



ANNUAL REPORT 2011 - 2012



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

Student Chapter



Institute of Transportation Engineers



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

ITE Student Chapter

Annual Report 2011-2012

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Dear ITE Community and Friends,

This year we have met the UTEP ITE chapter's goals to increase participation in the TexITE conference and become more involved with community activities. We have increased our on campus profile to make ourselves known among new students and other student organizations. Off campus we have started working with the Texas Transportation Institute on a collaborative effort to educate teenage drivers about safety.

Our TexITE meeting participation increased with the addition of new members and increased scope our meetings. During our chapter meetings, we invited guest speakers from local transportation companies to present on such diversified topics as transportation planning, traffic operations and safety. Along with the guest speaker series, students presented on the different technical and cultural aspects of transportation across the globe. Meetings also served as an opportunity for students to present their research and receive critique from their peers and colleagues.

We have started working with the Texas Transportation Institute on the education outreach program 'Teens in the Driver Seat' as part of our community service. We are thrilled to be involved in creating public awareness with teenagers as the target group in the Champaign. Our goal is to increase safety awareness among teens and help them understand the reality of teenage life lost in road accidents. Currently, we are also helping the UTEP Facility Service Department to count traffic at different locations inside UTEP campus to understand the traffic patterns which will be useful in planning a pedestrian and bicycle friendly campus for UTEP Master Plan 2011.

Currently, we are focusing on 'Graduate Workshop' series, preparing our graduate students, who are thinking about careers in academia, with classroom teaching experience through exposure to a variety of transportation engineering software. The focus of this student led workshop series is on Econometric and Mathematical Methods in Transportation, Traffic Management and Capacity Estimation with an emphasis on utilizing commonly used transportation software packages.

Our ITE officers have been working hard outside the classroom. Among our council members this year, one was selected to promote graduate studies at UTEP, two received the International Road Federation fellowship and two received the Dwight D. Eisenhower fellowship in Washington D.C. One presented their work at the Transportation Research Board conference. We continually strive to promote community service, professional development, and social gathering for our members.

**Mouyid Islam**

ITE UTEP Chapter President



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ITE STUDENT CHAPTER ENROLLMENT

Membership

Number of Student Chapter Membership	31
Number of Students members for Institute	31
Number of Students eligible to be a Student member of the Institute	31
Number of faculty members who are current ITE members	2
Graduate Students	19
Undergraduate Students	7

Information on Transportation Engineering

Number of undergraduate students (Sophomore – Senior Years) in CE department, as of March

Full Time	7
Part Time	0

Does your curriculum allow an undergraduate student to major or minor in transportation?

No

Number of graduate students in Transportation, as of March 2011:

Full Time	19
Part Time	0

ITE Election Meeting

September 28, 2011

New ITE officers were elected based on their nominations from the ITE members at UTEP. The newly elected officers are: Mouyid Islam as president, Alicia Romo as vice president, Edgar Saucedo as secretary, David Salgado as treasurer and Lorenzo Cornejo as webmaster. However, after few months, secretary position was re-elected and Edwin Varela was elected as secretary. The election of new ITE members was marked as the kick-off meeting.



New ITE Officer after being Elected
Alicia (Vice President), Mouyid (President),
Edgar (former Secretary), David (Treasurer),
Lorenzo (Webmaster)

ITE Recruitment Session

November 8, 2011

ITE officers gave a brief presentation with announcement of upcoming ITE events in the transportation engineering undergraduate class to recruit new ITE members. They emphasized the benefits of ITE membership, the ITE UTEP chapter activities and available opportunities in the transportation engineering field. This presentation on ITE new member recruitment opens up a wide scope of networking with professional engineers as well as potential future employers in the transport sector for the new transportation students, particularly at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

91st TRB Annual Meeting and IRF Fellowship Program

January 18 – 27, 2012

Two ITE members – Mr. Mouyid Islam and Ms. Alicia Romo were awarded the Dwight D. Eisenhower Scholarship at the 91st Transportation Research Board (TRB) Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. in 2012. The Eisenhower scholarship program



Eisenhower Award Recipients
(Left to right: Ali, Mouyid, Alicia and Victor Mendez)

comprised of posters, presentations, and a reception with the award recipients. Mr. Mouyid Islam



Proud IRF Fellows showing Miners' Axe
(Left to right: Mouyid, Mike Dreznes, David, Kathy Mejasich and Pat Sankey)

presented his research paper titled “Crashes Involving Large Trucks: Exploratory Injury Severity Analysis” in the Truck and Bus Safety Research at TRB. Also, he presented his research at the Truck and Bus Safety subcommittee presentation. In

addition to TRB presentations, two ITE members Mr. Mouyid Islam and Mr. David Salgado also attended a 10-day intensive Road Scholar Program organized by the International Road Federation Program (IRF) in Washington D.C. in 2012. As part of the Road Scholar Program, both IRF fellows, Mr. Islam and Mr. Salgado, visited high government officials in the transport industry based in Washington D.C. and also attended TRB sessions.

Fall 2011 TexITE Meeting

September 14 – 16, 2011

Twelve members in total (two Ph.D. candidates and ten master students) attended the Fall 2011 TexITE Meeting – which was held in Garland, Texas during September 14-16, 2011. Also, two members had the opportunity to attend a Highway Capacity Manual Workshop. Five of our ITE Members presented their research work on September 15 during the Student Poster Session. Mr. David Salgado presented his work titled “Framework Analysis of Cross Border Mass Transit Operation”, Mr. Mouyid Bin Islam



presented his work titled “Single and Multiple Vehicle Large Truck-involved Collisions on Highways: An Exploratory Analysis”, Mr. Lorenzo Cornejo and Mr. Edgar Saucedo presented their work titled “Village of Vinton Multipurpose Center Parking Lot Design” and Ms. Yubian Wang presented her work titled “Safety of Dual Right-Turn Lanes”.

ITE members with Robert C. Wunderlich and Gary Thomas.

(First row from left to right: Petr Malina, Edgar Saucedo, David Salgado, Robert C. Wunderlinch, Gary Thomas, Lorenzo Cornejo, Nela Blejcharova, Marketa Vavrova and Mouyid Islam.

Second row from left to right: Yubian Wang, Stefania Semanova, Ivana Simkova, Jana Cervinska and Jiri Tylich.)

GUEST SPEAKERS

Technical Presentations

October 2011 – February 2012



From left to right: Jorge Martinez, Edwin Varela, Lorenzo Cornejo, Dr. David Galicia, Dr. Kelvin Cheu, Carlos Duran, David Salgado, Alex Valdez, Alicia Romo, Iraki Ibarra and Mouyid Bin Islam.

The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) ITE chapter hosts weekly meetings on current transportation topics. The meetings sometimes have guest speakers to present any new issues or transportation research out in the real world. Our first guest speaker was Mr. Jeff Shelton, Program Manager at Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) who presented his current research titled “Simulation-Based Modeling for Operational Planning Projects”. Our next two

guest speakers were two graduate engineers currently working for Walter P. Moore: Mr. Jorge Martinez and Mr. Carlos Duran. Mr. Jorge Martinez presented his work titled “Double Crossover Interchange with Frontage Roads” and Mr. Carlos Duran his work titled “Effect of Crosswalk Location and Pedestrian Volume on Entry Capacity of Roundabouts”.



First row from left to right: Iraki Ibarra, Satyen Awale, Edgar Saucedo, Jana Cervinska, Mouyid Bin Islam, Alicia Romo, Stefania Semanova, Dr. Kelvin Cheu and Dr. Hernandez.
Second row from left to right: Edwin Varela, Lorenzo Cornejo, David Salgado and Jeff Shelton.

COMMUNITY AND FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

During this year, UTEP-ITE students had a strong participation in our community by becoming active members of public projects. ITE volunteer participation was involved with the following projects: ‘Canstruction’ with Walter P Moore, ‘MathCounts’ with El Paso Professional Engineers, and ‘Teens in the Driver Seat’ with TTI. These activities encouraged students to apply their skills for public service and to develop a stronger sense of their role as future engineers to help make things better in our community.

El Paso Texas First Annual Canstruction Competition 2011

October 6, 2011

Engineers from El Paso Texas and engineering students from UTEP participated in the collection and donation of canned food to the program called “Feed the Homeless”. In this activity, teams were asked to design a structure made of cans using a football theme. ITE members teamed up with engineers at Walter P. Moore and together constructed a massive football made of pinto bean cans (See picture below). This activity was a great opportunity for ITE student members to be creative and build a structure with the resources available using their service as an inspiration.



ITE members and Walter P. Moore engineers
Left to right: Petr Malina, Ivana Simkova, Nela Blejcharova, Carlos Duran, Lulu Cardenas and Stefania Semanova.

MathCounts

February 11, 2012



ITE and MathCounts Coordinator grading algebra exams

Another activity where ITE students volunteered, was the middle school mathematics competition (MathCounts), which took place at UTEP coordinated by the Texas Society of Professional Engineers. MathCounts is a national program that provides a competitive learning environment for students in 6th, 7th and 8th grade to experience academic achievements in mathematics. ITE members assisted this event

performing various tasks such as serving as proctors, hosting the students and parents, and grading math tests. ITE members that participated in this event were: Marketa Vavrova, Jana Cervinska and Mouyid Islam.

Teens in the Driver Seat

February 22 and 23, 2012

ITE members joined TTI in promoting a safety awareness campaign for teen drivers. This awareness program targets high school students and their driving behavior. Driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs, speeding and road racing and cell phone usage while driving, are some of the common factors that cause crash fatalities among teens. This program reaches out



to young students in order to raise safety awareness. This volunteer work took place at Guillen Middle School, Morehead Middle School; Canutillo Middle School and Alderete Middle School.

Traffic Count inside UTEP Campus

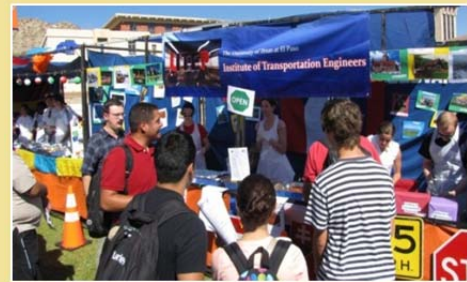
March- April, 2012

ITE UTEP chapter is actively involved with the UTEP Facility Services Department to implement UTEP Campus Master Plan 2011 (<http://masterplan.utep.edu/>). One of the main objectives of this plan is to create a pedestrian and bicycle friendly campus in which pedestrians and bicycles will be sustainable transport mode in a “green” environment to minimize major movements of motorized traffic. To make this possible, ITE UTEP chapter has installed several traffic counters in different locations inside the campus to collect data which will be used to understand the traffic patterns and also serve useful to implement the Master Plan effectively.

International Food Fair

October 26, 2011

UTEP ITE members from the Czech Republic and Slovakia prepared the menu for the international Food Fair held at UTEP’s Memorial Triangle on October 26, 2011. It was the first time when the Food Fair hosted students from these two European countries. We learned about the different cultures, history, traditions and of course their gastronomies as we prepared for the big day. The menu consists of typical Czech and Slovak cuisine. Some people coming to visit this event hesitated to taste new meals but those who dared to try something outlandish were very pleased by the taste. Not only did we share great food with other students as well as reveal information about these two countries, the ITE members got more involved and learned from each other. It was a great activity as our members became a bigger family. All the members participating at the food fair showed good teamwork.



FUTURE COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Adopt a Highway



Adopt a Highway is of great interest among this organization as a community service activity since no UTEP engineering organization has done it before. This service is mainly a commitment to clean-up two miles of road, four times a year for two years. At this time, ITE has contacted the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in regards to the selection of location, as well as, essential information to perform this activity. ITE members voted for the location to be in the City of Socorro, Texas. Although this location is at the city limits, ITE members chose this place as an attempt to promote UTEP to Socorro high school students. The status of the process is still on hold since the approval from TxDOT officers is still pending.

Keep El Paso Beautiful



Keep El Paso Beautiful promotes recycling, proper waste disposal, tree planting and graffiti eradication throughout the city. On this community service activity, UTEP-ITE members will participate in the Great American Clean-Up day on April 14th, 2012. In this day, a place (park, school, neighborhood, etc.) will be assigned to our team in order to collect trash and promote a clean and beautiful city. This is a great opportunity for ITE members to spread environmental education throughout the city through our example.

El Papalote Inclusive Child Development Center



UTEP-ITE members will join the Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) to provide a social gathering with children with special care needs and their families. On this day, ITE will provide food and fun activities as a gesture of caring. This service is intended to provide support and encouragement to children and their loved ones. This activity is tentatively scheduled for summer 2012.

ITE MEMBERS ON THE SPOTLIGHT

IRF Recipients

In a worldwide competition, the International Road Federation (IRF) awarded two proud miners Mouyid Islam (Bangladesh), and David Salgado (Spain) the distinguished IRF Fellowship; only about 10 students receive the award each year.

Mouyid and David also visited with the fellows of the American Association State Highway Transportation Officials, World Bank, American Equipment's Distributor, National Harbor Show, Turner-Fairbank Research Center, Federal Highway Administration, American Road and Transportation Builders Association and Institute of Transportation Engineers Head-quarter. IRF recipients also attended sessions at 91st Transportation Research Board (TRB).



Proud IRF Fellows showing Miners' Axe (Left to right: Mouyid, Mike Dreznes, David, Kathy Mejasich and Pat Sankey)

Graduate Representative

The University of Texas at El Paso earned national recognition as two of its colleges' graduate programs were ranked among the best at graduating Hispanics. The college of Engineering was ranked the second best, in the September issue of Hispanic Business Magazine. Alicia Romo was elected as a representative for Hispanic minorities to promote graduate studies in Civil Engineering, as she is one of the few female students enrolled in the Civil Engineering PhD. Program. As of 2010-11 out of 365 only 137 were Hispanics and only 49 post graduate degrees were awarded which is 37.5 percent, based on the Top 10 list.



Spring Semester Cookout

March 24, 2012 and April 22, 2011

Following last year, this year we also arranged a great gathering (i.e., ITE Social) of ITE chapter faculties and their families, doctoral and graduate students and their friends and families and UTEP alumni at Miner Village (UTEP student housing facility). ITE students organized this whole event



with their raised money and socialize with others in a very friendly and relaxed fashion being outside of their busy study life. We spent a good time talking about professional and personal life, playing soccer and volleyball, and enjoying with hamburgers, hotdogs, ice cream, cookies, dessert, drinks and fruits.

Christmas Party

December 15, 2011



The ITE Student Chapter organized a Christmas lunch for students and professors at El Paso Chut-ney Indian vegetarian restaurant. The main reason for organizing that celebration was the recent graduation of our previous President Jose Vidana-Bencomo (attained his PhD in Civil Engineering). During this lunch we exchanged Christmas

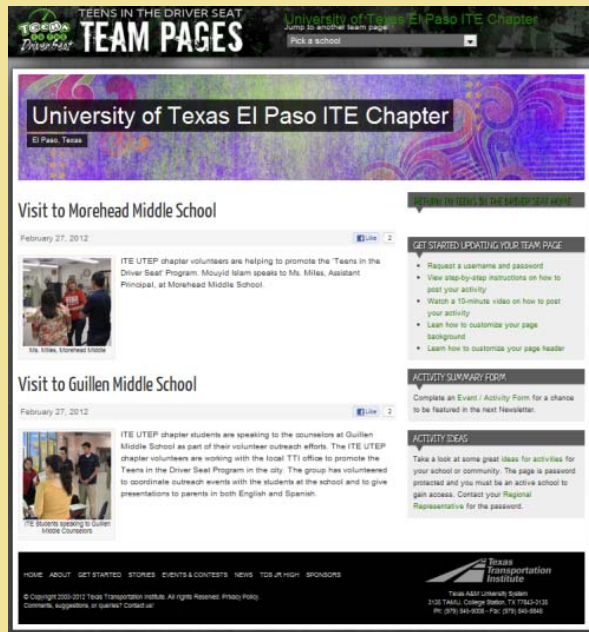
cards with professors and ITE members. Some of us took advantage of Christmas vacations to visit our families outside the U.S, so we used this lunch as a “see you next year party”.



Monthly Officer's Meetings

Throughout the year, ITE Officers held monthly meetings in order to discuss and prepare future activities for the chapter. The attendees were explicitly ITE officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Web Master). The intention of having a closed meeting was to build a stronger directive board and become a supportive team. In these meetings, officers were encouraged to participate and share their ideas to make things better. These meetings provided us an opportunity to announce the updates on different tasks assigned to officers and discuss the status of activities in progress. Monthly officers' meetings are a driving part of the chapter activities because we can brainstorm and discuss ideas, and supportive for each other in different tasks.

UTEP's ITE Website



Our ITE website is currently being updated every week to keep our weekly meetings current. Mr. Lorenzo Cornejo is our current Web Master Designer and is currently working to update and upload new information to let know others about our most recent events. As well as any volunteer work that we may be taking part in such as school activities. We also use the website to inform about upcoming guest speaker's sessions.

<http://studentaffairs.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=54737>.

ITE Weekly Presentations

Ongoing Activity

Every week (on a designated day) all the ITE members are scheduled to present their research activities, their progress or cultural aspects in their interest. These presentations are classified as technical and cultural associated with a presentation evaluation from the peers and professors present in the presentation. This presentation provides the students an opportunity to



ITE Weekly Technical Presentation by Alicia presenting her research work

build self-confidence in public speaking in front of their fellow students and professors and also the practice of presenting important aspects of their research within a stipulated time frame. The presentation evaluation also provides the students feedback to improve their presentation skills through the question-answer section.

TransVista Field Trip

June 24, 2011

TransVista June 24th 2011. The UTEP ITE Student Chapter organized a summer trip to the Traffic Management System Center (TransVista) at El Paso. Transvista is a network of road sensors, high-tech signs, computers, cameras and people teamed up to manage El Paso's freeway traffic. Among other things, all members of the ITE Chapter were exposed to how TransVista staff work when there is an emergency in the freeway (I-10).



El Paso MPO Field Trip

February 14, 2012

Some of our ITE members who are taking the Urban Transportation Planning course this Spring 2012 visited the El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) offices in El Paso. EL Paso MPO is in charge of elaborating plans and programs in El Paso County (TX), southern Doña Ana County (NM) and Otero County (NM). The group attended a Transportation Advisory Committee (TPAC) meeting. In this meeting the group learned about how federal funds are distributed among the different projects proposed.

ITE Professional Development Workshops

Summer, 2012

ITE UTEP chapter is also planning to organize the professional development workshops on different aspects of transportation research. The main focus of the workshop would be demonstration of specific software (such as Limdep, SAS, ArcGIS, Synchro, and HCS, etc.) in analyzing different research problems and the user friendliness of their applications. The graduate and doctoral students would be engaged in these workshop series to share their research experiences with different widely used software with other graduate and undergraduate students. These workshops will be a great help for the doctoral student through hands-on training in classroom teaching and also the attendees will get the benefits of their future research plans and utilization of software.

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