Upcoming Events

Winter Section Meeting, January 18th and 19th, 2018; New Orleans, LA

Southern District Meeting, April 8th—11th, 2018, Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel; Mobile, AL

Annual Meeting and Exhibit, August 20th—23rd, 2018, Hilton Minneapolis; Minneapolis, MN

2018 ITS 5C GRITS, ITS Florida, ITS Carolinas, ITS Tennessee, October 7th—10th, Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront; Jacksonville, FL

Section News and Updates

DSITE Nominations Committee is now accepting nominations for National ITE Awards. Please contact Akhil Chauhan at akhil.chauhan@arcadis-us.com to submit nominations.

Upcoming DSITE Member Michael Joyner has volunteered to organize social media outreach efforts within DSITE. Outreach will be accomplished through platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat.

Next Section Meeting

The next DSITE Section Meeting will be held January 18th and 19th in New Orleans. Location and arrangement details will be distributed to members as soon as they become available. Members who would like to present at the meeting may contact Vice-President Daniel Helms at dsitevp@gmail.com.

2017 Fall Section Meeting

The Fall 2017 DSITE section meeting was held as a combined meeting with the GRITS organization. It was held in Hattiesburg, MS at the MDOT District 6 Headquarters building. The meeting began with a welcome from Hattiesburg resident and Deep South member Jeff Smith. A wide range of technical presentations were given by professionals from varying sectors. Following the technical sessions, members participated in a roundtable discussion on the Current State of Transportation and Technology. Panel members included Jeff Smith (Temple, Inc.), Jonathan Fox (Intelligent Transportation Systems, LLC), Andy McNair (MDOT), and Jamie Setze (Capital Region Planning Commission—LA).
2017 Fall Meeting Technical Presentations

Advanced Traffic Control Cabinet in the Loop Simulation (ATC-CILS): A platform to facilitate training and deployment; Dr. Pengfei Li, Assistant Professor, MSU

Planning for Existing and Future Needs; Jessica Dilley, Planning Division, MDOT

Moving From Legacy Roadway Sensor Infrastructure to Traffic Probe Data Service; Paul Hsu, Senior Transportation Engineer, Arcadis

ITE Safety Certification and National Towards Zero Death Initiatives; Dr. Marie Walsh, Director, Louisiana Technical Assistance Program (LTAP)

Smart Corridors and Metropolitan Transportation Plan, James C. Setze, Executive Director, Capital Region Planning Commission

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Policy Updates; John Broemmelsiek, Intelligent Systems/Traffic Operations Engineer, FHWA-Louisiana Division

Louisiana’s Updated Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP); Betsey Tramonte, Safety Programs Coordinator, FHWA—Louisiana Division

Analyzing and Developing Tools to Study Nationwide Impacts for Mississippi Inland Water Systems; Steve Puryear, Transportation and Financial Analyst, Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems (CAVS) Extension, MSU
Following the technical program, an evening social event was held at Patio 44, a seafood restaurant located near Hattiesburg’s Midtown Area. On Friday morning, the section business meeting was held. Current Vice-President Daniel Helms announced the results of the 2018 Election:

- President: Daniel Helms
- Vice President: Bert Moore
- Sec./Treasurer: Prasanth Malisetty

Section Representatives:
- Tom Swanson (LA)
- Jonathan Kiser (MS)

Dates and locations for upcoming section meetings were discussed, along with the Winter 2018 Traffic Bowl competition.

2017 Annual Meeting and Exhibit

The 2017 International ITE Meeting was held July 30—August 2 in Toronto, Ontario as a combined meeting with Canadian District ITE (CITE). This meeting arrangement allowed CITE members to engage in policy and practice discussions with professionals from around the world. DSITE member Alison Michel captured the photos below while attending the meeting.
2017 Gulf Region ITS 9th Annual Meeting

The 9th Annual GRITS Meeting was held October 1-4 in Muscle Shoals, Alabama. Deep South was well represented with several members in attendance, some of who also serve on the GRITS Board. The meeting was held at the Marriott Shoals Hotel and Spa in Florence, AL.
Student Chapter Updates

Mississippi State University

On October 12, 2017, DSITE Members Bob Mabry and Jonathan Kiser spoke with the ITE Student Chapter at MSU.

Jackson State University

On October 27, 2017, Jonathan Kiser attended the JSU Advisory Board meeting. At this meeting, six senior groups presented their senior project plans. One of the plans is a traffic project that Jonathan is helping the students with.
Drivers distracted by dashboard technology at higher risk of crashing

“The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety released a report suggesting that the latest infotainment systems in new vehicles promote distracted driving behaviors and on a scale greater than cell phones...The study found that 23 of the 30 different vehicles they tested required "high" or "very high" driver attention to use the technology.” [Full Article]

Traffic Problem from the 2017 Eclipse

DSITE Member Bob Mabry travelled to Tennessee to view the 2017 solar eclipse. While traveling, Bob observed how increased tourist traffic affected routes near the path of full totality.
Night work involving lane closures on I-65 south of Decatur, AL and I-59 south of Birmingham, AL caused a 2.5 mile back up and 30 minute delay at each location.
Congratulations to all of the certified professionals in our two states. Those who have recently obtained certification may contact the newsletter editor to have their name added to the list.

PTOE

**Louisiana**

- Charles Adams
- Peter Allain
- Santosh Andem
- David Backstedt
- Tanya Bankston
- Benjamin Bartlett
- Sridhar Basetty
- Johnny Bordelon
- Benjamin Boudreaux
- Christian Boutte
- Scott Boyle

- Carleton Brouhard
- Akhil Chauhan
- Guangxiang Cheng
- Shelby Coke
- Jody Colvin
- Alben Cooper, III
- Ed Courville
- Elmer Darwin
- Matthew Davis
- John Eason
- Sarah Edel

- Christopher Ewing
- Nick Ferlito
- Brin Ferlito
- Natalie Forbes
- Jonathan Fox
- Nicholas Fruge
- Ronald Gallien
- Stephen Glascock
- Randy Gros
- Scott Gros
- P. C. Gutierrez

- Diane Hammonds
- Jeddiah Hellmich
- Kester Hollier
- Ellen Howard
- Ryan Hoyt
- Robert Jiles
- Nathan Junius
- Lucy Kimbeng
- Vijay Kunada
- Rebecca Lala
- Laurence Lambert

- David LeBreton
- Joseph Lefante
- Frank Liang
- Prasanth Malisetty
- Daniel Marsalone
- Kimberly McDaniel
- Stephen Mensah
- Alison Catarrella Michel
- Mohan Garakhalli
- Thomas Montz
- Bert Moore
- Breddict Skinner

- Chris Morvant
- David Othling
- Ingolf Partenheimer
- Cynthia Pennington
- Lauren Picou
- April Renard
- Karl Rothermel
- Robert Schmidt
- Hong Zhang

**Mississippi**

- Mark Bailey
- Amandeep Bindal
- Tim Bryan
- Brian Fulton
- Karl Hector
- Daniel Helms
- Tait Karnson
- Brooks Miller
- Brian Smith
- Mark Sorrell

PTOE

**Louisiana**

- Ahmed Khalek
- Sridhar Basetty
- Nicholas Broussard

- Akhil Chauhan
- Sean Daly
- Edwin Elam

- Denis Finigan
- Vijay Kunada
- Laurence Lambert

- Ross Liner
- Prasanth Malisetty
- Mohan Garakhalli

- Thomas Montz
- Pradeep Thummala
- Alison Catarrella Michel

**Mississippi**

- Tracy Huffman
- Jonathan Kiser

**Deep South ITE—2017 Officers and Board**

- President: Akhil Chauhan
- Vice President: Daniel Helms
- Sec./Treasurer: Bert Moore
- Past President: Nicole Stewart
- Affiliate Director: Mark Melancon
- Scholarship Comm. Chair: Mike Palamone
- Student Chapter Liaisons: Jonathan Kiser (MS) • Bob Mabry (MS) • Thomas Montz (LA) • Robert Canfield (LA)
NEWSLETTER INFORMATION: “Deep South Transportation News” is the official publication of the Deep South Institute of Transportation Engineers (DSITE), the professional society for transportation professionals in Louisiana and Mississippi. It is affiliated with the Southern District ITE, the regional professional engineering society, as well as the International ITE, the international professional engineering society. News on members, the Section, or the profession may be submitted to Suzanne Dees at sdees@mdot.ms.gov.

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