



South Carolina Section Report District 5 ITE Board Meeting April 26, 2009

South Carolina Section ITE has a total membership of 155, including 52 voting members and 103 students. Through the leadership of our Section Board, we have an exciting year planned for 2009 including a host of activities to serve our members, enhance our profession and benefit the traveling public of the Palmetto State. So far we have held our Spring Section meeting, held an officer's planning meeting and are in the process of organizing a number of other events for the upcoming year. The following provides an overview of our Section activities for 2009:

I. Current Officers and Committee Chairs

President	Jae H. Mattox, III, EIT
Vice President	Bryan D. Webb, PE, PTOE
Secretary/ Treasurer	Jeffrey J. Ingham, PE, PTOE
Technical Chair	Sunny Nandagiri, PE, PMP
Membership Chair	V. Carol Jones, PE
Student Chapter Coordinator	Wayne A. Sarasua, PhD, PE

Others:

Past President:	Hesha Gamble, PE, PTOE
Community & Outreach Chair:	Mike Ridgeway, PE
Section Representative:	William J. Davis, PhD, PE
Affiliate Director:	Don Turner, PE
Nominations/Awards:	Hesha Gamble, PE, PTOE
Scholarship:	Gaye Sprague, PE
Social / Golf:	Don Turner, PE & Mike Ridgeway, PE
Newsletter Editor:	Jae H. Mattox, III, EIT
Website:	Berry Mattox, EI (refer to www.scs-ite.org)

II. Spring Meeting – SC State University, March 24

The Spring Section meeting was held at SC State University and was co-hosted by their newly established ITE student chapter and James E. Clyburn University Transportation Center. 44 members and guests were in attendance including SDITE Past President, Craig Hanchey, who was on hand to officially welcome and congratulate the SC State University ITE Student Chapter with the presentation of a certificate from the SDITE Executive Board. The meeting was highlighted by two outstanding research presentations by graduate students from SC State and Clemson on “Hydrological Modeling and Roadway Flooding in Rural Areas” and “Elimination of Roadside Hazards in SC.”

III. SCSITE Executive Board Meeting – Columbia, January 22

10 members of the SCITE Executive Board met to discuss Section business, activities and events for the upcoming year. Topics included: 1.0 Revisions to SCSITE By-Laws; 2.) Finances and Scholarship Funds; 3.) Hosting a technical workshop; 4.) Technical project and Service; 5.) Legislative activities; 6.) Monthly group lunches; 7.) Student Chapter involvement; 8.) Means to

increase membership; 9.) SCITE quarterly newsletter; 10.) Section website; and 11.) Section meetings dates and locations. Furthermore, additional details of interest to the membership on specific issues and topics discussed during the Board meeting are as follows:

Bylaws – Among the proposed changes to the By-Laws is the addition of an Article detailing the Section’s Scholarships. This proposed Article contains details on the Scholarships, the eligibility requirements, the application process, and the selection/award processes.

Finances – Scholarship fund balances are currently \$16.9K and \$20.1K respectively for the Gilbert-Rowe and Stafford-Clark. This money is currently being invested by the National ITE in Washington DC. Approximately \$7,000 will be held locally for yearly operating expenses; the rest of our current funds will be added to the scholarship funds held by the National ITE.

District Meeting – The 2009 Southern District ITE meeting will be held in Birmingham, Alabama on April 19-23. Several South Carolina section members will be presenting technical programs and serving as moderators.

IV. 2009 School Outreach Initiative

Mike Ridgeway is coordinating a School Outreach Initiative as part of the SDITE Information, Communications & Outreach Committee. The goal is to get as many people as possible to give a talk or presentation to a group of students about Traffic Engineering. The age of students and topics are open to fit what opportunities the membership finds in their local area. Mike has spoke to a group of 5th graders at Brennen Elementary in Columbia. So far members have given several presentations across the state, (including Charleston and Beaufort) and many more are planned. Target dates for this initiative were April 1, 2, or 3rd. A list of event with photos will appear in the SCITE newsletter.

V. Monthly Local Small Group Meetings

The Section membership is taking on the task of holding informal monthly meetings where small groups of transportation professionals in various geographic regions across the state will meet for lunch. No presentations will be given rather it will be just be a chance to informally chat with other local professionals over lunch. The initial small group meetings will take place in Charleston, Columbia, and Greenville. Eventually, additional cities can be added as needed. An added benefit to instituting these meetings will be that once they become a regular occurrence, officially set to a certain day each month, ITE members traveling from other parts of South Carolina that happen to be in a city hosting a meeting that day will be welcome to drop-in and participate.

VI. Section Technical Project

A group of 10 SCITE Section members, lead by Gaye Sprage and Will Ravenhorst, are conducting a technical project in Greenville on shared parking for minor league baseball games. Several before and after data collection sessions have been completed during Greenville Drive (South Atlantic League - Class A team, an affiliate of the Boston Red Sox) home baseball games at their recently constructed stadium, Fluor Field at the West End is a 5,700-seat baseball-only stadium that opened adjacent to downtown Greenville on April 6, 2006. Preliminary results will be presented during a technical session at the upcoming Southern District ITE annual meeting hosted by the Alabama Section outside Birmingham, AL in April.

VII. Section Legislative Issues

Gaye Sprague coordinates legislative activities and communication for SCITE members. She reminds us that we need to stay informed about legislative issues and contribute our knowledge and experience to the discussions BEFORE new policies are set and new laws are made. South Carolina

Fix Our Roads (SCFOR) tracks legislation at the state level, and many of ITE members work for companies that are members of SCFOR. With the permission of Debbie Bass, the executive director of SCFOR, legislative updates are forwarded to SCITE members. In her updates, Debbie often passes along the official positions of SCFOR. Those positions may or may not reflect the opinions of ITE or its members, but the updates keep us informed. SCITE members are encouraged to communicate with Section officers when there is an issue that needs to address with calls or letters to legislators or the governor. Gaye reminds us that our collective knowledge and experience in infrastructure is a valuable resource to our state and those who call SC home.

VIII. SCITE Scholarship Recipients

The Section awarded 3 students scholarships during the annual meeting and Christmas banquet held Dec. 4 in Columbia. Scholarship recipients are identified below along with their remarks and appreciation expressed to the Section.

2008 Stafford-Clark Scholarship – Cadet Caleb Rodgers, The Citadel – My name is Caleb Rodgers and I am from the small town of St. Stephen, South Carolina. I am a junior at The Citadel pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering. Throughout my career here at The Citadel I have been unsure as to what area of Civil Engineering I would like to focus on. This all changed once I was introduced to transportation engineering by Dr. Jeff Davis and was solidified even more when I had the opportunity to attend the Transportation Review Board in Washington D.C. this January. This conference opened my eyes to the many opportunities and areas of study available in the field of transportation engineering. Upon graduation from The Citadel I hope to further my education in the field of transportation engineering and eventually settle down in South Carolina once again. Thank you SCITE for your generous support of my education by selecting me as one of your scholarship recipients.

2008 Stafford-Clark Scholarship – Ms. Kelly Sprague, Clemson University – Hi! My name is Kelly Sprague, and I claim Moore, SC as my hometown. I was born in Northern New York, and moved to South Carolina in elementary school. I am currently a junior Civil Engineering student at Clemson University, planning to graduate in May 2010 with a BSCE. The following year, I plan to obtain a Masters of Transportation Engineering, also at Clemson. In middle school, I planned to be an architect, but was disheartened to find I lacked the artistic talent to continue with that plan. The next best thing in my mind was Civil Engineering, but I wasn't sure which area within the field to pursue. When I was young, my family traveled up and down the east coast frequently, from Watertown, NY to Sarasota, FL. I have loved these road trips as long as I can remember, especially the bridges we often went out of our way to travel over. When I discovered that transportation engineering was an option for my emphasis area, I knew that it was the perfect place for me to be: I love road trips, I love bridges, I love engineering. This love has only intensified this semester, as I have attended the Transportation Review Board conference, taken a traffic and highway engineering course, and plan to participate in the Transportation Bowl at the ASCE conference later this semester. Thanks, SCSITE, for supporting my love of the transportation field with your generous scholarship!

2008 Gilbert H. Rowe Scholarship – Cadet Joshua Olson, The Citadel – My name is Joshua Olson, and I came down to The Citadel from Cary, NC. In May of 2010, I will graduate with a bachelor's degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering. Following my graduation I will attend the Naval OCS and become an officer in the Navy's Civil Engineer Corps. My decision to come to The Citadel was based off of high standing of the Civil Engineering program and the physical discipline I would learn while here. While I have been at The Citadel, I have been transformed into a fit person (both in body and in mind). I have always known I would become an engineer, since like my father I have a propensity for math. However, I did not want to

become trapped in a cubicle all day long like an Electrical Engineer, so I decided to pursue Civil. It was the summers of my freshman and sophomore years when I had an internship with the NCDOT I learned of my passion for transportation. The beauty of this field is that virtually all of the other disciplines of Civil and Environmental Engineering are included. I am truly grateful to the SCITE and its members for the honor bestowed upon me with the Gilbert H. Rowe Scholarship. I will always endeavor to further my engineering knowledge, justify your trust that I will better the field of transportation.

IX. Student Chapter Activities

Institution	President	Advisor	Major activities
Clemson Univ.	Gabriel Dobbs	Dr. Wayne Sarasua	Technical & service projects
Univ. of South Carolina		Dr. Nathan Huynh	Workshops& forums
South Carolina State Univ.	Dirk Francis	Dr. Yuanchang Xie	Field trips & GIS seminar
Citadel (student members)	n/a	Dr. William J. Davis	Traffic service project

Clemson ITE Student Chapter – Gabriel Dobbs

The Clemson Student Chapter of ITE traveled to TRB to kick off its Spring 2009 agenda. Twelve of Clemson’s finest, including 10 students and 2 chapter advisors, Wayne Sarasua and Jennifer Ogle, traveled to Washington D.C. for the 88th Annual Meeting. Doctoral Students Priyanka Alluri and Yan Zhou presented at this meeting, and many of Clemson’s Master’s students were in attendance at these meetings. The topic of this year’s annual meeting was Climate Change, so the Clemson student chapter has been working hard to discover how this topic can be approached by transportation engineers. Master’s student Sudhakar Pandurangan attended a presentation entitled International Changes in Travel Behavior, Driver Licensing and Occupant Fatality Rates during the Last 20 Years. This presentation featured five presenters discussing their studies in some major countries of the world including the United States, Canada, countries in Europe, China and the Asian Continent. It was discovered that US fatality rates were slightly higher compared to other developed nations discussed in the presentations. In case of Europe, people still preferred using mass transit than owning their own vehicle. The group also visited many of the monuments and sights of the Washington Mall area in order to enrich the culture of the ITE chapter, as many students had never before seen these sights.

SCSU ITE Student Chapter – Dr. Yuanchang Xie

The SCSUITE Student Chapter had another seminar in November 2008. Mr. Harun Rashid from Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG) gave an excellent lecture on applications of GIS in transportation planning. Mr. Harun is very experienced with GIS and transportation planning. His primary role in BCDCOG was to maintain, update and analyze various GIS database to support planning and economic development activities. He is now maintaining and running a regional transportation model in a GIS environment to serve transportation planning. During the lecture, Mr. Harun introduced the four-step model currently being used by the BCDCOG. He also used several interesting examples to show how GIS can be used to manage and visualize transportation planning data efficiently and effectively. The lecture was well attended and received very positive feedback from the students. On Feb. 2, the SCSUITE Student Chapter elected new officers as follows:

- President – Dirk Francis (newly elected)
- Vice President – Lakia Mustipher (newly elected)
- Secretary – Otukile Lekote
- Treasurer – Teresa parker-Hightower
- Public Relations Director – Leon Porter (newly elected)

The SCSUITE Student Chapter would also like to thank Kayin Jones (former President), Phyllis Pelzer (former Vice President), and Christian Pantin (former Public Relations Director) for their hard work and contribution to the student chapter. Most SCSU ITE members are very busy with coursework and research projects in this spring semester. Leon Porter, the Public Relations Director of SCSUITE, is trying to schedule a break for the members and take them to the new SCDOT traffic management center. Hopefully we can have the trip within this month.

Univ. of South Carolina ITE Student Chapter – Dr. Nathan Huynh

The University of South Carolina and its transportation program is proud to support efforts to improve transportation in South Carolina. Last November, USC held a "Forum on Public Transportation for the Greater Columbia Area" where the panelists and participants discussed various issues surrounding public transportation. In the coming months, USC will co-sponsor a training workshop titled "Communities on the Move: Using All Transportation Options (ADA and beyond...)." Communities on the Move is a free, one-day, individualized "train-the-trainer" initiative to increase accessible transportation options on the local level. The options include a choice of topics, including a better understanding of the Americans with Disabilities Act and its application to public transportation. Sensitivity training for drivers, how to assess barriers in the pedestrian environment, traveling with service animals, and a better grasp of paratransit eligibility requirements are just four of 24 possible topics. Easter Seals Project ACTION will address the community's specific needs using training modules developed by experts. More information about Easter Seals Project ACTION can be found here: www.projectaction.org. The date and location of the workshop will be announced to the SCITE chapter once the details are finalized. The mentioned event will be sponsored by the Transportation Association of South Carolina, The State League of Women Voters, and USC.

The Citadel ITE Student Members – Cadet Alexander Wilson

ITE student members Joseph Robertson, Josh Olsen, Caleb Rodgers, Nick Lacour and Alex Wilson, recently went to Washington D.C. to participate in the Transportation Research Board (TRB) 88th Annual Meeting. The event attracts over 10,000 policy makers, researchers and transportation engineering professionals. The intensive technical program included over 3,500 presentations and was held at three hotels near DuPont Circle, including the Washington Hilton. Over a 4-day stint, students participated in a wide array of sessions and committee meetings on underwater bridge inspection, soy base additives for waterproofing concrete, nanotechnology in asphalt pavement design, bioremediation of soils and subgrade and solutions to meeting the nation's energy needs. Students shared the belief that the conference gave them an opportunity to understand how topics they study at school are addressed at the national level. Through interaction with policy makers, professors and students from other colleges, cadets were able to gain a better perspective of how innovative research and cutting-edge technology are being used to address today's transportation and mobility needs. The trip was made possible through funds from the School of Engineering.

ITE student members have been conducting a community service project involving a traffic, parking and circulation study at the Isle of Palms Marina. Students have conducted data collection on the site involving license plate matching, vehicle classification counts, 24-hour ADT counts, customer surveys, and business interviews. 25 students participating in the project had already spent over 225 hours working on data collection, data processing and traffic engineering tasks. The preliminary results will be presented to the Isle of Palms Mayor and Town Council at a public meeting. Afterwards, the students will develop improvement alternatives to address traffic and parking issues at this extremely popular multi-use location. Findings and recommendations will be presented during a follow-up public meeting.