

THE COMPREHENSIVE ITEMS

NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS SECTION
INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS.

ITEMs 2023, Issue 1
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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME MESSAGE

By Monica Shei, PE, PTOE (Jacobs)

Fellow ITE Illinois Section Members and Supporters,

Our section kicked off this year with the recent Illinois Section Annual Banquet on January 19 at Carnivale in Chicago. With in-person events back in full force this year, we had over 70 people in attendance (our largest yet!). Thank you again to **Erik Cempel** for serving as our steady Master of Ceremonies year after year. I was honored to celebrate a successful 2022 under the leadership of outgoing President **Thomas Szabo** and all that we had accomplished. Please see the Annual Banquet recap or our website for more details and photos from this eventful night!



I am so excited to represent all of you as this year's President of the Illinois Section of ITE. Having been involved with this organization for nearly a decade, I have had the opportunity to appreciate the dedication required from all of the Board members to keep this organization running smoothly. I am incredibly proud of this year's Board and am thrilled to see the events that will take place this year. Not only is ILITE focused on organizing luncheons, workshops, and conferences, we are continuously making efforts to streamline our internal operations to run more efficiently. ILITE has been the cornerstone of many professional connections, friendship, and career opportunities for many of us and none of this is possible without the time and energy from our volunteers. Therefore, if you are interested in strengthening your involvement with the organization, please consider volunteering with a committee this year. For additional information on how you can join the ILITE team as a committee member, please contact me at Illinoisite+president@gmail.com. Please consider attending our **March Meet the Board Happy Hour** on March 15th at Lou's Backyard in downtown Chicago to meet the 2023 Section Board. This will be a great opportunity to meet each of the committee leads if you are interested in getting more involved!

As I touched on at the Annual Banquet, the Illinois Section of ITE's main priority this year is to provide more opportunities for professional engagement at all levels for our members. As we transition back to in-person events, we also want to leverage the flexibility of online platforms to increase accessibility for our members. We are enthusiastic in planning engaging in-person luncheons and technical workshops/webinars throughout this year for increased networking. However, we also understand that with inflation, prices for many events have increased across all organizations. Therefore, we hope the following initiatives will create more accessible opportunities to network and connect with our colleagues:

- **Mentorship Match Program:** We are heading into our 3rd year of the Mentorship Match Program, which rotates mentors/mentees on a monthly basis to maximize connections. This year's call for mentors/mentees has been released and the [deadline to register](#) is March 10th. We encourage you register if you are looking to increase your professional network!
- **Low cost and more frequent socials:** We are prioritizing low-cost/free socials on a more regular

basis this year to increase member engagement at all levels. If you have new graduates at your firm, these socials are a great low-barrier-to-entry event to meet ILITE members and friends! As the weather warms up, we are thrilled to be planning two Malt-y Modal Bike Tours this summer!

- **Public Agency Partnership Program:** Since the program's inception in 2019, the Public Agency Partnership Program strives to address the unique needs of the public sector and offers complimentary registrations to ILITE with a one-time financial contribution to ILITE on an annual basis. If you are interested in this program, please see the flyer [here](#) or contact Katie Biggs, Operations Committee Lead at illinoisite+operations@gmail.com for additional information.
- **ITE's Transportation Planners Initiative:** In alignment with ITE International's Strategic Plan, we are committed to growing as a "Community of Transportation Professionals". For all transportation planners, new members can join ITE for free in 2023. For all ILITE Planners who joined recently, you should have received a Welcome Message with an offer to attend your first ILITE event for free! Please reach out to Katie Biggs at illinoisite+operations@gmail.com for additional information.

In closing, I am enthusiastic about this year's program offerings and networking opportunities. I am confident that we will continue to increase our organization's accessibility to our members and visitors as we work towards making a positive impact on the transportation industry. If you have any suggestions or collaboration ideas, please talk to me at one of our many events or send me an email at Illinoisite+president@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Monica Shei, PE, PTOE
Illinois Section President
Jacobs

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Illinois Section News and Announcements

2022 ILITE Section Election Results (For 2023 Board)

ILITE is pleased to announce the winners of the 2022 ILITE Section Elections, who were installed at the Annual banquet earlier this year and are already hard at work in their roles:

President

Monica Shei, PE, PTOE

Vice President

Katelyn Hacker, PE

Secretary

Anmol Shrivastava, PE, PMP, PTOE, RSP1

Treasurer

Tyler Grau, PE

Thomas Szabo, TOPS, TSOS, RSP1 will become the Immediate Past President and **Joshua Harris**, PE, PTOE will continue his service to ILITE as the Section Representative.

Please keep reading to see our special Meet the 2023 IL ITE Board section of this ITEms newsletter. There you can learn more about our board members and committee chairs.

Mentorship Match Program

By Illinois Section Secretary Anmol Shrivastava

The Mentorship Match Program is kicking off its third year in March 2023. Matches rotate each month to ensure maximum networking opportunities throughout the year. The Section will send out monthly themes with targeted questions to encourage a deeper discussion between matches. The Mentorship Match Program is meant to provide you with the opportunity to connect one-on-one with someone that can offer unique perspective, provide guidance, and support your career development. The link to register is [here](#).

The registration deadline is March 10th, 2023. We are looking forward to meeting the new batch of mentors and mentees for 2023.



Activities Group News and Announcements

By Activities Chairs Jakob Boxberger & Jim Kane

Upcoming Event: April Luncheon

Be on the lookout for additional details regarding our April luncheon. Location and presentation details to follow soon.

Technical Group News and Announcements

By Technical Chair Kristel Shu Bassett

Crossing the T's: CDOT TSR and TS Workshop

Join us on Thursday March 30 from 3-4:30PM at the 2 N Lasalle CDOT Office for a TSR/TS QAQC Training. CDOT Traffic Safety will be hosting a technical training regarding Traffic Signal Requirements (TSR) and TS (Timing Schedule) creation, process, and where they fit in the process of doing CDOT Traffic Signal work. Additionally CDOT will be distributing and elaborating on their QAQC Checklist document. This is a living document serving to show CDOT Traffic Safety's most up to date guidelines for design and signal timing. If you can't make the webinar, the QAQC document will also be distributed en masse to all consultants and interested parties on a regular basis of updates. Space is limited and due to logistical constraints, we recommend sending a maximum of two attendees per firm. Registration is capped at 28 people in person, and closes on March 24th.



A note to our members: Please fill out post-event surveys! These results help us plan future events and determine if there's a demand for intermediate or advanced events.

Student Affairs Group News and Announcements

By Student Affairs Chair Andrew Hein

Student Chapter Report

Currently, ILITE has three student chapters; University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, University of Illinois Chicago and Illinois Institute of Technology. The ASCE student chapter at Northwestern University's has decided to "rebrand" as a general civil engineering student association. The intent is to allow the group to associate with multiple societies, opening new opportunities to their members. Contact has been established with board members who have shown interest in collaborating and participating in future ILITE events.

2022 Student Scholarship and Student Paper Competition Winners

ILITE was pleased to honor the winners of the 2022 Scholarship, Student Paper & Student Chapter Competitions at the Annual Banquet on January 19th. Each year, ILITE gives an award to one undergraduate and one graduate student to support their pursuit of a degree in Transportation Engineering or Planning. Additionally, awards are given for the best graduate student paper and best Student Chapter Award. This year's winners were:

- Undergraduate Student Scholarship - Olivia Hansen
- Graduate Student Scholarship - Motahare (Yalda) Mohammadi
- Student Paper Award - Nahid Parvez Farazi
- Student Chapter Award - University of Illinois Chicago

Congratulations again to the winners, the awards are well-deserved!

Discounted Dues: ITE Younger Member 30-to-30 Reminder

This is a reminder for all graduating seniors that they 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 fee 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/>

Public Affairs Group News and Announcements

By Public Affairs Chair Tyler Krage

March Meet the Board Happy Hour

Join us on March 15th for the March Meet the Board Happy Hour Social. It will be occurring at Lou's Backyard in the West Loop starting at 6PM. Swing on by and meet your IL-ITE leadership as well as have some beverages and appetizers with us! If you're interested in finding ways to get involved with the Section, this is a great way to see what we have to offer for committee opportunities and the mentorship match program! More information can be found [here](#).



Legislative Corner

- CDOT and IDOT reach agreement to streamline implementation of safety improvements. Read more [here](#).
- Bill to create IDOT mobile driver app to show updates on road conditions, construction, weather, and other safety-related road measures passes Transportation Committee. Read more [here](#).
- Bills introduced to further EV charging station implementations in residential contexts. Read more [here](#).

Follow Illinois ITE on Social Media

Looking to stay connected? Check out our LinkedIn and Twitter pages to get great info on activities, socials, technical events, and more!

LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/illinois-section-of-institute-of-transportation-engineers-il-ite>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/Illinois ITE>

Operations News and Announcements

By Operations Chair Katie Biggs

If you'd like to stay up to date on all things Illinois Section ITE, please sign up for our complete mailing list via this link: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/wFK5f75/maillinglist>.

New ITE Members

The Illinois Section of ITE would like to welcome our new professional and student members:

Professional Members

Matt Verheyen - Stantec

Srijan Adhikari

Lipji Moon - IEI

Talha Mohammed - Michael Baker

Jacque Henrikson - Civiltech

Brian Emrich - Allegro

Jonathan Zegar - CMT

Michael Spolar - Robinson

Sidney Kenyon - DuPage County DOT

Ryan Kearney - Village of Wilmette

Rachel Benson - Village of Schaumburg

Michael Lysicatos - Village of Schaumburg

Ryan Thompto - CMAP
Victoria Barrett - CMAP
Enrique Castillo - CMAP
Michael Brown - CMAP
Michael Collins - CMAP
Jacob Molewyk - SE3
Stephen Lashock - HNTB
Ana Zanza - HNTB
Ethan Jones - Lochmueller
Diana Beltran - CMAP
Beatrix Yan - CMAP
Matthew Kolasny - CMAP
Osama Mohammed - Atlas
Rukaya Abdallah - CMAP
Lindsay Bayley - CMAP
Patrick Day - CMAP
Cole Neder - CMAP

Student Members

Ash Antunez - UIC
Louis Cho - UIUC
Brandon Mah - UIUC

We are extra excited to see so many public agency partners and planners joining ITE due to new initiatives. We look forward to increased collaboration and relationship-building across disciplines and industries.

We encourage all new members to reach out our Operations Chair, Katie Biggs at illinoisite+operations@gmail.com if they have any questions.

2023 ITE Membership Survey

In order to gain a better understanding about the diversity and experience of those working in the transportation industry, ITE International is asking for your insights with the **ITE All-Member Survey**. [Click here to access the survey.](#)

For more information on how ITE used the results of the 2019 member survey to strengthen their support and services to members, please see here: <https://www.ite.org/membership/ite-2023-membership-survey/>

We appreciate your time in completing this survey – there is an opportunity to win a \$250 Amazon gift card! The 2023 ITE Membership Survey will be open until March 10.

Upcoming ITE Conferences - Save the Dates

[2023 Great Lakes ITE District Meeting - June 11-13 in Grand Rapids, Michigan](#)
[2023 International ITE Annual Meeting - August 13-16 in Portland, Oregon](#)

IL ITE Recent Events

LeadershipITE Spotlight: Kristel Shu Bassett

Late last year, IL ITE's **Kristel Shu Bassett**, P.E., PTOE was accepted into the 2023 LeadershipITE program. We asked her to share how her experience was going:

"LeadershipITE (LITE) brings together emerging leaders in the transportation industry from around the country to learn about themselves, and how to be effective communicators,

collaborators, advocates, and leaders. It is a program tailored by transportation professionals and led by Shelley Row, PE, CSP, a professional engineer and a former USDOT executive. I am fortunate to participate in the 2023 Class of LITE with the support of my employer, Iteris, Inc., and have found it to be rewarding in the two months that have passed. My class is comprised of 23 transportation professionals from the United States and Canada—a mix of private and public sector employees, planners and engineers, with a range of experience levels.

LITE begins with a weekend workshop in conjunction with the Transportation Research Board (TRB) annual meeting in Washington, D.C. and concludes at the ITE International annual meeting in August. In between are highly interactive virtual sessions to cultivate skills outside of our technical expertise. For example, I have learned what type of communicator I am (community builder!) and how to adapt to those with a different communication style. Outside of these sessions, we work in small teams to tackle projects addressing real-world issues facing the transportation industry and ITE with the guidance of an International Board of Direction (IBOD) mentor, an LITE alumni mentor, and ITE staff resource.

This program has broadened my professional network and skills and is providing building blocks for my continued growth."

Thank you for representing the Illinois Section so wonderfully Kristel. We are excited to hear about what's to come for you with the program.



Mentorship Match End of Year Social: Golf Outing

We had a great time celebrating the completion of the 2022 IL-ITE Mentorship Match Program on November 3rd at the Big Mini Putt Club in Wicker Park, Chicago! The program is a great way to learn from some of the best and brightest of our industry here in Illinois, and we ended this year's program with a night of drinks and mini golf! Thanks to all who participated.



November 2022 Technical Webinar - Competitive Grants

On November 16th, IL-ITE hosted a technical webinar covering **The Fundamentals of Competitive Transportation Grants**. The webinar was hosted by **Tammy Wierciak** and **Seema Wadia** from Metro Strategies Group, and provided excellent insight into the process of various infrastructure grants.

The presentation provided an overview of various regional, state, and federal transportation grant programs including new programs under the Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act (IIJA). Participants learned some tips and strategies to:

- Identify and pursue appropriate opportunities

- Leverage multiple funding sources
- Make your application stand out

The webinar provided 1.0 PDH hours to professional development, and can be watched in its entirety [here](#).

2022 Holiday Party

Fun was had by all at the combined ITE/WTS/ASCE/ISPE/CMAA/SAME/APWA holiday party, which took place on December 15th at Francois Frankie. Carousel bar-aside, the venue had excellent food and drinks, and everyone had a great time catching up with colleagues and peers across the many involved organizations. Even CDOT Commissioner Gia Biagi stopped by. There were well over 100 people in attendance. The event also had a Toys for Tots drive, so thank you to those who donated. and two marines came and picked up the donations towards the end of the evening. Special shoutout to **WTS** for the majority of event planning and coordination.

Everyone was having too much fun to take pictures, so we hope to get some good photos at the next one!

2023 IL ITE Annual Banquet

We had a great time at our Annual Banquet at Carnivale on January 19th! There was a great turn-out (and amazing food), and people were feeling very generous - attendees raised \$2050 for the IL-ITE Student Fundraiser and \$2000 for the Great Lakes District of ITE Endowment Fund via the raffle and silent auction. Thanks to all who showed up, and extra thanks to the people that planned - **Karyn Ryg Robles, Jakob Boxberger, Andrew Hein, and Jim Kane**. One more thanks to **Jennifer (Sis) Killen** for joining us as a speaker and to all of our sponsors for making it all possible last year!

Section Award Winners

Tom Szabo - Outgoing President Award

Tyler Krage - Member of the Year Award

Jeff Young - John LaPlante Award



2023 Future Cities Competition

IL-ITE had a blast judging entries at the the Illinois Future Cities Competition on January 21. IL-ITE hosted a special award for the competition, Best Transportation System, and there were some amazing ideas put forth by the middle school aged participants. The city IL-ITE awarded had a vibrant underground

transit rail system, a system of underground roadways devoted to maintenance and delivery operations, and a vibrant non-motorized transportation network at ground, all next to a big lake (sound familiar?).

There's lots of energy in these future transportation professionals, and it was great to see the next generation thinking creatively about innovation in transportation and how we tackle some of our biggest problems. Thanks to **Nandan Baheti** and **Tyler Krage** for serving on the esteemed judging panel.

Future Cities is an awesome organization, and is always looking for volunteers to judge, mentor, and more. If your group, company, or section is ever looking to get involved, they have loads of outlets to help. Check out more here <https://futurecity.org/>



January Happy Hour

IL-ITE had it's first Happy Hour Social of the year on January 26th at Cardoza's Pub in the Loop. New members were encouraged to attend, and received free appetizers. Of the 15 attendants, nearly half were new faces to IL-ITE! We're excited to grow in our new members through outreach events like these and through the Planning member initiative (which provides free ITE membership for planning professionals), as well as more socials to come in the future.

Chicago Architecture Center's Engineering Fest

On February 25, IL-ITE participated in Engineering Fest at the Chicago Architecture Center. The event was focused on teaching STEM principles to students from ages 8-14, and had as many as 110 kids pass through the exhibits. The theme was "Engineering Neighborhoods" and featured volunteers from the design and engineering fields. Activities included bridge building, LEGO construction, structures lab, wind power, simulated traffic signal, multi-modal street design, and more.

IL-ITE had strong representation at the event with **Monica Shei**, **Kristel Shu Bassett**, **Katie Biggs**, and **Tyler Krage** volunteering, and were able to talk with kids about what their days look like, how they got there, and some cool things that they get to work on. IL-ITE's hosted activities were the virtual traffic signal (where attendees learned about everything that traffic signals are thinking about to make things safe and efficient) and a multi-modal street-building activity (where attendees built their perfect street and discussed the different factors that go into making those designs happen). IL-ITE was pleased to be a part of this event, and we look forward to participating in the event next year to help inspire the next generation of transportation professionals!



Meet the 2023 IL ITE Board

Thank you to all who voted in the 2023 IL ITE Board Elections. The incoming board members were announced at the annual banquet, and we would love to share a little more about ourselves for those we can't meet in person.

President - Monica Shei

Monica Shei, PE, PTOE., has been actively involved with ITE since college, serving as student chapter president at UCLA. Since moving to Chicago in 2013, Monica has become increasingly more active in Illinois ITE. Monica served as the Media/Lasting Communications Chair for the 2016 Midwestern/Great Lakes District Meeting in Chicago. Monica has also served as the ILITE Director of Public Affairs from 2015-2018. During her time as the Director of Public Affairs, Monica helped update the ILITE By Laws, redesigned the ILITE website, and initiated involvement with the local Girl Scout Chapters at their annual STEMpalooza. Her contribution to ILITE's Communication Plan helped ILITE win the District/Section Communications Award for three consecutive years from 2017 to 2019. As Treasurer in 2020, Monica assisted the 2020 ITE Midwestern/Great Lakes District Annual Meeting Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) manage finances when the meeting transitioned to a virtual setting. In 2022, Monica's contribution to the ILITE submittal for the Great Lakes District Awards resulted in the Illinois Section winning both the Section Momentum and the Outstanding Section awards.



Monica is a transportation engineer at Jacobs and was an in-house consultant at CDOT from 2015-2019. Monica has worked on a variety of projects with CDOT that focuses on safety and congestion countermeasures on both an intersection and corridor-wide scale. Monica has lead projects ranging from road diets, intersection redesign, bicycle lane design, and innovative pedestrian improvements throughout the city.

Monica holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering from UCLA and an M.S. in Transportation Engineering from Northwestern University. Monica looks forward to continue her service to the ITE community as Illinois Section President. Monica will continue to provide leadership and guidance as the Section returns to in-person events while maintaining the flexibility and accessibility of virtual events.

Vice President - Katelyn Hacker

Katelyn Hacker (n. Bleach), P.E. graduated from Marquette University with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Civil Engineering. A transportation engineer with Jacobs for the past 12 years, she has a strong traffic engineering background with expertise in streetscape design, ADA design, and 3D roadway modeling. She has enjoyed working on numerous roadway, traffic and rail projects throughout the Chicagoland region and the Midwest.

Having been an actively involved member of ITE since college where she was the vice president of the Marquette ITE chapter, Katelyn has assumed increasing responsibility within the organization throughout her professional career. In 2015-2016, she chaired the Visiting Chicago committee for the joint Midwestern and Great Lakes ITE conference held in Chicago. In 2015 she began the role of Director of Operations for the IL section of ITE and held that role until 2019. During her tenure she worked to expand the corporate



sponsorship program and maximize the benefits to all section members. More recently, she was the co-chair for the planned 2020 joint Midwestern and Great Lakes District conference that would have taken place in Chicago.

Over the last year she has enjoyed contributing to the IL ITE Board as the Secretary of the section. Since being with the Illinois Section of ITE, she has greatly enjoyed participating in section events and getting to know her colleagues in the region. She particularly enjoys participating in a traffic bowl whenever one is offered for the professionals at conferences. Katelyn appreciates the numerous benefits included in being part of the ITE community and is excited to continue her involvement in the organization as the Illinois Section's Vice President.

Secretary - Anmol Shivastava

Anmol Shrivastava, P.E., PMP, PTOE, RSP1, graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign with a Bachelor's (2014) and Master's (2015) in Civil Engineering with a focus in Transportation. He currently works in the Urban Design and Traffic group at Civiltech Engineering, Inc. helping with traffic modeling-simulation, traffic impact studies, capacity analysis, crash analysis, safety studies, traffic signal design, warrant analysis, and traffic signal timing analysis and optimization. He also manages the traffic count scheduling process. Anmol has been actively involved in ITE since college. He was the recipient of the ITE Illinois Section Undergraduate (2013) and Graduate (2014) Scholarship Awards.



Anmol served as the Student Affairs Director for the ITE Illinois Section from 2019-2020. During his tenure he created an open communication with the student chapters to understand their needs and organized relevant events like career fair, speed networking event, and company visit day. Anmol has also represented the ITE Illinois Section as a Guest Speaker to high school students in the Chicago area sharing his knowledge of the industry and professional career. More recently he has been serving on the Great Lakes District Student and Younger Member Committee providing a bridge between the Illinois Section student chapters and the Great Lakes District.

He has recently participated in the 2022 Class of LeadershipITE (LITE) and is looking forward to continuing the connections made as part of this program. He served as the ITE Illinois Section Treasurer from 2022-2023.

Anmol has appreciated all the events he has been part of and all the connections he has made through the involvement with ITE Illinois Section. He is excited to continue his service to the ITE Illinois Section as the Secretary.

Treasurer - Tyler Grau

Tyler Grau, P.E., graduate from the University of Wisconsin – Madison with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering (2005) with a focus in Transportation. He currently works at Stanley Consultants, Inc. as the Traffic Engineering Department Manager responsible for leading the traffic modeling, traffic impact studies, capacity analysis, safety studies, traffic signal design, warrant analysis, and preliminary and design engineering projects. He has managed Phase I / II projects since 2012 that includes projects ranging from \$500K to \$15M while developing and monitoring the scope, schedule, and budget.



Tyler has been actively involved in ITE since 2021 and currently serves as the Treasurer for the ITE Illinois Section. Tyler previously served as the Student Affairs Director in 2022, during which he worked with the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign to support rebooting their student chapter post-pandemic and organized events like the UIUC Student – Practitioner event during the Traffic Engineering

and Safety (TES) Conference, supporting in the YPT student speed networking event, leading the ITE Student Day career fair / luncheon, and managing the student scholarship and paper award.

He has served in other previous leadership positions, including, condominium board president for a 24-unit building managing capital projects and finances, president of the Member Advisory Committee within Stanley Consultants, and Membership Chair for the American Public Works Association (APWA) Suburban Branch. Tyler was recognized in 2020 by ENR Midwest as a Top 20 under 40 and by ACEC-Illinois as the Emerging Professional of the Year. He holds professional engineering licenses in five states: Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Minnesota, and Texas.

Activities Committee Co-Lead - Jakob Boxberger

Jakob Boxberger, P.E., PTOE, is a Traffic Engineer at the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) in the Division of Project Development, a role he started early in 2023. His duties include overseeing Aldermanic traffic and safety study requests and reviewing proposed development traffic impacts on a team comprised of city staff and in-house consultants. Previously, he worked for Sam Schwartz for three years, primarily as an in-house consultant for CDOT but also as a transportation engineer in their local Chicago office. Prior to that, Jakob worked for Kimley-Horn and Associates in their Chicago Suburban office and in their Virginia Beach office. He has worked on a wide mix of transportation planning, design, and operations projects in his career and enjoys the dynamic nature of the industry. He graduated from Purdue University with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering in 2015. Jakob has lived in Chicago for five years and spends his free time watching movies, playing golfing, and hanging out with friends. When not in Chicago, he enjoys traveling, hiking, and visiting family.



As co-chair of the Illinois Section of ITE's activities committee for the past year and half, Jakob has had the opportunity to further connect with the section's members and board. During his time on the activities committee, he has helped bridge the transition from virtual events back to full in-person events following the COVID-19 pandemic. In his final year as activities co-chair, Jakob hopes to plan and host events that are enjoyable for all transportation professionals.

Activities Committee Co-Lead - Jim Kane

Jim Kane, PE, PTOE, is a co-chair for the Illinois section of ITE's activities committee. As a member of the committee in 2022, Jim helped plan and execute multiple events, including the TopGolf outing, ILITE luncheons, and the annual banquet at Carnivale. In 2020, Jim served as the technical program co-chair for the Joint Midwestern and Great Lakes Districts Annual Meeting in Chicago and helped transition the conference format from in-person to virtual due to Covid-19. Jim is excited to help lead the ILITE activities committee as co-chair to facilitate fun and memorable outings for this great community of transportation professionals.



Jim is a traffic engineer at Jacobs, serving as an in-house consultant for the Chicago Department of Transportation since 2021. At CDOT, Jim responds to aldermanic traffic study and safety requests in addition to reviewing proposed development site plans and traffic impact studies. Previously, Jim worked for CBB, a St. Louis-based transportation engineering and planning firm, where he carried out traffic impact studies and other traffic analyses for public and private clients in Missouri and Illinois. Jim graduated from Saint Louis University in 2014 with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. When he's not engineering, Jim enjoys playing music, trying out new places to eat, and wishing Chicago's sports teams could be as good as its food.

Technical Committee Lead - Kristel Shu Bassett

Kristel Bassett, P.E., PTOE is a senior engineer in the Mobility Consulting Solutions division of Iteris, Inc. She has ten years of diverse transportation and traffic engineering experience, ranging from community outreach, feasibility and traffic studies, preliminary and final design, and signal coordination and timing. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from Macaulay Honors College at the City College of New York and a Bachelor of Engineering from The City College of New York.



At Iteris, Kristel specializes in Traffic Engineering and Operations, and ITS Planning, Design, and Integration. She supports both public and private sector clients in creating a safe environment for all users of the road while minimizing delays and lost time for thousands of commuters in northern Illinois. She conducts area-wide street network analysis, develops arterial traffic calming measures, coordinates inter-jurisdictional traffic signals, and ensures pedestrian safety. She provides clients with key elements in strategic planning through traffic signal timing optimization studies, ITS/systems integration, construction support, or traffic engineering.

Kristel began her ITE membership in 2011 as a student in New York City, continued as a young member in Chicago, began serving as the Technical Chair for the ITE Illinois Section in 2022, and currently a part of the 2023 Class of LeadershipITE (LITE). She held technical workshops for Traffic Signal Controller Programming 101 and hosted a webinar on the Fundamentals of Grant Funding during her first year as Technical Chair. She looks forward to engaging with more transportation professionals in the upcoming year by providing more technical events outside of traffic engineering.

Student Affairs Committee Lead - Andrew Hein

Andrew Hein graduated from Iowa State University in 2018 with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. Andrew currently works for Peralte-Clark, LLC where he has recently been named an Associate of the firm. In his four years in the industry, Andrew has gained experience in traffic signal, roadway geometrics, drainage and maintenance of traffic design – as well as 3D modeling.



Public Affairs Committee Lead - Tyler Krage

Tyler Krage, P.E., PTOE is the Traffic Signals Supervisor at the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), where he oversees that the operation and design of the city's 3000+ traffic signals meet CDOT's standards of providing safety for all users while balancing system efficiency. Previously he was a consultant at Alliant Engineering in Minneapolis MN, where he started as an intern in 2013 and managed their data collection efforts and served as the signal timing optimization specialist before moving to Chicago in

September 2021. He has done signal work in MN, ND, WI, FL, WY, CA, and now exclusively Chicago, IL. He graduated from the University of Minnesota in 2014.

Tyler serves as the Public Affairs Chair for IL-ITE, where he enjoys planning happy hours and socials, running the social media and website, and helps with STEM outreach efforts. He is proud to have brought two Malt-y Modal Tours to IL-ITE in 2022 (a bike tour showcasing non-motorized infrastructure improvements and ending at a local watering hole), and is excited to bring two more in 2023 (stay tuned!). Outside of IL-ITE, he served on the North Central ITE Section board and was the Section Vice-President before moving to Chicago. At the Great Lakes District level, he serves as the Student/Young Member Activities Chair, Endowment Fund Chair, and has worked with/served on every Great Lakes Annual Meeting Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) since 2018, coordinating the Glitey/Mitey races and various other duties. He's also active at the International level, sitting on the Young Member and LeadershipITE committees, amid other random task forces here and there. He's excited to bring different viewpoints and perspectives to the IL-ITE section, and is ultimately excited to make ITE events fun in addition to the professional and technical aspect they bring to the industry.



He lives in Logan Square with his wife, Meredith, and two dwarf rabbits, Pepper and George. He loves biking, live music, reading, exploring cities & the great outdoors, and recently got into providing liquid light shows for local bands (check out @soop_lightshow on Instagram if you're curious about that even means).

Operations Committee Lead - Katie Biggs

Katie Biggs graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2019 with a Bachelors in Civil Engineering and works for Civiltech Engineering on CDOT projects. She enjoys designing transportation facilities that are safer for vulnerable roadway users. Before Civiltech, Katie gained experience in traffic engineering, and roadway design for IDOT and Chicagoland-area municipalities. Since graduating, Katie has enjoyed participating in Illinois Section ITE member events and serving on the Operations Committee as the ITEms newsletter editor. She is excited to further increase her service to Illinois ITE as the Operations Chair.



Professional Development Seminars

TRB Webinars

The Transportation Research Board (TRB) hosts several conference recording and webinars on their website. The recordings and webinars cover a wide range of topics in the transportation field. Select, live webinars are available for Professional Development Hours (PDHs). 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.

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: Katie Biggs

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

Check out the following calendars and events pages to stay updated on future Illinois Section, Great Lakes District, and International ITE Events:

[Illinois Section ITE Event Calendar](#)

[Great Lakes District ITE Events Page](#)

[International ITE Event Calendar](#)

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ILITE Committees

The success of the Illinois Section is due to the hard work of our volunteers who serve on the Executive Board and as a Committee Chair.

EXECUTIVE BOARD & COMMITTEES

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

As our committees transition to the new structure outlined in the 2021 Bylaws, be on the look out for more information posted to our website early 2021.



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