PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE:
by Ali Shahzad, PE

We certainly had an extremely busy and eventful year with well attended events! As we reached the end of the year and winter begins with the holiday season, we had our always fabulous Holiday Party at the Stone Brewery in Liberty Station, organized by Teala Cotter our Vice-President, I want to take a moment to thank her and all the Board and Chairs for all of YOUR hard work and contributions in 2018! Thank you all for our countless volunteer hours at ITE San Diego events to accomplish all the lunch meetings, the successful workshops, vendor show and the holiday party. I am glad to hand off responsibility to our incoming board under Teala’s leadership to carry on with the superb efforts in 2019!

So as my term as President comes to a close it was quite a ride for the last four years serving through the ranks as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-President and President. I would suggest running, if you would like to serve in the profession and give back to the aspiring transportation professionals.
Now as Past President in 2019, I’ll guide the new Board to my newly learned wisdom. And I leave you with another one of my favorite 80’s song lyrics by Journey “Don’t Stop Believin”.

“Workin’ hard to get my fill
Everybody wants a thrill
Payin’ anythin’ to roll the dice
Just one more time

Some will win, some will lose
Some are born to sing the blues
Oh the movie never ends
It goes on and on and on and on

Don't stop believin' Hold on to that feelin’
Streetlight, people, oh oh oh

Don't stop!”

Again a huge Thank you to all of our members, sponsors, co-chairs and board members for contributing to the section activities. Special thanks to Miriam Jim for setting up all the lunch venues and menus. And a special thanks to Matthew Cox for ITE San Diego’s new and updated webpage that also won the “new” and future soon to be the coveted “Best Web Site Award”!! Will the trend catches on??... Well it has caught on, and Oregon and Washington ITE have updated their web pages, too.

So looking ahead in the 4th quarter of 2018 and early 1st quarter of 2019, the following events took place:

- **October 11, 2018** – Vendor show, Joint Workshop and Luncheon this year’s topic, “Multi-Modal Transportation and Beyond”.
- **November 08, 2018** - We gather at our annual San Diego ITE Awards luncheon to give well-deserved praise to those who have worked to make positive contributions to our local transportation industry. Results of the Board Member Elections announced! Swear in new Board for 2019.
- **December 07, 2018** – SDSU Senior Design Day.
- **December 11, 2018** – Joint Transportation Holiday Luncheon. SDTDA, WTS, APWA, ASCE and ITE join forces for a holiday lunch at The Prado in Balboa Park.
- **December 15, 2018** - ITE San Diego celebrated the Holidays with Family, Friends, and Colleagues at the Annual Holiday Dinner!

In addition to the 2018 events, 2019 will continue with our regularly scheduled monthly meetings (held on the 2nd Thursday of the month). Below are some of the anticipated highlights for this year, so get to some ITE San Diego events, it’ll put you on inside track of the fast lane to transportation!

**The events looking ahead for the remainder of 2019 are:**

- January 10th, 2019 Luncheon at the City of Carlsbad.
- Annual Sponsorship drive for 2019 beginning in Mid-January 2019!
- February 14th, 2019 Luncheon at the Four Points by Sheraton
- March 8th is the SD ITE, SoCal ITE, RSB ITE Joint Luncheon
- April 19th Golf Tournament

Please be on the lookout for these and other events via email announcements or by checking out our website at: sandiegoite.org as there may be updates to the dates and venues, Dial in and Stay tuned!

The One ITE Initiative, and the Western District Task Force is working on potential transition timelines. The Mobility Task Force led by Erik Ruehr is finalizing the latest Draft TIA Guidelines, and the SB 743 OPR final document incorporating text into CEQA was published on December 28, 2018.

I look forward to an awesome 2019 for ITE San Diego, and hope to see you all at our events! I would also like to extend a special Thank-you to all our numerous Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze sponsors for their generous support, and looking forward to your support for the 2019 year!

Happy New Year!

-Ali Shahzad, outgoing President ITE San Diego Section
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2018 ITE SAN DIEGO SECTION OFFICERS/CHAIRS
The holiday event was in beautiful surroundings at Stone Brewery in Liberty Station. The room was festively decorated with a lit tree as a centerpiece. Raffle prizes were given out throughout the evening intermixed with a wonderful dinner and great music to dance to. Everyone had fun. The event was attended by 62 people.

San Diego Chapter ITE President Ali Shahzad kicked off the meeting, welcomed the attendees, and invited sponsors to introduce their products/services. He then introduced David Parks, our ITE Awards Chair, to announce our award winners for the year. Awards were given in four categories. Then the 2019 Executive Board and Chairs were sworn in. The meeting was attended by 50 people at The Four Points by Sheraton.
PHUONG NGUYEN

WHERE DID YOU GROW UP?
Vietnam & San Diego, CA

WHAT SCHOOLS DID YOU ATTEND FOR YOUR DEGREES?
San Diego State University

WHAT/WHO INFLUENCED YOU TO CHOOSE TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING?
Growing up I was always fascinated by the different modes of transportation, especially in my native country Vietnam. During the 1980’s and 1990’s, I was able to observe people utilizing a variety of travel modes as technologies and accessibility evolved, including animal powered transportation (water buffalo pull cart) and bicycles to motorcycles/mopeds and then electric bicycles and cars. At the same time, this switch introduced a whole new level of congestion, emissions, and safety to the historic roadway network that was built during French colonialism. This experience intrigued me and raised the question, how do we harness new technologies while minimizing negative impacts? I entered San Diego State University as a Civil Engineering major, but gravitated towards Transportation Engineering, as the problems to be solved in Transportation Engineering always seem to be dynamic and don’t have a one size fits all solution.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR HOBBIES OR INTERESTS?
Traveling, photography, paintball, surfing, music festivals / rave, night club promotion, wine tasting, pretending to be a spandex warrior at Fiesta Island with my Felt bike, getting lost in the middle of nowhere, performing “research” to maintain my Elite Yelp reviewer status.

WHAT IS THE CRAZIEST (OR THE SCARIEST) THING YOU HAVE EVER DONE?
I got lost in southern France once, and ended up tasting wine with a senior couple at a local winery using broken French and broken English.

WHAT INTERESTING TALENT DO YOU POSSESS?
I used to shoot photos for weddings and graduations. Weddings are extremely fun to photograph.

WHAT DO YOU VALUE MOST ABOUT YOUR ITE MEMBERSHIP?
I value the relationship and professional advice from fellow ITE members that I have received throughout the years.

DESCRIBE A MEMORABLE/UNUSUAL EXPERIENCE/EVENT IN YOUR LIFE.
I appeared in a Gareth Emery (Electronic Dance Music DJ) music video once as an extra.
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