

2024 NCITE ELECTIONS

This is a special Election Edition of the INCITER containing information for the 2024 NCITE Elections

Electronic ballots will be emailed **Tuesday, October 10th, 2023** to all NCITE members with an email address on record. To cast your vote, simply click on the election link and follow the instructions. NCITE members who do not have an email address on record will be mailed a paper ballot. If you do not receive voting information by email, do not have internet access, or prefer to send in a paper ballot, please contact 2023 NCITE President Jeremy Melquist at jmelquist@BloomingtonMN.gov.

The NCITE Executive Board consists of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, two Directors, and the immediate Past President. You will be asked to vote for all positions in the 2024 NCITE election. The immediate Past President position is filled by succession:

Immediate Past President – **Jeremy Melquist**

The candidates for each open position are as follows:

President (1 candidate, 1 open position)



Philip Kulis

Philip is currently a traffic engineer at SRF Consulting Group in Minneapolis focusing on traffic and signal operations, safety, and multimodal evaluations. Philip's involvement in ITE began in 2012 while attending Penn State. While earning his Master's degree, he served as the Treasurer of the Penn State Student ITE Chapter. During this time, Philip had the opportunity to compete in two Traffic Bowl Grand Championships and attend two ITE International Annual Meetings. Over the past six years in Minnesota, he has been an active member of NCITE, the Intersection Traffic Control Committee, and SimCap. Philip helped found the Younger Member Committee (YMC) in 2016, along with other NCITE members, to foster growth and opportunities for the younger members of NCITE. Philip has served as the Co-Chair and Chair of the YMC, as well as the Intersection Traffic Control Committee (ITCC). Philip was also one of the NCITE Directors in 2019, NCITE Secretary in 2022, and current Vice President.

Philip has also been involved with ITE conferences having presented at the ITE Midwestern District Conference, the MOVITE Fall Meeting, and the 2021 ITE Annual Meeting most recently. In addition to presenting at ITE conferences, Philip has served on the Midwestern/Great Lakes District ITE Traffic Bowl Committee continually since 2016, which plans, organizes, and facilitates the district Traffic Bowls. NCITE has provided Philip with many opportunities and he looks forward to continuing to contribute to NCITE and the transportation field. Philip lives in St. Louis Park, Minnesota where he enjoys golfing, hiking, biking, grilling/smoking, house projects, spending time on the water, and of course trying new breweries during his free time. With winter arriving, Philip is looking forward to playing pickup hockey and skiing.

Vice President (1 candidate, 1 open position)



Nik Costello

Nik is an Engineer III with the Washington County Public Works Department with over 17 years of experience in the transportation industry, primarily focused on traffic and transit engineering. For the past 5+ years he has been working full time in the Metro Transit Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project Office, helping to deliver the region's first BRT line that will operate primarily within a dedicated guideway. His current role is serving as a Project Engineer/CAR in the Gold Line Civil Construction Office. Nik has many interests within the transportation industry, but he is most passionate about traffic signal operations, roundabout design, road diets, ped/bike safety, and public transit. He is a proud graduate of the University of Minnesota.

Nik has been active in NCITE throughout his career, serving as Director in 2012, chair of the Professional Development Committee for several years, chair of the Intersection Traffic Control Committee in 2018, Treasurer in 2022, and currently as Secretary. He lives in St. Paul with his wife Kelly, daughters Ruth (4) and Nora (1), and dog Karl (16). In his spare time, he enjoys golfing, fishing, camping, downhill skiing, curling, and traveling. Nik is honored to be considered for the position of Vice President, and excited to continue serving an organization that has given him so much over the years.

Secretary (1 candidate, 1 open position)



Joe DeVore

Joe has been involved with the NCITE and the traffic engineering community in the Twin Cities for over 12 years and is a proud graduate from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities in 2013. His professional career has centered around providing traffic engineering, operations, safety, and multimodal corridor improvements throughout the Midwest Region including all three states in NCITE's footprint.

Joe has been an active member of ITE, GLITE, and NCITE throughout his career serving as the NCITE technology director, chair of the NCITE Simulations and Capacities Committee from 2016-2017, presenting at the National ITE Annual Meeting in 2018, serving as NCITE director in 2019, and being on the GLITE LAC in 2022 and 2023, and currently as the NCITE Treasurer and 2023 Transportation Symposium Planner. He has been an active presenter and member in NCITE SimCap over the years and is always excited to share and foster transportation knowledge shared throughout our community.

Joe will continue to push for ways to reengage student groups at the UMN, Mankato, Duluth, NDSU, and SDSU in 2024. Being able to still provide a virtual, hybrid, or on-college event can help get student engagement back as student membership has decreased. The 2023 Transportation Symposium has been a great cross marketing opportunity for ITSO and we are hopeful that we continue to see that group grow.

Treasurer (1 candidate, 1 open position)



Justin Sebens

Justin is a project manager in the traffic operations and modeling group at SRF Consulting Group Inc. where he manages large and small corridor studies as well as air quality analyses and noise studies. Justin has been in the transportation industry for over 10 years and has been actively involved in NCITE as well as ITE throughout his professional career. Justin received his bachelor's degree from Carthage College where he recently participated in an advisory council to help shape the college's new engineering program. He plans to continue his involvement as the program grows and begins to produce stellar graduates. He received his master's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison where he was actively involved in ITE as the president of the student chapter for the university.

Justin has been involved in NCITE since 2013 and has served as the co-chair and chair of the Simulation and Capacity committee and also served as an NCITE director.

Justin lives in Rogers with his wife (Katie), son (Carson), daughter (Kelsey) and two dogs. In his spare time he likes to golf and play outside with the kids. However right now he and his wife are running all over the north metro to attend his son's swim practices and meets as well as his daughter's Irish dance performances.

Director (3 candidates, 2 open positions)



Jack Olsson

Jack is a traffic engineer at Kimley-Horn and Associates in St. Paul focusing on transit and roadway planning projects, safety studies, and traffic modeling. He has been involved in ITE for 10 years, starting during his time as an undergraduate student at Kansas State University. Jack continued his involvement in ITE while attending graduate school at the University of Minnesota where he served as president and vice president of the ITE student chapter, ITSO. During this time, Jack was part of the arrangements committee for the Student Leadership Summit that brought ITE student chapters from across the region to Minnesota for a weekend-long conference.

After starting his career at Kimley-Horn, Jack quickly got involved with NCITE's Younger Member Committee. Jack served as the Younger Member Committee chair in 2021 and the co-chair in 2020. Jack has served as the NCITE membership chair since 2020 and has been helping welcome and integrate new members of ITE to the section. Jack was a member of the local arrangements committee for the Great Lakes Annual Meeting in 2022 that was held in Duluth. Jack is excited to continue his involvement in ITE!

Jack is originally from Lincoln, Nebraska and has lived in Minnesota since 2017. He lives in St. Paul with his wife Kelsie, son Miles (10 months), and dog Rio. In his spare time, he enjoys playing volleyball, visiting breweries, and learning languages.

Director (3 candidates, 2 open positions)



Sarah Peterson

Sarah Peterson (formerly Irmen) is a traffic engineer with HDR. She graduated from NDSU in 2019 with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. In her professional career, she has worked on a variety of national and local design and safety projects and recently received her professional engineering license.

Sarah has been an active NCITE member since her initial HDR internship and has been proud to serve as both co-chair and chair of the Complete Streets and Safety Committee over the last two years. In this role, with the support of the other chairs, Sarah increased involvement within the committee. The skills she has learned in the committee roles will be directly applicable to the role of director. She has also been able to attend the two most recent Great Lakes annual meetings and presented twice at the Duluth 2022 meeting. Sarah values ITE for the networking and technical knowledge it brings to her career. Recently, she moved to Alexandria, MN with her husband. She plans to use her newly developing connections in the greater Minnesota area as well as existing ties at NDSU to drive an increase in NCITE's engagement from outside the Minneapolis-St Paul metro area.

Sarah and her husband enjoy spending time outdoors with their chocolate lab, Hinckley. Sundays in their new family can be tough, with both enjoying rivaled football teams. Sarah also enjoys hosting football parties and board game nights, where you can always expect a well laid out charcuterie board.



John Shrestha

John Shrestha is a Graduate Traffic Engineer with Alliant Engineering in Minneapolis. He graduated from the Minnesota State University Mankato with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. His project experience includes signing, pavement marking, and lighting design in Minnesota. He enjoys spending time playing pickleball, watching documentaries, and hanging out with friends. John has been an active member of NCITE since he graduated.

John has contributed to engineering via the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) - Mankato, and Engineers Without Boarder (EWB) - Mankato during his time at Mankato. After graduation, he has been contributing to professional engineering groups via the Minnesota Society of Engineers and Surveyors (MSES), and American Council of American Companies (ACEC) MN Chapter. He likes to expand his networking and is very excited to put his past experience to test in bringing positive changes in NCITE. With MSES and ACEC, he has been involved with various committees. While he was in those committee, he has tried to increase scholarship applicant despite the difficulties of remote meetings.

John understands the value of societies like NCITE and opportunities these societies is to engineers like us. He would feel honored to serve as an NCITE Director.

Great Lakes ITE District Representative (1 candidate, 1 open position)



Morgan Nelson

As a traffic engineer at Kimley-Horn and Associates in Saint Paul, Morgan Nelson (PE, PTOE) is passionate about connecting with people to find innovative solutions. She leads projects in both the public and private sectors in communities across the Midwest. Morgan graduated from Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering.

Morgan's involvement in ITE has been consistent, energized, and reliable at the local, district and international levels. She has been an active member of ITE since she started working at Kimley-Horn over 8 years ago. Locally within the North Central Section of ITE, she was part of the team that launched the NCITE Younger Member Committee in 2016, served as the membership chair (2016 – 2019) and served on the NCITE Executive Board in 2020 as a director. Within the Great Lakes District, Morgan has served as the district sponsorship manager since 2020, served on the LAC for three District meetings and was a member of the Great Lakes District Working Team to establish the foundation of the new Great Lakes District. At the international level, Morgan currently serves as the International Younger Member Committee Co-Chair. She was recognized as the 2022 Great Lakes District Rising Star and 2022 Young Leader to Follow and graduated from the LeadershipITE program in 2023. Morgan would be honored to continue her ITE involvement as the North Central Section Representative to the Great Lakes District Board.

Morgan is originally from Michigan and has been in the Twin Cities area since 2015. She lives in Plymouth with her husband Jacob and is excited for the arrival of their first child in October 2023. Morgan enjoys being outside in all four seasons in MN and spending time with friends and family.



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