Greetings!

President's Message

Hello WDCSITE,

I want to start off by wishing everyone a happy and prosperous 2019!

After a successful 2018 year under the leadership of Seth Young, WDCSITE is positioned very well to repeat and build towards an even better 2019. In November 2018, WDCSITE held its first ever Annual Conference and Business Meeting in Ballston, Virginia. A new WDCSITE board was sworn in at this meeting with Jon Crisafi being elected as the new Washington D.C. Area Director. John Rectanus has taken over the role of Treasurer for our section.

At this annual meeting, I had elaborated on a few of the new initiatives for the year 2019. WDCSITE has a great diversity with approximately 45% and 40% being from public and private sector, respectively. In addition, 15% of members from other walks of our industry - students, academia, retired etc. This shows we have a great diversity among our membership. Fostering an open and mutually beneficial relationship between these groups of members will lead to a successful WDCSITE chapter. This will be WDCSITE's primary goal for 2019. Several events this year would focus on industry experts from various facets of the transportation industry will be invited to share their experience and knowledge with peers and colleagues alike. WDCSITE will strive to organize these events in collaboration with state and local agencies from Maryland, Virginia, and Washington DC. If you have any innovative ideas about events, presentations, activities etc. that WDCSITE should pursue to engage our membership, I would love to hear from you. Please give me a call (703-220-2203) or drop me an email.

Beginning in 2019, WDCSITE has started two new initiatives. All professionals in the DMV area now have access to WDCSITE's new job portal. All agencies, companies, and organizations are welcome to use WDCSITE has a resource to tap in its large membership pool while recruiting for your next hire. Further details about posting a job with WDCSITE can be found here.
Secondly, WDCSITE has officially launched its presence on social media. Please follow us on Twitter using the handle @WDCSITE. We will use this platform as an additional method of communication apart from the regular emails, newsletter etc.

Please let me know if you have any questions, suggestions, comments etc.

Many Thanks,

Vivek Hariharan
2019 WDCSITE President

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**Remembering Selman Altun**

![Selman Z. Altun Civil Engineer BSc MSc 1979-2018](image)

Early December we received the sad news that Selman Altun, an ITE member and former WDCSITE board member, had passed away. Selman succumbed to his battle with cancer on December 6th, 2018 at the Johns Hopkins Medical Center Intensive Care Unit where he was being treated.

Selman had a passion for life and transportation and was loved by his friends and peers. May his soul rest in peace. WDCSITE is exploring ways to recognize Selman's contributions to our Board and Section.

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**2019 WDCSITE Leadership Committee**

Many thanks to the following volunteers!

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Volunteers</th>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Assistant</td>
<td>John Rectanus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td>Mitchell Holtzman, Jiaxin Tong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>Krishna Patnam, Dana Slone</td>
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<td>Social Media and Outreach</td>
<td>Neelima Ghanta</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baltimore Area Programming</td>
<td>Oiana Gabriel, Elissa Carron, Sarah</td>
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To view the current job postings via WDCSITE, please click on the image above.

2019 WDCSITE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Vivek Hariharan
President

David Duarte
Vice President

Burak Cesme
Secretary / Treasurer

| 2019 WDCSITE Annual SimCap Meeting at TRB |

The 4th annual joint SimCap meeting took place at the TRB venue on Tuesday, January 15, 2019. The meeting was well attended by private/public sector professionals, software developers and academia. The night started off with VASITE and WDCSITE update, including a group selfie (a new tradition), followed by round table and panel discussions, lightning presentations, and quick technology updates. The highlights of this meeting include the following:

- The round table discussion on data-driven decision making emphasized the importance of public agency/private sector collaboration, having a data scientist mentality in transportation professions, and making use of open-sourced data; Ford representative offered insights about their involvement in Smart Cities using various data, including Ford’s connected vehicle data.

- FHWA and DOT representatives talked about recent updates to guidance of roadway system and capacity analysis in their jurisdictions and challenges and opportunities.

- A variety of subjects ranging from complexity of airport multi-modal transportation system, cost-effective transportation solutions in innovative intersections, to automated vehicles’ (AVs) impact on roadway capacity were discussed in the lightning presentations and technology update.

- Presentation materials can be accessed HERE.
Meet a Member: Dana Slone, PE, PTOE

1. Please introduce yourself and tell us about your role in WDCSITE.

Greetings! My name is Dana Slone and I am a Senior Traffic Engineer at VHB. I grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and obtained my Bachelors of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh. Having been active in both ASCE and ITE during college, I quickly sought the local professional organizations in the DC area and immediately became involved with WDCSITE.

2. Please tell us about your family.

My husband and I live in Reston and have a daughter, Nora, who just turned three. My parents are still in Pittsburgh and I have three siblings who currently reside in New York and Miami.

3. Please tell us something about your hobbies and activities outside work.

I love to travel, be outside, listen to live music, spend time with family, friends and experience new things. I just recently returned from a trip to Iceland however my true hobby is power lifting. I’ve competed in four regional competitions over the past five years, once qualifying to compete nationally.

4. Tell us briefly about your work - firm/organization, your role. What does your typical workday look like?

I recently joined VHB in February 2018 taking on a position as Senior Traffic Engineer. The position was a step up and there was a lot to learn in a very short amount of time. My day-to-day activities include managing on-going traffic signal design projects in Northern Virginia, specifically on I-66.
call traffic signal design projects within Northern Virginia as well as participating in the pilot program to implement accessible pedestrian signals (APS) statewide. While work, life and gym balance continue to be a daily struggle, I'm very fulfilled with the ADA work we've been doing and thrilled to be contributing to the traffic engineering improvements in the DC area.

5. **What projects have you worked on that have had a big impact on your career or on a community?**

As previously mentioned: statewide implementation of APS. Efforts have included coordination with Civil Rights advisory groups to identify and assess signalized pedestrian crossing locations for the APS pilot retrofit program.

6. **What is your favorite WDCSITE, activity/event you have participated in and what activity/event/presentation would you like to see next?**

My favorite events are the ones that take place at the various Traffic Operation Centers. Goes without saying, those places are pretty cool.

7. **When and how did you get involved with ITE and how has your involvement in ITE, especially WDCSITE, helped your career?**

I've been involved with ITE since attending the University of Pittsburgh in the early 2000's. I served as ITE President my senior year and participated in the Mid-Atlantic Conferences during that time. Upon moving to the DC area, I began participating in local WDCSITE events. I'll be very honest when I say ITE has been paramount in my career advancement by providing excellent networking opportunities. My very first interviews coming out of school were all connections made at ITE events.

8. **What topic (besides connected and autonomous vehicles) are you most interested in seeing progress in the next 10-15 years in the transportation industry?**

ADA Compliance

9. **What advice would you give to a young transportation engineer?**

DC is a unique location with an abundance of opportunity. Encourage positive change whenever possible, take advantage of networking events and always have a strong handshake.

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**Local Transportation News**

**DC taps leading urban transportation expert to oversee Vision Zero Effort**

Mayor Muriel E. Bowser has selected a transportation policy veteran to lead the city's ambitious plan to dramatically
Linda Bailey will become head of the city’s inaugural Vision Zero Office in March.

The new office is part of the city’s renewed commitment to Bowser’s Vision Zero program - modeled after a Swedish initiative aimed at eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries.

Bowser, who launched the program four years ago, has implemented a number of safety improvements in her quest to eliminate all traffic deaths in the city by 2024. The number of traffic fatalities has steadily increased in recent years, prompting the city to revise its strategy with a crackdown on traffic law violators and additional prevention and enforcement measures.

Follow the [LINK](#) to read more!

**MUTCD Notice of Proposed Amendment**

The Federal Highway Administration is planning to update the MUTCD later this year and will be releasing a Notice of Proposed Amendment (NPA). Members of the transportation industry are encouraged to comment during the NPA. More information can be found on the FHWA website in the coming months. If you want to stay up-to-date on MUTCD activities from FHWA, you can e-subscribe by visiting [https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/esubscribe.htm](https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/esubscribe.htm) and providing an email address.

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**WDCSITE’s Job Postings Webpage**

Starting 2019, WDCSITE has launched a job opportunities webpage. WDCSITE is proud to connect talent with employers in our industry. Posting job opportunities within our region and industry are available to all public agencies and consulting firms for a 28-day duration at the costs listed below. All job postings will be hosted on the WDCSITE website and sent out to the entire membership via the monthly newsletter.

**Public Agencies**

- FREE for the duration of the posting

**Sponsor**

- First three postings from the sponsoring firm will be posted for FREE on the website for 28 days.
- Any additional postings will be posted on the website for a fee of $100/posting

**Non-Sponsors**

- FREE for the duration of the posting
• Job postings from consulting firms will be hosted on the WDCSITE website for the costs listed below:
  ○ ITE Members - $200 / posting
  ○ Non ITE Members - $300 / posting

To post a job opening, please reach out to the WDCSITE’s Secretary, Burak Cesme - (202) 836-4008

■ Call for Presenters and Volunteers

Part of the WDCSITE Board of Directors’ goal for our members is to bring quality events that are beneficial to attend, disseminate information that is useful to read, and help support our local universities. To reach our goals, we need your help.

Volunteers - To keep bringing the increased number of events to our members with diverse topics and at different locations, we need volunteers to assist our hard-working Baltimore and Washington, D.C., Area Directors with this tough task. We continually need motivated people with innovative ideas along with energy to help organize and run technical meetings, events, and tours. The more volunteers we have, the more events we can handle organizing.

Presentations and Speakers - We are always looking for fresh ideas of topics and locations for events. In addition, we continually need speakers for all our events. We need to replenish our back log list of topics and speakers as we plan for our upcoming events throughout the year. We welcome presentations from all disciplines within the transportation profession.

University Liaisons - Current day students are future stars of ITE. In order to harness the talent among the student and prepare them for the real world outside, we are constantly organizing events at universities in the Washington DC metropolitan area. WDCSITE allocated funds and provides support to ITE student chapters at universities in our Section. We are looking for champions to help start / continue this important relationship for our Section at University of Maryland (College Park), George Mason University, George Washington University, and Howard University.

If any of the opportunities interest you, please reach out Vivek Hariharan (703-220-2203).

■ 2019 WDCSITE Sponsors
We would love to hear your thoughts / comments / suggestions on the newsletter. Please feel free to reach out to our newsletter committee!

Thank You,

Dana Slone and Krishna Patnam
Newsletter Committee