



INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS

NEW ENGLAND SECTION  
ESTABLISHED 1947



**ITE**  
***NEW ENGLAND SECTION***  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

January 1-December 31, 2008

Respectfully Submitted by:

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Michael A. Knodler, Jr., PhD, NEITE President

March 9, 2009

# ITE SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

New England Section: January 1 – December 31, 2008

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## INTRODUCTION

This annual report provides a financial summary, membership information, and lists the meetings conducted by NEITE and its state and student chapters.

The following list summarizes the highlights and major accomplishments for the Section in 2008:

- Received the ITE Newsletter Award for the *New England Chronicle* for newsletters with a circulation greater than 500.
- Successfully implemented switch to an all electronic distribution of the *New England Chronicle*.
- Held the first Past President's Recognition Dinner in conjunction with the joint New England Section/Rhode Island Chapter Meeting.
- Awarded two student scholarships (1 - graduate and 1 - undergraduate) through the Thomas Desjardins Memorial Scholarship Fund.
- Provided funds to the UMass Amherst Student Chapter for outreach programs to encourage student chapter activity within the Northeastern District and to support the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual UMass/NEITE Technical Day.
- Supported the Massachusetts Chapter with the Chapter's organizing and hosting of the 4th Annual Transportation Student Symposium.
- Began advance planning and site selection for the 2010 Northeastern District Meeting.
- Hosted the Northeastern District Board in conjunction with the joint New England Section/Massachusetts Chapter Meeting.
- Participated in discussions and presentations to engineering students at UMass Amherst and Northeastern University concerning the professional practice of Traffic Engineering and Transportation Planning.
- Provided outreach to the University of Rhode Island and University of Connecticut Student Chapters to reestablish active participation by the Chapters.
- Nominating Committee developed guidelines for the selection of candidates for the position of Junior Director in order to balance representation between states within the New England Section.
- Supported the establishment of the University of Vermont Transportation Center in conjunction with the Vermont Chapter.
- Legislative Liaison Committee participated in discussions with the Chair of the Massachusetts Senate Joint Committee on Transportation to offer the resources of the New England Section concerning transportation programs and policies that may be under consideration.
- By-Laws/Charter Committee began a comprehensive review of State Chapter By-Laws for consistency with current New England Section By-Laws.
- Obtained New England Section banner and podium flag for use at Section and promotional events.



## 2008 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### NEITE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President Jeffrey Dirk
- Vice President Michael Knodler
- Secretary Kevin Dandrade
- Treasurer Kien Ho
- Sr. Director Joseph Balskus
- Sr. Director Jennifer Conley
- Jr. Director Guus Driessen
- Jr. Director Kevin Johnson
- Immediate Past President John Mirabito

### STATE CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

- Connecticut Matthew Blume
- Maine Thomas Errico
- Massachusetts Robert Campbell
- New Hampshire Andre Betit
- Rhode Island Phil Fusco
- Vermont Jon Slason

### STUDENT CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

- Univ. of Mass. - Amherst David Hurwitz
- Univ. of Mass. - Lowell Chronis Stamatiadis, Ph. D., Faculty Advisor
- Northeastern University Zach Mayes
- University of Rhode Island Chris Hunter, Ph.D., Faculty Advisor
- University of Connecticut John Ivan, Pd.D., Faculty Advisor

### STANDING COMMITTEES

- Awards David Debaie
- Charter/By-Laws Kim Hazarvartian
- *Chronicle* Editor Laura Castelli
- Continuing Education Joseph Balskus
- Goals and Objectives Michael Knodler
- Historian John Thompson
- Industrial Support William McNamara
- Legislative Liaison Sudhir Murthy
- Membership Roger Krahn
- Nominating Kenneth Petraglia
- Past Presidents Council Kevin Hooper
- Program Kevin Johnson
- Public Relations Guus Driessen
- Scholarship Rodney Emery
- Student Chapter Liaison Jennifer Conley
- Technical Activities Michael Wasielewski
- Website Coordinator Kevin Dandrade
- Webmaster Silpa Munukutla
- Young Professionals Daniel Dulaski
- Strategic Plan Administrator John Mirabito



**MEMBERSHIP**

The following tables summarize membership for the entire section by grade and for each state chapter.

*Table 1: NEITE Membership (As of December 31, 2008)*

<b>Number</b>	<b>Membership Grade</b>	<b>Section Annual Dues Rate (1)</b>
0	Honorary	\$0
94	Fellow	\$15
0	Fellow Life	\$0
0	Fellow Retired	\$15
0	Member 10	\$15
521	Member	\$15
0	Member Life	\$0
0	Member Retired	\$0
12	Institute Affiliate	\$15
0	Institute Affiliate Retired	\$15
53	Student Member	\$10
39	Esteemed Colleagues	\$0
<b>719</b>	<b>Total NEITE Members</b>	

(1) A portion of the Northeastern District dues proportional to the New England Section membership is returned to the Section twice a year.

*Table 2: Chapter Membership (As of December 31, 2008)*

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Members</b>
Connecticut	155
Maine	41
Massachusetts	340
New Hampshire	73
Rhode Island	61
Vermont	49
<b>Total NEITE</b>	<b>719</b>



**SECTION FINANCIAL REPORT**

Does your section have a Federal Employee Identification Number?

Yes       No

NEITE's Federal Employee Identification Number is 52-1326217.

**January 1, 2008 December 31, 2008<sup>1</sup>**

**Checkbook Balance as of January 1, 2008      \$30,222.19**

**Income – January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008:**

Chronicle Advertisements	\$ 4,000.00
Section Membership Dues	7,767.57
Meetings	14,017.00
MA ITE Loan Repayment	2,400.00
<b>Total Income This Period:</b>	<b>\$28,184.57</b>

**Expenses – January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008:**

Training Course	\$ 3,473.39
Chronicle Publication	3,411.37
Meetings	14,016.21
2007 Tax Return Preparation	747.50
IRS Fine (2006 Tax Return)	201.54
Web Site	309.30
Awards/Past Presidents Gifts	1,415.79
Mailings & Ballots	413.87
Advertisements (Section Banner and Podium Flag)	201.70
Student/Chapter Donations	3,000.00
<b>Total Expenses This Period:</b>	<b>\$27,190.67</b>

**Checkbook Balance as of December 31, 2008      \$31,216.09**

<sup>1</sup> The NEITE Annual Meeting was held on December 1, 2008; however income and expenses associated with the meeting were not deposited and paid in full, respectively, until January 2009.



**THOMAS E. DESJARDINS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Balance of Funds on hand at beginning of reporting period	\$ 21,304.10
Income:	\$ 11,070.04
<u>Expenses (fundraising and scholarship):</u>	<u>\$ 10,201.20</u>
Balance of Funds on hand at end of reporting period	\$ 22,172.94

**BY-LAWS**

Was there a change in the Section By-laws during this reporting period?

Yes       No

There were no amendments to the NEITE By-laws during the 2008 calendar year.

**TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES**

In 2008, the Technical Committee advanced work on the evaluation of software programs for analyzing traffic signal coordination along congested corridors. The committee selected a roadway corridor for study and began developing a list of data collection needs. The next steps will be to collect the required data; complete the corridor analysis using one or more software programs; and field test and compare the results.

**LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES**

The Legislative Liaison Committee established a list of key legislative contacts within each State of the New England Section and provided a review of policy initiatives being advanced or discussed by legislative Transportation Committees. The Committee participated in discussions with the Chairman of the Massachusetts Senate's Joint Transportation Committee to discuss the resources of the New England Section and how the Section may be able to assist the Committee in evaluating legislative proposals.

**NEWSLETTER**

The New England Section's newsletter, *The Chronicle*, has been a wonderful communication tool to inform the membership of upcoming meetings, membership updates, technical information, and legislative updates. The preparation of the Chronicle was led by Editor, Laura Castelli, and other staff at Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. There were four quarterly issues published in 2008. NEITE received an ITE International Award for 'Newsletter of the Year' (for an ITE section with greater than 500 members) at the Annual Meeting in Anaheim, California on August 19, 2008.



**ite** Inside This Issue  
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 Volume 36  
 Number 1

The New England Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers

### Evaluation of Crash Rates and Causal Factors For High Risk Locations on Rural and Urban Two-Lane Highways

*A Elizabeth Abled, PhD*

Considerable efforts have been made in recent years to make highway travel safer. However, the frequency and severity of crashes continue to be a subject of national concern. Traffic engineers continue to place increased effort on identifying the causal factors for crashes at individual locations and on different functional classes of highways. If precise causal factors and corresponding countermeasures can be identified for highways with a variety of specifications, traffic engineers and professionals in the roadway design field would be able to use that information to make the nation's highways safer, however, effective countermeasures can be identified only if the causal factors of these crashes are known. This situation has created the impetus for further study to identify the causes of these crashes and to seek methods of reducing them.

To provide an understanding of some of the research being done outside of New England, this study focuses on new research about predominant crash types and causal factors on two-lane highways in Virginia. In Virginia in 2003, there were 94,770 crashes including 726 fatal crashes, which resulted in 789 total fatalities on highways under the jurisdiction of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). This project begins by identifying those crash types and causal factors that need to be studied due to their over-representation on Virginia highways rather than first identifying a crash type or causal factor and then investigating the cause.

**Site Identification**  
 In order to determine causal factors for crashes on Virginia highways, representative sites with a high risk of crashes had to be selected. These sites consisted of two-lane highways, both rural and urban, and were between five and ten miles long. The initial list of sites was provided by VDOT's Central Office in Richmond, Virginia. The site list was narrowed based on the availability of AADT data, speed data, and a minimum of 50 crashes between 2001 and 2004. Next, a random number generator was employed to identify sites on a mix of urban and rural, primary and secondary roadways. Sites were identified in each of the nine VDOT districts. A total of 143 rural sites were used in the analysis.

**Data Collection**  
 The VDOT Crash Database provided details for all crashes occurring along the selected sites during the study period. The TRIS00 police report is used to record details about the crash, such as the location and time of the crash, weather and roadway conditions at the time of the crash, and driver actions.

Speed data was provided by VDOT through continuous count station data or spot speed studies of each site. This data was analyzed to determine the 85th percentile speed and the truck percentage. In some cases, the truck percentage was extracted from VDOT's 2005 AADT publication. AADT data was available for the years 2001 to 2004 at several locations, or routes, along each site.

Each of the sites was driven by the researchers, who recorded location information with a hand-held GPS device. Longitude, latitude, and elevation were recorded every one second for the length of the site and the grade along each segment was calculated using the x, y, and z coordinates and the elevations. By graphing the cumulative distance versus the elevation, a profile of the roadway can be created. The latitude and longitude data collected using GPS was also used to analyze the horizontal alignment, or curvature, of each site.

While driving each site, the researchers also collected information about the roadway environment. This data included whether there was a school zone, at-grade railroad crossing,

*continued on page 8*



*Kenneth Petraglia, Laura Castelli, and Jeffrey Dirk receive the ITE Newsletter Award in Anaheim, CA*





## SECTION AND STATE CHAPTER MEETINGS

The NEITE Board of Directors holds five business meetings per year and an Annual Meeting. The business meetings are held jointly with each of the state chapters to support their activities. The final business meeting is held on the day of the Annual Meeting. The table below lists all NEITE and state chapter meetings for 2008.

**Table 3: NEITE and State Chapter Meetings**

Chapter	Date	Location	Purpose	Attendance
Connecticut	30-Jan-08	Wallingford, CT	CT Chapter/ITS CT Meeting	45
Connecticut	1-Apr-08	Manchester, CT	<b>Joint NEITE/CT Chapter Meeting</b>	75
Connecticut	10-Oct-08	Cromwell, CT	CT Chapter/WTS Meeting	95
Maine	3-Apr-08	Portland, ME	Chapter Meeting	25
Maine	22-Oct-08	Fairfield, ME	Chapter Meeting	25
Massachusetts	16-July-08	Boston, MA	Social Outing	25
Massachusetts	10-Sep-08	Waltham, MA	<b>Joint NEITE/MAITE meeting</b>	110
New Hampshire	18-Mar-08	Nashua, NH	Chapter Meeting	25
Maine/New Hampshire	17-Jun-08	York, ME	<b>Joint NH/ME/NEITE Meeting</b>	30
New Hampshire	23-Sept-08	Concord, NH	Chapter Meeting	30
New Hampshire	16-Dec-08	Concord, NH	Annual Business Meeting	25
Rhode Island	17-Jan-08	Providence, RI	RI Chapter/ITS RI Meeting	25
Rhode Island	18-Apr-08	Providence, RI	Chapter Meeting/Webinar	20
Rhode Island	10-Jul-08	Providence, RI	Chapter Meeting/Webinar	20
Rhode Island	8-Aug-08	Pawtucket, RI	Social Outing	20
Rhode Island	6-Nov-08	Providence, RI	<b>Joint NEITE/RI Chapter Meeting</b>	60
Vermont	28-Jan-08	Berlin, VT	<b>Joint NEITE/VT Chapter Meeting</b>	35
Vermont	24-Jun-08	Montpelier, VT	VT Chapter Meeting	25
n/a	1-Dec-08	Warwick, RI	<b>NEITE Annual Meeting</b>	205



## SECTION AND STUDENT CHAPTER MEETINGS

The NEITE fosters the development of young professionals and student members by presenting targeted seminars and attending on-campus events. The table below lists Joint NEITE and student chapter meetings for 2008.

*Table 4: NEITE and Student Chapter Meetings*

Chapter	Date	Location	Purpose/Topic	Attendance
Massachusetts	22-Feb-08	Boston, MA	Transportation Student Research Symposium w/ MA Colleges	78
Northeastern University	04-Apr-08	Boston, MA	Professional Practice of Traffic Engineering/Transportation Planning	15
Young Professionals Group	24-Apr-08	Boston, MA	Traffic Signal Pre-Emption	25
UMass Amherst	1-May-08	UMass, Amherst	NEITE/UMASS Technical Day	45

## JOINT SECTION / CHAPTER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

A technical program complements each of the five joint New England Section/State Chapter meetings held throughout the year and the Section's Annual Meeting in December. In addition, the Section supports the UMass Student Chapter through attendance at their annual technical day. The following section provides an overview of each of the technical activities sponsored at the five joint section/chapter technical programs in 2008:

### Vermont Chapter – January 28, 2008

Technical Program:

- Update on Revisions to VTRANS Traffic Impact Study Guidelines
- VTRANS Public Transportation Initiatives
- Design and Assessment of the US 7/Shelburne Road Project

### Connecticut Chapter – April 1, 2008

Technical Program:

- Panel Discussion on Accessible Pedestrian Intersections and Blind Pedestrian Issues

Dinner Speaker: Janet M. Barlow, Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist

Topic: Accessible Design for the Blind



### **UMass Technical Day – May 1, 2008**

Technical Program: Embracing the Green Revolution – Impacts on the Transportation System

- Regional Planning Perspectives
- Consulting Engineers Approach
- Research and Applied Practices
- Green Transportation Design

Dinner Speaker: Lucy Garliauskas, Federal Highway Administration Division Administrator

### **Maine / New Hampshire Chapters – June 17, 2008**

Workshop: Roundabout Design

Dinner Speaker: Jeffrey Shaw, P.E., PTOE, PTP, Federal Highway Administration

Topic: ITE Safety Committee Agenda and Topics for 2008

### **Massachusetts Chapter – September 10, 2008**

Workshop: PTV VISSIM Training Course

Technical Program:

- Implementing Road Safety Audits into Standard Practice at MassHighway
- Crosby's Corner Safety Improvement Project

Dinner Speakers: Beverly Woods, Northern Middlesex Council of Governments

Dennis DiZoglio, Merrimack Valley Planning Commission

James D'Angelo, P.E., TEC / Transportation Engineering & Construction, Inc.

Topic: Regional Planning along the I-93 Corridor – Lowell Junction, the Methuen Rotary and Beyond

### **Rhode Island Chapter – November 6, 2008**

Technical Program:

- Updated Rule on Work Zone Safety & Mobility- Federal and State Perspectives from Rhode Island

Awards Presentation: NEITE Past Presidents Recognition and Awards

Dinner Speaker: Michael P. Lewis, Director, RIDOT

Topic: Transportation Funding in Rhode Island



## New England Section Annual Meeting – December 1, 2008

Workshop: Introduction to Work Zone Design

Technical Program:

- Proposed 2009 MUTCD Updates & Changes for Pedestrian Related Traffic Control
- The Cross Alert System: Rhode Island DOT's Evaluation & Experiences
- Two-Way Left-Turn Lanes and Road Diets

## STUDENT CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

The NEITE Section supports five active student chapters financially, by attending their meetings, providing opportunities for students to present at technical programs, speaking at student events, and providing networking opportunities at state chapter and NEITE meetings. Student chapter activities for 2008 are summarized below.

### UMASS – AMHERST STUDENT CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

The UMass Amherst Student Chapter continues to be the most active Student Chapter in the Section, both in terms of membership and participation in Section activities and leadership. The Student Chapter is active in both on and off-campus activities concerning professional development, mentoring and community service. Highlights of the UMass Amherst Student Chapter activities for 2008 are presented below.

#### *Highlights*

The chapter had in three highlights in 2008, which display the leadership of this group of future professionals. The Chapter consistently provides a valuable opportunity for students to obtain hands-on experience in the transportation field and offered the student members interaction with professionals.

- The Student Chapter responded to the ITE Trip Generation Project for 2009. This project will examine trip and parking generation data for Donut shops with a drive through window. The proposal was submitted in November.
- Actively working to engage other schools' student chapters and other schools who do not yet have an ITE chapter.
- UMass' David Hurwitz was the winner of the 2008 District 1 Student Paper Award.





*Typical UMass Amherst Student Chapter Meeting*

### **Professional Events/Chapter Liaison**

- Hosted six general Chapter meetings and two Chapter Board meetings
- Performed eight Adopt-a-Highway clean-up events with staff and students
- Hosted a Year-End Party, a Bowling/Pizza Event, and a Holiday Party for student members
- Hosted an ITE webinar on innovative pedestrian crossing treatments
- Conducted a formal mentoring program for students
- Attended the 2008 TRB Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.
- Hosted and organized the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Technical Day on May 1, which was entitled, "Embracing the Green Revolution."
- Attended the ITE Districts 1 & 2 Joint Annual Meeting in Atlantic City, NJ
- Attended the ITE Spring Conference in Miami, Florida
- Attended the ITE Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA
- Attended the MA Chapter/New England Section Meeting in Waltham, MA
- Attended the Boston Society of Civil Engineers Berger Seminar/Luncheon in Boston, MA



- Attended the NEITE Annual Meeting in Warwick, RI
- Attended MAITE/ITSMA Transportation Student Research Symposium in Boston, MA
- Co-sponsored the Transportation Seminar speaker series



*UMass Amherst students donating time for community service*

### **Philanthropic/Social Events**

- Hosted Spring Mid-Semester Lunch
- Sponsored Boston Society of Civil Engineers “Thinkfest”
- Participated in the Engineers Week Future City Competition

### **NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY STUDENT CHAPTER ACTIVITIES**

- The NU Chapter experienced a turnover in its Chapter Advisor in 2008 and saw its membership increase to 12 active and 20 part-time members.
- Students presented papers at the 2008 Transportation Student Research Symposium in Boston, MA



- The Chapter held several meetings throughout the year. Meeting topics included "The Professional Practice of Traffic Engineering and Transportation Planning" and a student research presentation on Transportation Engineering in the Netherlands.
- Students assisted the City of Boston in their annual bicycle counting program.

**UMASS – LOWELL STUDENT CHAPTER ACTIVITIES:**

- The UMass Lowell Chapter was inactive for the majority of the year despite active encouragement from the Section and MA Chapter. In order to foster active participation by the Chapter, the MA Chapter has made arrangements with UMass Lowell to host the 2009 Transportation Student Research Symposium.

**UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER ACTIVITIES:**

- The URI Chapter has been engaged by the RI Chapter with interest expressed in participation in joint meetings with the Chapter and increased activity with the Section. The Section and RI Chapter have planned active encouragement of the URI Chapter through student presentations at future Section/Chapter meetings.

**UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT ACTIVITIES:**

- The Section encouraged active participation by the UConn Student Chapter, with the Chapter submitting a proposal to the Section for Student Chapter grant monies. The UConn Chapter generally participates in meetings with the CT Chapter. Continued active participation in Section and Chapter events will be encourage and expanded to include joint meetings.





## AWARDS/GIFTS PRESENTED

**Award Name:** Distinguished Service Awards

**Recipient's Name:** John R. Mirabito, Jr., P.E., PTOE, Senior Project Engineer, BETA Group  
William P. McNamara, President, Ocean State Signal Company

**Purpose of Award:** The Distinguished Service Award is intended to recognize outstanding service and contributions by a Section member(s) to the activities and welfare of NEITE.

**Form of the Award:** Plaque presented at NEITE Annual Meeting



*Jeffrey Dirk, NEITE President, (Right) presents Distinguished Service Award to John Mirabito, Jr.*





**Award Name: Transportation Engineer of the Year Award**

Recipient's Name: Rodney C. Emery, P.E., PTOE, Director of Transportation Engineering, Jacobs Engineering

Purpose of Award: The Transportation Engineer of the Year Award is intended to recognize outstanding technical proficiency by a member of NEITE.

Form of the Award: Plaque presented at NEITE Annual Meeting

**Award Name: Transportation Leadership Award**

Recipient's Name: Steven A. Baddour, Massachusetts State Senator; Chairman, Senate Joint Committee on Transportation

Purpose of Award: The Transportation Leadership Award is intended to recognize an individual who is not a member of ITE who has made a major contribution to the transportation field. Potential candidates shall have demonstrated a dedicated effort to major transportation projects in an effort to improve the movement of people and goods.

Form of the Award: Plaque presented at Massachusetts Statehouse

**Award Name: Young Professionals Group Award**

Recipient's Name: Jonathan L. Slason, EIT, Transportation Engineer, Resource Systems Group

Purpose of Award: The Young Professionals Group Award is given to a deserving individual who has been a member of NEITE for five years or less.

Form of the Award: Plaque presented at Joint NEITE/VT ITE Chapter Meeting

**Award Name: Thomas E. Desjardins Memorial Scholarship**

Recipient's Name: Deanna Peabody, an undergraduate from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and Samuel Gregorio, a graduate student at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Purpose of Award: The Thomas E. Desjardins Memorial Scholarship is given to a college junior or senior of high moral character and with high academic achievement who also has involvement in extracurricular activities. Applicants should demonstrate a strong commitment to the discipline of transportation engineering in their coursework and outside activities.

Form of the Award: Two \$1,500 awards presented at the Joint NEITE/MA ITE Chapter meeting in September held in Waltham, Massachusetts.





*Rod Emery presents a Desjardins Memorial Scholarship Award to Deanna Peabody*

Report prepared by:

Jeffrey S. Dirk, PE, PTOE, Immediate Past President

Michael A. Knodler, Jr., PhD, President

Kevin R. Dandrade, PE, PTOE, Vice-President

