bypass Luncheon and Tour**; and in keeping with tradition in November, we held a **Join Luncheon with ISPE Rockford Chapter**.

[Check out the full story here](#) to find out who the Golf Tournament sponsors and prize winners were and more about the two luncheons held in October and November.

Operations

The end of 2014 is fast approaching, which means it's time for all of you to renew your ITE memberships. Existing full members of ITE can renew memberships by clicking on the ["Pay Dues" link](#) on the ITE International website (www.ite.org). You should also be aware that there is a [new dues structure](#) in effect for younger members. Membership is now FREE if you are 23 years old or younger - immediately after college graduation for most members - and increases by \$30 per year thereafter until age 30.

Please encourage the young transportation engineers in your office to get involved in ITE. The new dues structure for young members is a great way to get the full benefits of ITE at a very affordable cost. Affiliate memberships are also a great value at just \$25 per year. We will be sending out the 2015 invoices for Affiliate Members in December. Last year, we experimented for the first time with paying dues electronically, which we thought would be easier for everyone, but didn't get quite the same level of response as in the past. We will likely be contacting you by e-mail soon to find out if you have a preference for a paper invoice or an electronic invoice. If you want to become a new Affiliate Member, applications are online at <http://www.ilite.org/> under the "How to Join" link.

If you haven't been to the [Section's website](#) in a while, please take a look. Thanks to **Garrett Vandendries** of CTA, it has a fresh look, with more content being added every week. We welcome your feedback; feel free to contact Operations at illinoisite+operations@gmail.com.

Student Affairs

The application deadline was December 5th for both the **Scholarship and Student Paper competitions**. The scholarship is provided to one graduate and one undergraduate student enrolled at an Illinois college or

Join us in Branson, Missouri for the 2015 ITE Midwestern District Meeting, June 29 - July 2, 2015. [Conference website.](#)



The Annual ITE 2015 International Meeting and Exhibit August 2-5, 2015 at the Diplomat Resort & Spa in Hollywood, FL. [Conference website.](#)



ITE 2015 Technical Conference October 28-31, 2015 in Tucson, Arizona.

Professional Development

Check out the ITE Calendar of Events for a list of all upcoming Webinars.

[ITE Events Calendar](#)

TRB hosts several conference recording and webinars on their site.

[TRB Webinar Program](#)

Professional Directory

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university who is focusing studies on either transportation engineering or planning. Winners will be announced at the Annual Dinner Banquet on January 9th. The ITE Illinois Section will also be holding the annual **Student Day on Friday, March 6, 2015** at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) in Chicago. In October, the UIUC ITE Student Chapter requested that the Illinois Section of ITE participate in their traditional Student-Practitioner Forum at the Illinois Traffic and Engineering Safety Conference. Finally in November the UIUC ITE Student Chapter, with the assistance of IL ITE Section, visited three companies in a Chicago Company Visit Day.

[To find out more details about these great events click here.](#)

The ITE Illinois Section is always looking to assist ALL of our student chapters to the best of our ability. If there is anything you feel the Illinois Section can do to assist your student chapter, please contact Student Affairs at illinoisite+studentaffairs@gmail.com. We welcome the opportunity to assist you and your members!

Local News

TEX in Chicago Marathon

By John P Mick II, PE, F-ITE, F-NSPE, Baxter & Woodman

John P Mick II completed his second Chicago Marathon on October 12, 2014. How in the world did "TEX" ever decide to and complete a Marathon (or two) you might be wondering?



John Mick (right) and Father Thomas Hurley (left) of Old St. Patrick Catholic Church in Chicago

[Find out John's story here.](#)

How Metra's New 30-Year Plan Could Reshape Chicago Regional Rail

By Daniel Kay Hertz, *Next City*, October 20, 2014

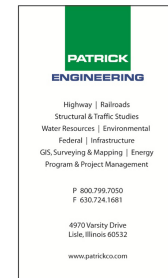
Now, after facing criticism over corruption and its commitment to old, even outdated, technologies and operations for years, the nation's largest commuter rail operation outside New York may be turning a corner...[Click here for full story.](#)

Other Headlines Around the Web

How Will Departments of Transportation Evolve Over the Next 50 Years?

By Rachel Dovey, *Next City*, October 30, 2014

Nationwide, many DOTs embody California's struggle, thrown into sharp relief as the federal Highway Trust Fund dries up.



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William Eidson
illinois.ite.ads@gmail.com

Hey section member!

Get involved! To volunteer on an IL-ITE committee, contact

People are driving less. As climate change worsens, they need to. And yet foundational practices - like LOS - encourage them to drive more.

This institutional priority is shockingly expensive. According to Smart Growth America and Taxpayers for Common Sense, states spent \$20.4 billion each year to build and expand their roadways between 2009 and 2011 and only \$16.5 billion annually to repair them. New projects made up only about 9,000 lane-miles, meaning that more was spent building 1 percent of the country's roadways than keeping up the other 99. ...[Click here for full story.](#)

Don't blame bike messenger for riding like maniacs. Blame their bosses.

Updated by Joseph Stromberg, Vox, October 3, 2014

If you live in a big city, you've probably seen bike messengers...[Click here to read more.](#)

Camels, Sleds and Trikes: Seven Odd Street View Vehicles

By Tim Hornyak (IDG News Service), CIO, October 22, 2014

Street View lenses are exploring more of our world on an evolving series of platforms...[Click here to read more.](#)

We Want You!

2015 ILITE Corporate Sponsorship Initiative

In an effort to bolster ILITE's student sponsorship efforts and grow the available resources for our section, the Illinois Section of ITE is inaugurating a new corporate sponsorship program for 2015. There are four levels of sponsorship, each with varying degrees of benefits, including, but not limited to: complimentary luncheon and webinar registrations, golf outing and annual banquet vouchers, and free corporate advertising. This sponsorship initiative represents a unique opportunity to advertise your brand, send employees to more events, and support the great work of ILITE. If you are interested, please email the ILITE Sponsorship Chair **Brian Roberts** at IllinoisITE+Sponsorship@gmail.com.

Volunteer Opportunity

Chicago Region Future City Competition

Each year, as part of Engineer's Week, the Section sponsors an award at the Chicago Region Future City Competition. As part of the sponsorship, the Section provides two volunteers to serve as judges at the event. This year the event will be held on **Saturday, January 24**. If you are interested in volunteering as a judge or in learning more about the available opportunities, please contact Erik Cempel. For more information about the competition, check out the event website, or this article highlighting the event in **Volume 53 Issue 1** released in March, 2014 issue of ITEms.

the group's director.

Do you have a newsworthy story?

Tell ITEms all about it! Send your article submissions to the editor:

Ashley Hochstatter
Illinoisite.editor@gmail.com

Refer a friend!

The Illinois Section will send an issue of ITEms to your friend or business acquaintance who may be interested in joining ITE. Email the contact information to the editor at: Illinoisite.editor@gmail.com. The contact will be provided membership information and acknowledgement of your referral.

ITEms is the official publication of the Illinois Section of ITE. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect official Institute or Illinois Section policy unless so stated. Advertisements do not constitute en-dorsements of products or services.

IL ITE Officers

The success of the Illinois Section is due to the hard work of our volunteers who serve on the Executive Board, as Group Directors, and on our many committees.

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You can read more about our officers' Roles & Responsibilities and download the many materials that they produce to keep our section running by clicking on the links above.

There are several open committee positions! Get involved today!

Did You Know?

All luncheon programs are available on GoToMeeting for remote users. Additionally, the **Clark Dietz** office in Champaign is now hosting remote viewing of the Illinois Section Luncheon Presentations to provide more opportunities for our members to network! PDH certificates are available for remote viewers.

Illinois Section of ITE | illinoisite@gmail.com