Letter from the President

This past year in ITE was filled with many informative programs, lots of student involvement, and ample networking opportunities. I hope that you were served well, as we hope to continue to provide the same excellent programs and events that we have come to expect from ITE. We’ll continue to seek more ways to increase student involvement, as well as activities to encourage professional collaboration. We have an exceptional group of transportation professionals here in Washington, and I look forward to the opportunity to serve you as President.

ITE Board/Committees

The election results were announced at the Annual Meeting, and our new Section Secretary is Katherine Casseday! We are de-

(Continued on page 2)

Mark Your Calendars!

Our first meeting of the ITE year will be held on September 9, 2008 and we’ll have Goran Sparrman give a presentation about the Downtown Bellevue Master Plan.

Upcoming Washington Section meetings are planned for the following dates, so mark your calendars now and plan ahead for the remainder of 2008:

• September 9th
• October 14th
• November 4th or 18th (yet to be determined)
• Training program after a breakfast meeting on December 9th.

In Memoriam

Paul Clayton Hooper
May 23, 1930 to June 30, 2008

Paul passed away, at the family home, on June 30, 2008 after a short battle with cancer. He was born May 23, 1930 in Johnson, Washington, the youngest of nine children. Paul attended Pullman High School and graduated in Civil Engineering from WSU in 1953. He attended Yale University for graduate studies in Transportation Engineering. Paul served two years in the Army Corp of Engineers, and continued in the reserves for 14 more. As a professional Transportation Engineer, Paul worked for the WSDOT and King County. He retired as King County Road Engineer in 1985. He was involved with many engineering associations and continued to work as a consultant after retirement. Paul was a long-time member of ITE and served as President of the Washington Section 1966-1967. He won the Outstanding Service Award in 1985. Paul is survived by his wife of 49 years, Sally, three sons and four grandchildren.

With our Deepest Sympathy
ITE Washington Section
lighted to add Katherine to our Executive Board. The rest of this year’s elected Executive Board is comprised of Jim Bloodgood (Vice-President/Treasurer), Dave Alm (Past President), and myself. We also have some very hardworking, dedicated individuals who are volunteering their time as committee chairs. Some of the committee chairs are still being finalized, but we will have a full contingent in place in the near future. I am very grateful to have the opportunity to work together with such outstanding professionals!

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting was held in Tacoma this past June, and it was well attended and filled with many quality presentations. Part of Annual Meeting tradition is the ITE Classic, a golf tournament in its 20th edition this year. Many thanks to those who took part in sponsoring this tournament:

• Gibson Traffic Consultants, Inc.
• Inca Engineers, Inc.
• DKS Associates
• Transportation Solutions, Inc.
• Fehr and Peers/Mirai
• Perteet, Inc.
• All Traffic Data Services
• The Transpo Group, Inc.

Without their help, the tournament and subsequent barbeque would not have been the great success that it was.

Programs

As we look forward to the upcoming year in ITE, the Board will be working hard to provide the same type of quality programs that we have come to enjoy and appreciate. We’ve already begun to work on the monthly programs for the upcoming year, and are hopeful that we’ll have joint programs with other professional organizations. The September 9 meeting is already set, as we have the privilege of inviting Goran Sparrman, Director of Transportation at the City of Bellevue, to talk about the Downtown Bellevue Master Plan. So mark your calendars for that event!

Aside from our monthly programs, there are a few other events that I’d like to highlight. One of them is the Quad meeting which will take place on April 26-28 in Vancouver, B.C. This is a yearly meeting that takes place between the Washington, Oregon, Vancouver, B.C., and Victoria B.C. sections. The other one is the District 6 meeting. This year’s District 6 meeting is combined with the International Meeting, and will take place August 17-20 in Anaheim, CA. The District 6 meeting is usually a very well-organized and first-class event, with plenty of opportunities to meet professionals from other states in our industry. Since it is combined with the International Meeting this year, it figures to be more cosmopolitan than the typical District 6 meeting, which will make it a wonderful occasion to learn about the latest in transportation from our peers around the globe.

MUTCD

The MUTCD is a manual that is referenced a fair amount in our profession. Did you know that some revisions are being made to it? There are some amendments to the MUTCD that are open for public review and comments. These amendments will be incorporated into the next edition of the MUTCD. The comment period ends on July 31, 2008, so hurry up and submit those comments!

We welcome any feedback or suggestions on how ITE can help to provide better service to its members. I hope to see you in the upcoming months!

Sincerely,

Nick Ching
President, ITE Washington Section
For most of the year, writing the Scribe article is not a very difficult task other than meeting my deadline. Choosing a topic to write on is never a problem. I enjoy taking notes at the meeting and passing on a little essence of a presentation or at the very least comment on the facilities or food. However, the Washington Section Annual Meeting proved to be quite challenging. The 2008 meeting held at the Hotel Murano in Tacoma offered not one but multiple presentations offered in parallel sequences. Which track should I attend? Should I attend the topic I am heavily involved in? Or should I be introduced to an area that is beyond my comfort zone? With this year’s agenda, one could do no wrong.

Ranging from Regional ITS Implementation to non-motorized transportation to updates to MUTCD, the variety and quality of programs had something for everyone. How could I choose one topic to highlight over another? To coin a phrase; “you had to be there.”

During the luncheon meeting, Dave Alm, Washington Section President, thanked committee members who’ve helped out so much through the past year. Without the dedication from these members, none of the activities and programs would be possible. Mr. Alm reminded us of electing candidates and reviewed some good work that was completed and some yet to be finished. We also briefly met with Larry Wymer, District 6 Secretary-Treasurer candidate, to listen to his vision for Western ITE.

Following Mr. Wymer, Seyed Safavian introduced the keynote speaker, Dave Dye of WSDOT, on “Moving Washington.” Mr. Dye began with a review of the Nickel (2003) and TPA (2005) packages that consisted of 392 projects targeting safety preservation and congestion relief. He continued to brief the members of major corridor strategies for Central Puget Sound, Vancouver, and Spokane. And in order to sustain added capacity, explained the importance of the four Ts (Tolling, Technology, Transit, Telecommuting) and exploring public-private partnerships.

For those fortunate enough to stay beyond the technical programs of the afternoon, the social hour and dinner allowed members to relax a bit and reflect on the day’s events. Of course, meeting new members and getting to know a little more about the person behind the name tags is always a pleasure. The formal portion of the dinner started with acknowledging those that have contributed so much to Washington Section ITE and finishing with swearing in the new officers after announcing the new Secretary-Treasurer, Katherine Casseday.

As I reflect back on the day’s events, the thought that seems to rise to the top is a phrase that now Past President, Dave Alm, delivered. The quality of the programs and activities are all made possible by the contributions of the members. Although it is challenging, what you put into ITE is shadowed by what it gives back to you. I’m obviously paraphrasing, but I finally get it. We have a small community of Transportation professionals in the region. For the most part, the lack of complaints from the public is generally the reward we get for a job well done. We do this to serve the community more than a pat on the back. Doing a good job is more fun. However, some help along the way; some good advice, some sharing of challenges, some different perspectives help not only one member, but multiple members. It is a way to assist and be assisted. For the one that shares an idea also receives feedback, direct or indirect, that can enhance that idea in a way previously not thought of. As a collective, we can accomplish much more than any one individual, no matter how brilliant. Many hands make work easier. I hope to see many more hands this coming year. Have a great summer!

To submit your business card, please send a jpg or tif file of the desired ad to James Bloodgood at jim.bloodgood@co.snohomish.wa.us

Also send a check for $100 (covers through December 2008) to James Bloodgood

Snohomish County
3000 Rockefeller Avenue
M/S 607
Everett, WA 98201
425.388.6419
On January 2, 2008, FHWA published the Notice of Proposed Amendment (NPA) to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, 2003 Edition (MUTCD) in the Federal Register for public review. The NPA recommends many changes and additions to the 2003 MUTCD. Users of the manual, especially public agencies will have two years to comply once the New MUTCD becomes law unless there is specific language in the new manual for a longer compliance date. The New MUTCD could have a fiscal impact on agencies and should be incorporated in their planning process to reduce the impact. FHWA will accept comments until Thursday, July 31, 2008 and agencies are recommended to submit extensive comments if they want to influence the content of the New MUTCD.

GENERAL

- **Sign Retroreflectivity Rule** modifies existing 2003 MUTCD as Revision 2 of that edition with an effective date of January 22, 2008. The NPA does not show the Revision 2 changes, but when final rule for 2009 MUTCD is published, it will incorporate the Sign Retroreflectivity material already in effect.

- Some devices in the New MUTCD, according to FHWA, are not traffic control devices (TCDs); such as blue markers for fire hydrant, some roadside delineators, steady burn electric lamps, floodlights, crash cushions, vehicle arresting systems and glare screens.

SIGNS

- New **electronic toll** signings and pavement marking requirements for managed and preferential lanes.
- New warning symbol signs such as **Large Animal** signs.
- Some warning signs with **word messages** were deleted.
- New **RV Friendly signs** for use in General Service signs.

PAVEMENT MARKINGS

- New roundabout signing and pavement markings proposed with the “**Fish Hook**” symbol.
- Optional **purple markings** for Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) operations.

IGNALS

- Revisions were made to the **signal warrants**.
- The new hybrid signal, also known as the **“Hawk”** for pedestrian crossings, which has been widely utilized in Tucson, AZ.
- Optional use of flashing yellow arrow signal face for **protective/permissive turns**.
- Proposed new method for determining pedestrian crossing time and walking speed for **pedestrian signal timing**.

(Continued on page 6)
“The Campus Corner”

By Scott Lee and Megan Powers

We had an active year for Student Activities in 2007-2008. Some of the highlights of this past year include:

- UW was awarded $1000 grant for data collection of trip generation to drive-through coffee shops.
- ITE Washington sent 4 students to the Quad Meeting in Victoria, BC in April.
- Student night drew 13 students from three different universities and eight student presented their traffic calming plans for the Cherryhill neighborhood in Bothell. Cash prizes were awarded to each of the participants.
- The ITE Washington Graduate Scholarship ($1500) was awarded to Yao-Jan Wu from the University of Washington, and the Undergraduate Scholarship ($1200) was awarded to Charles Wence of Seattle University.

The regional and national conferences have provided great opportunities for students to network with professionals and get a better feel for the state of the practice and emerging fields in transportation engineering. We have received great feedback from the students, and the Student Activity Committee intends to send more students to professional meetings as opportunities arise. The Student Activity Committee is also thinking ahead for next year’s Student Night and is looking for new project ideas for the students and for a new venue that can accommodate our growing numbers while remaining close to the Universities. If you have any projects you would like to nominate for the student competition, we would love to hear from you.

Student Activities Committee Co-Chairs:
Scott Lee, Transpo Group – (425) 821-3665 or scottl@thetranspogroup.com
Meagan Powers, DKS Associates – (206) 382-9800 or mcp@dksassociates.com

(Continued from page 5)

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL

- Proposed adding the Automatic Flagger Assistance Device (AFAD) to Part VI.
- Optional use of “Dancing Diamond” display for arrow boards as a caution mode.

BICYCLES

- New bicycle route, shared-use path, and shared lane signs.

I strongly recommend that individuals to review the document, by going to FHWAs webpage and you can also respond to the docket below:

http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov

- View all documents on MUTCD

http://www.regulations.gov

- Submit any comments to docket electronically

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Newsletter Contact Info

If you have any changes in your contact information, please let us know so you continue to receive monthly ITE e-mail announcements and newsletters. To update your information, click on the “Membership” link on the Washington State Section ITE website: http://www.westernite.org/Sections/washington/index.htm
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