Greetings!

President's Message

Hello WDCSITE,

I want to start off by wishing everyone a happy and prosperous 2020!

We ended 2019 with the WDCSITE Annual Conference & Business Meeting. The event was a fitting closure to our year because it brought together folks from all around the Section, from all experience levels, and all levels of involvement. The conference was a testament to how hard working and knowledgeable our membership is. We were able to honor our volunteers, who I’d like to thank for their time and talents to improve this great community of transportation professionals. Let’s make 2020 just as great, and maybe even greater. Special thanks to Vivek Hariharan who led the Section during 2019 and was always encouraging us to do more for our community. Thank You.

I welcome Elisa Mitchell to the 2020 WDCSITE Board as Baltimore Area Director. I’m confident she will lead the Baltimore programming committee with very engaging events this year.

At the annual meeting, I had elaborated on a few key words I wanted our community to be aware of: sustainable, collaborative, and engaging. Building upon all the great initiatives of past Boards, I want 2020 to be a year where we not only innovate but we put operating procedures in place to provide more tools for future Boards to sustain this progress. We have an opportunity to sustain new initiatives, like the scholarship program, to fulfill our mission of supporting students for many years to come.

My three words are no better exemplified than in the progress we’ve seen through our sponsorship program. The continued collaboration with our sponsors has leveraged additional resources to do more for our membership. We’ve engaged with the community to build upon the program and, as a result, we are offering a new Premier tier to further benefit our membership. We look forward to continued collaboration with our 2019 sponsors and new ones for 2020! We are very grateful to have so much support for our Section.

You can expect many events this year across Maryland, Northern Virginia, and Washington, DC addressing various modes and issues of our industry. 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...
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Upcoming Events

April

4/19 to 4/21 - 2020 ITE Mid Colonial District Annual Meeting

Call for Volunteers - Bridge Builder Invitational 2.0

MDOT SHA and Chesapeake Lighthouse Foundation are co-hosting the TRAC Bridge Builder Invitational 2.0. This event will take place on Thursday, February 6, 2020, from 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM at Chesapeake Math and IT Academy North High School in Laurel, MD.

MDOT SHA will have a Pitsco Bridge Scale onsite, and students will have the opportunity to test their bridges. Bridge Engineers will be at this event to mentor students and answer questions, and MDOT SHA is looking for WDCSITE volunteers to help with this effort. Formal student presentations will not be given at this event.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Adam Greenstein.

Call for 2020 Sponsors

The Washington, D.C. Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (WDCSITE) is looking for your support in 2020. We appreciate your sponsorship in 2019. Without your support WDCSITE, a volunteer organization, could not coordinate local area meetings, maintain a website that features our activities, and distribute electronic monthly newsletters summarizing section activities. The section holds monthly meetings (generally alternating between the Washington, D.C. and Baltimore areas), which typically draw 50+ transportation professionals to discuss key topics to our industry’s vitality. The geographic area that WDCSITE covers includes Maryland, Washington, D.C. and northern Virginia. This year, we are offering two sponsorship levels (Premier and Base). These sponsorships provide an opportunity to promote your company to a demographic of well-educated engineers and planners in the Washington, D.C. region.

Please visit the Sponsors page on the WDCSITE website for information regarding the sponsorship levels and additional information. For any questions, please reach out to Burak Cesme.

2020 Annual Virginia and Washington DC Joint SimCap Meeting at TRB Recap

As a kickoff to the WDCSITE 2020 campaign, the 5th annual joint SimCap meeting at TRB was well attended by private/public sector professionals, software developers and academia.

The night started off with VASITE and WDCSITE update, followed by a short plug for SimCap, and then ended with a series of presentations from FHWA, VDOT, consultants, and Verizon. The meeting offered attendees a broad view of the latest development in FHWA research on modeling, analysis, and simulation as well as simulation testing of Connected and Autonomous Vehicle (CAV) applications. The attendees got a glimpse of the upcoming VDOT Traffic Operations and Safety Analysis Manual (TOSAM) 2.0 and the VISSIM User Guide 2.0. The VDOT Research Council presented their research in modeling Automated Vehicles (AVs) driving behavior using Adaptive Cruise Control data. A Verizon representative offered a call (410-316-2491) or drop me an email. Our community and leadership feedback are extremely valued and for that reason I will promote your ideas and encourage the Board to continue improving our programs based on comments we receive.

Many Thanks,
David Duarte
2020 WDCSITE President

Topics and Speakers
We are always looking for fresh ideas, topics, and presentations. If you are interested presenting at a WDCSITE event, please reach out to David Duarte.

Presentations from all transportation and related disciplines are welcome.

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2020 WDCSITE EXECUTIVE BOARD

**David Duarte**
President

**Burak Cesme**
Vice President

**Adam Greenstein**
Secretary / Treasurer

**Jon Crisafi**
Washington DC

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insights about 5G technology in CAV testing and their involvement in Smart Cities using mobile data and smart lighting sensors.
Future City Competition Recap

The Future City Competition, which is part of the Maryland Engineering Challenges, took place on the morning of Saturday January 18, 2020 at the Baltimore Museum of Industry. This competition tested middle school students (grades 6 to 8) to work in teams to build a physical model, write a technical paper with a project plan, create and deliver a presentation, and use SimCity software to design and build a virtual future city that addresses a specific sustainability issue.

WDCSITE played a pivotal role in the Future City Competition for the Mid-Atlantic region. Our organization was the proud sponsor of the Most Futuristic Ground Transportation Plan Award, which was given to the team that demonstrated the most creative application of futuristic technology and scientific principles in the design, operations, and management of all modes of ground transportation. WDCSITE executive board members Jon Crisafi and Jon Rectanus were judges for this award.

Please visit the Future City website to learn more about the competition.
Meet the 2020 WDCSITE Executive Board

This month’s Meet-a-Member section offers a short introductory biography of each 2020 WDCSITE Executive Board member.

David Duarte, President, was inspired to join WDCSITE through the student chapter at Georgia Tech. While at Georgia Tech, one of the interesting activities he took part in was a ride on a prototype maglev train. David’s work at JMT has led to excellent opportunities to collaborate on a variety of projects ranging from airport jobs for the Maryland Aviation Administration, incorporating new technology such as small cell wireless, or even acting in a promotional video for DelDOT. Part of his weekly schedule is currently dedicated to working onsite at MDOT SHA’s Office of Traffic and Safety.

FUN FACT: David’s favorite soccer team, Liverpool, are on their way to win their first English league title in 30 years, which he adds “would be a tremendous for all their supporters!”

Burak Cesme, Vice President, has been with Kittelson and Associates, Inc. in Washington, D.C. for more than four years working on a variety of projects including traffic and transit operations, traffic signal systems, and transportation research. His involvement with ITE started through the student chapter at Northeastern University, and he has been an active member ever since.

FUN FACT: Burak enjoys both playing and watching soccer, and his favorite team is Fenerbahçe, an Istanbul-based club in Turkey.

Adam Greenstein, Secretary and Treasurer, currently serves as a Technical Principal in Traffic Engineering for WSP in Baltimore, MD, with additional experience in project management, complete streets, customer service, and ITS. He previously spent nearly seven years with MDOT SHA in District traffic offices as an engineer and team leader, working with project managers, community leaders, and elected officials to advance multimodal safety performance and efficient operations on state roadways. In addition to his role as the WDCSITE Secretary-Treasurer, he is a member of ITE’s CAV Steering Committee and is a volunteer with the TRB Standing Committee on Traffic Control Devices, National Committee on Uniform Traffic
Control Devices, and Maryland Strategic Highway Safety Plan Pedestrian-Bicycle Emphasis Area Team.

*FUN FACT:* Outside of work, Adam spends much of his time playing the trumpet in a community concert band and jazz band in Howard County - a proud band geek for life!

**Jon Crisafi, Washington D.C. Area Director,** is a senior engineer with Kittelson & Associates, Inc. based in Washington, D.C. He graduated with a B.S. and M.S. from Penn State University and began his professional career in Boise, Idaho until returning to the east coast in 2014. Jon's work largely revolves around traffic operations analysis and planning, microsimulation, and traffic signal design.

*FUN FACT:* Jon considers himself a soccer enthusiast, supporting Everton FC in the English Premier League and the Philadelphia Union domestically.

**Elisa Mitchell, Baltimore Area Director,** is a Baltimore City resident for five years and counting. She has enjoyed living Maryland while working for two private consulting companies; previously for Sabra & Associates, and currently for WRA as a Project Engineer in the transportation analysis and planning field. As a proud Blue Hen, Elisa holds a Bachelors and Masters in Civil Engineering from the University of Delaware. She is excited by the opportunity to serve the local transportation profession field by serving on the WDCSITE Board and cultivating her leadership qualities through her acceptance to the Leadership ITE Class of 2020.

*FUN FACT:* Elisa has a life goal of visiting all 58 National Parks (she’s visited eight thus far), and she enjoys practicing ballet and figure skating in her free time.

**John Rectanus, Financial Assistant,** is an Associate in charge of the Traffic Department at Wallace Montgomery, covering Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. He is a graduate of the University of Maryland with a B.S. and M.S degrees in Civil Engineering. He is a registered P.E. in four states and has his PTOE certification. John has 20 years of experience as an engineering consultant, all at Wallace Montgomery. He began his career in Highway Design, but has enjoyed most of his career working in all aspects of Traffic Engineering Design and Analysis. John has previously served on the Board and chaired the 2013 ITE District 2 Annual Meeting. John enjoys his involvement with various Maryland Engineering Challenge student competitions. He has volunteered as a judge for the Safe Racer Competition (2nd and 3rd grade) as well as judged and mentored for the Future Cities Competition (6th - 8th grade).

*FUN FACT:* John has an identical twin brother, Michael, who works for Dewberry’s Highway Department in Baltimore.

**Vivek Hariharan, District Representative and Immediate Past President,** works as the Traffic Group Leader at RS&H. He served as the President of WDCSITE in 2019. About his time as President, Vivek adds the following: “I enjoyed working with the WDCSITE membership to develop new initiatives like the Public Agency Committee, Scholarship Award, Project of the Year Award among others. I look forward to staying involved with the group going forward and support the WDCSITE leadership as needed.”

*FUN FACT:* Outside of work, Vivek loves playing tennis, and is also a certified sky diver and scuba diver.

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### Job Postings

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- RK&K
- the mind of movement
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- STV
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- VOLKERT
- WALLACE MONTGOMERY
- WSP
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, Krishna Patnam, Eric Tang, & Philip Koloski
Newsletter Committee