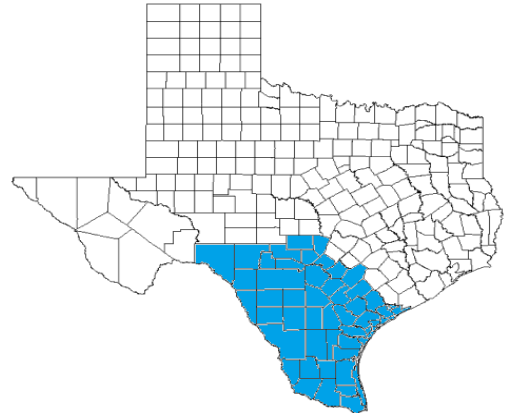


A Section of District 9 of the Institute of Transportation Engineers

Annual Section Report – January through December 2017


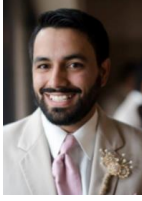


SECTION HISTORY

The South Texas ITE Section (STITE) is a sub-area of District 9 of the Texas District of ITE (as known as TexITE). The section was formed in 1997 and includes 46 counties in the area that stretches from Del Rio to San Antonio to Victoria and south to the Rio Grande Valley (more land than some states!). STITE boundaries include McAllen, Laredo, Corpus Christi, South Padre Island, Kingsville, Harlingen and Brownsville. There have been few opportunities in South Texas for people in the transportation industry to network with their peers, enhance technical skills or learn new methods of controlling and planning for traffic.



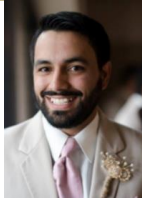



SECTION LEADERSHIP

2018 LEADERSHIP

Office	President	Vice President	Secretary/ Treasurer	Section Representative
Name	 Nick Arnio	 Larry Picasso	 Daniel Cardenas	 Justin Clark
Affiliation	<i>RS&H</i>	<i>Bexar County</i>	<i>TxDOT</i>	<i>Pape-Dawson Engineers</i>

2017 LEADERSHIP

Office	President	Vice President	Secretary/ Treasurer	Section Representative
Name	 Scott Nelson	 Nick Arnio	 Larry Picasso	 Justin Clarke
Affiliation	<i>Pape-Dawson Engineers</i>	<i>RS&H</i>	<i>Dannenbaum Engineering</i>	<i>Pape-Dawson Engineers</i>

2017 & 2018 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Committee	2018 Committee Chairs		2017 Committee Chairs	
	Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Sponsorship Chair	Carl Harline	WSP	Carl Harline	WSP
Student Chapter Liaison	Ilse Malagamba	CP&Y	Eliseo "Eli" Suarez	HDR Engineering
Membership Committee	Dalia Nevarez	Jacobs	Josue Ortiz	AIA Engineers, LTD.
Webmaster	Josue Ortiz	AIA Engineers, LTD.		
Younger Members Chair	Avery Wilson	Jacobs	Daniel Cardenas	Texas Department of Transportation
Professional Development	Omer Inegol	HNTB	N/A	N/A
Section Representative	Justin Clark	Pape-Dawson Engineers	Justin Clark	Pape-Dawson Engineers
Scholarship Committee	Heather McNeal	Pape-Dawson Engineers	Heather McNeal	Pape-Dawson Engineers

For 2018, the Membership Chair and Webmaster position was divided into two separate roles. The Professional Development Chair was created as a new committee for 2018.

FINANCES

The current STITE bank account balance is **\$9,889**. The 2017 fiscal year began with a balance of **\$5,001**. While maintaining a healthy bank balance, the Section has focused more on providing greater value to our members such as hosting webinars and evening socials. The section also gave two scholarships, one for \$1,500 and one for \$1,000. With a healthy bank balance, the Chapter has had more focus on providing greater value to our members such as hosting webinar and even socials.

MEMBERSHIP

The South Texas Section had 119 local members in 2017, 27 whom were also international members. Of the 27 International ITE members, 5 within the Section boundaries are listed as follows by the ITE website <http://ite.org/>. Table 1 provides a breakdown of the membership grade of these section members.

Membership Grade	2017
Student	11
Local Member Only	88
Institute Affiliate	0
Fellow	13
International Member	90
TOTAL ITE SECTION MEMBERS*	125

** Includes members of Section who are not International ITE members*

ACTIVITIES

General Technical

The South Texas Section holds its regular monthly meetings on the last Wednesday of each month. In addition to our normal joint meetings with the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) Student Chapter and Capital Area Section ITE, this year we co-sponsored a full-day Air Quality seminar with the San Antonio Section Women Transportation Seminar (WTS) in August. The workshop included a panel of presenters with topics related to air quality and environmental attainment.

No meetings were held in April, September, and November in order to avoid conflicts with the Spring TexITE Meeting and the Holidays. No STITE Regional Conference was held this year in Corpus Christi

due to the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. The meeting/event dates, topics, speakers, and attendance are shown in Table 2.

Table 2. 2017 Chapter Activity Summary

Date	Topic/Event	Speaker	Attendance
Jan 25	Lunch Meeting – Bexar County Public Works Department	David Wegmann, P.E., CFM Bexar County Chris Trevino, P.E. Alamo Regional Mobility Authority	70
Feb 22	Lunch Meeting – City of San Antonio's on-going projects	Christopher Georges, P.E., PTOE City of San Antonio	55
Mar 30	UTSA ITE Joint Lunch Meeting – Lessons for a Young Engineer	Dale Picha, P.E., PTOE Texas Department of Transportation	59
March – No meeting			
April 10	Social	None	18
May 9	2nd Annual Golf Tournament	None	76
	Joint Meeting- South Texas & Capital Area San Marcos, Texas	Representative Ina Minjarez Texas House District 124 Commissioner Mark Jones Hays County Commissioner	55

July 31	<i>Air Quality Issues and Impacts on Transportation in Texas and the San Antonio Region Seminar with WTS San Antonio</i>	<p><i>Steven Smeltzer - Environmental Manager, AACOG Air Quality Technical Group</i></p> <p><i>Jenny Narvaez - Principal Air Quality Planner and Conformity Manager, NCTCOG</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Jay Olaguer, Program Director of Air Quality Science, Houston Area Research Council</i></p> <p><i>Madhu Venugopal, Environment and Air Quality Division Associate Research Scientist, Texas A&M Transportation Institute</i></p>	30
Aug 31	<i>Lunch Meeting</i> Mobility 2045 and Transportation Conformity	<i>Linda Alvarado-Vela, AICP</i> Alamo Area MPO	61
<i>September – No meeting</i>			
Sept 23	<i>UTSA 3rd Annual Engineering BBQ Cook</i>	None	
Oct. 14	<i>UTSA Adopt-A-Highway</i>	None	
	<i>Joint UTSA Student Chapter Event-6th Annual UTSA Football Tailgate</i>	None	67
Oct 25	<i>Lunch Meeting</i> Texas Department of Transportation State of the District	<i>Mario Jorge, P.E.</i> TxDOT	73
<i>November – No meeting</i>			
Dec 8	<i>Mega Holiday Event</i> Joint San Antonio Area Engineering Event	None	150

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee Chair is Heather McNeal. This year the scholarship was once again opened up to all ABET accredited schools in our region. Two scholarships, totaling \$2,500, was awarded to Matt Vechione (\$1,500) from University of Texas at El Paso and Ruben Singleterry (\$1,000) from Texas A&M University - Kingsville. Matt is pursuing his PhD focused in Transportation with research in Mandatory Lane Changing Parameters and was the president of the UTEP ITE chapter in 2017. Ruben is pursuing his Bachelor's degree and became interested in transportation through his employment with the Roads and Bridges Department of Hidalgo County for the past 3 years.

The Scholarship Committee consists of the following active members:

Scholarship Chair – Heather McNeal, Pape-Dawson Engineers

Scholarship Committee Members: Courtney Corbell, Pape-Dawson Engineers and Dawniele Metsker-Galarza, Kimley-Horn

GOLF TOURNAMENT-2ND ANNUAL

The 2nd Annual STITE Golf Tournament was held on Monday, May 8, 2017 at Olympia Hills Golf and Event Center in Universal City, Texas. This annual event helps to raise funds for the STITE Annual Scholarships for the Engineering Students in the South Texas Region and supplement chapter activities throughout the year.

There were 15 teams registered with prizes going out to 1st and 2nd in both gross and net scoring. The results were as follows:

1st Net: AECOM (Mengden, Lopez, McMillin and Hudnell)

2nd Net: Dannenbaum (Picasso, Garza, Wegmann and Garcia)

1st Gross: Southwestern Section IMSA (Zensen, Luis Lopez, Ysmael and Olguin)

2nd Gross: AWP Traffic (Anderson, Jones, Carroll)



Contest holes throughout the course included Longest Drive, Straightest Drive, Closest to the Pin and Marshmallow Drive. There was also a Putting Contest on the practice green before the tournament started. Winners of these contests were:

- Longest Drive – Picasso
- Straightest Drive – Lopez
- Closest to the Pin – Carroll
- Marshmallow Drive – Mengden

- Putting Contest – Rhodes

In addition to the contest holes, the tournament had two tee box games. Teams competed amongst themselves in Ladder Golf and Washers to win a \$10 gift card to Whataburger or Starbucks.

STITE also provided goodie bags donated by Dannenbaum Engineering. Each player was given snacks, a sleeve of golf balls, a koozie donated by the Rios Group and other miscellaneous golf items for participating. The raffle was a huge success with many great prizes given out. These prizes included:

- Multiple Golf Outings to Olympia Hills
- Two Titleist Hats
- \$25 Twin Peaks Gift Card
- \$50 Callaway Golf Gift Card
- Two RTIC Water Bottles
- A pack of Titleist DT Solo Golf Balls
- A pack of Titleist Pro V1x Golf Balls
- Fireball Gift Basket
- Garrison Brothers Gift Basket
- Cleveland 52° Wedge
- Odyssey Putter
- OGIO Golf Bag
- Beats by Dre Headphones
- RTIC 30 Softpack Cooler
- RTIC 40 Softpack Cooler



A special thank you goes out to our tournament co-chairs Nick Arnio and Larry Picasso for putting together a successful tournament. We would also like to thank Charlie Comparini and Carl Wenzel of Dannenbaum Engineering for volunteering their time to provide us with delicious hamburgers after the tournament concluded. Lastly, we would like to thank our registration/on-course volunteers of Suzette Cole with AWP Traffic, with RS&H and Lawson Picasso with D’Nago Marketing for helping our tournament run smoothly throughout.



COMMUNICATIONS

Website

The Section website, <http://texite.org/southtexas/>, is consistently updated with the latest meeting and conference information, previously published newsletters, and meeting presentations. This past year the website was completely updated to provide a more user-friendly experience and to provide enhanced content for our members. This new and improved website showcases STITE events and provides another opportunity for Section sponsors to reach members through website business card sponsorships which



rotate throughout the website.

Additional Communication Initiatives

The Section has been using Constant Contact to create email announcements for events and meetings and manage the guest lists. In 2017, this service was used to manage all event registrations, announcements, newsletter distribution, and officer elections. Constant Contact has proven to be a valuable addition to our website for communication meeting announcements and section news. We continue to look for more ways to utilize this service including better organization of our membership lists.

SECTION STUDENT CHAPTERS

The UTSA ITE Student Chapter has had many successful events this past semester. The Student chapter continues with their involvement in planning the Fourth Annual Engineering Barbecue Cook-Off alongside four other engineering organizations. This event brings together engineering firms and has them compete in a cook off. The event is judged by important local business and community members. They will also be continuing their involvement with “Adopt a Highway” by organizing a highway cleanup. The UTSA ITE student chapter has also planned and attended socials with the professional chapter where students have had the opportunity to network and establish professional relationships. Along with these activities, the student chapter has participated in intramural volleyball and paintball to provide opportunities focused on teamwork development. The student chapter has also attended the last two TexITE conferences. These conference included a student leadership summit which the Student Chapter helped to plan. The leadership summit involved a hackathon, where students solved a transportation issue and mock interviews. In addition to planning the student leadership summit the Student Chapter has held its annual software training for students this semester, where students learn the basics of the software Microstation. This was led by a professional UTSA alumni and former Vice President of UTSA ITE. The students walked away from this training with a familiarity of Microstation and a typical day of a transportation intern.



University of Texas, San Antonio

The 2017 UTSA Student Chapter Officers are listed below:

President: Jessica Morris

Vice President: Leslie Gonzalez

Secretary: Caesar Mendoza

Treasurer: Arantza Cabral

Public Relations: Ilse Malagamba

Marketing: Nicholas Hinojosa

Web Master: Nick Strobe

The UTSA ITE Student Chapter is having a successful semester. The Chapter has been working hard alongside other student organizations such as ASCE, TSPE, and EWB to set up the Third Annual Engineering BBQ Cook-Off. This unique event brings together engineering firms and has them compete in a cook off. The event is judged by high ranking local transportation engineering community members. They will also be continuing their involvement with “Adopt a Highway” by organizing a highway cleanup. The UTSA ITE has also attended socials with the professional chapter where students have had the opportunity to network and establish professional relationships. Along with these activities, the student chapter has participated in intramural volleyball, dodgeball, and softball to provide opportunities focused on teamwork development.

Texas A & M University, Kingsville

At the time of submission of this report, no information was received

GOALS FOR 2018

- a. Increase attendance at events and involve more members in the Section’s committees.
- b. Submit STITE Newsletter for ITE District and Section Award.
- c. Increase section revenues through Business Card Advertisement and social events.
- d. Continue to offer program meetings with informative topics and prominent speakers.
- e. Expand the scholarship program to include other universities in South Texas.
- f. Offer at least three professional development webinars.
- g. Increase International ITE Membership.

AWARDS/HONORS

Julio Ramos, P.E., PTOE made LeadershipITE class of 2018.

Marc Jacobson, P.E., PTOE Elected to TexITE as Secretary/Treasurer for 2018

Scott Nelson, P.E., PTOE appointed Younger Member Chair by Kerri Collins, P.E. PTOE

Dale Picha, P.E., PTOE is the ITE International Director for Texas Section

OTHER

Election Results

The STITE Section held elections for 2018 officers. Nick Arnio will serve as President, Larry Picasso as Vice President, Daniel Cardenas as Secretary/Treasurer, and Justin Clark as Section Representative.



Section Dues 2018

For the 2018 the STITE section dues stayed consistent with private sector membership at \$20 and public sector membership at \$10.

- END REPORT -