

THE COMPREHENSIVE ITEMS

NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS SECTION
INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS.

ITEMs Edited by: Patrick Jordan (AECOM) - illinoisite.editor@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME MESSAGE

By Josh Harris, Baxter & Woodman, Inc.

The Illinois Section of ITE 2020 year is off to a great start. On January 30th, the Section's Annual Banquet was held at Union Station, Chicago. The event, spearheaded by Past President, Brian Roberts, and Activities Director, Curtis Cornwell, included a keynote from John Yonan, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, gave the Past President's Award to Jonathan Nelson, Lake County Division of Transportation, and raised money for the Section's student scholarships. The event showcased why this professional organization, which is composed completely of volunteers, has provided technical material, networking opportunities, and education for student chapter members and younger students, while maintaining a strong financial foundation. It has always been my belief that the Section gets so much benefit from each event and initiative because of the members pouring in their time and energy. I also believe that the time and energy poured into each event and initiative is returned with friendships, professional networking, and technical and soft skills training.



Josh Harris, P.E., PTOE

To represent the member of the Illinois Section of ITE in 2020 as President is truly an honor. Over a decade ago, I was voluntold to attend an ITE luncheon. From then and until now, past presidents, local agency officials, and Section members have mentored and encouraged me to take on new opportunities and just listen. Without that luncheon over a decade ago, I would not have gone through the amazing experience of the LeadershipITE program last year, co-chairing the 2016 Midwestern and Great Lakes Districts Joint Annual Meeting, or be serving as President of the Section this year.

This year, I will have the opportunity to listen to ideas and new initiatives of the new Section Board as well as keep initiatives of past years going, like the Public Agency Partnership Program started last year by Brian Roberts. Along with the Section Board's ideas and initiatives, the Section will enact new bylaws being directed by International ITE and host the Midwestern and Great Lakes Districts Joint Annual Meeting in Chicago. The new bylaws will allow the Section to look into streamlining Section operations and procedures and provide its membership with additional benefits, including new chapters and events. The Midwestern and Great Lakes Districts Joint Annual Meeting being co-chaired by Katelyn Bleach and John Wirtz, both from Jacobs Engineering, will provide the Section's membership great training and networking opportunities. With those initiatives already underway, the Board will begin to evaluate new ways to help the Student Chapter members and promote STEM education for younger students.

It's a big year for the IL Section of ITE, and I'm glad to be a part of it. If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, or want to get more involved with the Section, please email me at illinoisite+president@gmail.com or find me at the next Illinois Section event.

Sincerely,
Josh Harris, P.E., PTOE
Illinois Section President
LeadershipITE 2019
Baxter & Woodman, Inc.

Illinois Section of ITE Response to COVID-19

The health and safety of our members is our number one priority. Due to COVID-19 and the recommendations

from the CDC, the Illinois Section of ITE has decided to not schedule future luncheons, social events, and technical events until further notice. The ITE Joint Midwestern and Great Lakes Districts Annual Meeting Planning Committee along with the Section and ITE International is continuing to monitor the situation. Once more information is available on Section events and the Annual Meeting, it will be provided via email and on the Section and Annual Meeting websites. We thank you for your patience.

2020 Annual Banquet

Sixty-six Illinois ITE members and guests were able to attend this year's Annual Banquet on January 30th in The Burlington Room at Union Station, located downtown Chicago. The banquet each year is a commemorative event for the section to honor student awards, section awards, and to install the new board.

We were honored to have keynote speaker **John Yonan**, Superintendent, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, present to us on the work Cook County has been doing, the staff that has helped make that work a success, and discussed the future of what Cook County has planned. **Sara Disney Haufe**, an IL-ITE past president, of Sam Schwartz led the swearing in of the 2020 IL-ITE Board.



Keynote Speaker - John Yonan



2020 IL-ITE Section Board (Front Row: Andrew Freeman, Anmol Shrivastava; Back Row: Jenna Brose, Monica Shei, Thomas Szabo, Brian Roberts, Josh Harris, Bryce Wegner, Ashley Hochstatter, Curtis Cornwell)



2020 Board swearing in - Led by Sara Disney-Haufe

Incoming Officers

President: Josh Harris

Vice President: Jenna Brose

Secretary: Thomas Szabos

Treasurer: Monica Shei

Technical Director: Andrew Freeman

Public Affairs Director: Ashley Hochstatter

Immediate Past President: Brian Roberts

Directors Serving Second Years

Student Affairs Director: Anmol Shrivastava

Operations Director: Bryce Wegner

Activities Director: Curtis Cornwell

Brian Roberts of Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways was awarded the Outgoing President Award for his contributions to the Illinois Section. The Outstanding Member Award went to

Patrick Jordan of AECOM for his contribution to IL-ITE as the ongoing ITEms editor and leading and coordinating all sponsors and vendors for the 2020 Midwestern/Great Lakes Joint District Meeting to be held in Chicago June 3rd-5th. **Jonathan Nelson**, Lake County Division of Transportation, was honored with the Past Presidents' Award for his contributions to the transportation engineering profession in Illinois. Jon spoke on what LCDOT has been doing including PASSAGE, testing new maintenance methods, and thanking his management for giving him the assets to do what he envisioned.



Past President's Award - Jonathan Nelson, presented by Ryan Jacox



Outstanding Member Award - Patrick Jordan, presented by Jenna Brose



Outgoing President's Award - Brian Roberts, presented by Ryan Jacox

This year's Undergraduate Scholarship was presented to **Jelani Miller** of Bradley University. This year's Graduate Scholarship was presented to **Sudheer Ballare** of the University of Illinois at Chicago. This year's Student Paper Award was presented to **Hongjae Jeon** of the University of Illinois at Chicago for "Signal Timing Optimization for One-lane Operation on Two-Lane Highway Work Zones" Congratulations to Jelani, Sudheer, and Hongjae for their outstanding work in 2019!



Student Paper - Hongjae Jeon, presented by Anmol Shrivastava



Graduate Scholarship - Sudheer Ballare, presented by Anmol Shrivastava



Undergraduate Scholarship - Jelani Miller, presented by Anmol Shrivastava

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In this Issue: [Illinois Section News](#) | [ILITE Past Events](#) | [Election Bios](#) | [Professional Development](#) | [Legislative Corner](#) | [Calendar](#) | [Professional Directory](#)

Illinois Section News and Announcements

Operations News and Announcements

By Operations Director Bryce Wegner

We would like to recognize our new members of the ITE - Illinois Section who have joined over the winter! Welcome! We look forward to meeting you later this year.

Nicholas Halan, Hampton, Lenzini and Renwick Inc.
Jeffery Allen, Illinois Department Of Transportation
Michael Joseph Kuehn, Illinois Department Of Transportation
Scott Ferguson, Illinois Department Of Transportation
Neil Sandschafer, Illinois Department Of Transportation
Jeremy Lee, DuPage County Div. Of Transportation
Gregory Gedemer, TranSmart/EJM

Student Affairs News and Announcements

By Student Affairs Director Anmol Shrivastava

ITE Illinois Section is looking forward to assisting all the Student Chapters. Please feel free to contact ITE Student Affairs, Anmol Shrivastava, at illinoisite+studentaffairs@gmail.com if you need any assistance or have questions.

ITE Midwestern and Great Lakes Districts Annual Meeting 2020

Several student activities and events will be conducted at the Midwestern District's Annual Meeting in June to be held in Chicago. This conference will be a joint meeting with the ITE Great Lakes District. Students and also faculty can make technical presentations as a part of the general program. The conference website is found at www.itechicago2020.com.

The 2020 student activities to be held during the Annual Meeting include:

- 12th Annual Collegiate Traffic Bowl
- Student Team Project Competition
- Student Poster Competition
- Student Chapter Participation Competition

These activities will be open to any student currently attending a university or college in the ITE Midwestern and Great Lakes Districts, who is a member of their school's ITE Student Chapter or is a Student Member of ITE. The student must also be a registered participant for the Midwestern/Great Lakes Districts Joint Conference.

Collegiate Traffic Bowl (during Annual Meeting) -

The traffic bowl (one for each district) will be held on Thursday, June 4th during the 2020 District Conference in Chicago. Each District Champion will represent their respective district at the 2020 International Traffic Bowl Grand Championship in New Orleans, Louisiana. Team entry forms are due May 1, 2020. Send to John Davis, MWITE District Traffic Bowl Chair, email at jadavis@dmgov.org.

Student Design Project Competition (presentations during Annual Conference) -

This competition gives Student Members (open to both districts) an opportunity to address transportation issues in a project team manner. Teams of 4 to 6 students will be formed in advance of the Annual Conference. These teams may be comprised of individuals from the same school or from multiple schools. The teams will be given a transportation issue to address and they will have time before the conference to develop their approach to the issue. Each team will present at the District Conference to a panel of judges.

Student Poster Competition (during Annual Conference) -

Create a poster that describes an academic project or research work. Posters can be co-authored by ITE student members, and the competition is open to any student in the Midwestern and Great Lakes District. \$400 will be awarded to each of the top three posters (1 for a graduate student; 1 for an undergraduate student; 1 for either a graduate or an undergraduate student). The poster competition will be held at the District Annual Conference on either Thursday or Friday mornings. If your students are interested, have them send their name, contact information and poster title/topic by May 15th to Tyler Krage at tkrage@alliant-inc.com. Pre-registration is required.

Student Chapter Participation Competition -

This year's District conference will again feature a participation award competition amongst student chapters. Chapter members will earn points by attending events and completing challenges. A packet of challenges will be provided to each student at the time of registration on site. The winning chapter will receive a special recognition.

If you or your students have any questions or concerns about student activities, awards, please contact Tyler Krage at tkrage@alliant-inc.com or John Davis at jadavis@dmgov.org.

Students enrolled in a full time program can register for the full conference for a reduced price. For more information visit the conference website at itechicago2020.com or email IL ITE Student Affairs Director Anmol Shrivastava at illinoisite+studentaffairs@gmail.com.

ITE Student Leadership Summit 2020

The University of Kansas student chapter is planning to host the Midwest ITE Student Leadership Summit in 2020. It is anticipated that the summit will be held in the Fall of 2020. More details will be coming soon.

2019 Student Scholarship and Student Paper Competition Winners!!

ITE Illinois Section awarded the Scholarship and Student Paper Competition Awards for 2019 at the ILITE Annual Banquet held on January 30th, 2020. The undergraduate and graduate scholarship winners received \$2,000 each and the student paper award winner received \$1,000. See the 2020 Banquet Award section for this year's award winners.

2020 Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting

The Transportation Research Board (TRB) 99th Annual Meeting was held January 12-16, 2020, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, in Washington, D.C. The information-packed program attracted around 13,000 transportation professionals from around the world. Four of the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) Student Chapter members attended this great event and shared their experiences with other students on returning. ITE IL section sponsored a part of their trip.

ITE Younger Member (30-to-30 Reminder) for Graduating Students

Graduating students should consider professional ITE membership upon graduation. ITE membership helps build your network by creating connections and growing your career. ITE provides a great platform for opportunities to

meet transportation professionals and network with them. For younger members, ITE offers a reduced dues structure for members 29 and under. More information is provided in the link below:

<https://www.ite.org/membership/become-a-member/young-member/>

Other benefits of being an ITE member can also be found here:

<https://www.ite.org/membership/become-a-member/benefits-of-membership//>

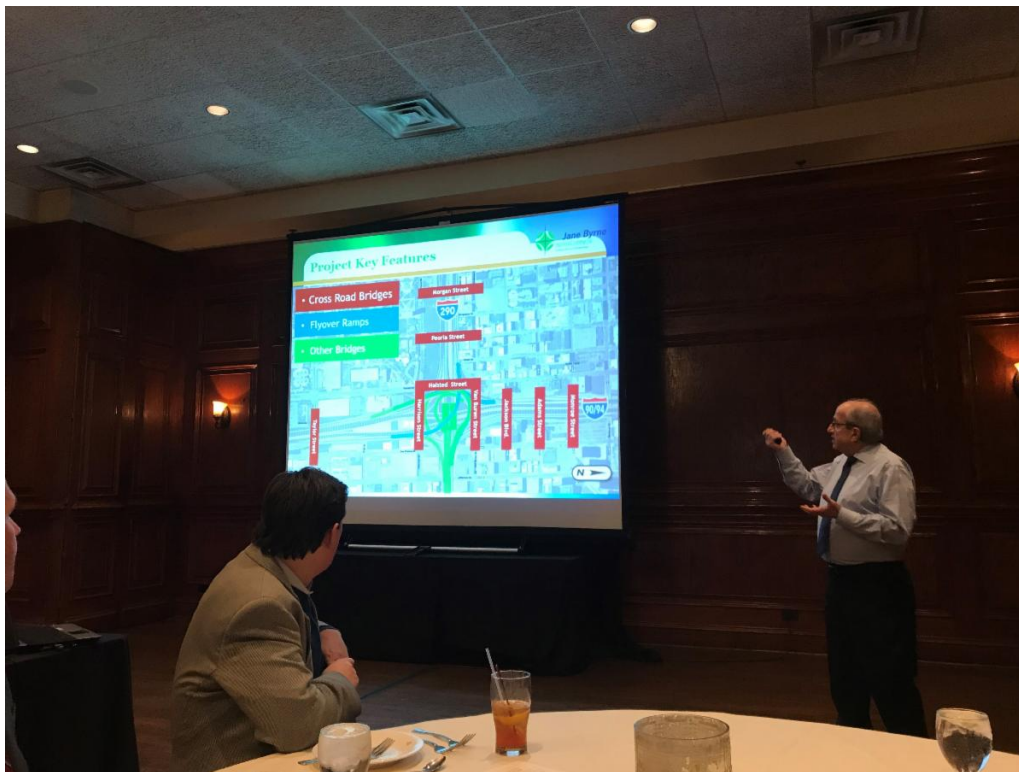
What Has The Illinois Section Been Up To?

March Luncheon: Jane Byrne Interchange

On Thursday, March 12th, the Illinois Section of ITE hosted the March luncheon at Maggiano's in Schaumburg featuring Project Manager, **Brian Kuttab** and Resident Engineer, **Eric Ray** from the Illinois Department of Transportation as they presented information on IDOT's ongoing reconstruction of the Jane Byrne (Circle) Interchange.

The interchange links the Dan Ryan Expressway (I-90/94) to the south, the Kennedy Expressway (I-90/94) to the north, the Eisenhower Expressway (I-290) to the west, and Ida B. Wells Drive (formerly known as Congress Parkway) to the east. The complex project faces many challenges as new interchange is being rebuilt on the same footprint and must continue to maintain the 400,000 vehicles per day that pass through the interchange. Key features of the project include nine new cross street bridges (Taylor St, Harrison St, Halsted St, Peoria St, Morgan St, Van Buren St, Adams St, Jackson Blvd, and Monroe St), expanded capacity along system ramps, in particular the new flyover ramp from northbound I-90/94 to westbound I-290, and new collector-distribution roads from mainline I-90/94 to local exits.

The project began in late 2013 with the reconstruction of the Morgan St Bridge and is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2022 following the reconstruction of the Dan Ryan Expressway and the Kennedy Expressway.



2019 Joint ITE/WTS/ISPE/APWA Chicago Holiday Party

2019 wrapped up with another successful joint ITE/WTS/ISPE/APWA Chicago Holiday Party! This year, the holiday party was held on December 18, 2018 at Railcar Club in the Chicago West Loop. We had a great turnout and it was a festive night of networking!

ITE News and Announcements

2020 Midwestern/Great Lakes Joint District Meeting

When: Wednesday, June 3rd - Friday, June 5th, 2020

Where: Holiday Inn Merchandise Mart
350 W Mart Center Drive at River North Point
Chicago, Illinois 60654

Website: <https://www.itechicago2020.com/>



COVID-19 Update: The 2020 Joint Midwestern and Great Lakes Annual Meeting is currently still on for June 3rd - 5th in Chicago, IL. The Conference's Local Arrangement

Committee is consulting with authorities in Chicago and will keep attendees informed if and how the coronavirus (COVID-19) may affect travel to Chicago. The Conference's Local Arrangement Committee is developing contingency plans in the event that a significant number of attendees must cancel due to travel restrictions imposed by governments or organizations. We will continue to monitor local, national, and international public health departments and agencies for advice about any protocols to be followed by our staff, partners, and attendees. For additional information, please visit the conference website posted above.

2019 International Annual Meeting

When: Sunday, August 9th - Wednesday, August 12th, 2020

Where: New Orleans, Louisiana

[Website](#)

This year's theme, Celebrating the Past | Shaping the Future, celebrates 2020 as the 90th Anniversary of ITE. A general [agenda](#) for the meeting has been posted to the conference website in addition to an overview of the [technical session program](#). Follow the website link above to learn more about accommodations and what NOLA has to offer. #ITENOLA2020



ITE International President and Vice President Election Results

Alyssa A. Rodriguez, P.E., PTOE was elected as the 2021 International President of the Institute of Transportation Engineers and Beverly Thompson Kuhn, Ph.D., P.E., PMP was elected as the 2021 International Vice President. Both will take office in January of 2021.

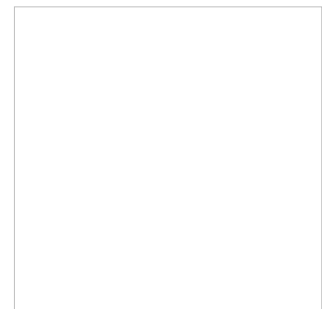
International President

Alyssa A. Rodriguez is the Director of Information Technology for the City of Henderson in Henderson, Nevada, USA. She has held various positions at the Chapter, Section, District, and International level. Her member engagement philosophy is that ITE is poised for growth, having experienced significant change over the last several years. In order to capitalize on the strong base of ITE leaders and facilitate sustainable expansion, as an organization, ITE will need to foster its legacy, embrace diversity, create opportunity, and sponsor and encourage new leaders.



International Vice President

Beverly Thompson Kuhn is a Division Head and Regents Fellow at Texas A&M Transportation Institute in College Station, Texas, USA. Since joining as a student 30 years ago, she has been active in ITE at every level and is an ITE Fellow. Passionate about transportation and the integral role it plays in the prosperity of our communities and citizens, Kuhn believes we must embrace diversity, enhance collaboration among transportation stakeholders, and fully leverage the expertise and perspective of ITE's councils and committees.



Professional Development Seminars

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TRB Webinar

The Transportation Research Board (TRB) hosts several conference recording and webinars on their site. The recordings and webinars cover a wide range of topics in the transportation field. Select, live webinars are available for Professional Development Hours (PDH). Check out the TRB Webinar and Conference Recording Program [HERE](#).

ITE Web Seminars

Several ITE webinars are available through the [ITE Learning Hub](#). Log in today to check out upcoming events.

T3 Webinars

Talking Technology and Transportation (T3) Webinars are designed to help agencies feel confident about deploying ITS technologies as a means to address challenges in their transportation systems. These free, 90-minute, interactive online meetings offer knowledge sharing on topics related to ITS planning, design, procurement, deployment, and operations. T3 current and archived webinars are available [HERE](#).

Upcoming ITE Events

Due to COVID-19 and the recommendations from the CDC, the Illinois Section of ITE has decided to not schedule future luncheons, social events, and technical events until further notice.

[ILITE Event Calendar](#)

Thank You to All Out 2020 IL ITE Section Sponsors

contacting:
William Eidson
illinois.ite.ads@gmail.com

Hey Section Member!

Get involved! There are open positions in the Student Affairs Group, the Activities Group, the Technical Group, and the Public Affairs Group. To volunteer on an ILITE committee, contact the group's director.

Do you have a news-worthy story?

Tell ITEms all about it! Send your article submissions to the editor: Patrick Jordan
illinoisite.editor@gmail.com

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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.

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ILITE 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!



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