

INTRODUCING THE 2018 LEADERSHIPITE CLASS



This month, the following 27 individuals will embark on their *LeadershipITE* journey, as ITE's premier leadership development program kicks off for 2018. Upon their graduation at the Joint ITE International and Midwestern/Great Lakes Districts Annual Meeting and Exhibit August 20–23, 2018, they will join the ranks of almost 100 alumni who have participated in the program since it started in 2013. Congratulations to all of them for making this commitment to take their careers and their contributions to the profession to the next level!



Georges Bou-Saab joined Iowa State University in January 2013. He completed his master of science degree under Dr. Hallmark and Dr. Smadi and his thesis focused on the evaluation of risk factors in proactive systemic methodologies for safety projects along low-volume rural roadways. Currently, Georges is pursuing his doctorate in civil engineering and co-majoring in environmental engineering. He worked on diverse projects in the field of transportation engineering ranging from transportation safety, naturalistic driving studies, and air quality.



Kevin Carstens, E.I.T. is an Assistant Engineer I with W-Trans in Oakland, CA, USA. He spent a year with DKS Associates in Oakland after graduating from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo ("Cal Poly") with a master of business administration, and master of science in civil and environmental engineering. While at Cal Poly, Kevin interned with Reinard W. Brandley, San Luis Obispo County, Fehr & Peers, and W-Trans. Additionally, Kevin was an officer for the Cal Poly ITE student chapter for five years, including one as president, which saw the chapter earn the International Student Chapter award among other accolades. Kevin is currently the San Francisco Bay ITE Section scribe.



James Colyar is a transportation specialist in the Office of Operations of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). He has been with FHWA for more than 15 years and has worked in offices in Arizona, Virginia, Washington, DC, and Washington state. Prior to joining FHWA, he worked for Kittelson & Associates in Portland, OR, USA. James was the co-founder and co-chair of the ITE Washington Chapter Traffic Simulation Roundtable. He holds a bachelor of science in civil engineering from University of Idaho, a master of science in civil engineering from North Carolina State University, and a master of arts in transportation, policy, and logistics from George Mason University.



Dyan C. Damron, P.E., PTP received her bachelor of science in civil engineering from Tennessee Tech University (TTU). She was president of the charter student chapter at TTU, served as liaison between TSITE and the student chapter at TTU, member of the SDITE Education & Student Chapter Committee (previously chaired), and a member of the International ITE Transportation Education Council. She currently is a senior traffic engineer at Volkert, Inc. Her previous employers include RPM Transportation Consultants, Neel-Schaffer, and Gresham Smith & Partners. Dyan was honored with the Joseph M. Thomas Outstanding Young Member Award, SDITE; Jack B. Humphreys Award for Service as a Young Member, TSITE; and the Young Engineer of the Year, Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers, Nashville Chapter & State Association.



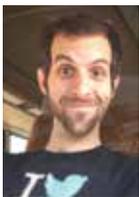
Jonathan Deves, P.E., PTOE is in his 10th year in the transportation engineering field. He graduated in 2008 from the University of Missouri with a bachelor of science in civil engineering. As an employee of CBB his entire career, Jonathan has worked on a wide variety of transportation projects, including signal timing optimization, microsimulation modeling, and traffic impact studies. He's been an active participant in his local ITE Chapter, TEAM St. Louis, throughout his career and was awarded the 2015 Young Transportation Professional of the Year by the Missouri Valley Section of ITE.



Catalina Echeverri, PMP has a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering and a master's degree in civil engineering from the University of South Florida. She is a transportation operations project manager for Gannett Fleming in Miami, FL, USA. Catalina has more than 12 years of experience in intelligent transportation systems (ITS), advanced traffic management systems, ITS master plans, signalization plans, lighting plans, tunnel management systems, access management, and systems engineering management plan documents. She has worked on projects throughout the United States and in the Middle East. Catalina is currently the Women Transportation Seminar (WTS) South Florida chapter TransportationYOU chair, the WTS South Florida chapter Mentoring Program co-chair, and the Florida Section ITE (FSITE) Florida Transportation Planning Council (FLPLAN) co-chair.



Erin Eurek, P.E. received both her bachelor of science and master of engineering degrees in civil engineering from Texas A&M University. While attending Texas A&M, Erin worked for the Mobility Analysis Group at the Texas A&M Transportation Institute. She is a licensed Professional Engineer and has nearly 11 years of practical traffic and transportation experience with Kimley-Horn in Fort Worth, TX, USA. Erin has been actively involved in ITE since 2004 and has held several leadership positions including two terms as Texas A&M Student Chapter President, Greater Fort Worth Section Website Committee Chair, Secretary-Treasurer, Vice President, and current Section Representative. Erin was also the Texas District Fall 2016 Local Arrangements Committee Co-Chair and 2016 Texas District Younger Member of the Year.



Jeremy Frisch grew up in Chicago, IL, USA where he first fell in love with transportation, spending hours in the engine of an old steam train at the Museum of Science and Industry. He attended Brandeis University outside of Boston studying psychology, politics, and computer science. He worked as a web designer then Product Manager in Washington, DC before moving to San Francisco, CA, USA. Now at Apple on the Maps team, Jeremy conducts extensive research of transit networks, traveling to countries like Brazil, Japan, and Taiwan to ensure the public transit feature in Maps matches the real world when Apple launches a new transit market.



Daniel B. Helms, P.E., PTOE, is the traffic safety engineering manager with the Mississippi Department of Transportation in Jackson, Mississippi. Previously he was a traffic engineer for Sain Associates in Birmingham, Alabama, a civil engineer for the Village of Carol Stream (Illinois), and an associate transportation engineer for Parsons Transportation Group, in their Chicago office. He graduated from Louisiana State University with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering and a masters of engineering from Texas A&M University. He is the current Vice President/President-Elect of the Deep South Section of ITE, serving as Secretary/Treasurer in 2016. Daniel lives with a rambunctious rescue dog, Brooks, in Madison County, Mississippi, USA.



Farukh Ijaz, P.E. has been an on-site traffic engineer from Michael Baker International with the Port Authority of NY & NJ since 2014. He is a member of ITE, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and the Project Management Institute (PMI). Farukh graduated from University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore with a bachelor of science (Dean's honor list for 5 consecutive semesters with a GPA of 3.6/4.0) in civil engineering in August 2010 and University of Illinois at Civil and Materials Engineering School with a master's degree (GPA: 4/4) focusing on Transportation Engineering in December 2012. He is a Professional Engineer in the state of New Jersey and Arizona.

Farukh has been involved in the planning, design, construction, and operations of multi-million dollar projects that represent critical links within the New York/New Jersey regional transportation network. Additionally, he has also improved safety and operations at Port Authority facilities by working closely with facility staff and outside agencies to mitigate high priority crash locations and implement changes in facility operations. Most recently, Farukh has been working on several projects in the areas of transportation technology and transportation systems management and operations to meet the goals and objectives outlined in the Port Authority's ITS Strategic Plan. He has also developed a Regional ITS architecture deployment matrix to identify gaps and opportunities for multi-agency deployments. In addition, he is managing a project to evaluate travel time data from different sources (Waze, GPS, EZ-Pass, Bluetooth, etc.) to help the Port Authority make informed decisions about the need for hardware installations in the field (i.e. travel time reader). Finally, Farukh is working on numerous technology projects to share data from ITS field devices within the Port Authority, with other agencies, and the public.



Emad E. Makarious, P.E., PTOE is a civil engineer with Signals and ITS Engineering, Division of Traffic Operations, for the New York City Department of Transportation. He has a strong educational background in transportation and has gained experience in micro-simulation and the development of signal timings plans. He is familiar with various modeling software packages, including Aimsun, Vissim, and Synchro, as well as many other transportation-related programs. He is involved with the citywide management, development, design, and implementation of Transit Signal Priority treatments along several SBS corridors.

Emad has been with the city of New York for 25 years. He has a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Alexandria University, Egypt, and a master of science degree in civil engineering from Polytechnic University. In June 2011, he acquired his second master of science degree in transportation planning and engineering from Polytechnic Institute of NYU. He is a registered Professional Engineer with New York State and Delaware and is a certified Professional Transportation Operations Engineer.



Jen Malzer, MSc., P.Eng. is a transportation engineer with the City of Calgary, Alberta, Canada focusing on pedestrians, complete streets, and tactical urbanism. In 2017 her project, 20 Avenue Street Lab Party, earned the Sustainable Urban Transportation Award by the Transportation Association of Canada.

Jen is a two-time engineering graduate from the University of Manitoba and previously worked for MMM (now WSP).

Jen has proudly served ITE at the District, Section, and Student Chapter levels and is the current Past President of the Canadian District. Jen was a member of the 2017 Walk21 steering committee and a sessional lecturer at The University of Calgary.



Alyssa May, P.E. is Rybinski Engineering's traffic engineering business line manager. Prior to Rybinski Engineering, Alyssa worked for AECOM as a transportation engineer and at Sabra, Wang & Associates as a traffic engineer. Alyssa received her bachelor of science in civil engineering from the University of

Delaware in 2010. Alyssa is also active in several professional organizations such as ITE, serving as an Annual Meeting Committee Member for the Mid-Colonial District; Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) Philadelphia, serving on the Communications Committee; and the Delaware Engineering Society (DES) Engineers Week Banquet Committee, where she has served as chairwoman.



Carissa D. McQuiston, P.E. is the non-motorized safety engineering specialist for the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). She is responsible as a statewide resource for pedestrian and bicycle issues on trunkline and local networks working towards reducing fatalities and serious injuries. Carissa

also manages MDOT's Road Safety Audit program and is the state highway safety plan engineer. Prior to joining MDOT, Carissa spent seven years at the City of Grand Rapids as traffic engineer/traffic system engineer, supervising the signal, sign, and traffic engineering staff. Carissa graduated from Michigan State University with bachelor and master of science degrees in civil engineering. Currently she is the treasurer for the Michigan Section of ITE and coordinates the Michigan student chapters.



Dimitra Michalaka, Ph.D. is an assistant professor at the department of civil and environmental engineering at The Citadel. Dimitra received her undergraduate diploma in civil engineering from the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), after which she entered into the transportation engineering graduate program at University of Florida. She graduated with a master's of science degree in 2009 and with a doctorate in 2012. Her research is primarily focused on traffic operations, congestion pricing, traffic simulation, and engineering education. Dimitra is a registered Professional Engineer in the state of South Carolina. She has been involved with ITE since 2007, when she first moved to the United States from Greece. She has held the position of social secretary at the University of Florida ITE Student Chapter for multiple semesters up to 2012, and this semester, she is serving as the faculty advisor at the newly formed ITE student chapter at The Citadel.



Devin Moore, P.E., PTOE is most proud of his successful first eight years of marriage and his four beautiful children. He is also a transportation engineer at Kimley-Horn in Reno, Nevada, USA and the Past President of the ITE Intermountain Section. A bachelor of science graduate of Brigham Young University (where he was the Secretary of the ITE student chapter) and master of science graduate from Texas A&M University (where he served as President of the ITE student chapter), Devin is now pursuing a doctorate from the University of Nevada Reno (where he serves as the ITE student chapter mentor). He has seven years of professional experience. In 2016, Devin was awarded the Young Professional Achievement Award by the Western District.



Kyle Othmer has been employed by Miovision Technologies Inc. since 2011. He is leading a team of sales and marketing executives across 17 states and 130 million citizens within the United States. Enabling smart intersections and enhancing the citizen experience is his passion. He has a business administration degree from Conestoga College focused on selling skills and sales operations. Over the past 6 years at Miovision, Kyle has learned the intricacies of the transportation industry and considers himself experienced in advanced traffic data solutions. Having the ability to empower transportation professionals with data, tools, and the insights they need to improve the citizen experience is why he loves his job.



Jody Peace, P.E., PTOE is a project manager with Arcadis' Traffic and ITS group in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. Jody has been with Arcadis since graduating from Georgia Tech where he earned his bachelor's degree in civil engineering and master's degree in civil engineering. Over the past eleven years, Jody has had the opportunity to work on various projects including a gameday traffic plan for the new Atlanta Braves stadium, analyzing improvements to the northern portion of Atlanta's perimeter roadway, and developing comprehensive transportation plans for many of the counties in the Atlanta Metro area. He is currently working as the project manager for the Georgia Department of Transportation Statewide Operational Improvement Program, which seeks to resolve congestion bottlenecks around the state. Jody is serving as the Vice President of the Georgia Section for 2017.

Jody is a licensed engineer in Georgia, Florida, and Tennessee. He is a certified Professional Transportation Operations Engineer.



Sujith Kumar Racha, P.E., PTOE is a project manager and senior associate with JMT's Herndon, VA, USA Traffic Group with more than 12 years of experience. He manages and performs traffic and corridor studies and analyses, safety and operation studies, signal and signing/marketing design, transportation concept development, ITS/advanced transportation management system projects, and various other roadway-related improvements. Sujith has a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Osmania University, and a master's degree in civil engineering from Clemson University. He has been a member of ITE since 2005, was the Technical Program Director for the 2016 ITE Mid-Colonial District Annual Conference, and Conference Chair in 2017.



Julio Ramos, P.E., PTOE is a transportation project manager for Civil Engineering Consultants in San Antonio, Texas. He is a 2005 graduate from the University of Texas at San Antonio. Julio's 12 years of experience includes project management and design of numerous roadway and enhancement projects throughout San Antonio and South Texas for local, state, and federal clients. Julio has been instrumental in coordinating the South Texas ITE (STITE) Conference and other organization fundraisers since 2005. In 2015, he received the Texas District of ITE "Younger Member of the Year" Award and was named a member of the 2016 ITE Rising Star Class. He served as the STITE Section 2016 President and as Secretary/Treasurer in 2014. He also served as President of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers San Antonio Chapter, where he was co-founder of E-Star Events, a non-profit that raises funds for the STITE scholarship foundation. In his personal life, he enjoys spending time with his wife and two children.



Yanira Rivera is an area engineer in the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Professional Development Program. Previously, she was a civil engineering trainee for the FHWA Office of Safety, HQ, working remotely in Puerto Rico while finishing her master's degree in civil engineering from the University of Puerto Rico – Mayaguez (UPRM). Yanira obtained her bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from Drexel University in Philadelphia. As part of her work in the Office of Safety and as an active ITE member, she has participated in multiple webinars and presentations focused on safety data and analysis tools to the local and student chapters.



Christopher Russo, P.E., PTOE is a licensed Professional Engineer and Professional Traffic Operations Engineer with 10 years of transportation engineering experience. Primarily working traffic operations and transportation planning, Chris currently serves as the transportation engineering lead in the Atkins Orlando office providing professional engineering consult to clients around the United States. In addition to his technical duties, he is responsible for the workload of multiple staff and is getting more involved in project management.

Chris earned his bachelor of science and master of science degrees in civil engineering from the University of Central Florida (UCF). While at UCF, he also served as President in the Institute of Transportation Engineers Student Chapter.



Peter Savolainen, Ph.D. is an associate professor in the Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering at Iowa State University (ISU). Prior to joining ISU, he served as a faculty member in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Wayne State University. Peter teaches courses in transportation engineering, highway design, traffic safety, and statistical and econometric methods, in addition to serving as faculty adviser for the ITE Student Chapter at ISU. His research program is focused on improving our understanding of road user behavior and how this behavior is influenced by the transportation infrastructure. Prior to beginning his academic career, he received his bachelor of science degree from Michigan Technological University, as well as master of science and doctorate degrees from Purdue University.



Edward Soldo, P.Eng. is a Director of Roads and Transportation with the City of London, Ontario, Canada. He graduated with a bachelor of engineering from McMaster University and has a diploma in public administration from Western University. Over the course of 22 years, he has worked with a number of municipalities, in the consulting field, and as an educator at Mohawk College. An ITE member since 1994, he served on the Hamilton Section executive team and is currently the President of the Canadian District. Edward also represents the Canadian District on the Chief Engineers Council of the Transportation Association of Canada. He is a Fellow of ITE.



Jairo Viafara, AICP is a transportation, social, and neighborhood planner and social entrepreneur. Jairo attained a bachelor's degree in Sociology at the Universidad Cooperativa in Bogota, Colombia, South America and a master's degree in Urban Planning at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada. As a Transportation Planner, Jairo most recently co-authored and published a paper on the analysis of perceptions of electric vehicles in Manitoba. He is currently working for the Grand Forks-East Grand Forks Metropolitan Planning Organization as a senior transportation planner. He is currently advancing the update of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Element of the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. Other tasks involve researching, collecting, and analyzing data, tracking changes in regional multimodal transportation factors, and supporting community goals of mobility, accessibility, and economic vitality. He works cooperatively with a variety of stakeholders in their quest to use existing transportation facilities and services to help achieve broader community goals, such as increasing travel choices, improving economic competitiveness, and enhancing unique community characteristics.



Cameron L. Williams, P.E., PTOE, PTP is a project manager with nine years of experience and leads the traffic engineering practice at Binkley & Barfield, Inc. in Texas. Previously, Cameron worked at Walter P Moore for six years and as a graduate research assistant at the Texas A&M Transportation Institute. Cameron has bachelor's and master's degrees from Texas A&M University where he started his ITE involvement as Student Chapter President. He has served ITE's Greater Dallas Section as past president, president, vice-president, secretary/treasurer, and as scholarship golf tournament committee chair. He also serves as the Texas District Membership chair.



Diane Xiao, E.I.T. graduated from the NYU Tandon School of Engineering in 2016 with a major in civil engineering and a minor in construction management. Currently, she works as a Transportation Engineer in Greenman Pedersen, Inc. (GPI). She has been involved with ITE since 2013, holding the Vice President role in NYU ITE Student Chapter. Since graduation, she has volunteered in numerous events for ITE Met Section and is currently on the Local Arrangement Committee.