

**A Section of District 9 of the
Institute of Transportation Engineers**
Annual Section Report – January through December 2012

SECTION HISTORY



The South Texas ITE Section (STITE) is a sub-area of District 9 of the Texas District of ITE (a.k.a. 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

2013 LEADERSHIP

Office	President		Vice President		Secretary/ Treasurer		Section Representative	
Name		Amy Avery		Derek Mueller		Justin Clark		Eduardo Mendoza
Affiliation	<i>Kimley-Horn and Associates</i>		<i>Pape-Dawson Engineers</i>		<i>Pape-Dawson Engineers</i>		<i>City of McAllen</i>	

2012 LEADERSHIP

Office	President		Vice President		Secretary/ Treasurer		Section Representative	
Name		Oscar Michael Garza		Amy Lewis		Derek Mueller		Kerri Collins
Affiliation	<i>Pate Engineers</i>		<i>Kimley-Horn and Associates</i>		<i>Pape-Dawson Engineers</i>		<i>Pape-Dawson Engineers</i>	

2011 & 2012 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Committee	2013 Committee Chairs		2012 Committee Chairs	
	Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Website Manager	Ben Worsham	City of McAllen	Bo Zhou	Pape-Dawson Engineers
Student Chapter Liaison	Miguel Luna	SAWS	Oscar Michael Garza	Pate Engineers
Membership Committee	Amy Avery	Kimley-Horn and Associates	Oscar Michael Garza	Pate Engineers
Nominations Committee	Miguel Sanchez	Arcadis	Miguel Sanchez	Arcadis
Newsletter Editor	Derek Mueller	Pape-Dawson Engineers	Derek Mueller	Pape-Dawson Engineers
Section Representative	Eduardo Mendoza	City of McAllen	Kerri Collins	Pape-Dawson Engineers
Scholarship Committee	Oscar Michael Garza	Pate Engineers	Oscar Michael Garza	Pate Engineers
Regional Conf. Committee	Julio Ramos	CEC	Julio Ramos	CEC
Holiday Banquet Committee	Justin Clark, Scott Nelson	Pape-Dawson Engineers	Sascha Van der Aa	GKW, Inc.

FINANCES

The current STITE bank account balance is **\$7,315**. The 2012 fiscal year began with a balance of **\$6,818**. 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.

MEMBERSHIP

The South Texas Section has 100 local and international members in 2013. As of March, 2013, there were 65 International ITE members within the Section boundaries, as listed by the ITE website (www.ite.org). Table 1 provides a breakdown of the membership grade of these international members.

Table 1. Membership Grade of International Members in the South Texas Region		
Membership Grade	2013	2012
Student	10	15
Total Local Member Only	35	11
Institute Affiliate	0	1
Fellow	12	13
Members	43	46
TOTAL ITE SECTION MEMBERS*	65	77

* Does not include members of Section who are not full ITE members

ACTIVITIES

General Technical

The South Texas Section holds its regular monthly meetings on the last Wednesday of each Month. In 2012 our section changed meeting locations to a downtown restaurant which greatly improved public sector participation as it is closer to City and County offices than our previous meeting location was.

One of the highlights of the year, the STITE Regional Conference (see photos), was held in early October in Corpus Christi, Texas. No meetings were held in March or August in order to avoid a conflict with the Spring/Fall TexITE Meetings. The meeting dates, topics, speakers, and attendance are shown in Table 2 below:

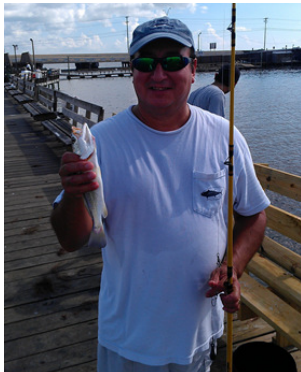


Table 2. 2012 Meeting Summary

Date	Topic/Event	Speaker	Attendance
Jan 25	Lunch Meeting – VIA Metropolitan Transit	Brian Buchanan Vice President of Bus and Rail Strategic Planning, VIA Metropolitan Transit	44
Feb 29	Lunch Meeting – Alamo RMA	Patrick Irwin, P.E. Director of Engineering and Operations, Alamo RMA	40
March - No meeting due to Spring TextITE Meeting			
April 26	Meeting with UTSA Student Chapter Latest 2030 Committee Report	Jose Flavio Robles, Jr., STITE Scholarship Winner	29:18 Prof:Student
May 18	Continuing Education Event – Innovative Intersection Webinar	ASCE Webinar	31
May 30	Lunch Meeting – Bicycle Initiatives in San Antonio	Julia Diana , San Antonio Office of Environmental Policy	18
June 27	Lunch Meeting – Downtown Transportation Study	Kerri Collins, P.E., PTOE, Pape-Dawson Engineers	37
Sept 21	Third Annual Regional Conference, Corpus Christi	Leodoro Martinez , Eagle Ford Consortium Danny Magee , TxDOT Thomas Tunstall , UTSA Ernesto De La Garza , TxDOT Bobby Balli , TBPE	77
Oct. 31	Lunch Meeting – Ped Safety Action Plan	Lydia Kelly , San Antonio Bexar County MPO	32

Table 2. 2011 Meeting Summary – Con't

Date	Topic/Event	Speaker	Attendance
Nov	Join Meeting with Capital Area Section	Brian Buchanan, VIA Metropolitan Transit	20 STITE
	Joint UTSA Student Chapter Event		25 (est)
Dec. 14	UTSA Football Tailgate		
	Annual Holiday Banquet	Officer Installations; White Elephant Gift Exchange	26

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee Chair is Mike Garza. The 4th Annual STITE-UTSA Scholarship (\$1,500) was awarded to Armando Gomez-Farias (\$460) and Katherine Schwillle (\$1040) at the Holiday Banquet.



COMMUNICATIONS

Newsletter

The Section has continued its Newsletter in 2012. Derek Mueller is the current Newsletter Editor. The Section has currently sold advertising space for ten business card size ads from consultants and vendors for the newsletter, generating \$1,100 in revenue for the section which was used, in part, to fund the



Section's annual scholarship.

Website

The Section website is consistently updated with the latest meeting and conference information, previously published newsletters, and meeting presentations.

Additional Communication Initiatives

The Section has begun using Constant Contact to create email announcements for events and meetings and manage the guest lists. In 2012, this service was used to manage all event registrations, announcements, newsletter distribution, and officer elections.

SECTION STUDENT CHAPTERS

The Section has stayed in close contact with the UTSA Student Chapter throughout the year. Highlighted activities include the Annual Joint Student/Professional meeting held in May, participating in the Adopt-A-Highway Program with the student chapter, finding various speakers/volunteers for different student chapter events/meetings, and offering discounted rates at meetings in an effort to attract more student chapter members to experience the professional chapter atmosphere. In 2012, the Joint meeting was moved from UTSA to a nearby restaurant to entice more professional member to attend. In November, STITE and the Student Chapter jointly hosted a tailgate for a UTSA football game at the Alamo Dome in San Antonio.



University of Texas, San Antonio

The current UTSA Student Chapter Officers are listed below:

President: **Larry Picasso**
 Vice President: **Jackson Woodruff**
 Treasurer: **Timothy Hayes**
 Secretary: **Christopher Garza**
 Webmaster: **Andres Munoz**

The UTSA STITE Student Chapter is having a successful semester. The Chapter has already held one "Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up" this semester and is planning another at the end of April. The UTSA Student Chapter has established networking relationships with other organizations such as ASCE and ACI to share ideas and work towards greater achievements.

Texas A & M University, Kingsville

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

GOALS FOR 2012

- a. Increase membership in the section and participation in leadership roles.
- 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 one valuable professional development program/workshop.

AWARDS/HONORS

The STITE Section was selected as the winner of the TexITE Section Activities Award for 2012. The award was presented to Amy Avery, current Section President, at the TexITE District Meeting in San Marcos, Texas in March 2012.

Armando Gomez-Farias and Katherine Schuille of the University of Texas San Antonio (UTSA) were recognized as the co-winners of the 2012 STITE Scholarship.

The Section presented a plaque to **Mike Garza** and **Kerri Collins** for their dedicated service as both officers and committee chairs.



OTHER

Election Results

The STITE Section held elections for 2013 officers. The four officers were sworn in by Mike Garza, 2012 STITE President, at the Holiday Banquet on December 14, 2012. Amy Avery will serve as President, Derek Mueller as Vice President, Justin Clark as Secretary/Treasurer, and Eduardo Mendoza is the new Section Representative.



- **END REPORT** -

Attachments:

- STITE 2011 Regional Conference Flyer
- 2011 Section Newsletters



South Texas Section
Institute of Transportation Engineers

2012 South Texas ITE 3rd Annual Regional Conference

September 21-22, Corpus Christi, TX

Join us for a fun and informative time in Corpus Christi at the 3rd Annual Regional Conference. The featured speakers for the Conference include:

- **Leodoro Martinez**— *Executive Director of Middle Rio Grande Development Council and Chairman of the Eagle Ford Consortium*

Eagle Ford Shale Infrastructure Impacts

- **Danny Magee**— *TxDOT Laredo District Director of Transportation*

TxDOT Perspective on Eagle Ford Shale Infrastructure Impacts

- **Ernesto De La Garza**— *TxDOT Corpus Christi Pavement Engineer*

US 77 Design/Build Project Value Engineering

- **Bobby Balli**— *TBPE Board Member; Vice President—HNTB*

Professional Practice Update / Ethics Presentation

- **Thomas Tunstall**— *Director of UTSA Center for Community/Business Research*

UTSA Eagle Ford Shale Study



MEETING SCHEDULE

Friday September 21:

- 12:00-1:00 Kick-off Luncheon and Section Business
1:00-2:30 Speaker Presentations
2:30-3:30 Vendor Session and Snacks
3:30-4:30 Speaker Presentations
7:00-8:00 Dinner at “Snoopy’s Pier” (bring your family!)

Saturday September 22:

- 9:00-12:00 STITE Annual Fishing Tournament (bring your family!)

Meeting Location:

TxDOT District Office—
Corpus Christi
1701 South Padre Island Dr
Corpus Christi, TX 78412

Hotel Info:

Hilton Garden Inn
Corpus Christi
6717 South Padre Island Dr
Corpus Christi, TX 78412
(361)991-8200

- *STITE SPECIAL RATE: \$90/Night*
- *Reserve by Sept. 14*
- *24 hr Notice for Cancellations*

REGISTRATION FEE: \$40

INCLUDES: LUNCH, SNACKS, DINNER, & ENTRY INTO THE FISHING TOURNAMENT!

Register via the email or contact Julio Ramos (jramos@cectexas.com)

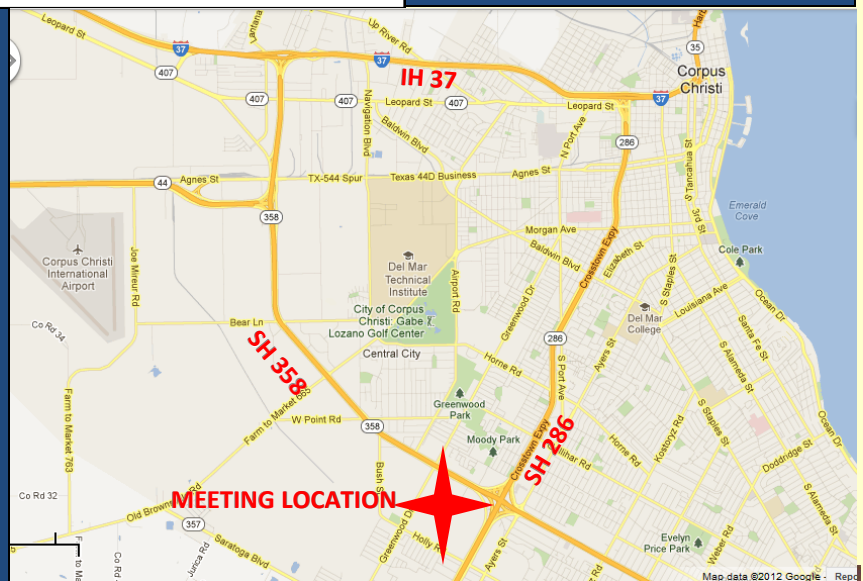
SPONSORSHIP: \$100

INCLUDES: VENDOR DISPLAY, CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

COMBINED SPONSORSHIP: \$350

INCLUDES: SPONSORSHIP FOR CONFERENCE & STITE HOLIDAY BANQUET (\$50 DISCOUNT)

Contact Julio Ramos (jramos@cectexas.com) to sponsor or for additional information



Don't miss the **Third Annual STITE Fishing Tournament!** Enjoy a relaxing day fishing with your family and fellow STITE members. The Tournament, sponsored by vendors, will award a variety of prizes for the best (and possibly worst) catches. The tournament takes place on Saturday, September 22, so stick around after the conference!





Thomas Tunstall, PH.D. is the Research Director for the Institute for Economic Development at the University of Texas at San Antonio. Dr. Tunstall has consulted to small and large businesses across a wide variety of industry lines in the U.S., as well as overseas assisting the developing economies of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan and Africa. His background includes work in economic research, statistical analysis, forecasting, strategy development and operational implementation. He holds a Ph.D. in Economic Policy, and an M.B.A. from the University of Texas at Dallas, as well as a B.B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin.



Since 1994 **Leodoro Martinez, Jr.**, has served as Executive Director of the Middle Rio Grande Development Council (MRGDC), stewarding programs funded under federal, state, and regional mandates for the council of governments including Maverick, Dimmit, Val Verde, Edwards, Real, Kinney, La Salle, Uvalde and Zavala counties along the Texas/Mexico border.

In Mr. Martinez' thirty-eight (38) years of public service he has been a leader committed to rural development as an elected City Councilman, Mayor, School Board member and County Judge. His appointment by Texas Governors to the Texas Office of State & Federal Relations, Jobs Training Coordinating Council (JTPA), the Agricultural Finance Authority and the Texas Rural Communities, Inc. have provided him with a perspective preparing him for his most recent challenge -- service as Chairman of the Eagle Ford Consortium and appointment to serve on the Texas Railroad Commission's Eagle Ford Shale Task Force.

As Consortium Chairman he is leading a broad-based group of business, civic, and technology representatives that will ensure a responsible, sustainable development of clean energy solutions balanced against the transformative change and economic development opportunities manifested in the Eagle Ford shale play affecting future generations.



Danny Magee, P.E. is a graduate from Texas A&I University at Kingsville. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering in which he received in 1988 and in December 2011, he attained a Masters Degree in Civil Engineering. He has a broad knowledge of engineering and departmental operations. He has over 20 years of experience as he has held numerous engineering positions that include design, planning, construction, inspection and maintenance in both, the private sector and TxDOT and Caltrans.

Mr. Magee has served as the Director of Transportation Operations for the Laredo District for over 11 years .



David Salazar, P.E., holds a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from Texas Tech University. He is the former Carrizo Springs Area Engineer and has over 20 years experience in highway design, construction and maintenance knowledge from the private sector, City of Del Rio and TxDOT. As of September 2011, Mr. Salazar has served as the Director of Maintenance for the Laredo District.



Ernesto De La Garza, P.E. graduated from Texas A&M University-Kingsville with a Bachelor in Civil Engineering in 1998 and a Master in Engineering in 2009. He has been with the Texas Department of Transportation for 14 years and is currently the pavement and materials engineer for the Corpus Christi District. Mr. De La Garza oversees quality control and quality assurance of material for construction projects, the pavement management information system (pmis) and pavement design for a 10 county area at the Corpus Christi District. Mr. De La Garza will be discussing the cost effective approach in pavement design and materials selection for the first design build project in the district.



Lamberto "Bobby" Ballí, P.E., a South Texas Native, is an associate vice president and director of municipal services for HNTB Corporation. He is past director of public works/city engineer for the cities of McAllen, South Padre Island and Brownsville, 2011 President of the Texas Chapter of American Public Works Association - Texas Chapter and a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers. He is also a past senior advisor of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers of San Antonio, a past board member of Leadership Brownsville, Leadership McAllen and the Brownsville Boys and Girls Club, and a past board member and past disaster chair of the Rio Grande Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross. He was inducted as a Luminary Honoree by the Hispanic Engineering National Achievement Awards Conference - STEM Program. Balli received a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University where he was a member of the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets. He resides in Houston with his wife Fernanda and two children, Jose Alberto and Mari-Fer.

VOLUME 1

**April
2012**



South Texas Section
Institute of Transportation Engineers

**2012 STITE
Officers:**

President

Mike Garza, P.E.
Pate Engineers
OMGarza@PateEng.Com

Vice President

Amy Lewis, P.E., PTOE
Kimley-Horn and Associates
Amy.Lewis@kimley-horn.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Derek Mueller, P.E.
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.
dmueller@pape-dawson.com

Section Representative

Kerri Collins, P.E., PTOE
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.
kcollins@pape-dawson.com

**Immediate Past
President**

Garry Ford, P.E., PTOE
City of San Antonio
garry.ford@sanantonio.gov

Committee Chairs:

Membership: Mike Garza,
Pate Engineers.

Website: Bo Zou,
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.

Nominations: Miguel Sanchez,
Arcadis

Newsletter: Derek Mueller,
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.

Student Liaison:
Mike Garza, Pate Engineers

Student Liaison:
Christina De La Cruz, COSA

Member Services:
Rene Arredondo, AC Group
www.textite.org/southtexas

Section News...

**A Message from 2012 STITE
President Mike Garza**

Hello fellow STITE members! I am extremely excited to be leading the section into what is anticipated to be yet another successful year as we continue to grow and establish our professional organization as one of the best in the area. The board members and I have been working diligently to plan out a wide variety of activities for each and every one of you in 2012. Some of these plans include:

- Obtaining quality speakers discussing industry topics on a monthly basis
- Hosting joint meetings and workshops with WTS, UTSA-ITE, and the Capital Area Section
- Participating in fundraising activities which enable us to support our local youth and community
- Hosting our Annual Regional Conference in Corpus Christi
- Ending the year on a high note at the Annual Holiday Banquet

As you know, Amy Lewis, P.E. is serving as Vice-President for 2012, and is preparing a diverse and attractive program of topics for the membership. Derek Mueller, P.E., is serving as Secretary/Treasurer for 2012, and is leading the way in establishing our section as a non-profit organization (which by the way, is a ton of work). Kerri Collins, P.E., PTOE, continues to support our group as the Section Representative to TextITE, and played a major role in our annual report submittal at the end of last year. Julio Ramos, P.E. will be in charge our 2012 Regional Conference Committee, and is sure to plan another outstanding event for the entire family. And Bo Zhou, P.E. continues to serve as our Web-Master, and is doing a wonderful job keeping our information updated on-line.

This year, I'm happy to introduce some new board members that have "stepped up to the plate" to support the section.

In this issue

SECTION NEWS

PAST MEETINGS

STEM FUNDRAISER RECAP

Rene Arredondo, P.E., PTOE will be in charge of our newly created "Membership Services/Benefits Committee", and will be strategically searching for webinars, trainings, and other benefits that we can offer to our members at a reduced rate (or in some cases free of charge). And Christina De La Cruz, P.E., PTOE is taking on a lead role within the Scholarship Committee and will be helping us establish section-wide scholarships for the entire region. If you want to get more involved with the section, please do not hesitate to contact us, as we're always looking for more leaders!

Last but definitely not least, if you haven't heard yet, we were presented with another Top Section Award (1st Place in the TextITE District for 2011) and have been asked by TextITE to submit our annual report directly to ITE for consideration at the next level. We received a \$1,000 reward; however, the direct acknowledgment of your participation, support, and effort as a member of our section is the biggest prize for all of us.

Thank you very much for making us the great success we have become and please continue to help us move forward in the right direction!

Sincerely yours,

Oscar Michael Garza, P.E.

STITE President



South Texas Section
Institute of Transportation Engineers

PO BOX 790891
San Antonio, TX
78279-0891

STITE JANUARY LUNCH MEETING

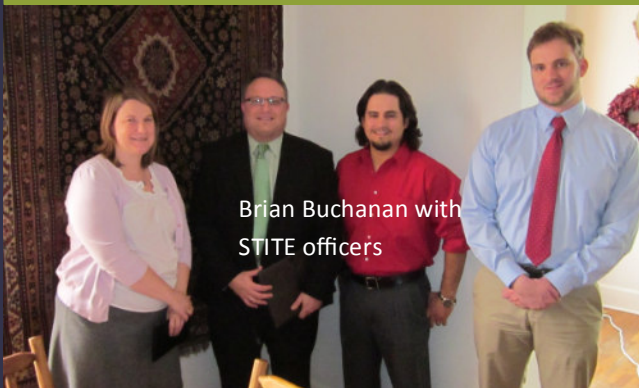
January 25, 2012

FEATURED SPEAKER:



Brian Buchanan, VIA
Vice President of Bus and
Rail Strategic Planning

**Building a Better
Ride, Creating a
Better Community**



Brian Buchanan with
STITE officers



January 25 meetings was held at the Liberty Bar and was attended by 44 STITE members. STITE President **Mike Garza** and STITE Vice President **Amy Lewis** welcomed everyone to the meeting and summarized the Officer's goals for the section this year which include expanding the scholarship and obtaining non-profit status. Mike Garza then introduced the speaker, **Brian Buchanan** from VIA Metropolitan Transit.

Mr. Buchanan gave a presentation on VIA's transit plans. He gave an overview of VIA's Comprehensive Plan, which strives to relieve congestion, promote transit-oriented development, and encourage pedestrian and bicycle use. The plan also calls for a 51 percent increase in bus ridership and a 10 percent reduction in bus travel times.

Mr. Buchanan also gave an overview of the conceptual plan which includes streetcar, light rail, and bus rapid transit. The first bus rapid transit route is scheduled for 2015 and will run from the Westside Multimodal Transit

Transit Center to the Medical Center Transit Center. The first streetcar lines are scheduled for the downtown area in 2020. The streetcar is expected to increase density in the downtown area, increase property values, and reduce congestion.

The downtown transit lines will be served by the Westside Multimodal Transit Center and the Robert Thompson Transit Center. Mr. Buchanan showed a concept for a Westside Transit Village stretching along Houston Street to the Westside Multimodal Transit Center. The transit village would create a corridor emphasizing transit and pedestrians while revitalizing the west side of downtown.



South Texas Section Wins TexITE Activities Award!

The South Texas Section is the winner of the TexITE Section Activities Award. The award was announced at the San Marcos TexITE meeting in March, and the South Texas Section was awarded a \$1,000 prize. The award also makes STITE eligible for the ITE Section Activities Award.

STITE FEBRUARY LUNCH MEETING

February 29, 2012

FEATURED
SPEAKER:



Patrick Irwin, P.E.,
Alamo RMA,
Director of Engineering
and Operations

US 281 Superstreet: The After Study



Patrick Irwin (right) presents the results of the after study

The February 29 lunch meeting was held at the Liberty Bar. STITE President **Mike Garza** and Vice President **Amy Lewis** welcomed the 44 attendees and gave an update on STITE news. **Christina De La Cruz** was announced as the new Scholarship Committee chair, and **Rene Arredondo** was announced as the new Member Services Committee Chair. The Member Services Committee is tasked with identifying additional training and educational opportunities for STITE members. Mike Garza announced **Patrick Irwin** from the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (RMA) as the meeting's featured Speaker.

Mr. Irwin presented the results of the US 281 After Study. Mr. began his presentation by giving an overview of superstreets and the US 281 project. A superstreet is a road where the through and left-turn movements are prohibited from the side street. These movements must turn right and complete their movement indirectly by using a signalized turnaround. This configuration simplifies the traffic signal operation and allows for more green time to be given to each movement. The US 281 Superstreet was the first in Texas, but several have been implemented in North Carolina and Michigan

The US 281 superstreet was designed to relieve congestion along US 281 north of Loop 1604 until a grade-separated roadway could

be constructed. Superstreet intersections were constructed on US 281 at Encino Rio, Evans, Stone Oak, and Marshall. Prior to the construction of the superstreet, a traffic study conducted by Pape-Dawson Engineers for the RMA predicted an approximately 3 minute reduction in southbound travel times through the superstreet corridor during the morning peak hour and a 7 minute reduction in northbound travel times in the afternoon peak hour.

The RMA conducted travel time studies along US 281 before and after the superstreet was implemented. The field travel times closely matched the predicted reductions in travel times. The morning peak hour travel times were reduced by more than four minutes, and the afternoon travel times were reduced by more than six minutes. Additionally, traffic counts taken on US 281 show that traffic volumes on US 281 south of Evans Road increased by more than ten percent after the superstreet was implemented.

Mr. Irwin also gave an update on the US 281 and Loop 1604 interchange, which is currently under construction, as well as future RMA projects. The future projects include improvements to several segments of Loop 1604 as well as a grade-separated roadway on US 281 north of Loop 1604.

1st Annual STEM Fundraiser

The First Annual STEM Fundraiser (E-STAR) was held Saturday March 31. The softball and volleyball tournament, which was co-hosted by STITE, ASCE, and SHPE raised money for the three organization's scholarship programs. The first annual event was a great success, resulting in \$3,500 being raised for the scholarships, which will be split evenly between the organizations. Thank you to all of our sponsors, as well as everyone who volunteered and participated. We hope to see everyone at next year's event!



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Interested in or placing your business card ad here?
 The cost is \$100.00 per year for a business card ad size space and includes your logo posted on the Section website, and at meetings. Funds help support Section activities including the STITE Scholarship.
 For more information contact Derek Mueller, Newsletter Editor, at dmueller@pape-dawson.com.

VOLUME 2

July
2012



South Texas Section
Institute of Transportation Engineers

2012 STITE Officers:

President

Mike Garza, P.E.
Dannenbaum

Vice President

Amy Lewis, P.E., PTOE
Kimley-Horn and Associates
Amy.Lewis@kimley-horn.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Derek Mueller, P.E.
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.
dmueller@pape-dawson.com

Section Representative

Kerri Collins, P.E., PTOE
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.
kcollins@pape-dawson.com

Immediate Past

President

Garry Ford, P.E., PTOE
City of San Antonio
garry.ford@sanantonio.gov

Committee Chairs:

Membership: Mike Garza,
Pape Engineers.

Website: Bo Zhou,
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.

Nominations: Miguel Sanchez,
Arcadis

Newsletter: Derek Mueller,
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.

Student Liaison:
Miguel Luna, Freese and Nichols

Scholarship:
Christina De La Cruz, COSA

Member Services:
Rene Arredondo, AC Group

www.texite.org/southtexas

Section News...

Save the Dates!

Upcoming STITE Meetings and Events:

July 26: STITE Evening Social

Lion and the Rose (410 and Blanco) 5-7



August 12-15: ITE Annual Meeting

Atlanta, Georgia



August 29-31: TexITE Fall Meeting

Fort Worth



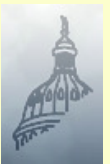
September 21: South Texas Regional Conference

Corpus Christi



Early November: Joint Meeting with Capital Area Section

San Marcos. Dates TBA



December 14: Holiday Banquet

Rio Plaza, San Antonio



South Texas Section
Institute of Transportation Engineers

PO BOX 790891
San Antonio, TX

In this issue

SECTION NEWS

PAST MEETINGS

STITE APRIL JOINT MEETING WITH UTSA

April 26, 2012

FEATURED
SPEAKER:



Jose Flavio Robles, Jr
STITE Scholarship Winner

Eagle Ford Shale Drilling - Preserving Techniques for Roadway Maintenance



STITE and UTSA Student
Chapter Officers

The April joint meeting with the UTSA Student Chapter was held April 26 at Matamoros. STITE President **Mike Garza** and UTSA Chapter President **Chris Reyes** welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced speaker **Jose Flavio Robles, Jr.** Jose is the 2012 STITE scholarship winner.

Mr. Robles spoke about his research on roadway maintenance in the Eagle Ford Shale region. The large increase in drilling in the region has resulted in a large increase in truck traffic. The existing roads have fairly thin pavement sections which are not designed for heavy truck traffic. As a result, the pavement in the region is rapidly failing.

For his research, Mr. Robles examined different pavement and subgrade methods which could withstand the truck loads. Based on his research he concluded using geogrids to stabilize the subgrade could be a low-cost method for constructing more durable roads.

After the presentation many of the students and professionals stayed to socialize.



ITE NEWS

- Registration for the TexITE Fall Meeting is now open. Register at www.texite.org Early registration ends August 7

Conference focuses on safety and includes a presentation by Marc Jacobson on Flashing Yellow Arrows

- Registration for the ITE 2012 Annual meeting in Atlanta is open. Register at www.ite.org/annualmeeting/default.asp
- The South Texas Section now has a Student Resume Section. Contact Bo Zhou (bzhou@pape-dawson.com) for details on posting your resume.

STITE MAY LUNCH MEETING

May 30, 2012

FEATURED
SPEAKER:



Julia Diana, AICP,
City of San Antonio Office
of Environmental Policy

San Antonio Bikes



Julia Diana (second from left) and STITE Officers



B-Cycle Station

The May 30 meeting was held at the Liberty Bar in San Antonio. Vice President **Amy Lewis** opened the meeting. Secretary/Treasurer **Derek Mueller** gave an overview of the current STITE finances. Amy Lewis then introduced speaker **Julia Diana**.

Ms. Diana gave an overview of San Antonio's bike programs. She stressed the needs of the "6 Es" to ensure the program's success. The 6 Es include Engineering, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Evaluation, Equity.

One of San Antonio's most prominent bike programs is the B-Cycle program. B-Cycle is a bike sharing program in the downtown area. The program currently has 230 bikes located at 23 stations. Ms. Diana said the B-Cycle bikes are easy to ride and can be adjusted for almost any height. Membership is \$60 a week, \$24 a day, or \$10 a day. Bike share stations will also be located on the Mission Reach of the River Walk.

Since its launch in March of 2011, over 32,000 trips and 120,000 miles have been logged on the B-Cycle bikes which Ms. Diana said has burned more than 5.4 million calories.

Ms. Diana then talked about the engineering involved to expand the bicycle network. This consists of new wayfinding signs, and sharrow pavement markings. Sharrow markings are

placed in the lane to alert drivers to bikes in the road and give guidance on where bikes should travel within the lane.

Ms. Diana then gave an overview of the Bicycle Master Plan. In 2010, there were more than 210 mile of bike facilities in San Antonio. To expand the existing bike network, the bike plan recommends a variety of facilities for different roads. The facilities range from buffered bike lanes or cycle tracks, to simpler treatments such as signed bike routes or sharrow markings. The Bike Plan recommends 1,768 miles of bike facilities in San Antonio which includes 861 mile of bike lanes.

The programs to promote bicycle use have paid off in San Antonio. Ms. Diana announced that the June 2012 edition of *Bicycling* Magazine listed San Antonio as the 47th best cycling city.

The City also has various other bicycle education and awareness programs such as Siclovia, which encourages people to walk and bike on a portion of Broadway which is closed to traffic. Additionally, the City is trying to educate the public about new ordinances which require bikes to have lights and for vehicles to give at least three feet of buffer space when passing bikes.

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 The cost is \$100.00 per year for a business card ad size space and includes your logo posted on the Section website, and at meetings. Funds help support Section activities including the STITE Scholarship.
 For more information contact Derek Mueller, Newsletter Editor, at dmueller@pape-dawson.com.

STITE JUNE LUNCH MEETING

June 27, 2012

FEATURED SPEAKER:



Kerri Collins, P.E., PTOE Vice-President, Pape-Dawson Engineers

Downtown Transportation Study



Kerri Collins, Amy Lewis, and Derek Mueller



Rendering of Proposed Commerce Street Improvements

The South Texas ITE May lunch meeting was held at the Liberty Bar on June 27. Vice-President **Amy Lewis** opened the meeting and gave an overview of Section Activities for the remainder of the year. Secretary/Treasurer **Derek Mueller** gave an update of Section finances. Amy Lewis introduced speaker **Kerri Collins** to talk about the Downtown Transportation Study.

Kerri Collins gave an overview of the Downtown Transportation Study, which was prepared for the City by a team led by Pape-Dawson Engineers. The Study required coordination with a variety of stakeholders, and three public meetings were also held.

A significant amount of data needed to be collected to analyze the downtown street network. Ms. Collins said 73 24-hour counts and 134 turning movement counts were collected.

A key element of the Study was to identify projects for the \$40 million set aside in the 2012 Bond Program. Ms. Collins gave descriptions of the improvement concepts for each of the five projects.

The Commerce Street improvements consist of removing the bus-only lane to accommodate wider sidewalks and streetscaping improvements. The Market Street realignment will have Market Street run parallel to Commerce near Interstate 35

which will allow the expansion of the Convention Center and provide connections to the east side. The improvements for Frio Street change the lane widths to provide a wider outside lane for bikes and also widen the sidewalks. Main and Soledad are both one-way streets, and the improvements consist of removing travel lanes to provide wider sidewalks, reverse angle parking, and streetscaping elements. The San Pedro, Main, and Navarro intersection is a heavily channelized five-legged intersection with a bus contraflow lane. Pape-Dawson developed four improvement concepts which reduce driver confusion and also create large pedestrian areas. In addition to the Bond projects, additional Downtown Street improvements were also developed and analyzed for the Study.

The Study also identified street types for the Downtown Streets based on the character of the existing and future land uses in the area. The street types emphasize specific design elements which enhance the character and function of the street. Additional overlays were developed for unique streets such as those with transit routes, within historic districts, or on bike routes. These street types can be used to give guidance for future projects not specifically identified in the Study.

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South Texas Section
Institute of Transportation Engineers

Section News...

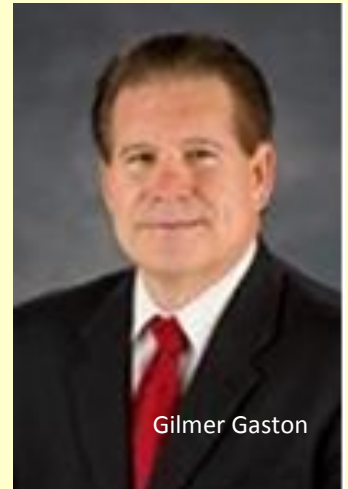
Awards:

In this issue

SECTION NEWS
PAST MEETINGS

Congratulations to STITE member Gilmer Gaston on being named TexITE's Transportation Engineer of the Year!

TexITE also named Chris Reyes Outstanding UTSA Student and Leslie Dodoo the Outstanding Texas A&M Kingsville Student.



Gilmer Gaston

Upcoming Events:

November 2: Joint Meeting, San Marcos

December 14: STITE Holiday Banquet, Rio Plaza

STITE Officer Nominations: Please send your nominations for Section Representative and Secretary/Treasurer to Miguel Sanchez at

Miguel.Sanchez@arcadis-us.com



South Texas Section
Institute of Transportation Engineers

PO BOX 790891

2012 STITE Officers:

President

Mike Garza, P.E.
Dannenbaum

Vice President

Amy Lewis, P.E., PTOE
Kimley-Horn and Associates
Amy.Lewis@kimley-horn.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Derek Mueller, P.E.
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.
dmueller@pape-dawson.com

Section Representative

Kerri Collins, P.E., PTOE
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.
kcollins@pape-dawson.com

Immediate Past President

Garry Ford, P.E., PTOE
City of San Antonio
garry.ford@sanantonio.gov

Committee Chairs:

Membership: Mike Garza,
Pate Engineers.

Website: Bo Zhou,
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.

Nominations: Miguel Sanchez,
Arcadis

Newsletter: Derek Mueller,
Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc.

Student Liaison:
Miguel Luna, Freese and Nichols

Scholarship:
Christina De La Cruz, COSA

Member Services:
Rene Arredondo, AC Group

www.texite.org/southtexas

STITE 3RD ANNUAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE

September 21-22,
2012

FEATURED SPEAKERS:



Thomas Tunstall, Ph.D
UTSA



Jeff LaBenz Hough, RA
HDR



Danny Magee, PE
TxDOT

STITE's Third Annual Regional Conference was held on September 21 in Corpus Christi, TX at the TxDOT District offices. The Conference began with a catered lunch for the attendees. As lunch wound down, STITE President **Mike Garza** welcomed everyone to the Conference and Vice President **Amy Lewis** introduced the speakers. The first three speakers all gave presentations related to the transportation issues resulting from the Eagle Ford Shale drilling.

The first speaker, **Thomas Tunstall**, Ph.D gave a presentation on the **Impact of Eagle Ford Shale on South Texas**. Dr. Tunstall is the Director of the Center for Community and Business Research at UTSA and recently conducted an economic study on the Eagle Ford Shale. He discussed the rapid increase in activity in the Eagle Ford Region, which has produced almost \$20 billion in total economic output. He also gave projections for future development in the area. With all the economic development in the area, Mr. Tunstall stressed the importance of improving the infrastructure in the area to support the growth including schools, housing options, and roadways.

The next presentation was given by Jeff LaBenz Hough, of HDR. Mr. LaBenz serves on the Eagle Ford Shale Consortium Board. He reiterated the tremendous growth the area has seen and showed examples of the strain this development is placing on the existing infrastructure. 1,200 trucks are required at a well site to get it operational, which results in a dramatic increase in traffic on what are typically rural roads. He showed examples of where problems have occurred do to insufficient infrastructure.

The next speaker, Danny Magee, Director of Transportation for the TxDOT Laredo District,

gave a presentation on the impacts of the Eagle Ford Shale from TxDOT's perspective. Mr. Magee said that the truck traffic each well produces is the equivalent of approximately 8 million passenger cars, which creates considerable wear on the roads. Mr. Magee said one of the largest problems TxDOT is facing is developing agreements for the private drilling companies to pay TxDOT for the roadway improvements that both parties want.

After Mr. Magee's presentation, all three presenters participated in a question and answer session. Before the next two presenters, there was a break for the vendor session.

The next speaker, **Ernesto De La Garza** gave a presentation on Cost Effective Pavement Design Methods for the US 77 Design/Build Project. He detailed issues associated the design process in design/build projects and how they worked to develop an economical yet robust pavement section.

The final presentation was given by **Bobby Ballí** on ethics. Mr. Ballí is a member of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers. In his entertaining presentation, Mr. Ballí presented some ethics case studies and discussed ethics in engineering. He also discussed some items the Board will be considering and their implications.

After the Conference adjourned, man of the attendees enjoyed a seafood dinner at Snoopy's on the Pier. The next morning, STITE held its Third Annual Fishing Contest. South Texas ITE would like to thank the vendors and sponsors who helped to support the conference as well as **Julio Ramos** and **America Garza** for their hard work organizing another successful conference!

STITE 3RD ANNUAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE

September 21-22,
2012

FEATURED SPEAKERS:



Ernesto De La Garza, PE
TxDOT



Bobby Ballí, PE
HNTB



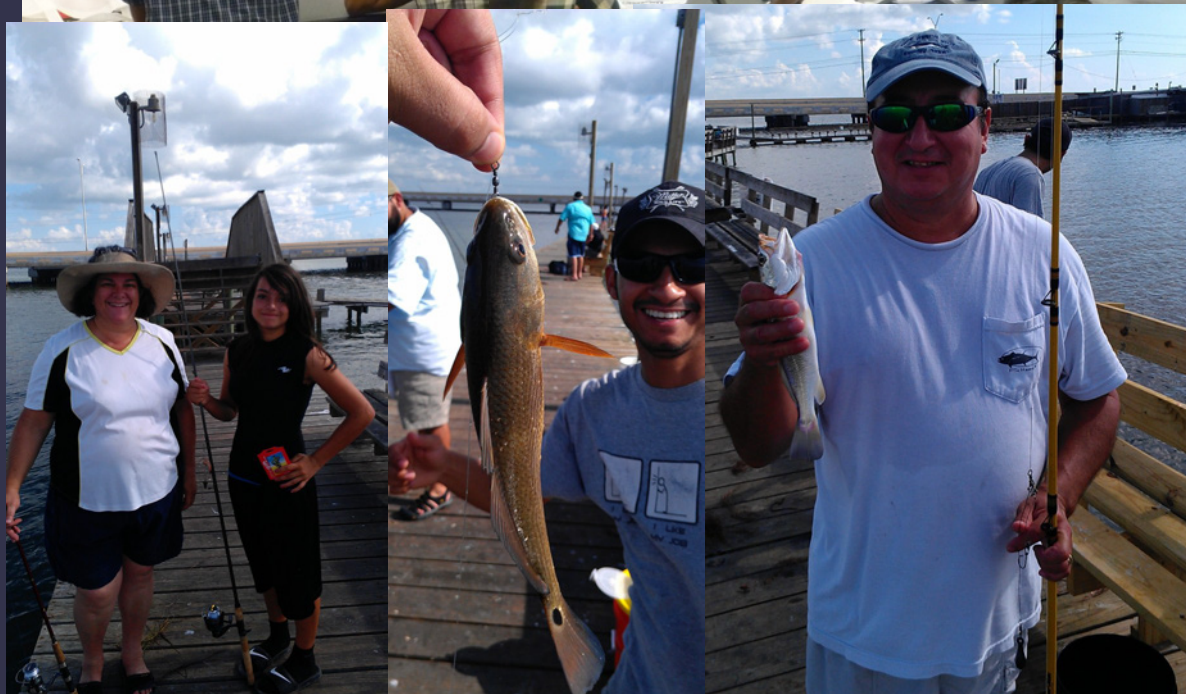
STITE Officers with Danny Magee, Thomas Tunstall,
and Jeff LaBenz Hough



Bobby Ballí



Ernesto De La Garza
presents on
the US 77
Design/Build



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