



South Texas Section

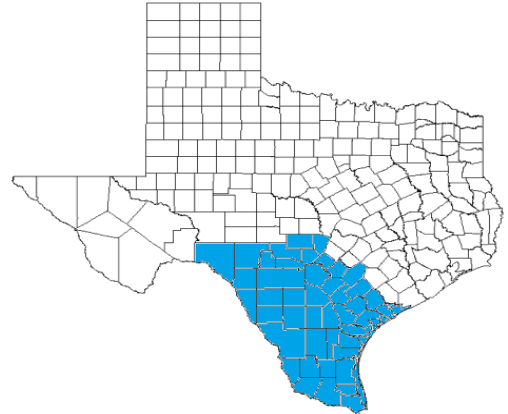
Institute of Transportation Engineers

A Section of District 9 of the Institute of Transportation Engineers

Annual Section Report – January through December 2015

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

2016 LEADERSHIP

Office	President	Vice President	Secretary/ Treasurer	Section Representative
Name	 Julio Ramos	 Scott Nelson	 Nick Arnio	 Mike Garza
Affiliation	Civil Engineering Consultants	Pape-Dawson Engineers	RS&H	Dannenbaum Engineering

2015 LEADERSHIP

Office	President	Vice President	Secretary/ Treasurer	Section Representative
Name	 Justin Clark	 Miguel Luna	 Julio Ramos	 Mike Garza
Affiliation	<i>Pape-Dawson Engineers</i>	<i>Jacobs Engineering Group</i>	<i>Civil Engineering Consultants</i>	<i>Dannenbaum Engineering</i>

2015 & 2016 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Committee	2016 Committee Chairs		2015 Committee Chairs	
	Name	Affiliation	Name	Affiliation
Fundraising Chair	John Colquhoun	Freese & Nichols	John Colquhoun	Freese & Nichols
Sponsorship Chair	Jeremy Wyndham	Jacobs Engineering Group	Jeremy Wyndham	Jacobs Engineering Group
Student Chapter Liaison	Eduardo “Lalo” Villalon	Texas Department of Transportation	Miguel Luna	GKW Engineers
Membership Committee	Josue Ortiz	AIA Engineers, LTD.	Amy Avery	Kimley-Horn and Associates
Younger Members Chair	Larry Picasso	Dannenbaum	Miguel Sanchez	Arcadis
Section Representative	Mike Garza	Dannenbaum	Eduardo Mendoza	City of McAllen
Scholarship Committee	Heather McNeal	Pape-Dawson Engineers	Heather McNeal	Pape-Dawson Engineers

FINANCES

The current STITE bank account balance is **\$3,383**. The 2015 fiscal year began with a balance of **\$4,941**. 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 one scholarship for \$1,500.

MEMBERSHIP

The South Texas Section has 118 local and international members in 2016. As of March, 2015, there were 60 International ITE members within the Section boundaries, as listed by the ITE website <http://ite.org/> Table 1 provides a breakdown of the membership grade of these international members. The information in Table 1 will be updated with the 2016 membership once the membership data is provided by ITE international.

Table 1. Membership Grade of International Members in the South Texas Region	
Membership Grade	2015
Student	30
Total Local Member Only	35
Institute Affiliate	0
Fellow	5
Members	52
TOTAL ITE SECTION MEMBERS*	118

** 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 2014 our section changed meeting location to Blue Star Brewery a downtown restaurant within a several block of the City and very close to Bexar County.

The STITE Regional Conference was held in November in Corpus Christi, Texas. No meetings were held in March, August, and December in order to avoid conflicts with the Spring/Fall TexITE Meetings and the Holiday's. The meeting dates, topics, speakers, and attendance are shown in Table 2 below

Table 2. 2015 Meeting Summary

Date	Topic/Event	Speaker	Attendance
Jan 29	Lunch Meeting – FLIR’s Thermal Technology and Acyclica’s Wifi data collection	Sarah King Regional Sales Manager Control Technologies	47
Feb 25	Lunch Meeting – Geogrid-Reinforced Low-Volume Flexible Pavement	Samer Dessouky Professor - UTSA	30
March – No meeting			
April 27	Joint Meeting “Transportation and Your Career”	Mike Frisbie Director of the City of San Antonio Transportation & Capital Improvements Department	48
May 27	Lunch Meeting IH-10 Managed Lane Project	Michael Garza Dannenbaum San Antonio Division Manager	56
June 26	Joint Meeting- South Texas & Capital Area “Connected & Automated Vehicles”	Jason JonMichael , HNTB Corporation Steve Dellenback , Southwest Research Institute	35
July 29	Lunch Meeting “VIA Vision 2040”	Brian Buchanan , VIA Senior Vice President of Development	42
August – No meeting			
Sept. 26	Joint UTSA Student Chapter Event UTSA Football Tailgate	None	62
Oct. 3	UTSA Adopt-A-Highway	None	10
Oct. 16	UTSA 2nd Annual Engineering BBQ Cook	None	
Oct. 28	Lunch Meeting- “Transportation in San Antonio”	Councilman Ray Lopez , District 6	35
Nov. 6	STITE 6 Annual Regional Conference	Aaron Arroyo, P.E. , Corpus Christi Area Project 3D Modeling Julio Ramos, P.E. , Austin Highway and Harry Wurzbach Road Single-Point Urban Interchange Val Offers , TBPE - Ethics	50
December – No meeting			

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. The Scholarship (\$1,500) was awarded to Roger Terrazas from The University of Texas at San Antonio. In previous years, STITE had coordinated their scholarship program through the University of Texas – San Antonio Department of Engineering. In 2013, the Officers decided to include all schools in the region and be responsible for the selection process. This change was done in order to include more of our wide-reaching section and also help to foster ties with, and encourage ITE chapters at all schools to become more active.

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.

Additional Communication Initiatives

The Section has been using Constant Contact to create email announcements for events and meetings and manage the guest lists. In 2015, 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 Section has been very active with the UTSA Student Chapter throughout the year. Highlighted activities include the Annual Joint Student/Professional meeting held in April, 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 2015, the Joint meeting was held at a nearby restaurant to entice more professional member to attend. In September, STITE and the Student



Chapter jointly hosted a tailgate for a UTSA football game at the Alamo Dome in San Antonio. In addition, the student chapter hosts a BBQ to help raise money for chapter events which was very well attended.

University of Texas, San Antonio

The current UTSA Student Chapter Officers are listed below:

President: **Eliseo Suarez**
Vice President: **Daniel Cardenas**
Treasurer: **Ruben Elizondo**
Secretary: **Roger Terrazas**
Webmaster: **Jesus Juarez**

The UTSA STITE Student Chapter is having a successful semester. The Chapter has “Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up” on in February and is planning another later in the year. The UTSA student chapter also has two training sessions planned for Synchro and MicroStation. 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 2016

- 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 one valuable professional development program/workshop.

AWARDS/HONORS

Dale Picha, P.E. & Kerri Collins, P.E. as the newly elected TexITE officers of 2016. Mr. Dale Picha will begin as TexITE President and Ms. Kerri Collins as Vice-President.

Roger Terrazas of UTSA ITE student chapter was recognized as the winner of the 2015 STITE Scholarship.

Julio Ramos was recognized by the TexITE as younger member of the year for 2015-2016.

OTHER

Election Results

The STITE Section held elections for 2016 officers. Julio Ramos will serve as President, Scott Nelson as Vice President, Nick Arnio as Secretary/Treasurer, and Mike Garza as Section Representative.

- **END REPORT** -