The ITE Washington Section completed a very successful year in 2019 that we are pleased to present in this Annual Activity Report. Our ITE year included a wide array of technical contents, training opportunities, networking events, collaborative meetings, student engagements, and professional development for our members.

REGULAR MEETINGS

The ITE Washington Section held a total of twelve organized meetings in 2019 that align with ITE’s overarching goal of supporting the interchange of technical and professional information, encouraging member participation and supporting younger member programs.

Below is a summary of key details from a highlight of six meetings:

Meeting #1: ITE Safety Training & Conference
Tuesday, January 8th, 2019 in Tukwila, WA


SPEAKERS: David Yang (AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety), Darrin Grondel (Washington Traffic Safety Commission), Deputy Mayor Lynne Robinson (City of Bellevue)

DESCRIPTION: In 2019, the ITE Washington annual safety training was expanded from a half-day breakfast meeting to a full-day training and conference. The January ITE safety training’s theme was “Changing the Traffic Safety Culture”. The Committee invited people to speak who represented different aspects of the traffic safety issue, including AAA, an elected official, active transportation professional, technology professional, an attorney, and the Executive Director of the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission. After hearing the speakers, the participants were invited to work together to formulate an action plan to change the traffic safety culture. Each group was invited to report on their top five actions to change the traffic safety culture.

Meeting #2: ITE/IMSA Annual Joint Conference
Tuesday, February 5th, 2019 in Bellevue, WA
Jointly Organized with IMSA Northwest

PRESENTATION TOPICS: Vendor-led new product technical seminars, transportation safety, regional transportation improvements, advanced and emerging technologies, and transit.

SPEAKERS: Roger Millar (WSDOT Secretary of Transportation, lunch keynote), Jason Fialkoff (City of Seattle), Brian Dougherty (City of Seattle), Leigh Starr (City of Tacoma), Jim Curtin (City of Seattle)

Meeting #4: Eastern Washington Transportation Student-Industry Night
Thursday, April 25th, 2019 in Spokane, WA
Jointly Organized with ITS Washington

PRESENTATION TOPICS: Four speakers featuring the following topics:
- How to navigate an early career in transportation
- Zeroing in on a career path in transportation
- Valuable skillsets that will help in career development
- Potential career paths in transportation
SPEAKERS: Darcy Akers (City of Bellevue), Inga Note (City of Spokane), Lindsey Gilbert (Jacobs Engineering), Monica Harwood (WSDOT)

DESCRIPTION: In April 2019, ITE organized its inaugural student outreach meeting in Eastern Washington, a longtime goal of our section. The meeting was intended to extend the organization’s reach to a broader student population across the state. The meeting was attended by 30 students representing Gonzaga University, Eastern Washington University, Washington State University and University of Idaho. Eight public and private sector employers also attended to interact with students, provide insights into the transportation profession and share job opportunities. The meeting also helped to connect with a newly formed ITE student chapter at Gonzaga University, under Dr. Rhonda Young’s leadership.

Meeting #6: ITE Washington Meeting and Annual Conference
Monday, June 10th, 2019 in Lynnwood, WA

PRESENTATION TOPICS: This all-day conference highlights contributions of our ITE members. Topics included: Small City Safety Plan, City Traffic Engineers Roundtable, Setting Speed Limits, Big Data, ADA Transition Planning, Self-Driving Vehicles, and Partnership with TNCs

SPEAKERS: Randy McCourt (DKS Associates), Laney Schorp (VIA), Brett Schock (Transpo Group), Kyle Miller (WSDOT), Michael Shaw (City of Seattle), Carlos Ortiz (Advantec Consulting Engineers)

Meeting #8: ITE Kick-off Meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 17th, 2019 in Seattle, WA

PRESENTATION TOPIC: Alaskan Way; the Sequel, featuring an update on the design, traffic operation and waterfront amenities

SPEAKERS: Barbara Lee (City of Seattle) and Mike Johnson (City of Seattle)

Meeting #9: ITE Lunch Program
Tuesday October 29th, 2019 in Seattle, WA

PRESENTATION TOPIC: Managing and Monitoring use of Curb Space

SPEAKERS: Jose Machado (University of Washington), Kendra Breiland (Fehr & Peers), Chris Iverson (City of Bellevue)

YOUnger Member Support
ITE Washington is embedded with our statewide student initiatives. Our section collaborates closely with the University of Washington and Seattle University annually to host the Greater Seattle Area Student Night in May. Our 2019 Student Night highlighted the work of students from University of Washington (Meeting #5). Graduate students at the University of Washington presented on emerging ITS technologies that they are developing and showcased advanced data collection methods used on transportation research projects. In May 2019, ITE Washington also sponsored an event organized by the ITE University of Washington Student Chapter. The event featured a panel discussion on Sustainable Transportation featuring regional leaders; Sound Transit CEO Peter Rogoff, King County Executive Dow Constantine, WSDOT Deputy Directory Celeste Gilman and King County Councilmember Claudia Balducci. The student event generated an attendance of 160 people.

Our section also collaborated closely with Gonzaga University, Washington State University, Eastern Washington University and University of Idaho to organize our inaugural Eastern Washington Student-Industry Night in April 2019. This event is highlighted in our meeting description on page 1 and 2. To maintain momentum with students in Eastern Washington, this event was repeated in February 2020.

In addition to our student outreach efforts that expand across the state and over five different universities, ITE Washington also manages a $4,500 scholarship program. In 2019, $4,000 in graduate and undergraduate scholarship were awarded to students from Washington state. Additionally, over $2,000 was granted to students as travel stipends to attend national events such as Traffic Bowl and ITE Conferences.

ITE Washington hosted a “Traffic Trivia Night” in March (Meeting #3). This event is relatively new, fun, and already becoming a tradition. The event attracts and mixes ITE members, vendors, and students on teams.

Our student efforts are led by our two section co-chairs Darcy Akers and Sarah Keenan. They are advised by our Section’s Student Activities Advisor and Past President, Daniel Lai. Together, they coordinate with the ITE Board Members and universities to integrate academic curriculum with the transportation industry.
APPLICATION OF TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE

ITE Washington strongly supports transportation safety programs in the region and is a strong advocate for regional Vision Zero initiatives. ITE Washington dedicates the January program to transportation safety. The full-day January program (as described in page 1) features presentations but what sets it apart is the interactive components where members participate in roundtable groups in the afternoon to workshop actions that we, as practitioners representing ITE, can take to improve traffic safety. The workshop results in a prioritized list of safety-oriented action items that our membership is committed to achieving throughout the year.

In May 2019, ITE also worked with the City of Seattle Department of Transportation to promote participation in City of Seattle’s Safety Driver challenge. This initiative promoted safe driving in Seattle by using a competitive mobile app that tracked driver behavior and driver distraction. Participants were eligible for up to $5,000 in cash rewards.

In February 2019, ITE also worked with the City of Bellevue to coordinate speakers for the city’s own Vision Zero Safety Summit, a full-day conference organized by the City of Bellevue. ITE coordinated with ITE International to arrange for Randy McCourt to speak on the topic of Setting Speed Limits as part of the Bellevue’s Safety Speeds approach to improving citywide traffic safety.

NETWORKING EVENTS

Networking events are included with the committee chairs annual planning meeting, technical tours, and the ITE/IMSA annual conference. ITE Washington hosts appetizers for each of these events.

ITE Washington’s premier networking event is our annual joint ITE/IMSA conference. This conference is provided free to all attendees regardless of professional organization affiliation. The attendees are mostly comprised of IMSA and ITE members. IMSA attendees earn Technical Advancement Recognition Program (TARP) points by attending vendor technology presentations. The conference reaches approximately 350 IMSA members, many of whom may have limited access to training. Our chapter considers this hallmark event an opportunity to serve our industry professionals and provide professional development opportunities where cost of attendance is not a factor. This same tradition has been held for over 15+ years for the ITE Washington Section and we plan to continue this same program for many years to come.

ITE Washington’s conferences provide for expanded networking opportunities. In 2019 the January Safety Training and Conference was a full day with breakfast and lunch for networking. Our 2019 annual meeting was also an all-day event with breakfast, lunch, and breaks for networking.

ITE Washington has a long tradition of a golf tournament at the end of our activity-year in June, along with our annual meeting. The golf venue changes each year, moving to locations throughout the region. Our 31st annual Classic was a huge success. Fifty-two of the ITE faithful played the beautifully situated Snohomish 18 in the hills east of town. Just before the annual group photo, and shotgun start, all participants were invited to the large practice putting green for our “speed” putting contest and the top three speed putters received prizes from Sea-Tac Lighting and Controls. After a BBQ lunch, we enjoyed our awards banquet which kicked off with Raffle winners (including several $50 gift cards.) The Terry Gibson Classic is important because it gets professionals together for a day of fun. This great day would not be possible without the help and support from our sponsors.
K-12 STEM OUTREACH
In 2019, ITE Washington provided a travel stipend to Pullman High School student, Peter Yu, to attend the ITE Western District Conference in Monterey, CA. ITE Washington connected with Peter throughout the year to nurture his passion in the transportation profession and plans to pursue post-secondary education in Transportation. During the Western ITE District Conference, Peter contributed back to the conference by presenting his research on innovative interchange designs and his evaluation of its operations. At the conference, ITE Washington board members Claudia Hirshey, Jamal Mahmoud, and Daniel Lai provided Peter with professional and technical mentorship to support his future career aspirations in transportation.

NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT
ITE Washington has total of 529 International ITE members. During 2019 ITE membership increased by 52, or 11%. For those not currently International members, we encourage joining “Friends of ITE Washington” so that we have regular outreach to individuals interested in ITE and our local activities. We have reached 120 Friends of ITE Washington. The Friends of ITE Washington increased by 20% in 2019.

In addition, our committee roles and committee members have expanded which increases member involvement and recruitment of future leadership in ITE Washington. Each August the board hosts a committee chair’s meeting to plan programs, training, and other events. The committee chair’s meeting is followed by a networking happy hour.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
The Board of ITE Washington includes 2 males and 2 females. Two are from public agencies and two are from consulting companies. Election of the ITE Washington Secretary alternates each year from a public agency and private company to maintain diversity of industry on the board. ITE Washington has 11 committee chairs (not including a few co-chairs). Of the 11 committee chairs five are from public agencies, nine are from consulting companies and one is from a vendor of traffic signals and lighting. Nine are male and six are female. Thirteen of fifteen are engineers. ITE Washington leadership consists of a diverse population generally reflecting the region’s demographics. Our leadership consists of a blend of public agency and private sector representation. ITE Washington’s leadership is 40 percent female in an industry where 15 percent of the transportation work force. [According to a new study from the Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI) at San Jose State University.]

TRAINING/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
In 2019, ITE Washington re-launched the Technical Activities and Training Committee with two co-chairs. In November, ITE Washington purchased a seat at the TRB webinar on metered roundabouts. Ten people registered for this training. The committee will soon establish a Simulation and Capacity Analysis User Group for ITE Washington.

Our sections robust program of conferences, in addition to regular programs, provides significant opportunities for training for our membership. As described in other sections, in 2019 ITE Washington provided three full day conferences; Safety training, ITE/IMSA technical training, and an all-day technical program with our annual meeting.

FIELD TRIPS AND TECHNICAL TOURS
ITE Washington dedicates one meeting each year to a technical tour (Meeting #10). Technical tours are followed by a networking happy hour. The 2019 technical tour was held at the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Traffic Management Center with 24 members attending. The 2018 tour was of the King County Metro Communications Control Center with 36 members attending.
FUNDING SUPPORT

ITE Washington’s primary funding support comes from revenues generated through the three conferences organized in 2019. In 2019, ITE Washington introduced new sponsorship packages for our conferences that increased the revenues generated by the conference.

2019 ITE Washington Sponsors include the following companies:
- Advanced Traffic Products
- All Traffic Data
- Concord Engineering
- Coral Sales Company
- DKS Associates
- Etherwan
- Gridsmart
- IDAX Data Solutions
- Jacobs Engineering
- Kar-gor Inc
- SCJ Alliance
- Sea-Tac Lighting & Controls
- Seattle Traffic Data
- Sunburst Engineering
- 3M
- Traffic Data Gathering
- Traffic Safety Supply Company
- Transpo Group
- Western Systems
- William Pop, Associates
- Zumar

ITE Washington’s conferences generate a range of revenue between $1,500 - $15,000 per event. In 2019, ITE Washington also generated a total revenue of approximately $2,000 from newsletter advertisements. Revenue generated is reinvested back into the organization through student outreach programs, student event sponsorships, scholarships, monthly meeting subsidies (typically the kick-off meeting and food at networking events), and operating costs.
January 2019 (Meeting #1) - ITE Safety Conference

February 2019 (Meeting #2) - ITE-IMSA Evening Networking Session with King County Councilmember Claudia Balducci

March 2019 (Meeting #3) - ITE Transportation Trivia Night at WSP Offices

April 2019 (Meeting #4) - Eastern Washington Student-Industry Night at Gonzaga University

May 2019 (Meeting #5) - ITE Washington Student Night

May 2019 - University of Washington ITE Sustainable Transportation Panel

October 2019 - University of Washington ITE Student Chapter Kick-off

Pullman High School Student, Peter Yu, accepts Western District ITE recognition at the Annual Conference in Monterey