



ITS PULSE

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Find Us on the Web:

www.itsa.org
and
www.itsheartland.org

Ideas for a Future Article?

Send your idea or article
to Steve Bahler at
sbahler@oaconsulting.com

FREE MARKETING OPPORTUNITY

If you are a member of ITS Heartland and have an Internet Web site, please contact Dennis Kroeger (kroeger@iastate.edu) to create a link to your Web site from the ITS Heartland Web site. Just send him your URL.

Spring ITS Heartland Meeting Held

by Steve Bahler, Olsson Associates

The 2005 annual meeting was held on March 15-16 in Topeka, Kansas. This year our annual meeting was co-hosted by MOVITE. We had great national, state, and local speakers, and our vendor area was bursting at the seams. Attendees had lots of time for networking with peers and vendors.

The pictures on this page and the next several provide just a small glimpse of the conference, speakers, vendor area, and the great side conversations. The editors of the *ITS Pulse* give our full recognition and thanks to KDOT for providing two excellent, omni-present staff photographers. Because of KDOT's generous support we have more and better pictures than ever to share with ITS Pulse readers.



As usual, our public and private sector members provided extra support in the way of sponsorships, hospitality suites, and booths. A listing of the ITS Heartland sponsors and vendors is included in



this edition. Because of their generous support, there were lots of big and little extras for all to enjoy.

Plan to attend next year's meeting on March 14-15, 2006, in Des Moines, Iowa. The ITS Heartland Board of Directors knows the Topeka meeting will be a hard act to follow but they still have a few tricks up their sleeves. Check out our web site at www.ITSHearthland.org and future issues of *ITS Pulse* for more information.

ATIS Web Sites

www.GatewayGuide.com

www.safetravelusa.com

www.kanroad.org

www.KCscout.org

www.nebraskal80construction.com

www.511ia.org

www.OzarksTraffic.info

President's Message

by Jim McGee, Nebraska Department of Roads



Jim McGee

Without question, the ITSH annual meeting in Topeka was our best yet! With 400 participants, it is one of the largest and most successful

gatherings of its kind in the United States. The task before us is to continue the success that ITSH has enjoyed over the past six years. Planning efforts are already underway for annual meetings in Des Moines (2006) and in Omaha (2007). The annual meeting in Topeka set the standard high for future organizers and it will be our challenge to continue the high level of excellence that people have come to expect from ITSH. Our future is invested in our past.

All organizations that enjoy success and growth must also deal with the challenges that success and growth bring. During 2005, we must address several issues that are integral to our continued success. Issues that the ITSH Board will deal with in 2005 include budgetary items

and an audit, the development of an annual meeting sponsorship policy, the separation of duties of the Secretary-Treasurer position, a membership drive, and working with our newest member state, Oklahoma. Outreach efforts within our five-state region are also slated for 2005.

With the initiatives and opportunities provided to us by the new transportation bill, we will be revisiting some familiar issues of continuing importance and moving into some new focus areas such as integrated vehicle-based safety systems, collision avoidance systems, integrated corridor management systems, and vehicle infrastructure integration and next generation 911. Improved operational efficiency, productivity, and security of the transportation system through the use of a common freight manifest and message portal that enables access to shipment information to all supply partners is one of the commercial vehicle focus areas that will be addressed during the next few years. Whether you are a private or public sector member, ITS Heartland will continue to provide you with a forum for developments in the world of ITS.

I'd like to thank all of you for making ITS Heartland one of the most successful and vibrant professional associations in the United States. Our charter is to promote and enhance public safety and community welfare by fostering research and development, and implementation of plans and programs to reduce motor vehicle deaths and injuries, improve mobility and to promote, encourage, and advance safer, more economical, energy efficient and environmentally sound surface transportation systems through research, development, and implementation of advanced technology. ITSH has done exactly that and more, perhaps better than any other organization in the country.

It is the sum of the parts that makes ITS Heartland a force in the deployment of intelligent transportation systems in the United States. Academic, public sector and private sector participation have been equally important to our success and that will continue.

Again, thanks to all of you for making ITS Heartland what it is today and what it will be tomorrow.

For information about ITS Pulse, or to recommend articles for future ITS Pulse editions, please contact your state representative:

Kansas: Steve Rockers
Iowa: Dennis Kroeger
Nebraska: Steve Garbe
Missouri: Ray Webb
Oklahoma: Alan Stevenson

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Thank you to KDOT for supplying the photos that made this edition of the ITS Pulse possible.

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Past President's Message

by Leslie Spencer-Fowler, Kansas Department of Transportation



Leslie Spencer-Fowler

As I look over the past year as President of ITS Heartland, there have been changes for many of us both in relation to our wonderful chapter and

professionally. With the close of my tenure, I hope you have found the Chapter has grown and is better able to serve you. In retrospect from March 2004 to March 2005, I would like to share the progress of the ITS Heartland Chapter.

1. EXPANSION OF MEMBERSHIP - FROM 4 TO 5 STATES

Our chapter expanded to include the adjacent state of Oklahoma. With this expansion came a new State Director position and revision of the bylaws. WELCOME Alan Stevenson as the first Oklahoma State Director for the Chapter's Board of Directors. Alan is the Traffic Engineering Manager for Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT). He manages the ITS programs for ODOT.

2. SERVICE CONTRACT FOR CHAPTER ADMINISTRATION PROVIDER

It was a difficult period for the Chapter without an Administrator from March 2004 until September 2004. The Chapter signed another contract with the Mid-America Transportation Center in September. Valerie Lefler is now our Chapter Administrator. Many

of our members got to know Valerie at our 6th Annual meeting in Topeka. She is an efficient and hard-working person who has already made a positive contribution to our Chapter. The Chapter has already benefited from her administrative and computer skills.

3. ITS HEARTLAND INFORMATION BOOK

For the first time our chapter has an administrative book that can be used by the Board members and the Administrator. This book covers the following chapters: Organization Structure, Tax and Financial Information, Membership, and Conference Information. Now there is no need to recreate the knowledge base of how the Chapter functions.

4. ITS HEARTLAND NEWSLETTER

Steve Bahler, Olsson Associates, has again taken the lead in our first special edition of ITS Pulse highlighting the vendors at the 6th Annual meeting in Topeka.

5. ITS HEARTLAND WEB SITE

Dennis Kroeger, Web Site Administrator, used the web site to provide up-to-date information about the planning of our 6th Annual meeting in Topeka. The use of the Chapter's web site helped in distributing the Annual Meeting agenda in a timely manner and aided in efficient registration.

6. FIRST JOINT ITS HEARTLAND ANNUAL MEETING WITH MOVITE

Building on a previous joint meeting at MOVITE's Annual

meeting, ITS Heartland had a joint planning session with MOVITE. The result was the ITS Heartland Annual meeting had four concurrent sessions with MOVITE. Also there was an ITS Heartland-MOVITE joint Board Reception.

7. MORE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The 6th Annual Meeting in Topeka provided two additional training opportunities. The Chapter worked with MOVITE to provide a Law Workshop on Monday entitled "An Engineer Spends a Day with the Lawyers." There was also a half-day workshop on Thursday for "Optical Fiber Communications" sponsored by GDI Communications.

This year's Annual meeting was excellent. Let's continue to strive to make our Chapter the best. The credit for our excellent Annual Meeting and Chapter goes to you, our members.

Thank you for allowing me this wonderful opportunity to be your President. I am proud to work with such a wonderful, professional community as the ITS Heartland Chapter. I am looking forward to seeing you at the 7th Annual Meeting from March 14-15, 2006, in Des Moines, Iowa. I know your new president, Jim McGee, is already working on making the 7th Annual another excellent meeting.

Pictures from the ITS Heartland Spring Meeting



ABOVE: The buffet line



RIGHT, TOP: Leslie Spencer-Fowler and Jim McGee, past and present ITS Heartland presidents, respectively



RIGHT: Nicci Tiner, MOVITE President

RIGHT, CENTER: Deb Miller, Secretary, KDOT



ABOVE: Neil Schuster, President, ITS America

RIGHT: Mid-American Signal participated as a vendor.



ABOVE, TOP: Mike Schagrin, FHWA Joint Program Office

ABOVE: Valmont was one of many vendors at the meeting.

Join Us! 7th Annual Meeting for ITS Heartland Chapter, March 14-15, 2006, Des Moines, Iowa

Pictures from the ITS Heartland Spring Meeting

RIGHT: Eileen Rackers, State Traffic Engineer, MoDOT



BELOW: Daktronics and Traffic Control Corporation were two of the many vendors who participated in the meeting.



ABOVE: Past President of ITS Heartland, Leslie Spencer-Fowler, KDOT



ABOVE: ITS Heartland Board Meeting



LEFT: Four Generations of ITS Heartland Presidents: Matt Volz, Leslie Spencer-Fowler, Jim McGee, and Erin Flanigan



ABOVE: ITS Heartland President, Jim McGee, NDOR

LEFT: ITS Heartland Vice President Willy Sorenson, IDOT

Pictures from the ITS Heartland Spring Meeting



ABOVE: A member views a display.



RIGHT, TOP: Tom Dancey, City of Springfield



RIGHT: Steve Garbe, ITS Engineer, NDOR



BELOW: Alan Stevenson, Traffic Engineering Manager, OK DOT



ABOVE: Dennis Kroeger, CTRE, Iowa State University

Congrats



Jim McGee, NDOR, poses with Linna Zhang

Linna Zhang received roundtrip transportation along with accommodations and registration to the ITSA 2005 annual meeting after winning the organization's 2005 Student Essay competition. Designed to encourage student interest in ITS, the competition, sponsored by PBS&J, provides students an opportunity to explore the potential of ITS. Linna, a graduate student at UNL, won for her essay on ITS enforcement applications. Linna is currently a research assistant for the Mid-America Transportation Center, studying intelligent transportation systems and freeway vehicle detection sensors under the supervision of Director Dr. Laurence Rilett. She has also been working part-time in the Transport Technology Group at the Nebraska Department of Roads since May of 2004.

Upcoming Events

12th World Congress on ITS
"Enabling Choices in Transportation"
 November 5-10, 2005
 San Francisco, California
www.itsworldcongress.org

Next ITS Heartland Annual Meeting
 March 14-15, 2006
 Des Moines, Iowa

Vendor and Sponsors List

Thank you to all who helped make the conference a success!

Vendors:

EIS, Inc.
Jamlogic (Traffic Technologies)
PB Farradyne
RuggedCom, Inc.
Microwave Data Systems
Teleste Video Networks
CoreTec Communications
Daktronics
Skyline Products, Inc
3M Traffic Safety Systems
3M ITS
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
Allied Tube & Conduit
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Traffic Control Corporation
Garrett Com
Video Convergence
GDI Communications
National Sign & Signal Company, Inc.
Valmont Industries, Inc.
Mid-American Signal
Wavetronix, LLC
Brown Traffic Products, Inc.
The Schemmer Associates, Inc.
ADDCO, Inc
Atlantic Scientific Corporation
Cohu Electronics



Sponsors:

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PB Farradyne/HWS Consulting Inc.
SRF Consulting Group, Inc.
Iteris, Inc.
TransCore
HNTB Corporation
Black & Veatch
National Engineering Technology Corporation
Olsson Associates
The URS Corporation
HDR
Garver Engineers
Jacobs Civil, Inc.
Bucher, Willis, & Ratliff Corporation
General Traffic Controls, Inc.
Traffic Engineering Consultants
CITE - The Consortium for ITS Training & Education
ThomTech Design, Inc.
Shafer, Kline, & Warren Inc.
Kansas Department of Transportation
Missouri Department of Transportation
Nebraska Department of Roads
Oklahoma Department of Transportation
Iowa Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

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