



# Wisconsin Section News

## Winter 2023, Issue 4

[www.itewisconsin.org](http://www.itewisconsin.org)

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### Upcoming Newsletter

If you would like something published in the next newsletter contact:  
Dan Murphy at  
[daniel.murphy@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:daniel.murphy@milwaukeecountywi.gov)

## ITE Wisconsin Annual Meeting

On Thursday, December 7, ITE Wisconsin held its annual meeting at the Machine Shed Restaurant in Pewaukee sponsored by raSmith. The current ITE Wisconsin president, Andre Ost, started the meeting off with everyone introducing themselves and providing section business updates along with upcoming meetings. ITE Wisconsin treasurer, Eric Frailing, provided the treasurer's end of year report update.



The new 2024 Wisconsin Section Board was sworn in by Ken Voigt. See further on in the newsletter for details.

### *Harvey Shebesta Scholarship*

Andre then presented on the award recipients of the Harvey Shebesta Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to students to encourage students to consider Transportation Engineering in their studies and career plans, as well as provide financial support to students who have demonstrated an interest and are likely to work in the transportation field. **Cesar Andriola** from UW-Madison received the graduate scholarship. Cesar is the ITE Student Chapter president at UW-Madison. He is a



current Ph.D. student focused on human factors impact of new transportation technologies. Congratulations, Cesar!

## *Distinguished Service Award*

The Distinguished Service Award recognizes an ITE member's outstanding contributions to the transportation profession. Selection of the winner is based on continued member leadership roles on difficult transportation issues or projects; notable and outstanding contributions to the profession through the section or national institute and other professional activities; and recognition for the advancement of the integrity of traffic engineer, design, planning, and/or education.

**Dave Platz**, FHWA WI Major Projects Oversight Manager for Office of Infrastructure, was announced as the winner! Dave's experience encompasses both rural and urban areas including Major Projects in



Wisconsin and Iowa. His areas of expertise include traffic operations, construction, and major project management.

He teaches NHI courses in Contract Administration and Construction Management and conducts Cost and Schedule Risk Assessments from his experience with the FHWA Resource Center.

Dave has been an active ITE member since 2003 where he was the 2007 Wisconsin Section president.

Dave is also a Navy captain. He has deployed three times to support combat operations including Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREECOM

with two tours in Afghanistan. He is assigned as the Deputy Pacific Fleet Civil Engineer, ensuring infrastructure needs are assessed and planned for across the INDOPACIFIC theater.

Thank you for your service and congratulations, Dave!

## *Committee Recognitions*

### *ADMINISTRATOR*

John Bruggeman

### *SECTION MEETING COMMITTEE*

Jessica Lee, Adam Walter, Kevin Wehner

### *TRAFFIC ENGINEERING WORKSHOP & TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COMMITTEE*

Laura Schroeder

### *SECTIONS AWARDS COMMITTEE*

Jess Billmeyer

### *NOMINATING COMMITTEE*

John Bruggeman

## *COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE*

Stephanie Sward, Derrin Wolford

## *PUBLIC AGENCY COUNCIL*

Michael May, Derrin Wolford

## *EDUCATION COUNCIL*

Susan Paulus

## *SIMCAP USERS GROUP*

Rob Beuthling, Vicki Haskell

## *TRAFFIC ENGINEERING COUNCIL*

Kevin Wehner

## *SAFETY COUNCIL*

Christian Sternke, Dan Brugman

## *TSMO COUNCIL*

Todd Szymkowski

## *PLANNING COUNCIL*

Jerry Shadewald

## *COMPLETE STREETS COUNCIL*

Jeffery Polenske

After recognizing the technical council chairs and co-chairs, Andre presented an ITE update provided by Jeff Young, Great Lakes District Director, who was not able attend as he was at the District Meeting. Key takeaways included highlighting the Great Lakes District Annual Meeting in Green Bay, increasing ITE membership, go live of the Traffic Wiki, and participation in the GLITE Endowment Fund.

The meeting concluded with the annual Traffic Bowl! Adam Walter ran the jeopardy style game while Andre made his best Alex Trebek impersonation. There were four teams that made for an exciting competition. In the end, the winning team was Twisslers made up of Kelly Trac, Diego Silva, Kait Sanford, Pliny Smith, Cesar Andriola, and Derrin Wolford who all won a sweet ITE Wisconsin mug. Thank you everyone for a fun competition!



## President's Message

By Andre Ost

Happy New Year, everyone! Can you believe it's already 2024? Time has flown by, and as we bid farewell to 2023, let's take a moment to reflect on the incredible year we've had in our section. Heartfelt gratitude to our Executive Board and Section Committees for their outstanding contributions that have made to our section. A special shout-out to our past GLITE District Representative Kelly Trac, Past President Jess Billmeyer (New GLITE District Representative!) and Secretary Stephanie Sword and for their dedicated service during their terms. Congratulations to the new Section Board members Joseph Blakeman as Secretary, and Daniel Murphy as Member Director – welcome aboard!

As we step into the new year, I extend my best wishes to our incoming president, Brian Scharles. I have great confidence that Brian will lead the Section with success and innovation. A big thank you to all our members who volunteered and participated in our meetings, committees, and events throughout the past year!

In October, student members from UW-Platteville and UW-Madison, along with professional members, gathered at the 1410 Engineering Building at UW-Madison. Both Student Chapters shared updates on their activities, showcasing their passion and dedication to the transportation profession. The future is bright! Kevin Wehner from KL Engineering delivered a great presentation about a planning study for USH 63 & WIS 48 in Cumberland, WI. The presentation highlighted the innovative data collection that was completed to capture the summer peaks. Kevin also highlighted the unique intersection concepts that were developed and analyzed.

In December, we held our annual meeting at the Machine Shed in Pewaukee, which featured the announcement of the election results and the swearing-in of the 2024 Section Executive Board by former ITE President Ken Voigt. It was a great honor to present the Distinguished Service Award to David Platz who is a former ITE WI President, current Majors Project Oversite Manager for FHWA Wisconsin Division and a Navy Captain. The Harvey Shebesta Scholarship was also presented at the annual meeting to Cesar Andriola, a graduate student from UW-Madison. Cesar wrote a paper titled: *Crash Classification Based on Sequence of Events* and was awarded \$1,000 from the Section. In addition to these awards, certificates of appreciation were presented to the Committee chairs as appreciation for all their hard work participating and organizing each of the 13 Sections Committees. The evening concluded with a fiercely competitive Traffic Bowl where the Twisslers team took home the 2023 trophy (ITE mug).

Reflecting on 2023, the Executive Board made significant progress on updating the Section Awards and Scholarships to be in alignment with the Great Lakes (GLITE) District Awards and continued growth and engagement of the Section Committees. In 2024, we will be considering a new website and look for more ways to engage with student chapters and members. We saw remarkable attendance of over 180 transportation professionals at the 2023 ITE Wisconsin Transportation Engineering and Planning Workshop and look forward to the 2024 workshop that is planned for Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at Waukesha County Technical College (new location).

Another exciting conference for 2024 will be the Great Lakes District annual meeting, hosted by ITE Wisconsin, June 12-14 at the KI Convention Center / Hyatt Regency in Green Bay, WI. Mark your

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calendars today! The Local Arrangements committee chaired by Rebecca Szymkowski and Jeff Held has been hard at work planning this conference. Over 200 transportation professionals are expected to attend this conference. Call for abstracts are still open. More information will be posted to the GLITE Website soon: [Annual Meeting 2024 – Welcome \(greatlakesite.org\)](http://Annual Meeting 2024 – Welcome (greatlakesite.org)).

As we move forward to 2024, I encourage you to stay engaged with the Section. Don't forget to renew your international membership, join a Section Committee (or a few) and, most importantly, join us at our events whenever possible!

Thank you for the privilege of serving you and ITE!

Andre Ost

ITE Wisconsin Section Past President

## Recent Meetings & Events

### **UW-Madison/UW-Platteville Student Night; October 25, 2023**

On Wednesday, October 25, ITE Wisconsin held its meeting featuring the student chapters from UW-Madison and UW-Platteville at UW-Madison's Engineering Campus. The event started off with lively discussions and food with the attending students with their respective chapters.

The meeting was opened by ITE president, Andre Ost, who provided a business update for the ITE Section along with upcoming awards available and the Treasurer's report.

The president, Jack Pirwitz, from the UW-Platteville Student Chapter gave a short presentation on their activities from the past summer and school year. Some of the updates included members' summer internships, Adopt-A-Highway efforts, and working at the Stem Expo.



After the UW-Platteville presentation came UW-Madison Student Chapter presentation by their



president, Cesar Andriola. Some of UW-Madison's activities included visiting the autonomous vehicle "The Badger," competing in the Great Lakes District traffic bowl, along with their Adopt-A-Highway program.

Great work this year UW-Platteville and UW-Madison! Continue to do great things, and we all can't wait to see what you will all achieve in the future!

For the evening's technical presentation, Kevin Wehner, spoke to the USH 63 Recreational Traffic Planning Study in Cumberland, Wisconsin. The study

showed a unique case where a rural-ish intersection that operates well enough throughout most of the year until summer activities start, and then the intersection hits capacity quickly and often.

### **Public Service Appreciation Meeting; January 24, 2024**

On January 24, the Wisconsin Section hosted a lunch meeting at the Great Dane Pub on Madison's east side. Nearly 30 people were in attendance. The 2024 president, Brian Scharles, provided section updates along with the recognizing the 2024 ITE Wisconsin Section board members. Along with the section updates, Brian recognized the public service members in the audience and provided background and



updates associated with the ITE Wisconsin Public Agency Council. The Public Agency Council exists for collaboration between those in the public sector and provide a collaborative means to share knowledge and best practices.

The meeting featured a presentation from Kaleb Vander Wiele (DOT Officer – Transportation Electrification Project Manager) and Jeremy Kloss (Program and Policy Supervisor – Electric Vehicle Unit) from WisDOT on “Wisconsin Electric Vehicle Infrastructure.” Kaleb kicked off the presentation on providing a background on how we have arrived at our current status with the electric vehicle (EV). Did you know there was an EV prototype in 1835? He provided a background on the differences between Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 charging stations and how the implementation of EV charging stations to the interstate system will require the Level 3 charging stations because the Level 3 charging stations can add 60-100 miles per 20 minutes of charge. There has been a parabolic increase in the number of EVs registered in Wisconsin with over 21,000 registered in 2023.

Jeremy then pivoted the presentation to how Wisconsin is working to strategically implement EV



charging stations along 1,967 miles of Wisconsin state highways adopted as the Alternative Fuel Corridors. It is key to find the most convenient and accessible locations as possible. Most locations would be off of interchanges that can charge at least 4 vehicles at a time with available utility power capacity.

Kaleb, Jeremy, and their team are still certainly in the early stages of this project with much more work ahead. This first of its kind project will certainly have more obstacles for them to handle; however, they have

made great progress thus far and can't wait to see the progress!

Much of the information is outlined in the “Wisconsin Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan” which can be accessed here [Wisconsin Department of Transportation Electrification of Wisconsin \(wisconsindot.gov\)](https://wisconsindot.gov).

## ITE Wisconsin Election Results

The 2024 ITE Wisconsin Section Board Election has wrapped up and the results are in. The Section Board welcomes **Jess Billmeyer** as the new District Representative, **Joseph Blakeman** as the new Secretary, and **Dan Murphy** as the new Member Director. The 2024 ITE Section Board was sworn in at the Section Annual Meeting on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 by Ken Voigt.

Below is the list of the 2024 ITE Wisconsin Section Board:

<i>Past President</i>	Andre Ost
<i>President</i>	Brian Scharles
<i>Vice President</i>	Eric Frailing
<i>Treasurer</i>	Derrin Wolford
<i>Secretary</i>	Joseph Blakeman
<i>Member Director</i>	Dan Murphy
<i>District Representative</i>	Jess Billmeyer

The Section Board would like to thank **Stephanie Sward** for her service as the outgoing Secretary. We wish you the best in your future endeavors and look forward to continuing to collaborate with you through ITE.

## ITE Wisconsin Technical Councils

This section of the newsletter will provide you with contact persons for the various councils and upcoming meetings. There's still time to join one of the technical councils! If you're interested, email the council chair(s) listed below.

- Awards Committee – Andre Ost & Eric Frailing ([andre.ost@graef-usa.com](mailto:andre.ost@graef-usa.com), [efrailing@msa-ps.com](mailto:efrailing@msa-ps.com))
- Communications Committee – Joseph Blakeman & Dan Murphy ([jcblake@milwaukee.gov](mailto:jcblake@milwaukee.gov), [daniel.murphy@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:daniel.murphy@milwaukeecountywi.gov))
- Meetings Committee – Kevin Wehner, Adam Walter, & Jessica Lee ([kwehner@klengineering.com](mailto:kwehner@klengineering.com), [adam.walter@strand.com](mailto:adam.walter@strand.com), [jessica.lee@rasmith.com](mailto:jessica.lee@rasmith.com))
- Traffic Engineering Workshop and Transportation Planning Forum Committee – Laura Schroeder ([laura.schroeder@rasmith.com](mailto:laura.schroeder@rasmith.com))
- District Conference – Jeff Held & Rebecca Szymkowski ([jeff.held@strand.com](mailto:jeff.held@strand.com), [rebecca.szymkowski@dot.wi.gov](mailto:rebecca.szymkowski@dot.wi.gov))
- Public Agency Council – Michael May & Derrin Wolford ([mmay@wauwatosa.net](mailto:mmay@wauwatosa.net), [dwolford@waukesha-wi.gov](mailto:dwolford@waukesha-wi.gov))
- Education Council – Susan Paulus ([susan.paulus@lakesideengineers.com](mailto:susan.paulus@lakesideengineers.com))
- SimCap Committee – Rob Beuthling ([rbeuthling@hntb.com](mailto:rbeuthling@hntb.com))
- Traffic Engineering Council – Kevin Wehner ([kwehner@klengineering.com](mailto:kwehner@klengineering.com))
  - Next meeting scheduled tentatively for some time in February/March

- Safety Council – Christian Sternke & Dan Brugman ([csternke@tadi-us.com](mailto:csternke@tadi-us.com), [daniel.brugman@dot.wi.gov](mailto:daniel.brugman@dot.wi.gov))
- TSMO Council – Todd Szymkowski ([tszymkowski@gfnet.com](mailto:tszymkowski@gfnet.com))
  - Next meeting scheduled for March 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am
- Planning Council – Jerry Shadewald ([jshadewald@HNTB.com](mailto:jshadewald@HNTB.com))
- Complete Streets Council – Jeff Polenske ([jeffrey.polenske@mbakerintl.com](mailto:jeffrey.polenske@mbakerintl.com))

### **Volunteers Needed for:**

- ITE Wisconsin Section Meeting Committee
- ITE Great Lakes District 2024 Conference Planning Committee

Contact Brian Scharles ([brians@tapconet.com](mailto:brians@tapconet.com)) or any of the chairs if you are interested.



## **LinkedIn Group**

Remember to join the ITE Wisconsin LinkedIn group. The intention of the group is to post any upcoming news and updates from ITE Wisconsin, Great Lakes ITE, ITE International, and other relevant business and perspectives.

## **Job Postings**

If you have a job opening and would like to be listed in the newsletter and announced at upcoming section meetings, contact Dan Murphy ([daniel.murphy@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:daniel.murphy@milwaukeecountywi.gov)).

**RESOURCES**  

**MSA**

**Superior & La Crosse Street Reconstruction – Wisconsin Dells, WI**  
**Award-winning Project**

**Member Area Login**

Please click below to be taken to the Member Login screen.

Not a member yet? [Click here to join](#)

**LOGIN**

**Quick Links**

Member Area  
News  
**Classified Job Listing**    
Newsletter  
Calendar of Events  
Yearbook  
Sponsorship  
SimCap Users Group  
Wisconsin Culver's Council

**Announcements**

**MAY 2023 SECTION MEETING**

Please join us for our next Section Meeting on Wednesday, Ma...  
[Read More](#)

**SECTION AWARDS UPDATE**

The Wisconsin Section has recently modified their annual awa...  
[Read More](#)

**JOB POSTINGS**

Be sure to check out the latest job postings on our classifi...  
[Read More](#)

**Newsletter**

Winter 2022 Newsletter

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**MAY 3** **MAY 2023 SECTION MEETING**  
Milwaukee Student Night

**Sponsors**

**TAPCO**  
Safe travels.

## Helpful links from GLITE & ITE International

Looking for the Great Lakes ITE website or their newest newsletter? <https://greatlakesite.org/>

Don't forget that amazing amount of information on the national level of ITE. Publications, events, trainings, resources and so much more! <https://www.ite.org/>

## Upcoming ITE Events

Below is the list of upcoming ITE Wisconsin meetings for 2023. Additional details will be provided as the event gets closer.

Date	Location	Event
March 6, 2024	UW-Milwaukee Student Union	UWM/Marquette/MSOE Student Night
March 19-20, 2024	Virtual	ITE Virtual Spring Conference
April 23, 2024	Pewaukee, WI	ITE Traffic Engineering Workshop & Transportation Planning Forum
May 14, 2024	Virtual	Joint Meeting with NCITE Section
June 12-14, 2024	Green Bay, WI	ITE 2024 Great Lakes District Annual Meeting
July 21-24, 2024	Philadelphia, PA	ITE 2024 Annual Meeting and Exhibit
September 2024	WisDOT SE Region	Joint Meeting with WTS
October 2024	TBD	UW-Platteville/UW-Madison Student Night
October 17, 2024	UW-Madison Union South	ITS Annual Meeting
December 2024	TBD	Annual Section Meeting



## ITE Wisconsin Membership

### As of January 22, 2024:

This report covers the period of December 1, 2023 – January 22, 2024.

#### New International and Wisconsin Section Members:

- Public Agency (1)
  - Dr. Kristina Fields
- Private (1)
  - Justin Klamik
- Student (2)
  - Jackson Brunner
  - Lillian Goss-Peirce

233 International and Wisconsin Section Members

## Treasurer's Update

Treasurer's Report		
December 6, 2023 - January 8, 2024		
BEGINNING BALANCE: CHECKING + SAVINGS + CDs		\$ 43,216.21
Beginning Balance – Checking \$ 16,389.30  Income - Checking December Meeting Registration \$ 25.00 <hr/> Total Income – Checking \$25.00  Expenditures - Checking December Meeting Food/Venue \$ 809.62 Star Chapter Subscription Fees: Dec \$ 100.00 Award Plaques \$ 190.99 Travel Reimbursement \$ 800.05 Administrator Stipend \$ 500.00 Future City Sponsorship \$ 250.00 <hr/> Total Expenditures – Checking \$ 2,650.66  Ending Balance – Checking \$ 13,763.64		
Beginning Balance – Savings \$ 16,543.62  Income - Savings Interest: Dec \$ 1.40 <hr/> Total Income – Savings \$ 1.40  Expenditures - Savings <hr/> Total Expenditures – Savings \$ -  Ending Balance – Savings \$ 16,545.02		
Beginning Balance – CD \$ 10,283.29  Income - Savings Interest: Dec \$ 35.23 <hr/> Total Income – Savings \$ 35.23  Expenditures - Savings <hr/> Total Expenditures – Savings \$ -  Ending Balance – CD \$ 10,318.52		
ENDING BALANCE: CHECKING + SAVINGS + CDs		\$ 40,627.18

Prepared By: Eric Frailing, Treasurer  
 January 12, 2024 - Board Meeting

## Transportation Funny Photos



Do you have some information to share? The ITE Newsletter is an excellent medium for reaching Section members. If you would like something published in the upcoming newsletter, please contact the 2024 Wisconsin Section Member Director, Dan Murphy at [daniel.murphy@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:daniel.murphy@milwaukeecountywi.gov).

## ITE Wisconsin Section Sponsors

### THANK YOU!

#### Gold Sponsors



CREATIVITY BEYOND ENGINEERING



#### Silver Sponsors



#### Bronze Sponsors



There is still time to become a sponsor for 2024!

Please contact [Andre Ost](#) for more information