



Wisconsin Section News

www.itewisconsin.org

2025 Quarter 3

IN THIS ISSUE...

President's Message.....	1
Leading Pedestrian Intervals: Development of Compatibility Guide	3
ITE Wisconsin Section Election 2026	6
Wilbur B. Smith Distinguished Transportation Educator Award	8
Recent and Upcoming Meetings & Events	9
ITE Wisconsin Technical Councils..	14
Harvey Shebesta Award	15
2026 Class of LeadershipITE.....	16
ITE Wisconsin Membership Update	16
Treasurer's Update.....	17
Job Postings	18
Do you have some information to share?	18
ITE Wisconsin Section Sponsors....	18

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Eric Frailing, PE, PTOE



Valued Members of the Wisconsin
Section:

My favorite time of year has finally come...fall! The leaves are changing, area fire departments are busy with their varied fire prevention activities, and football season is in full swing. I was hoping to also be enjoying a World Series run, but unfortunately, the Dodgers apparently can't be beaten for a third series in one year.

Regrettably, we had to make the difficult decision to cancel this year's summer social event, as more rain (on top of the record rainfalls southeast Wisconsin had recently encountered) threatened the outdoor event we had planned. While on that topic, thank you to those of you who answered the call and completed our summer social event survey! The Section Meeting Planning Committee will use that information to help with planning future social events.

I'm happy to report that the inaugural joint meeting between our Section and the Wisconsin Section of ASCE was a success! We had over 50 attendees log in to the virtual event, which showcased a presentation by Gary Brady of Commsignia, who presented on the latest advancements in connected vehicle (V2X) and smart city technologies. We look forward to continuing this new partnership with ASCE next year.

The latest update on ITE's rebranding efforts: we have rolled out our new logo, and you'll begin to see it on a regular basis. This marks one of the last major actions with the rebranding task for the Section. The largest remaining task involves the Student Sections updating their logos to fit the new branding templates. In related news, the Board has decided to update the Section website, which will include switching hosting and



email service providers. The existing platform has become more difficult to work with as well as increasing in cost year over year. The new web services will allow for a fresher look, while improving maintenance and operations, as well as a significant cost savings. Look for the changes to occur in early 2026! If you are interested in helping with the design of the new website, please reach out to us either at president@itewisconsin.org or admin@itewisconsin.org.

While the year is quickly coming to a close, I'd like to remind you to check out the calendar coming up later in the newsletter for a few important events. The Harvey Shebesta Award deadline is rapidly approaching (**November 15th!**). If you know of any current students in Wisconsin universities, please encourage them to apply! Elections are also right around the corner. Information on the open Board positions as well as bios for those running are included later in this newsletter. Stay tuned to your email for details on voting.

Once again, please consider getting more involved in your ITE Wisconsin Section. From technical councils to planning committees, there are ways you can get involved at whatever level works best for you! We are always looking for assistance on the Section Meeting Planning Committee – especially in the Madison and western portions of the state. If you're feeling more ambitious and would like to get involved at a higher level, but don't know where to start, please check out the latest function on ite.org! At the top of the page, you'll find a "Get Involved" button. Click it, and it will connect you to the resources you need to get involved in your area of interest.

Regards,

Eric Frailing, PE, PTOE

2025 ITE Wisconsin Section President

efrailing@msa-ps.com

LEADING PEDESTRIAN INTERVALS: DEVELOPMENT OF COMPATIBILITY GUIDE

Philip Kulis, PE, PTOE, RSP₂₁, IMSA II and Nick Erpelding, PE, PTOE, IMSA II

Based on recommendations from Minnesota's State Non-Motorized Transportation Advisory Committee (SNTC), leading pedestrian intervals (LPIs) were identified as a low-cost, feasible solution to improve the safety and experience of pedestrians at signalized intersections. The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) teamed with SRF Consulting to determine how and where LPIs can be effectively and reliably implemented on their transportation system. SRF has since worked with the City of Middleton, adjacent to Madison, to investigate and recommend LPI implementations for their system.

LPIs are a traffic signal programming setting that results in the Walk indication being displayed prior to the adjacent vehicle phase displaying a green indication (i.e., adjacent parallel through and/or turning traffic is still displayed a red indication). Typically, LPI has a duration of three to seven seconds, which allows pedestrians to establish themselves in the intersection prior to the adjacent movement being given a green indication. This improves pedestrian visibility to drivers and improves safety for pedestrians by increasing the likelihood of motorists yielding to pedestrians.

Adobe Stock Photo



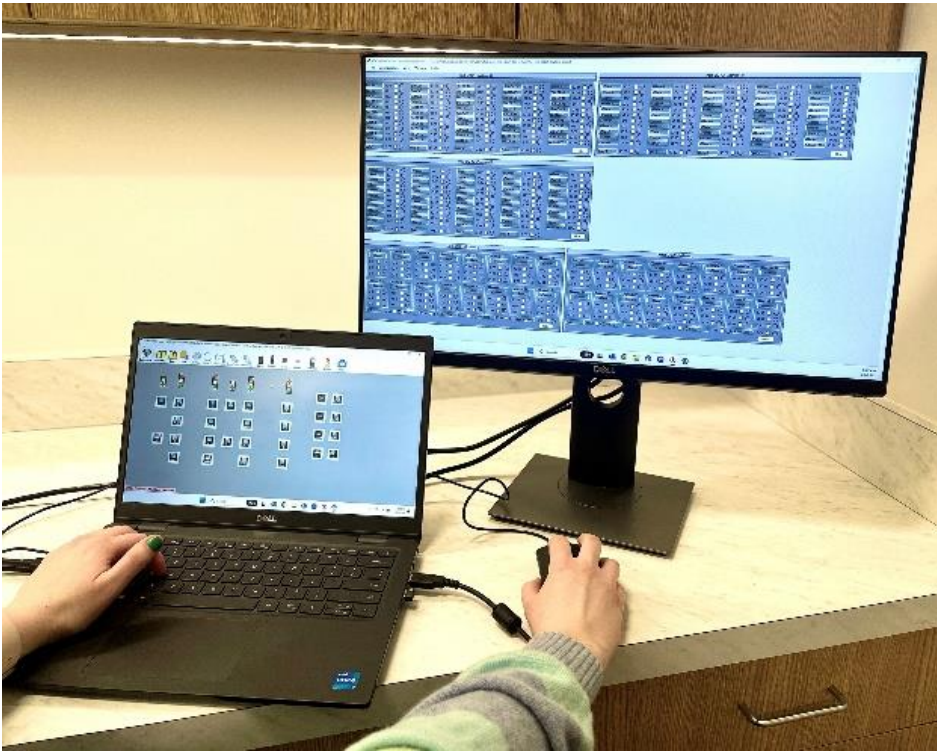
While the implementation of LPI may seem simple at first glance, care must be taken to ensure the signal operates as intended and does not operate in a way that might result in confusion for pedestrians or drivers.

Testing Procedure:

To date, there have been some operations noted between LPIs and specific intersection geometrics or signal controller configurations that have limited the ability to globally implement LPI. This project aimed to identify where and how LPIs can be implemented by better understanding existing constraints, such as geometrics, signal phasing, and signal infrastructure. Specifically, this project investigated these constraints through a five-stage testing procedure, using real signal databases from

around Minnesota in the testing process:

1. Theoretical Testing.
2. Virtual Controller Testing (Econolite EOS and Q-Free MAXTIME controllers).
3. CyberCabinet® Testing with Physical Controllers. This device simulates TS-2 and ATC signal cabinets, along with malfunction management units (MMUs) and cabinet monitor units (CMUs). It also allows vehicle, pedestrian, and EVP calls to be placed randomly to simulate a range of traffic conditions.
4. Cabinet Testing at MnDOT's Electrical Services Section (ESS) office.
5. Field Testing at Various Metro Locations.



Stage 3 Testing, CyberCabinet® (SRF Consulting)



Stage 4 Testing, Cabinet Testing (SRF Consulting)

Key Findings:

Test databases were pulled from intersections around Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) Metro District and District 3. The various databases were used to test varying signal and intersection features, such as left-turn phasing, controller types, cabinet types, and emergency vehicle preemption (EVP) setup. Additionally, signal features such as advance warning flashers (AWFs) and Blankout No Right-Turn-On-Red (RTOR) signs were also included in the testing process. Generally, the SRF testing team classified testing scenarios as one of the following:

- Compatible with LPI
- Use caution with LPI
- Not recommended for LPI
- LPI is not needed due to not providing any benefits.

Each scenario was unique to the other, differing in signal or intersection features as described above. The designations given to each testing scenario in each testing stage were used in the development of a Compatibility Guide that can assist with decision-making regarding the implementation of LPIs.

Outcomes:

One of the outcomes of this project is a Compatibility Guide. This Guide is designed to be used as a reference document for signal operators when looking to implement LPI. It includes specific information on signal configurations that are compatible with LPI, along with considerations for implementing LPI at intersections with certain characteristics (e.g., signal phasing, geometry, cabinet type, etc.). This Guide also contains a flowchart that guides signal operators through evaluating each potential location for its compatibility with LPI. The flowchart helps signal operators to identify if a specific approach or intersection would be suited for the implementation of LPI, or if additional efforts would be required to implement LPI. This Guide is available from MnDOT or SRF, just ask!

ITE WISCONSIN SECTION ELECTION 2026

It is time for the most important election of the year, the ITE Wisconsin Board member election! Electronic ballots will be distributed to all members in November for the Member Director position.

The candidates for the 2026 Board are:

Past President	Eric Frailing
President	Derrin Wolford
Vice President	Joseph Blakeman
Treasurer	Dan Murphy
Secretary	Jeff Knudson
Member Director	Vote!
District Representative	Vote!

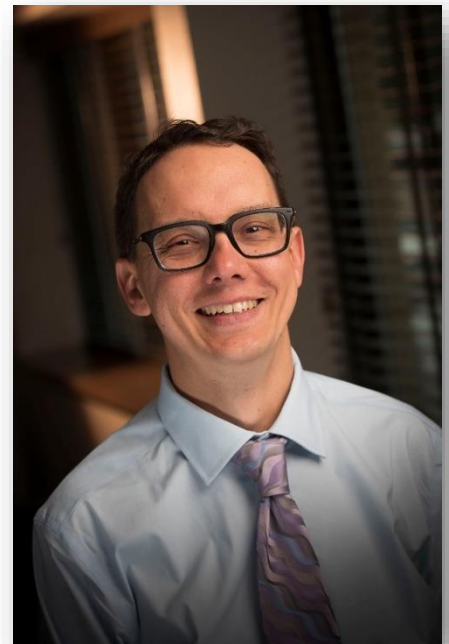


Below are the bio's for the two candidates running for **Member Director**:

Neal Styka, PE, PTOE, RSP1

Neal began his career over 17 years ago after graduating from Marquette University in 2008 with a B.S. in Civil Engineering, and he has been with Kapur & Associates since then. He has worked on a variety of projects over the years including being part of the design team for the Zoo Interchange. Neal started as a roadway designer, and he has since transitioned into the role of project manager for Kapur's Traffic Engineering Team. He enjoys getting to present ideas to the public, designing new signals, and finding safety solutions that fit the community.

Outside of work Neal enjoys spending time with his wife and two boys outdoors and biking as much as possible. He is also involved with the American Society of Civil Engineers where he is current as Director at Large for Education. Neal also volunteers as a Cub Scout den leader for his younger son's den.



Adam Walter, PE, PTOE

Adam is a Traffic Engineer at Strand Associates, Inc. with a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. He is a registered Professional Engineer and holds a Professional Traffic Operations Engineer certification. Adam has 12 years of experience and specializes in the preparation of traffic and corridor studies, safety analyses, and intelligent transportation systems (ITS), as well as signal design and project delivery. His recent project experience includes leading the ITS design for the Beltline Flex Lane, managing traffic and roadway efforts for the Milwaukee County Zoo Front Entrance reconfiguration, statewide ramp meter retiming, and overseeing numerous HSIP projects in southeast Wisconsin. He is passionate about improving corridor operations and safety, and takes pride in making a positive impact on the communities where he lives and works.



Adam has been an active member of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) since 2017. He currently serves as co-chair of the ITE Wisconsin Section Meeting Committee and was part of the 2024 ITE Great Lakes District Local Arrangements Committee, helping to organize a successful regional event.

Outside of work, Adam enjoys spending time with friends and family, cheering on Wisconsin sports teams, ice fishing, and golfing. Adam is excited about the opportunity to serve on the ITE Wisconsin Board and looks forward to becoming more involved in the Section.

Below is the one bio for the candidate running for **District Representative**

Brian Scharles (Sr)

Brian has over 30 years of ITS and traffic engineering experience. He received his bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from MSOE in 1989 and his master's degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Marquette University in 2000, as well as attending the Traffic Institute at Northwestern University. Brian has been an employee of TAPCO over 35 years, where he is an ITS Engineer and currently the Director of Product Innovation. Brian has assisted in the integration of many ITS and projects for WisDOT and other DOTs throughout the country, including traffic signal communications, vehicle detection & intelligent warning systems, which focus on increasing safety.



Brian has been an ITE member since 1991, and in 1993 was awarded the Martin Bruening Award for traffic and transportation engineering by the Wisconsin Section. Brian is a member of the Signal Committee and Pedestrian Task Force for the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD). Brian has also been a member of ITS Wisconsin for over 25 years, where he is on the planning committee, and in 2015 held the position of chapter president. In 2017 he was awarded the ITS Wisconsin Chapter's Distinguished Service Award. He is involved with research and development and currently has 3 patents improving transportation technologies. Outside of work Brian enjoys volunteering with the FIRST Lego League Robotics program, teaching science and technology to students, also enjoys flying radio controlled model airplanes and spending time with the family. Brian has been an active board member for WI ITE since 2019 and would invite the opportunity to serve as an ITE Wisconsin District Representative on the Wisconsin Section board.

WILBUR B. SMITH DISTINGUISHED TRANSPORTATION EDUCATOR AWARD

Wilbur S. Smith, an Honorary Member and the 11th International President of ITE, was a legend in the transportation community, known and respected worldwide for his innovative transportation systems and his lifelong commitment to the furtherance of the profession. His illustrious career included serving as professor and associate director of the Bureau of Highway Traffic at Yale University. The Wilbur S. Smith Distinguished Transportation Educator Award recognizes a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the transportation profession by relating academic studies to the actual practice of transportation.

Congratulations to Dr. David A. Noyce, P.E., Executive Associate Dean and Arthur F. Hawnn Professor of Transportation Engineering, University of Wisconsin–Madison!



Noyce, who is also the College of Engineering's Executive Associate Dean, received the award at ITE's annual meeting and exhibition in August. The award celebrates educators who have made outstanding contributions to the transportation profession through education, mentoring, research and service.

Noyce has more than 40 years of experience in traffic engineering across academia, government and consulting. He is the founding director of the Traffic Operations and Safety Laboratory, and has overseen more than 300 research projects that have secured more than \$60 million in total research funding.

As a scholar, Noyce has authored more than 350 peer-reviewed papers, and his work has influenced traffic engineering across the fields of work zone safety, human factors, connected and automated vehicles, and using simulators to understand driver behavior.

RECENT AND UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

July 16, 2025 Meeting

WisDOT Traffic Management Center, Milwaukee

This was a joint ITE/ITS meeting at the WisDOT Traffic Management Center in Milwaukee. The meeting included a tour of the TMC Control Room as well as presentations on Contractor PCMS Integration, Flex Lane Maintenance, and a Video Analytics Pilot Project.



October 7, 2025 Joint ITE/WTS Meeting

WisDOT Barstow Office Meeting, Waukesha

This was a joint ITE/WTS lunch meeting at the WisDOT Barstow office in Waukesha.

The featured speaker was Natalie Chyba, presenting on Complete Streets Action Planning. It was an enlightening and delicious presentation.

September 30, 2025 Joint ITE/ASCE Meeting

This was the inaugural joint meeting between our Section and the Wisconsin Section of ASCE. We had over 50 attendees log in to the virtual event, which showcased a presentation by Gary Brady of Commsignia, who presented on the latest advancements in connected vehicle (V2X) and smart city technologies. We look forward to continuing this new partnership with ASCE next year.

2025 Joint ITE International and Florida Puerto Rico District Annual Meeting and Exhibition

The Wisconsin Section was happy to sponsor two student chapters to this excellent event. Here are their stories.

UW Madison - Rei Tamaru, PHD Student

I had the opportunity to attend and present at the ITE Annual Meeting (August 10–13), marking my first participation in this conference. The meeting provided a valuable platform to learn from ITE members across different regions and to build connections with both transportation researchers and industry professionals. These experiences were invaluable for my growth as a transportation researcher.

I presented the research titled “Equity-Driven Highway Safety: Linking Pedestrian Crash Risk and Severity to Walkability and Social Vulnerability in Charlotte”, conducted in collaboration with my colleagues Cesar Andriola and Hanif Nazaroedin, fellow Ph.D. students in the ITE UW–Madison student chapter. The study examined pedestrian crash data using two national indices - the National Walkability Index and the Social Vulnerability Index - and leveraged the Highway Safety Information System (HSIS) dataset from FHWA. This work contributed to the development of a framework that can help practitioners identify priority areas for safety interventions. The presentation generated constructive discussions and feedback, which will inform ongoing and future projects.

Beyond my presentation, the conference featured a range of professional sessions, including those led by DOT officials and transportation practitioners. A particularly insightful session on V2X systems and TSM&O deployment in Florida provided me with practical perspectives on the gap between academic research and real-world implementation.

I also participated in the conference and ITE Great Lakes District receptions that fostered meaningful networking opportunities. Reconnecting with peers from other regions and meeting new colleagues made the experience both rewarding and memorable, further strengthening my sense of belonging within the ITE community.

Overall, attending the ITE Annual Meeting was a formative experience that deepened my professional knowledge, broadened my network, and reinforced my commitment to advancing transportation research and practice.



Rei Tamaru with a new friend!

Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE) - Hannah Siedschlag

The Milwaukee School of Engineering's ITE Student Chapter had the opportunity to attend the ITE Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida, with the support of the ITE Wisconsin Section. This year's theme was "Innovative Pathways to Safer Transportation" so attendees had the opportunity to engage in conversation, learning experiences, and hands-on activities that reflected ITE's commitment to a safer, smarter, and more connected future. Students had the opportunity to attend sessions focusing on multimodal street design, the uses of AI in transportation, the art of negotiation, and so much more. Students also had the opportunity to tour Cape Canaveral, the Brightline Train Station at Orlando International Airport, FDOT's District 5 Traffic Management Center, and many other technical tours. All these opportunities showed the importance of safety in transportation.

Left to right: Brice Melchior (Member), Melissa Pacheco-Paz (Vice President), Hannah Siedschlag (President), Ava Pike (General Assistant), Dr. Mitzi Dobersek (Faculty Advisor), Tyler Calderwood (Member), Amy MacDonald (Member)



Left to right: Brice Melchior (Member), Melissa Pacheco-Paz (Vice President), Hannah Siedschlag (President), Ava Pike (General Assistant), Dr. Mitzi Dobersek (Faculty Advisor), Tyler Calderwood (Member), Amy MacDonald (Member)

Save the Date: ITE Traffic Engineering Workshop & Transportation Planning Forum

April 16, 2026 – Waukesha County Technical College

ITE is looking for annual spring conference speakers. All topics within traffic/transportation engineering and transportation planning will be considered. Contact Christian Sternke (csternke@tadi-us.com) with questions and submit your interest by **November 25, 2025!**

Events Calendar

Below is the list of upcoming ITE Wisconsin events or key dates. Additional details will be provided as the event gets closer.

Date	Location	Time	Event Description
October 28	Engineering Hall Madison, WI	Dinner	UW-Madison/UW-Platteville Student Night
Nov 15	Scholarship Deadline		Harvey Shebesta Award
December 8	Delafield Brewhaus	Dinner	Annual Section Meeting & Awards Night
2026			
Jan 11 – 15, 2026	Washington, D.C.	All day	2026 TRB Annual Meeting
Jan TBD, 2026	Great Dane East Madison, WI	Lunch	Public Service Appreciation
Jan 31, 2026	Scholarship Deadline		Martin Bruening Award, Ken Voigt Rising Star Award
March TBD, 2026	TBD	Dinner	UWM/Marquette/MSOE Student Night

ITE WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COUNCILS

Here are all the Wisconsin Section councils and committees...consider joining!

Committee/Council	Contact	Email
Awards Committee		
	Brian Scharles	BrianS@tapconet.com
	Joseph Blakeman	jblakeman@emcsinc.com
Communications Committee		
	Dan Murphy	daniel.murphy@milwaukeecountywi.gov
	Jeff Knudson	jknudson@srfconsulting.com
Meetings Committee		
	Kevin Wehner	kwehner@klengineering.com
	Adam Walter	adam.walter@strand.com
	Jessica Beine	jessica.beine@rasmith.com
Traffic Engineering Workshop and Transportation Planning Forum Committee		
	Laura Schroeder	laura.schroeder@rasmith.com
Public Agency Council		
	Mike May	mmay@wauwatosa.net
Education Council		
	Anne Holzem	aholzem@msa-ps.com
SimCap Committee		
	Rob Beuthling	rbeuthling@hntb.com
	Vicki Haskell	vicki.haskell@dot.wi.gov
Traffic Engineering Council		
	Kevin Wehner	kwehner@klengineering.com
Safety Council		
	Christian Sternke	csternke@tadi-us.com
	Dan Brugman	daniel.brugman@dot.wi.gov
TSMO Council		
	Todd Szymkowski	todd.szymkowski@dot.wi.gov
Planning Council		
	Jerry Shadewald	jshadewald@HNTB.com
Complete Streets Council		
	Jeff Polenske	jeffrey.polenske@mbakerintl.com
	James Hannig	jameshannig@AltaGo.com

HARVEY SHEBESTA AWARD

Wisconsin Section has created a \$1,500 scholarship award to be presented annually to encourage students to consider Transportation Engineering in their studies and career aspirations, and to provide financial support to students who have demonstrated an interest and are likely to work in the transportation field. The award was named for Harvey Shebesta who was one of the founding members and the first President of the Wisconsin Section in 1966 and International President in 1980. Harvey also served on the ITE Technical Council as the first Section Technical Activities Department Head in 1968-69 and on the Board of Directors in 1970-71. Harvey graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1950 with a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering and went to work for the Wisconsin State Highway Commission. In 1969, he was appointed District Engineer for the Milwaukee District. In 1979, he was appointed District Director of WisDOT's southeast district when the Department merged the Milwaukee and Waukesha Districts. He has served as chairman and member on many Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission committees.



Eligibility

To be eligible for the scholarship, you must be either a full-time undergraduate or graduate student in a Wisconsin College or University, with course work and career goal emphasis on Transportation Engineering, and must be nominated by Transportation Engineering faculty of your school. A maximum of two students from any School can be nominated. (No family member or spouse of any Institute of Transportation Engineers - Wisconsin Section member is eligible to apply for or receive this scholarship award.

Selection Criteria

Candidates will be evaluated on the basis of past academic performance, education plans, career goals, activities and record of leadership. Final evaluation will be made on the basis of a completed application, a statement of educational and career objectives, and a letter of recommendation by a Transportation Engineering faculty member.

The Award consists of recognition given at the December ITE WI Section Annual Meeting and a scholarship of up to \$1,500 each for one Undergraduate student and one Graduate student.

More information can be found online at <https://itewisconsin.org>

Papers should be emailed in PDF format to BrianS@tapconet.com by **November 15, 2025**. Please include a copy of your faculty member's nomination email or letter.

2026 CLASS OF LEADERSHIPITE

ITE recognizes the importance of proactively cultivating leaders to enhance the transportation profession. By establishing a formal leadership program, ITE seeks to provide program participants the skills, tools and network to successfully navigate their careers and be leaders in their places of business, communities and professional organizations of choice.

Our very own Neal Styka, PE, PTOE, RSP1 from Kapur and Associates is going to be part of the class of 2026 [LeadershipITE!](#)

ITE WISCONSIN MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

(Don't forget to [RENEW!](#))

New Section Members

June 26 – October 21

James Alessia	Hayden Ingersoll
Iman Farhat	Jaylin Machon
Jaiden Lefeber	Jessica Maurer
Corbyn Navarro	Elijah McCoy
David Salmon	Nay Thaw Lay Moo
Anisha Tasnim	Kyle Pfeifer
Rachel Bronson	Steve Reeves
Tyler Calderwood	Dannielle Wambui
Supreme Gayfield	Nick Wilke
Charlanique Hueneke	Tianyang Xiong



New Certifications!

Congratulations to the following Section members who recently passed new certification exams!



Derek Salomonsen – RSP2

James Jeninga – PTOE

James Hannig – RSP1

Yang Tao – PTP

TREASURER'S UPDATE

Treasurer's Report	
August 25, 2025 to October 24, 2025	
BEGINNING BALANCE: CHECKING + SAVINGS + CDs	\$ 64,232.66
Beginning Balance – Checking	\$ 36,583.38
Income - Checking	
Dues and Registrations	\$ 637.37
ITE Operating Payment	\$ 459.40
Total Income – Checking	\$ 1,096.77
Expenditures - Checking	
Star Chapter Fee (2)	\$ 39.90
Credit Card Payments (2)	\$ 252.00
Total Expenditures – Checking	\$ 291.90
Ending Balance – Checking	\$ 37,388.25
Beginning Balance – Savings	\$ 16,571.24
Income - Savings	
Interest Payments (2)	\$ 2.77
Total Income – Savings	\$ 2.77
Expenditures - Savings	
	\$ -
Total Expenditures – Savings	\$ -
Ending Balance – Savings	\$ 16,574.01
Beginning Balance – CD	\$ 11,078.04
Income - Savings	
Interest Payments (2)	\$ 68.36
Total Income – Savings	\$ 68.36
Expenditures - Savings	
	\$ -
Total Expenditures – Savings	\$ -
Ending Balance – CD	\$ 11,146.40
ENDING BALANCE: CHECKING + SAVINGS + CDs	\$ 65,108.66

Prepared By: Joseph Blakeman, Treasurer
10/24/2025

JOB POSTINGS

If you have a job opening and would like to be listed in the newsletter, added to the [section website](#), and publicized at upcoming section meetings, contact John Bruggeman at john.bruggeman@rasmith.com.

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 2025 Wisconsin Section Member Director, Jeff Knudson at jknudson@srfconsulting.com.

ITE WISCONSIN SECTION SPONSORS

Thank You 2025 – 2026 Sponsors!

Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



*If you're interested in sponsoring the Wisconsin Section, contact: **Brian Scharles, BrianS@tapconet.com***