



## Congratulations ITE 2021 Award Recipient

### WILBUR S. SMITH DISTINGUISHED TRANSPORTATION EDUCATOR

#### DR. DAVID HURWITZ



Dr. David Hurwitz, Ph.D., (F), Director of the Oregon State University Driving and Bicycling Simulator Laboratory, for receiving the prestigious 2021 Wilbur S. Smith Distinguished Transportation Educator Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize an educator (typically a professor) who has made an outstanding contribution to the transportation profession by relating academic studies to the actual practice of transportation. The award seeks to recognize transportation educators that help their students advance their professional development, enhance their opportunities to network with practicing transportation professionals, and become active participants in the profession.

Dr. Hurwitz's role as the Director of the Oregon State University Driving and Bicycling Simulator Laboratory, enables him to lead a team of talented students performing research of national and regional significance. His work includes investigations of roadway user comprehension and behavior at traffic control devices such as bicycle signal faces and flashing yellow arrows, the effectiveness of novel detection applications for pedestrians and vehicles, and the evaluation of novel connected and automated vehicle applications. Dr. Hurwitz uses the hands-on experience offered by the OSU Driving and Bicycling Simulator Laboratory to generate interactions between students and professionals in multiple fields. He and his team have hosted over 120 tours of the Driving and Bicycling Simulator Laboratory including multiple congressional delegations, numerous visiting professors and students, and many public and private transportation professionals. Dr. Hurwitz teaches several transportation engineering classes at the graduate and undergraduate level and regularly incorporates working professionals into his graduate courses as guest lecturers or through field visits. Further he has incorporated his lab's focus on driving simulation into coursework, teaching the only course on driving simulation regularly offered at a major university.

"My ITE journey began as a civil engineering undergraduate student when Dr. Michael Knodler encouraged me to join the UMass Amherst ITE Student Chapter. My experiences as a student member of the Institute and regular attendance at UMass ITE, MAITE, and NEITE events as a student sparked many lifelong friendships and resulted in a genuine desire to give back to the Institute in substantive ways. As a professional, my engagement with ORITE and Western ITE have been deeply rewarding. I could not be more honored to receive this prestigious recognition from the institute and my fellow transportation professionals," stated Hurwitz.

In his time at OSU, Dr. Hurwitz has been the advisor for more than 10 PHD students and 20 MS students and, without exception, Dr. Hurwitz has helped his graduating students find immediate placements with consulting firms, public agencies, national laboratories, and major universities. He is an active member of the transportation engineering community in Oregon and nationwide and has filled numerous roles with professional and technical organizations.