ITE Washington Section Newsletter

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Student Night 2022

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STUDENT NIGHT

May 21st
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Keep an eye out for eventbrite registration....

WASHINGTON STATE INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS

Student Scholarship Application Deadline May 6th!

Details Inside

Save the Date

ITE Terry Gibson Golf Classic

June 17th

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Details to follow

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Hello members,

I hope this message finds you well. The months just keep passing by and with each month, a new ITE event. Last month we hosted a trivia night, filled with camaraderie and fun. This month we have a webinar on Washington's Electric Transition, shedding light on the future of sustainable transportation. This webinar is a collaboration with the Washington Chapter American Planning Association (APA).

I'm thrilled to announce that applications for our student scholarships are officially open. These scholarships serve as a cornerstone of our commitment to supporting the next generation of transportation professionals. We encourage all eligible students to take advantage of this opportunity, please pass this information along to any students you know. More details on how to apply can be found in this newsletter.

As we move forward, let's continue to harness the collective energy and expertise of our community to drive positive change in the transportation landscape. Together, we can shape a future that is not only efficient and sustainable but also equitable and inclusive. ■

LisaRene Schilperoort

2024 ITE Washington President

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trivia recap

We held our annual trivia night on March 26th and it was a great success! We tried out a new venue at Cascadia Pizza in Bellevue that had great pizza and drinks as well as a private room to host the battle. Our theme for trivia night is always transportation (of course!) and once again, we had some great questions that ranged from easy-peasy to head scratchers.

A big thanks goes to our section president, LisaRene Schilperoort for developing the questions and Darcy Akers for MC'ing the event. It was a heated competition between four teams of highly intelligent, capable, and competitive engineers, planners and vendors. In the end, Team 'DARK' consisting of Dave Enger, Abhi Thorat, Ryan Peterson, and Kendra Breiland took home the win. Thank you to everyone who organized and participated and we look forward to next year's competition!

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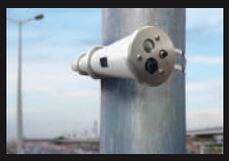

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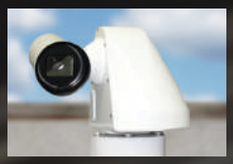

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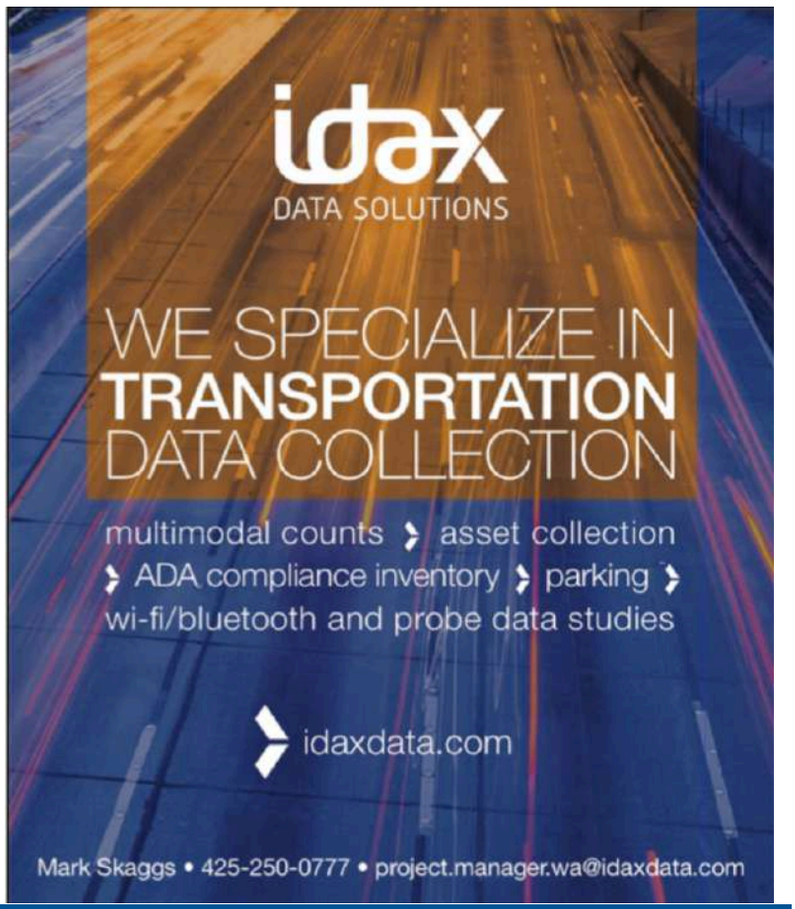

2024 ITE Washington Section Events

Date	Subject	Location
JUN 17	ITE Golf Tournament	TBD
MAY 21	Student Night	Ivar's

2024 ITE Washington Associate Events

Date	Subject	Location
JUN 23-26	ITE Western District Annual Meeting	Sacramento, CA
JUL 21-24	ITE International Annual Meeting	Philadelphia, PA

2024 Washington State Section ITE Graduate Scholarship

The Washington State Section of Institute of Transportation Engineers is offering up to **two** graduate scholarships of $2,500 each for students who are planning on pursuing a career in transportation engineering or planning. The Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) is an international educational and scientific association and is one of the largest and fastest-growing professional transportation organizations in the world. ITE members include engineers, planners, and other transport professionals who are responsible for meeting society's needs for safe and efficient surface transportation.

The minimum criteria for selection are as follows:

a. Attending an accredited university/college in the state of Washington
b. GPA of 3.25 or higher
c. Currently enrolled full-time pursuing a graduate degree in transportation engineering and/or planning
d. Plans to pursue a career in a transportation-related field

The scholarships are competitive and based on the applicant's specific transportation goals, academic record and transportation-related activities or job skills. You do not have to be a member of an ITE student chapter to apply. There are up to **two** scholarships available this year.

Email questions to ITEWashington@gmail.com

Applications must be emailed to ITEWashington@gmail.com no later than 11:59pm Monday, May 6th, 2024

Washington State Section ITE Scholarship Application

2024 Washington State Section ITE Undergraduate Scholarship

The Washington State Section of Institute of Transportation Engineers is offering up to **two** undergraduate scholarships of $1,500 each for students who are planning on pursuing a career in transportation engineering or planning. The Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) is an international educational and scientific association and is one of the largest and fastest-growing professional transportation organizations in the world. ITE members include engineers, planners, and other transport professionals who are responsible for meeting society's needs for safe and efficient surface transportation.

The minimum criteria for selection are as follows:

a. Attending an accredited university/college in the state of Washington
b. GPA of 3.0 or higher
c. Currently enrolled full-time as an undergraduate in a transportation-related field, such as civil engineering, transportation engineering or urban/transportation planning
d. Plans to pursue a career in a transportation-related field

The scholarships are competitive and based on the applicant's specific transportation goals, academic record and transportation-related activities or job skills. You do not have to be a member of an ITE student chapter to apply. There are up to **two** scholarships available this year.

Email questions to ITEWashington@gmail.com

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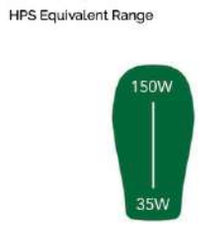

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Getting to Know Your 2024 Western District Candidates

Candidate for International Director: Kimberly Leung, PE, TE

Why do you want to be a District officer?

To promote the transportation profession, especially through mentorship for the next generation of transportation professionals. I wouldn't have become a transportation engineer without ITE and the professionals who spent the time supporting, mentoring, and building relationships with me.

Who was your mentor and why?

My last supervisor at the SFMTA. He was a mentor who encouraged my growth as a leader in the transportation profession by challenging me with new opportunities in the workplace and helping me to develop my confidence and voice.

What was the best advice you've been given?

"If you walk in and there's a seat at the table, you sit at the table. It doesn't matter if you're an intern." I still remember this piece of advice from my first female supervisor, especially when I am the only woman or the youngest engineer in a room.

Tell us about your most challenging project.

SFMTA's Mid-Valencia Center-Running Bikeway Pilot. Our team proposed an unconventional and controversial design to pilot San Francisco's first center-running protected bikeway. This design aimed to balance the competing needs for bike and pedestrian safety improvements, loading for merchants, and the Shared Spaces parklet program. You can hear more about this project as part of the Sacramento Annual Meeting's technical program! sfmta.com/valencia.

What is a little known fact about you?

I was a paddler on UC Berkeley's 2009 National Concrete Canoe Championship team. We traveled to Tuscaloosa, AL to race our canoe, Bear Area.

Why did you join ITE?

I joined ITE when I co-founded UC Berkeley's Cal ITE student chapter in 2008. We started the ITE student chapter to bring more resources to introduce our fellow civil engineering students to transportation as a career path.

What are 3 words that best describe you?

Passionate, resilient, mentor

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ite WASHINGTON STATE INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS

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Send comments and submissions to itewaeditor@gmail.com

Articles must be received by the third Thursday of the month to be considered for publishing in the next issue.

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Why do you want to be a District officer?

Serving ITE has been a passion of mine since I became a member in 1995. From the local Section level to the District and International level, being part of ITE has been important to me. Serving the District as an International Director will help me to support the District members at the highest level.

Candidate for International Director: Joe de la Garza, PE, TE

Who was your mentor and why?

Over my career, I am grateful to have had multiple people that have provided me with mentorship. I have worked closely with Walter Okitsu and Rock Miller, who have provided me both technical and professional mentorship and guidance and have also been great ITE role models.

What was the best advice you've been given?

A wise car salesman once told me, "Try to live in the moment and trust that the choice you make will be the best one in that moment".

Tell us about your most challenging project.

I am currently working on planning and engineering for 7 miles of new bikeway in Los Angeles and it includes challenges in all aspects of the designs as we balance the diverse mobility needs of the community.

What is a little known fact about you?

I enjoy watching classic movies.

Why did you join ITE?

During my senior year of college I decided that transportation would be my career focus and when I became a professional I joined ITE to be connected with like-minded professionals.

What are 3 words that best describe you?

Helpful, dedicated, and loyal.

Candidate for Secretary-Treasurer: Cameron Shew, PE, TE

Why do you want to be a District officer?

ITE has played a pivotal role in my professional development, from student to young professional to manager. My leadership experience includes 2 years at the student chapter level, 4 years at the Northern California Section level, and 5 years at the Western District level. I have been the Western District Website Manager since 2019, and am also the current Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) Chair for the Annual Meeting this summer in Sacramento. I believe my experience at the local and district level has prepared me well for this position. Some of my priorities include providing the resources and coaching needed to ensure all sections thrive, offering relevant, timely, and high quality technical content for all transportation professionals, ensuring a seamless transition for student members into ITE's professional ranks, and supporting young professionals with mentoring, training, and leadership opportunities.

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Who was your mentor and why?

The person who has had the greatest influence on my career was my first boss at DKS Associates, John Long. I had assumed that my entry level engineering work would consist primarily of traffic impact studies and drafting. While some of my projects did encompass these tasks, John opened my eyes to travel demand modeling, nexus studies/impact fee program development, microsimulation, and other fairly niche areas of practice. He encouraged me to expand my horizons by traveling to work in other geographies, writing proposals early on in my career, training to acquire new skills, and of course participating in ITE. John intentionally developed his practice as an extension of agency staff, exclusively serving public sector clients in the Sacramento region. This focus on agency work helped me build trust and relationships with many jurisdictions, as well as insights into the seemingly-mysterious workings of government. The technical and soft skills I learned continue to serve me in my current role, ten years later, leading the Transportation Planning and Development group at the Sacramento County Department of Transportation (SacDOT).

What was the best advice you've been given?

As a student: Prioritize internship opportunities and practical experience over summer classes. Take the FE and PE exams as early as possible. As a young professional: It's usually more advantageous (or at least gives you more options) to be a generalist than a specialist; be open to learning and trying new things. Also you have the power to set the trajectory of your career. If you're willing to put in the extra effort, you will reach your goals much faster. This could be stepping up to help on a project or proposal, investing personal time learning new skills, cultivating relationships, attending ITE events, or finding other ways to add value to your organization.
As a manager: It's hard to let go of the work you used to do, but embrace the 70% rule of delegation. If a task could be done at least 70 percent as well by someone else, it should be delegated. Also let go of perfection and try not to pursue the 30 percent, especially for low risk/low impact decisions.

Tell us about your most challenging project.

The most challenging project I worked on was the East Bay Bus Rapid Transit (East Bay BRT) project, which provided exclusive BRT lanes and continuous bicycle lanes along a 9.5 mile segment of International Boulevard and Broadway within the Cities of Oakland and San Leandro. This was my first time working on a signal design/ITS project, and the scope included final PS&E for 122 traffic signals, including 71 signal modifications, 35 new signals, 15 pedestrian signals and one pedestrian hybrid beacon, as well as TSP, fiber optic communication, and lighting design. Needless to say I had to learn very quickly! We also had to design to standards of three different agencies (Oakland, San Leandro, and Caltrans). Despite a number of late evenings and meticulous file management practices, I really enjoyed the field work, camaraderie, and sense of accomplishment in seeing the project go operational.

What is a little known fact about you?

I decided I was going to go to Cal Poly SLO and become a traffic engineer in 7th grade.

Why did you join ITE?

During a college tour my senior year of high school, I talked with students running an Open House booth for the student ITE student chapter, and was immediately sold on ITE. I was particularly excited about the chapter's quarterly "firm tours" of public agencies, consulting firms, and construction projects. The first tour I attended visited LADOT's Automated Traffic Surveillance and Control (ATSAC) Center. We learned about the history dating back to the 1984 Olympics, and also debunked the traffic jam scene in the Italian Job. I immediately joined the NorCal ITE Section after starting my career in Sacramento, and found section meetings to be a great way to make connections and establish myself in a new area.

What are 3 words that best describe you?

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ITE Student Leadership Summit Recap

- By Garrett Davis

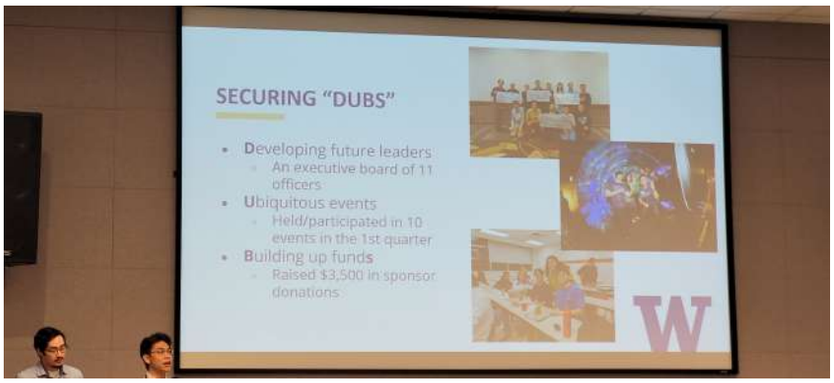
This past February, ITE at UW sent 14 students to the ITE Student Leadership Summit at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo (SLO). It was a resounding success, with a few hiccups, but overall a great experience for everyone. Friendships were born (both intra and inter chapter), heroes were met, and the world of transportation became unlocked.

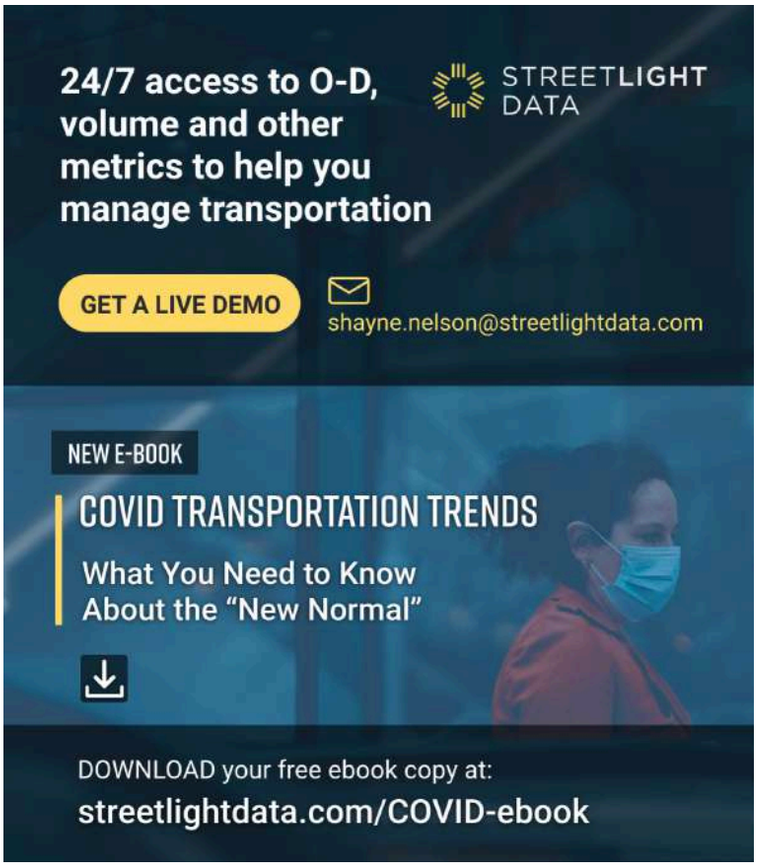
We arrived early in the morning (6am flight out of SeaTac) the day before the conference and were able to bond as a group and explore the city of SLO together. Though we were tired, it was seen as one of the best decisions in the reflections of the members who went. The next day we were able to explore the SLO Regional Transit Authority headquarters to witness a 'bus rodeo' and had a social event for the students to mingle. Though shy, I tried to encourage our members to get to know the many people I now call friends at many different chapters.

The next day involved many technical sessions and a career fair for our members to learn about the field, its different sectors, and the role ITE plays. It was here when Jonah and I presented about restarting our student chapter in their 'What's Up Western District Section." The last day was memorable as it involved sessions from YouTubers we all know and love: Road Guy Rob, City Beautiful, and UW alum City Nerd. Unfortunately, we could only see one of the sessions as they were all speaking simultaneously. Fortunately we all got a 'Dubs up' picture with City Nerd (Ray) at the conclusion of the Summit.

The trip, however, did not end on a nice note. Bad, uncharacteristic of California, weather delayed our flight and we had to drive to Fresno and catch a flight the next day in order to get back to Seattle. Luckily, everyone remained calm, and we all made it back without further delay. Extra bonding time we called it.

In reading the reflections, all students really enjoyed the opportunity and I am proud to have helped facilitate the trip. We not only learned a lot about the industry, from how a college town transit operates to California High Speed Rail. Seeing members still talk about SLS, communicate with people they've met, and look forward to next year is the biggest takeaway for me. It gives me hope for the future of ITE at UW and ITE in general.

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Rachel Carpenter, Chief Safety Officer, Caltrans – An Innovative Approach to Safety

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careers

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The Washington State Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) is a partnership between WSDOT's Local Program Division and FHWA, providing training opportunities and a coordinated technology transfer program for local agencies in Washington State. LTAP offers courses directly targeting the training needs of local agencies receiving Federal funding. All in person sessions are cancelled due to COVID19, but there are plenty of online opprotunities to take advantage of.

Types of Training for Local Agencies:

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Training by Our Partners

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