

Michiganite



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN SECTION OF THE INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS

Letter from the President

Wow, did this year go fast! I can't believe my year as president is almost over. It has been a good year and the job was not as hard as I thought it would be. That's because I had so much help from some very hard workers. As I look back over the year the section has accomplished many of the goals I had at the beginning of the year.

The first goal I had was to make the MichiganITE a high quality newsletter. I don't know if I can say the President's columns have been high quality but I think the rest of the newsletter has been. This is due to the hard work and dedication of Shirley Wollner. With this issue we have also met the goal of publishing four issues of the MichiganITE this year. The new publishing system has been working well and I hope you agree that the format change is also an improvement. I encourage all of you to help keep the MichiganITE a quality newsletter by contributing articles. They can be sent to Shirley Wollner at Wade-Trim in Grand Rapids. Her email address is listed inside this issue.

Another goal I set at the beginning of the year was to continue the good technical sessions we have had. I

think that due to the hard work and dedication of Matt Simon this goal was met. You can help Matt out by making presentations at technical sessions.

The next goal I set at the beginning of the year was to have a successful Education Fund Golf Outing. With Vicky Holland's hard work we met this goal and raised over \$9,500. With this money and the donations of members we are able to give scholarships to four deserving students, as well as assist students who attend our technical sessions with reduced registration fees. We also help students attend TRB in January. I encourage you to continue to support the Education Fund.

On a different subject, ITE International has been studying whether to establish a Traffic Operation Engineering Certification program for the last year. It was decided to establish Traffic Operation Engineering Certification. The first exam will be given in January 1999 in Washington D.C.. For this certification to be effective, public agencies must be made aware of this certification and require certified traffic engineers to do traffic impact studies and other traffic engineering



Tim Haagsma

functions. I think this is a good start in establishing more credibility in the traffic engineering profession. I encourage you to check out the certification program and see if it's right for you.

In closing I want to thank everyone for their support over the last year while I was President and encourage to continue to support the section through your attendance at meetings, contributing articles for the newsletter, and giving presentations at technical sessions.

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1998 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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	<p>Student Chapter: Bill Savage (517) 482-0854</p>

Deadline for article
 submission for the next
 issue of Michiganite is:
Monday, March 1st.

Michiganite Winter 1998

Treasurer's Report - Executive Board Meeting
 Kalamazoo, MI
 November 5, 1998

Section Fund Balance		\$ 8,275.41
Section Regular Fund Balance	\$7,090.97	
Education Fund Balance	\$ 100.00	
Incident Management Fund Balance	\$1,084.44	

Education Fund at National Balance (as of 7/30/98)		\$40,227.22
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ACTIVITIES JULY 16, 1998 THROUGH NOVEMBER 4, 1998

Income - Section		\$3,693.20
Dues	\$ 663.00	
Interest	\$ 88.20	
July 16, 1998 Meeting	\$2,065.00	
July 25, 1998 Family Outing	\$ 27.00	
September 17, 1998 Golf Outing	\$ 850.00	

Expense - Section		\$5,953.42
July 16, 1998 Meeting	\$2,416.80	
MichiganITE Printing & Shipping	\$1,713.96	
Postage (Meetings)	\$ 217.60	
Postage (Late Dues Notices)	\$ 32.00	
National Meeting	\$ 477.52	
Support of 2006 Meeting	\$ 710.94	
(Hotel, Mailing, video)		

Income - Education		\$ 200.00
Golf Outing		
Sponsors	\$ 200.00	

Expense - Education		\$ 9,372.56
July 16, 1998 Meeting Subsidy	\$ 140.00	
Transfer to National Ed. Fund	\$9,232.56	

Submitted by
 Mark W. Bott, Treasurer
 Michigan Section-ITE

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

New Members

Aimee L. Giacheerio
 Matthew R. Langhorst
 Shana Mogensen
 Shane L. Silsby
 Shannon M. Leidi
 Michael D. Spitz
 Nicholas D. Mascia
 Janeen A. Holland

Kyle Mattingly
 David Thad Tallon
 Phillip J. Verville III
 David W. Shafer
 Mshadoni Smith
 Katherine Misteravich
 Raymond O. Severy
 Darcin Akin

Chad M. Canfield
 Chad Ackley
 Michelle LeCount
 Christopher M. Rossmiller
 Jhaseeb Ahmad Ghumman
 Kevin Endres
 Kevin O'Neill

Michigan State University CE Study Abroad in Volograd, Russia

By Kate Misteravich, MSU Civil Engineering Senior

On June 4, 1998, eighteen Michigan State University students embarked on the experience of a lifetime. The ten men and eight women, all from either the undergraduate or graduate civil engineering program at MSU, took part in a Cultural Exchange Program with the Volograd Academy of Architecture and Civil Engineering in Volograd, Russia. The four-week adventure was led by Dr. Thomas Maleck and Dr. William Taylor, both MSU faculty, Dr. Sam Castronovo of CTE, and Dr. Dale Lighthizer from MDOT. The four professionals were responsible for conducting lectures three or four times a week. The course, Design and Operation of Urban Freeways, concluded with a final design project to redesign a corridor of I-94 in Detroit.

The modern concepts discussed in the lectures were in stark contrast to Volograd's primitive transportation system. The streets, sidewalks, and structures are in a state of disrepair. Slowed by Russia's deflating economy, most of the construction yielded during the 1980's when all efforts went to Moscow to prepare for the Olympics. Perhaps due to the unavailability of service, economic misfortune, or the extreme heat, disabled vehicles were a common sight and created obstacles for motorists. Although the concept of mass transit by way of trolley and bus operated efficiently in Volograd, it was not well integrated with vehicular travel. In a city where speed limits weren't posted and the right-of-way, at times seemed indeterminate, executing pedestrian movements was unsettling.

In spite of the chaotic traffic situation, Volograd, formerly known as Stalingrad, provided the group with rich cultural experiences. Volograd, an industrial and trade center, is situated along ninety kilometers on the western bank of the longest river in Europe, the Volga River. With a population now just over one million, Volograd was the location where the German armies were defeated during WWII. The six-month Battle of Stalingrad left the city proud, but scarred. Due to its historical significance, the city has numerous monuments commemorating its defenders. In particular, Mamayev Hill, a complex of monuments dominated by a statue of Mother Russia, is breathtaking. The eight-seven meter high reinforced concrete statue is said to represent Russia itself during WWII. The group also enjoyed educational, guided tours of the hydraulic dam, an asphalt plant, and the planetarium. The students and faculty were able to visit the open markets, attend a circus, and relax on a four-day cruise to Astrakhan, a City 60 kilometers north of the Caspian Sea.

MSU - Russia continued

The trip concluded in Moscow, reached from Volograd by a twenty-two hour train ride north. The cool temperatures in the magnificent city were welcomed for the remaining four days of the journey. While in Moscow, the group did some sightseeing throughout the city, but focused their attention on Red Square and the Kremlin. The students were also able to barter in the largest bazaar in Moscow and attend a world class ballet.

This first year program was successful in all respects. It provided an incredible eye-opening experience for fifteen of the eighteen students who traveled overseas for the first time. It allowed all to take a glimpse into the remarkable Russian culture that was long hidden by the Communist Party. Stereotypes disintegrated in the midst of warm and extremely hospitable Russian hosts. It created or reinforced a grateful awareness of the good fortune to be a United States citizen. Students and instructors agreed that the experience was unforgettable. They hope that the program will continue to thrive and provide others with similar experiences abroad.



MSU Students in front of St. Basil in Red Square, Moscow, Russia.



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Michigan Section ITE Education Fund Contributors

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Bott, Mark
O'Berry, Ken
Gray, John
Kucel, Kenneth
Brown, Larry
Hartwig, Bill
Hoevel, Morrie
Arroyo, Rodney
Koram, Joseph
Murphy, William
Harding, Elizabeth
Lawson, Samuel
Bartha, Ivan
Johnson, Kenneth
Drongowski, William
Holland, Victoria
Haagsma, Tim
Matheny, Steve
Maleck, Thomas
Hodges, Richard
Underwood, Ken

Underwood, F. Lee
Wall, Christopher
Kleithsch, Karl
Dickenson, Susan
Gordon, Brenda
Siddall, Sheryl
Jacob, Sunny
Doyle, Judson
Hornbeck, Dwight
Pilgrim, Fredrick
McCarthy, Kevin
Davis, Pauline
Marson, Joseph
Hicks, Robert
Tripi, Eric
Rampersad, Laura
Rasch, Risa
Merchant, David
Enustun, Nejad
Start, Jon
Morena, Dave

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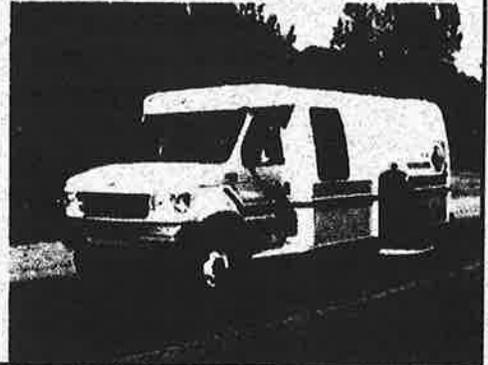
To apply: Please call (517) 483-4004 (Voice/TDD) for a City of Lansing employment application. Submit the completed application along with copies of required degree or college transcripts showing completion of a degree to: City of Lansing Personnel Department, 4th Floor City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 no later than **February 5, 1999**.

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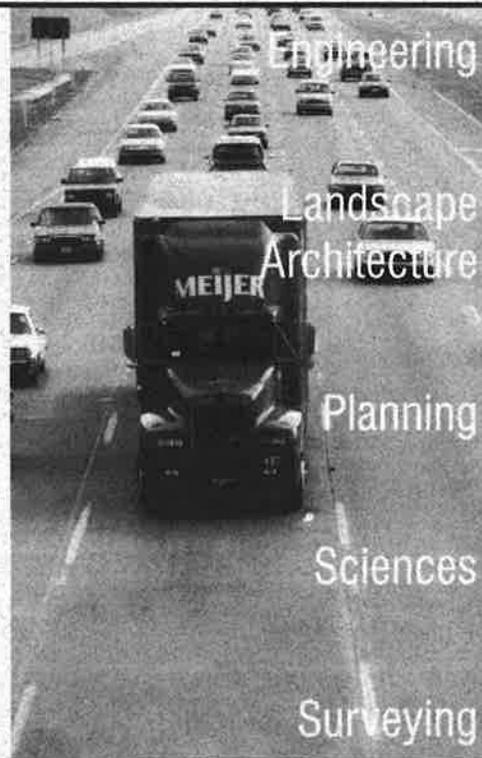


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November Technical Session

The November Technical Session was located in Kalamazoo and hosted by John Byrnes. John Seelman discussed how the City of Kalamazoo incorporated public involvement for construction staging of Westnedge Avenue, a main gateway in the City. Through use of a Task Force and weekly meetings, issues that arose during construction were quickly handled. The project had a 95 day construction schedule and access was maintained to area businesses throughout the project using special directional signing.

Dennis Randolph of the Calhoun County Road Commission presented on the use of Neural Networks in traffic engineering. Neural networks look for patterns in data and developed as an attempt to model the human brain. They are good at problem diagnosis, decision making, prediction, and classifying problems. He has used it to analyze the effectiveness of wild animal reflectors and to develop composite pavements and estimate their deflection as a surrogate estimation of strength.

Bruce Schedlbauer talked about changes underway at the Kent County International Airport, the second busiest airport in Michigan. It services 12 airlines and six freight carriers as the primary airport for a thirteen country region. It is required to be financially self supporting and is funded through various fees assessed to airport users, bonds, and grant programs. Changes underway at the airport include a new north/south runway, a rebuild of the east/west runway, renovation of the passenger terminal building, construction of an air cargo and trade center with a tunnel that will provide access to the cargo center under the runway.

Dave Morena of the FHWA discussed Red Light Camera Technology and its use to help modify driver behavior, reducing red light violations at signalized intersections. Of all crashes that occurred at MDOT traffic signals in 1997, fifteen percent were attributed to a red light violation. Through the use of these cameras and an associated public relations campaign, violations typically reduce by 34-60 percent. Successful red light camera programs have public acceptance, judicial support, legislative support and enforcement support.

The City of Kalamazoo's goal for Non-Motorized Planning was the topic presented by Richard Skalski. The City is trying to create a friendly atmosphere that can accommodate all non-motorized needs. They attempt to link up to existing transportation facilities. One way to do this is to provide bike racks on city buses. In developing their Non-Motorized Plan they began by looking a crashes, needs, desires, regulations, origin-destination data and funding. Dick stressed that public involvement is crucial and is needed for success.

Teresa Petko of MDOT discussed TEA-21, the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century. With this program, Michigan's Average Annual Apportionment increases by 62 percent. Our rate of return increases from 70% to 90.5%. TEA-21 continues major themes of ISTEA. TEA-21 increases Michigan's flexibility to finance projects, including a tapered match that is important for larger projects.

December Technical Session

The December Technical Session took place on December 3rd in Farmington Hills. The session was hosted by John Byrnes. Laura Rampersad of Earth Tech gave an overview of the teamwork and coordination behind the 1998 Inaugural West Michigan Grand Prix. The efforts put into the first running of the Grand Prix in downtown Grand Rapids, earned the race recognition by the Sports Car Club of America as the Top 3 Race of 1998 and an Award of Merit from the Michigan Asphalt Paving Association. Attendance for the event far exceeded the 60,000 needed to break even.

Michael Van Antwerp of the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation discussed how in his role as a project manager he is involved with enabling viable community development projects in Detroit. He helps the DEGC by addressing traffic issues that arise related to proposed developments. He also helps by coordinating needs of different developments in Detroit. The City of Detroit has unique problems due to the layout of the City. Current developments include the stadiums, residential developments, and the I-75 project.

Mike Labadie of McNamee Porter and Seeley, and Richard Patterson, Deputy Chief of Police for the City of Birmingham talked about the development of that City's Traffic Calming Program. The program educates residents about traffic issues and works with them to develop specific traffic calming plans for their neighborhood, which addresses their specific concerns. One goal of the program is to have a consistent and comprehensive effort to address traffic concerns in the City's neighborhoods.

Lisa DiChiera of Hines Interest talked about her firm's efforts in the redevelopment of the Renaissance Center. Hines has been contracted by GM to manage the five million dollar redevelopment project. This project will change the look of the Center from both the street and the waterfront. It will include some redesign of the street system around the center and removal of the large amounts of surface parking that currently exist.

Kunwar Rajendra of MDOT showed how diverse the State's ITS programs are. Michigan ranks in the top six states in ITS development. ITS in Michigan involves many aspects including planning, research, and educational programs, as well as implementation of a wide variety of ITS systems.

Dick Beaubien of Hubbell, Roth & Clark was the final presenter of the session. He discussed lessons learned during the design build implementation of ITS on metro Detroit freeways. During the course of the project, various issues such as the appropriate time to build, incomplete or out-of-date as-built plans, and the various approvals necessary, all presented challenges that had to be dealt with during construction.

The Annual Meeting took place at this session. The officers for 1999 are: Jon Start - President, Mark Bott - Vice-President, Kevin McCarthy - Treasurer, Lori Swanson - Secretary, Director - David Sonnenberg.

Scholarship winners were announced at the annual meeting. Winners are Shana Mogensen of Michigan Technological University, David Shafer of Michigan Technological University, and Michael Spitz of Michigan State University. Congratulations!

ITS Michigan & ITE Michigan Joint Meeting

On October 21, 1998 a joint meeting was held between the Michigan Section of ITE and ITS-Michigan. The meeting took place at the Michigan Intelligent Transportation Systems Center in Detroit. ITS topics were the focus of the meeting. Jack Sickler of Odetics-ITS provided a tour of the MITSC control room and an operator for the center demonstrated the GUI program which facilitates the operators job.

Gary Piotrowicz, the FAST-TRAC Project Manager outlined the current status of the project in Oakland County. The Road Commission for Oakland County decided to use video detection in the system due to problems with potential failures of pavement loops. The system has reduced accident severity by improving left turn delays. In the future the County plans to install a Southeast Michigan Snow and Ice Management System (SEMSIM) as well as post real-time traffic information on the web.

Jim Barbaresso of Odetics-ITS outlined their study of expansion of the Metro Detroit ITS system to include I-75 from Auburn Hills to Flint. The assumptions of the study included the fact that the traffic impacts of the region go beyond Oakland County's borders. Recommendations of the study include using existing infrastructure where possible, implement I-75 as a "Smart Corridor", and use TSC's as regional TMC's.

Glen Robinson of DDOT gave a report on the DDOT's ITS efforts. One specific focus in the City is the Woodward Corridor initiative. The goal of ITS for the corridor is to improve travel time, decrease delay, and improve service reliability. Current initiatives include AVL, automatic passenger counting, an information enunciator and traveller information systems.

Lt. Beth Moranti of the Michigan State Police explained their use of the MITSC. The use of the center has allowed the MSP to consolidate their dispatching operations. All cellular 911 calls in the Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb County area come to the center. The center handles 500,000 calls per day.

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1999 Michigan Section Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Host</u>
February 11	Flint	Tech. Session	Mike Mansfield (810) 767-4920
March 11	Lansing	Tech. Session	Ken Johnson (517) 335-2231
April 22-23	Columbus, OH	District III	Ohio Section
May 27	Howell	Education Fund Golf Outing	Vicki Holland (734) 955-2158
July 15	Lansing	Tech. Session	Tom Maleck/ Tom Krycinski (517) 353-6448/353-9782
August 1-4	Las Vegas, NV	National Annual Mtg.	National ITE
September 2	Lowell	Golf Outing	Ron Dressander (616) 249-3740
October 21	Grand Rapids	Tech. Session	Pete LaMourie (616) 361-2664
December 9	Farmington Hills	Annual Meeting/ Tech. Session	Kevin McCarthy (248) 473-9590

Please send any phone, fax, or address changes to:

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