

## OUTSTANDING SECTION AWARD

### Mid-Atlantic Section



ITE—A Community of Transportation Professionals is pleased to announce that the **Mid-Atlantic Section** (MASITE) of ITE, located in the Mid-Colonial District, has been awarded the Outstanding Section Award, which recognizes an ITE Section that organized and participated in a robust program of Section activities and initiatives that are aligned with ITE's objectives and ideals in the past year.

**Activities and Engagement.** Under the leadership of MASITE President Peter O'Halloran, P.E., PTOE (M) and a dedicated team of more than 30 volunteers, MASITE emphasized expanded programming and outreach across various areas. In 2023, MASITE organized 28 member events, including 11 technical meetings across Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and West Virginia. The Annual Meeting in Hershey, PA, attracted 209 students and professionals, showcasing dual-track technical sessions and extensive networking opportunities.

**Innovative Programming.** MASITE's innovative approach included incorporating planners and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) into their programming, expanding joint technical and social events with other professional societies, and growing STEM outreach. Other notable events included a Philadelphia Phillies game and pre-game social; and a PennDOT TSMO Guidebook Training for practitioners to learn about the latest agency policy.

MASITE also introduced a mentoring program that paired experienced mentors with younger members to foster professional and personal growth, currently boasting 25 mentor-mentee pairs.

**Positive Impacts.** MASITE's efforts significantly impacted its members and chapters. The Section revived its student scholarship program, awarding two \$750 scholarships to ITE student members **Slavica Gavric** of the University of Pittsburgh and **Tanveer Ahmed** of Penn State University. The Section also supported student engagement through activities such as the Mid-Colonial ITE District Collegiate Traffic Bowl and various "Mingle With Your Future" networking events.

Additionally, MASITE made a special effort to increase participation from transportation planners, public agency professionals, and young members, aligning with ITE's Transportation Planners Initiative. This included hosting events with speakers from the Allegheny County Department of Public Works and the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission.

MASITE's dedication to advocacy and professional development was evident in its partnership with PennDOT, publicizing requests for comments on PennDOT publication updates, and organizing technical tours and trainings, including a grand opening tour of the PennDOT District 6-0 Regional Traffic Management Center.

**Acknowledgements.** This achievement is a testament to the dedication and leadership of the 2023 MASITE Board, including:

**Past President: Mike Davidson, P.E., PTOE (M)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Rebecca Biro, P.E., PTOE (M)**

**President: Peter O’Halloran, P.E., PTOE, (M)**

**Secretary: Steve Gault, P.E., PTOE (M)**

**1<sup>st</sup> VP: Megan McDermott, P.E. (M)**

**Treasurer: BJ Song, P.E., P.E., PTOE (M)**

The Board is supported by two outstanding Past Presidents as advisors, **Jenn Walsh, P.E. (M)**, and **Steven Palmer, P.E.**, and our area coordinators, **Western – Ashley Tracy, P.E., PTOE (M)**; **Central - Chad Martin, P.E., PTOE (M)**; **Eastern – Tyler Hartman, P.E., PTOE, RSP1 (M)**; and **Annual Meeting – Keith Meehan, P.E., PTOE**. Special thanks are also due to key contributors and volunteers who made these accomplishments possible.

Visit [here](#) for more information on ITE’s Awards Program and to see the other 2024 award recipients.

