



Hello Northeast District Members!

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration recently reported “Deaths on the nation's highways declined in 2009 to a level not seen since 1954”. The article went on to state that the fatality rate for 2009 declined to the lowest on record -- 1.16 fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled. The rate is down 7.2 percent from the 2008 rate of 1.25 fatalities per 100 million VMT. That same day in the ITE Journal I read Paul Eng-Wong's president's message - Decade of Action for Road Safety. Paul noted that ITE has partnered with the United Nations and U.S. House of Representatives for the “Decade of Action for Road Safety” campaign. With over 1.2 million deaths related to vehicle crashes worldwide, it is great to see we are making progress and that ITE is part of this progress! We should all look for opportunities to be an active part of this initiative.

The Northeastern District had a great 2009 starting with the Burton W. Marsh Distinguished Service Award going to Kevin Hooper, the International Student Chapter Award was presented to the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and “New England Chronicle” editor, Laura Castelli taking the International Newsletter Award circulation greater than 500. The annual meeting was well attended and as with past meetings continued the trend of providing revenue to offset out annual spending. Congrats and thank you to all that contributed in 2009!

So what does 2010 bring? Let's start by taking a look in our rearview mirror. (First I would like to thank the two predecessors and the fine ground work they laid ahead of me.) In 2008 Ken Petraglia focused on putting the right individuals leading the Northeast District's Committees – a strategy that Jim Collins refers to in his book Good to Great as putting the right person on the right seat on the bus. Ken appointed Mike Knodler, UMass Amherst student chapter advisor, as the chairperson of the Student Chapter Committee. In 2009 Mike Salatti stated his focus was students and student chapters. The combination of Ken and Mike's initiatives has had a positive impact on our District student activities. In 2009 we saw revitalization of NY Poly and University of Rhode Island's student chapters, the initiation of University of Buffalo Chapter, increased participation by students from across the District at UMass Amherst's Annual Technical Day, and as already mentioned UMass Amherst's Student Chapter Award.

In 2010 I will continue to support Mike and Ken's initiatives, in addition to my own initiatives to encourage active membership with a three pronged approach:

- Encourage existing members to get involved and to find new members. Invite the person in the cube next to you to become a member or bring them to an ITE event.
- We have great student chapters, so we need to encourage our student members to remain active after graduation and encourage other new members.
- Provide interesting and educational events to demonstrate the benefits of ITE by example.

So we have some big expectations to live up to in 2010! In January the District Executive Board met to review 2009 and prepare for 2010. In February we were invited to participate in the International Coordinating Council meeting led by Chairperson Pat Noyes. The purpose of this council is to oversee the work and cross-disciplinary coordination of the individual councils and more than 70 current council projects. This meeting focused primarily on how best to share information being generated at the international level with the sections and how to share technical projects between sections. The Coordinating Council is working on a directory that will inform council members who the senior members and project managers are, while the Coordinating Council is going to rely on the Districts to provide feedback and the technical projects that are being completed at the section level.

Last week was the 11th Annual Technical Day at UMass Amherst that included a great mix of technical sessions with PDHs and social interaction. The Tech Day provided the opportunity for students to mingle with other students and professionals. Nice job to the UMass Chapter for another great event.

On April 7th at University of Connecticut, the New England Section, the Connecticut Chapter and UConn Student Chapter are hosting the Sixth Annual Transportation Student Research Symposium, followed by the First Annual Northeast District Student Traffic Bowl, where we are hoping to have representatives from all ten of the District's student chapters. The winner of the traffic bowl will go onto the ITE Annual Meeting in Vancouver for the International Student traffic bowl.

May 19-21 is our Annual District Meeting in Portland ME, what a great location to gather with friends! Kevin Hooper and the LAC have identified the following meeting highlights:

- Welcome Reception on the Casco Bay ferry
- Ten technical sessions on current hot topics such as complete streets, roundabouts, visualization and simulation modeling, and managing tourism traffic demands
- A technical tour of the Main Turnpike's operation center
- Two bicycle tours; and
- 9 holes of golf at the Riverside Golf Course

As I make my rounds to visit the sections and attend the annual meeting I hope to cross paths with many of you. I also encourage you to reach out to me by telephone (518) 446-0396 or email dadams@cmellp.com if you have any ideas/suggestions for the District.

Take care,

Don Adams, P.E., PTOE
Northeast District Chair

Written signed consent to hold office

To the International Director Nominating Committee;

First, I wanted to declare my interest and commitment to ITE by stating that I am excited about the opportunity to run for the Northeastern District International Director and if I am fortunate to be elected I am committed to fulfilling the responsibilities of the position with the support of my family and Creighton Manning Engineering.

Per your request I have attached my ITE bio with a photo embedded in it and my ideas of what I would like to accomplish if elected.

Sincerely,

Don Adams