



Section/Chapter Momentum Award

The Washington, DC Section of ITE (WDCSITE) serves Washington, DC, Maryland, and Northern Virginia (Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William Counties). The geographical location of this section offers a unique interaction between several federal, state, and local agencies. WDCSITE has a total of over 600 members with 49% from public sector, 45% from private sector, and 6% from other professions (academia, retired, etc), respectively. Vivek Hariharan served as a president of WDCSITE in 2019 assisted by David Duarte (Vice President), Burak Cesme (Secretary), Seth Young (Past President), Adam Greenstein (Baltimore Area Director), and Jon Crisafi (Washington, DC Area Director). In addition, WDCSITE was supported by over twenty volunteers in other leadership roles, including the SimCap Committee, Newsletter Committee, Website Committee, Social Media, and University Liaisons.



Prince Georges County Meeting

Events, Meetings, and Networking: The backbone of WDCSITE's outreach to its membership is providing professional development and social networking opportunities. Under Jon's and Adam's leadership as Area Directors, WDCSITE organized over 20 meetings, social events, professional development activities, and technical tours. One of the primary goals of 2019 was to reach out to the public agencies in the Section; our leadership developed the strategy of organizing meetings at the respective agency offices, which was the most impactful way to make this connection. In 2019, WDCSITE organized its first ever meetings at Prince William and Loudoun Counties. In addition, WDCSITE also held events at Arlington County, Fairfax County, District Department of Transportation (DDOT), Montgomery County, Maryland State Highway Administration, and Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC offices), among others.

Recognizing the need for collaboration with other professional organizations, WDCSITE organized joint events with WTS, YPT, ASHE, VASITE, ITS Maryland, and APA, among others. These events sparked a healthy exchange of ideas and offered a great opportunity for networking with members of other organizations.



Audi Field Event with YPT, VASITE, & WDCSITE

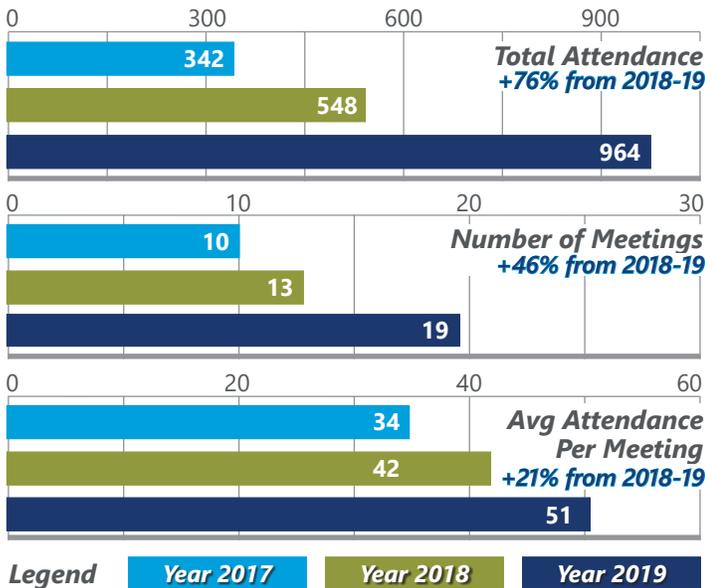
Student Involvement: Current students are the future leaders of our industry. WDCSITE has an active and involved student community which contributes immensely towards the growth and outreach of WDCSITE. Morgan State University and University of Maryland (UMD - College Park) have established student ITE chapters. In 2019, WDCSITE was successful in establishing a new ITE student chapter at Howard University. WDCSITE held its first event at the university in early 2020, a student workshop with resume reviews, mock interviews, and technical presentations from professionals and students alike.

In order to encourage and support our student community, WDCSITE established a Scholarship Program in 2019. After extensive research, Neelima Ghanta spearheaded this program and coordinated with ITE Staff to devise a fund that would consistently support this scholarship. WDCSITE developed eligibility guidelines for submissions towards the scholarship. After a rigorous review, Aref Darzi and Yeming Hao, both from UMD-College Park, were selected as the winners of the 2019 WDCSITE Scholarships and were honored at the 2019 WDCSITE Annual Conference.

Public Agency Involvement Committee: In order to re-invigorate participation of public agency employees at WDCSITE's activities and events, a new public agency involvement committee was established under the leadership of Abi Lerner (VDOT) and Seth Young. Individuals from various agencies within the geography of WDCSITE were identified and selected for this committee. Abi and Seth devised a survey to gather information about these partner agencies. In addition, three meetings with the public agency involvement committee members were



Scholarship Award Winners



organized to develop an action plan to better engage public agency employees and stakeholders. One of the key action items was to identify “ambassadors” who would strengthen the connection between WDCSITE and these agencies to encourage participation and foster growth among public agency employees.

Project of the Year Award: The “DMV” (D.C., Maryland, and Virginia) area has been the center for leading innovation in the transportation industry. Apart from traditional roadway infrastructure, this area also supports other modes like rail, transit, bicycles, pedestrians, ferry and water taxi. Given the collaboration between the various agencies, several high-profile projects with national visibility are engineered and executed every day. To showcase the work of our talented members working to improve quality of life in our local communities, WDCSITE instituted the “Project of the Year” award in 2019. The first WDCSITE project of the year award was given to “DDOT’s Comprehensive Transportation Review Guidelines”, submitted by Aaron Zimmerman (DDOT).

Newsletter and Other Communications: To complement the initiatives from 2019, WDCSITE recognized the need for enhanced communication with its membership. A newsletter committee was tasked with the effort of developing one newsletter per month. The newsletter team, comprising of Dana Slone, Phil Koloski, Krishna Patnam, and Eric Tang, took on this task with gusto. The



DDOT Bike Tour

success of the communication was evident throughout the year, given the positive feedback from several WDCSITE members.

We are in a digital age where social media plays a vital role in our personal and professional lives. To stay in touch with our membership and further build these relationships, WDCSITE established a presence on Facebook and Twitter. These social media platforms were used to engage with our members while informing them about upcoming meetings, events, and other transportation news.



Vivek Hariharan discussing the various WDCSITE Committees at 2019 Annual Conference

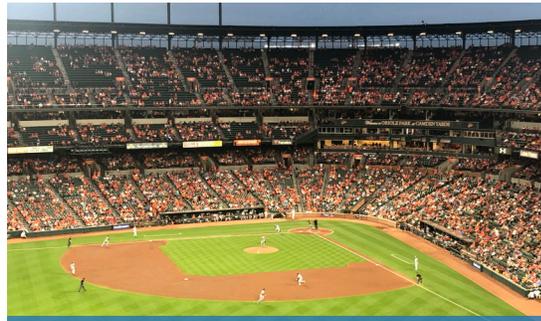
2019 Annual Conference: The grand finale for 2019 was the day-long WDCSITE Annual Conference, which attracted over 100 professionals and was held at the National Union Building in Washington, DC. David Duarte served as Chair for this event and put together an engaging meeting for professionals from all realms of the transportation industry. Jeff Paniati (ITE Executive Director and CEO) and Monica Evans (Director, Eastern Federal Highlands Highway Division) gave keynote speeches. WDCSITE Young Member, Community Transportation, Appreciation, and Transportation Services awards were presented during the lunch hour. In addition, the newly instituted Project of the Year and Scholarship awards were bestowed to the winners in front of the attendees. At this grand event, the new 2020 WDCSITE Board was sworn in.

Highlights of Year 2019 for WDCSITE:

- Increased number of technical meetings by over 46%
- Increased average attendance at meetings by over 21%
- Increased the total attendance at events by over 76%
- Established a new student chapter at Howard University
- Initiated a scholarship program and awarded scholarship for two students
- Established a new “Project of the Year” award
- Established a public agency involvement committee to better engage public employees and stakeholders
- Established WDCSITE’s Twitter and Facebook presence
- Established connections with WTS, YPT, ITS Maryland, ASHE, and APA



Pedestrian Safety at BMC



WDCSITE Attended an Orioles Game



STEM Student Event Activity



MDTA Meeting Visits a Construction Site



Loudoun County Meeting



BWI Bike Trail Tour



DDOT Bike Tour



VDOT Meeting



Panel Discussion at DDOT



Resume Workshop



2019 Annual Conference



Mock Interviews at UMD



STEM Event