



Congratulations ITE 2021 Award Recipient

2021 DISTRICT INNOVATION AWARD ITE WESTERN DISTRICT



Congratulations to ITE's Western District for being named the recipient of the 2021 District Innovation Award. This award recognizes the District that during the last calendar year has implemented an innovative and creative program or activity. The Western District's 2020 Annual Meeting Pivot was an impressive and successful endeavor that exemplifies the strength of its leadership.

The Western District's Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) renegotiated contracts, revamped a communication strategy, broadened registration, developed a virtual exhibit for vendors, and revised the final technical program in a two-week span.

The Western District's Annual Meeting is the highlight for its members and the culmination of years of hard work for each annual meeting's Local Arrangement Committee (LAC). The 2020 meeting was scheduled to be hosted in Honolulu, Hawaii, and was expected to be the most anticipated and highest attended Annual Meeting for the Western District

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was quite a challenge in many ways. Planning for the 2020 Annual Meeting by the LAC started years ago and paid off with strong early registration, hotel reservation numbers, and extensive exhibitor and sponsor support. The LAC never anticipated a pivot to a virtual meeting format but they pulled together and made changes within a short two-week period. Thanks to the hard work of a small core group of people, the virtual meeting was a resounding success with 606 meeting registrations, 17 exhibitors, and excess revenue of \$33,739.73.

Since the meeting was jointly hosted with the Mountain District, the excess revenue was split with the Mountain District based on the split of attendance by both Districts. The LAC was proud to follow in the Western District tradition of being the first to undertake new and innovative endeavors through the virtual pivot. The virtual meeting focused on providing a high-quality experience while still focusing on the Western District's membership as much as possible. The pivot centered around a comprehensive final program, registration, finance and budget, virtual exhibit, and communications.

Congratulations to the Western District for your achievement and for being recognized with ITE's 2021 District Innovation Award.



Western District's 2020 LAC (L to R) – Cathy Leong, LAC Chair; Neelam Dorman, LAC Vice Chair; Sowmya Chandrasekhar, Technical Chair; Walter Okitsu, Technical Vice Chair; Jenny Tapat, Public Relations/Social Activities Chair; Kimberly Leung, Western

District Student Initiatives & Funding Chair (Young Member Events)



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