



University of Calgary Institute of Transportation Engineers Student Chapter (UCITE)

ANNUAL REPORT | April 2019 – April 2020

Prepared for:

Institute of Transportation Engineers

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Executive Message

Within this Annual Report, you will find the story of a student chapter with passionate individuals, lots of hard work, and great expectations. For many years, the University of Calgary Institute of Transportation Engineers (UCITE) Student Chapter has been focused on serving students through offering meetings, events, and workshops, introducing them to the transportation profession and supplement their classroom and laboratory experiences. The UCITE Student Chapter promotes the advancement of the transportation and traffic engineering profession by fostering the close association of students with the profession and ITE. Moreover, it acquaints students with topics of interest in transportation and traffic engineering through competent speakers and chapter-sponsored trips.

Jacob Lamb, President

On behalf of the UCITE executive team



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1. Activities Summary

June 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A New Approach To Solve Transport Problems Using Less Infrastructure Intensive Solutions
July 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grassi Lakes Hike
September 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mobility-as-a-Service Panel Discussion
October 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cochrane On-demand Local Transit (COLT)
November 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ASET: The Spatial Economic Transport Model of Alberta
December 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exam Preparation• End of Semester Treat
February 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Calgary Micro-mobility• Nakiska Ski Trip
March 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pause for Coffee Intradepartmental Networking• Technical Workshop (Planned)
April 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Industry Mixer (Planned)



2. Executive Committee



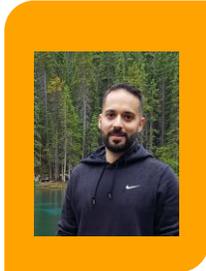
Jacob Lamb
President

Jacob is a Ph.D. student at the University of Calgary. As a president, he chairs the UCITE Student Chapter meetings. He is informed of and enforces due observation of the constitution and bylaws of the UCITE Student Chapter, the graduate student association, and the ITE. Also, he co-signs cheques, along with Vice-President of Finances, to cover eligible expenses incurred by executive officers as related to providing resources for UCITE events. He is the official representative of the UCITE Student Chapter at events. Finally, he oversees, manages, and assists the operation of the other officers of the UCITE.



Kaushan Wimalasiri Devasurendra
VP – Finances

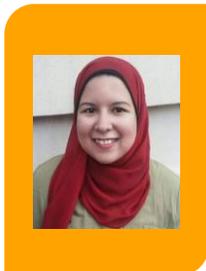
Kaushan is a Ph.D. student at the University of Calgary. As a VP – finances, he oversees the financial operations of the UCITE Student Chapter. He creates and maintains all financial records of the UCITE Student Chapter for annual reports to the graduate student association and the ITE. He monitors purchases and expenditures of events to align with the approved budget and he signs cheques to cover eligible expenses incurred by executive officers as related to providing resources for UCITE events. Moreover, he pursues and manages funding and sponsorship opportunities, such as Event Grant funding from the graduate student association and industry sponsorship. Finally, he compiles and submits financial statements with the annual report to the graduate student association and the ITE.



Iyad Sahnoon

VP – Events

Iyad is a Ph.D. student at the University of Calgary. As a VP – Events, he proposes and manages a schedule of events for the UCITE for their term. He assists the Vice-President of Finances in pursuing funding for proposed events. Also, he provides the Vice-President of Communications with correct information concerning upcoming events in a manner timely enough to allow reasonable communication time to the emailing-list. He books venues for events and suggests and co-ordinates catering for events. Further, he manages a record of events hosted through means of photographs and after-action reports. Finally, he provides the Vice-President of Communications a summary of events as needed for annual reports on time to allow them to carry out their duties.



Nouran Habib

VP – Communications

Nouran is an M.Sc. student at the University of Calgary. As a VP – Communications, she records the minutes of all meetings and manages a file of the UCITE's records. She prepares the annual report for the graduate student association and the ITE with the assistance of the other executive officers. Also, she conducts the general correspondence of the UCITE and manages the email list such as responding to requests to subscribe or unsubscribe and manages the social media platforms of the UCITE (e.g., Facebook and Instagram) including liaising with the Vice-President of Events to obtain photographs. Finally, she is responsible for creating and distributing the UCITE monthly newsletter.



3. Executive Committee

3.1.1. A New Approach To Solve Transport Problems Using Less Infrastructure Intensive Solutions

June 27th, 2019 | 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm | ENF231, Schulich School of Engineering (622 Collegiate PI NW, Calgary, AB T2N 4V8)

We were very pleased to have Prof. Saman Bandara as a guest speaker. He has held the positions of Head of Transportation Engineering Division, Head of the Department of Civil Engineering of the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka and also worked as the Chairman of the Road Development Authority of Sri Lanka (the main governmental body of developing and maintaining all the road infrastructure including the highways, expressways and traffic signals).

3.1.2. Mobility-as-a-Service Panel Discussion

September 12th, 2019 | 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm | ICT116, ICT Building (856 Campus PI NW, Calgary, AB T2N 4V8)

To kick-off the new academic year, we held a panel discussion event jointly with The Urban Research Network, another student club with a focus on urban design, architecture, and geography. The panel brought together academics, Dr. Victoria Fast who specializes in barrier-free mobility mapping, and Francisco Uribe who studies public transit design, and municipal employees, Andrew Sedor who is Calgary's emerging technologies lead, and Eric McNaughton who is a senior transportation engineer. The general topic was "How will Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS) impact Curbside and Urban Design of Space" with specific talking points of physical, financial, and cognitive accessibility;



Mobily-as-a-Service Panalists

when and how much to change infrastructure to accommodate MaaS; and goods movement and online shopping. It was a valuable and vibrant discussion with many audience questions, highlighting the importance of bringing together specialists from many different disciplines when their areas of interest overlap like it so often does with transportation topics.

3.1.3. Cochrane On-demand Local Transit (COLT)

October 30th, 2019 | 10:30 pm – 12:00 pm | ENF231, Schulich School of Engineering (622 Collegiate PI NW, Calgary, AB T2N 4V8)



COLT Event

We were pleased to have Devin Lafleche from the town of Cochrane, to present its recent transit system in the town, known as: "Cochrane On-demand Local Transit (COLT)", which was launched in October 2019. COLT provides a shared demand responsive transit service. Anyone can book their ride through its website, mobile app, or call COLT directly to request a ride at a specific day and time (during service hours) at a specific stop. Starting mid-2020, the town of Cochrane is exploring Calgary and regional destinations into COLT service. For further information regarding COLT service, please visit <https://ridecolt.ca/>.

3.1.4. ASET: The Spatial Economic Transport Model of Alberta

November 27th, 2019 | 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm | CCIT209, Calgary Centre for Innovative Technology, Calgary, AB T2N 4V8

We were pleased to have John D. Hunt, Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Calgary. His talk covered the structure of ASET and issues in its development and the interpretation of its results. Alberta Transportation sponsored the development of ASET over more than three years ending in 2019. ASET is based on the PECAS spatial economic modeling framework and related software. ASET includes simulations of the transportation system and the economic system and their interactions over time, covering the entire Province.



ASET Presentation by Prof. Hunt



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3.1.5. Calgary Micro-mobility

January 31th, 2020 | 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm | ENF231, Schulich School of Engineering (622 Collegiate PI NW, Calgary, AB T2N 4V8)



Micro-Mobility Presentation

We were very pleased to have Andrew A. Sedor, a business development coordinator, transportation strategy at the City of Calgary, as a speaker in our third guest seminar. Andrew's talk was on the shared e-bikes and e-scooters implementation in Calgary. His talk covered many aspects of the shared micro-mobility pilot such as its ridership, adoption rates, common trip purposes, parking issues, and users' concerns. Further, he discussed some of the proposed solutions, to resolve its issues, such as providing designated parking zones in high demand parking areas and adopting bylaws to allow for better enforcement and address operational concerns.

3.2. Exam Preparation

December 6th, 2019 | 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm | ENG201, Schulich School of Engineering (622 Collegiate PI NW, Calgary, AB T2N 4V8)

UofC ITE executive members organized an exam preparation session to connect junior with senior students to pass on peer knowledge and advice for upcoming exams. Undergraduate and graduate students were welcomed to attend and participate in this event. As a new event attendance was low, only five non-executives, but this is hoped to increase as it becomes a recurring event.



UCITE Executives Explaining The ITE and EIT Structures to Students at The Event



3.3. Pause for Coffee Intradepartmental Networking

March 12th, 2020 | 11:00 am – 12:00 pm | ENG201, Schulich School of Engineering (622 Collegiate Pl NW, Calgary, AB T2N 4V8)

The purpose of this event was to create a recurring meet once every two weeks to encourage networking between graduate students. The UCalgary transportation engineering group does not have a regularly scheduled meeting like other teams may and this is seen as the start of that with the hopes that faculty would be interested to support this in the future. The benefit of this event is particular to new graduate students as a chance to get to know their peers sooner than they would otherwise and be able to seek support and develop their internal network.

3.4. Technical Workshop (Planned)

March 27th, 2020 | TBD | TBD

An ArcGIS workshop is planned for March 27th, 2020. This software is useful for many graduate students' research projects.

3.4. Industry Mixer (Planned)

April 28th, 2020 | TBD | TBD

The annual industry mixer is planned for April 28th, 2020 to be hosted in the refurbished Schulich School of Engineering building. Uniquely this year the format is planned to resemble a conference poster session mixed with the typical appetizer and networking format. Recent alumni EITs, graduate students, undergraduate students, and companies are invited not only to attend but also to have a poster/booth. Posters by EIT/students will be judged for a “best poster award” by the attending industry persons.

3.5.1. Grassi Lakes Hike

July 20th, 2019 | Canmore, AB

In summer 2019, a total of nineteen UCITE members including friends and family gathered in the Canmore area of Grassi Lake trail for a summer hike in the Rocky Mountains. The UCITE was able to provide a sandwich lunch. This trip helped solidify graduate student connections plus encouraged members to apply for executive positions in September.



Grassi Lakes Hike



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3.5.2. End of Semester Treat

December 20th, 2019 | | 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm | Last Defense Lounge (350 MSC, 2500, University Dr NW, Calgary, AB T2N 1N4)

On the last day of classes, the executives went to the UCalgary graduate restaurant to celebrate the end of the first semester. The CRO of the recent election plus other members also joined.



End of Semester Meal

3.5.3. Nakiska Ski Trip

Febraury 8th, 2020 | Nakiska Ski Resort



Nakiska Ski Trip

Twelve members traveled to Nakiska ski resort near Calgary to learn to ski. Two members as experienced skiers and one a previously certified instructor taught eight others on the bunny hill. This was a fun social bonding activity for the group and a valued as infrequent opportunity to go the Rocky mountains for those without their own vehicles.



4. Awards

An award for the best poster presentation is intended to be given during the Industry Mixer in late April.

5. Finances

With the changeover of executive officers occurring in September 2019, the following budget reports for events that occurred during Fall semester 2019 as our winter semester has not finished yet:

Date	Description/Event	Debit	Credit	Account Balance
24/10/2019	Printing Mugs for Souvenirs	239.9		655.34
30/10/2019	COLT Presentation (Snacks and coffee)	30.82		624.52
31/10/2019	Maintenance Fee	2.5		622.02
4/11/2019	Operational Bursary		300	922.02
29/11/2019	Maintenance Fee	2.5		919.52
27/11/2019	Guest Seminar - Dr. Hunt	71.2		848.32
6/12/2019	Exam Preparation Event (Lunch - Pizza)	53		795.32
6/12/2019	Exam Preparation Event (Lunch - Drinks)	7.8		787.52
13/12/2019	Event Grant 1		30.82	818.34
20/12/2019	End of Semester Meetup	61.43		756.91
30/01/2019	Calgary Micro-mobility Event	79.96		676.95
11/03/2020	Pause for Coffee event	29.93		647.02
2019-2020	Yearly Event Grant (Eligible)		300	947.02



6. Membership

This year the officers wished to expand our outreach to undergraduate students, who have typically been a small minority of the membership with only one typically attending luncheon events, by:

- coordinating with the Civil Engineering Undergraduate Society (CEUS) who spoke on our behalf or at the start of some third- and fourth-year transportation engineering classes
- the president speaking to two fourth-year classes with the permission of the instructor
- and having a membership invitation email sent out specifically to third- and fourth-year civil engineering students by the civil engineering administrator

We were able to increase our undergraduate membership. This noticeably resulted in regular attendance from four to six undergraduate students at our regular luncheon events.

- Undergraduate membership increased by 9 students this year.
- Graduate membership increased by 6 students this year.

Undergraduate Members (40 Members)

Sam Pollock, Mohit Acharya, Elmi Abdi, Saad Khurshid, Devin Drozd, Anum Abid, Sana Afreen, Brandon King, Waleed Elnahas, Ryan Janssen, Deanneella Melgar, Wael Jabir, Michael Mcnish, Suki Yip, Jianyixian Zhu, Harman Sandhu, Luke Yakielashek, Nowshin Nowal, Jared Ho, Kathleen Rombano, Mahnoor Baqai, Ian Roman, Dominik Zuczek, Angelo Anotado, Anna Ngo, Natasha Suthar, Lalitha Prasad, Brandon Cornell, Nur Nazir, Aziz Chenouda, Kiranvir Sibia, Rana Irshad, Ioana Rontu, Dinar Sajwani, Christopher Robert Bell, Alex Aycock Gough, Jing Xuan Liu, Selina Gandha, Rayven Moore, and Bhavik Ponkiya.

Graduate and Alumni Members (63 Members)

Jacob Lamb, Kaushan Wimalasiri Devasurendra, Iyad Sahnoon, Nouran Habib, Foyez Ahmed, Nadia Moshahedi, Craig MacDonald, Reza Ansari, Mouhammad Amiri, Rui Liu, Seiran Heshami, Asiri Senasinghe, Sumaya Nsair, Larissa Costa, Mohammad Ansari, Ethan Hill, Fatemeh Hosseinzadeh, Amin Ashena, Marcela Lopes, Mostafa Salari, Shahab Nejad, Aaron Manuel, Ashok Kinjarapu, Omid Ebadi, Ali Farhan, Adam Weiss, Saeid Saidi, Zipeng Zhang, Sohala Aalami, Jithamala Caldera, Shahanaz Sultana, Merkebe Demissie, Mahsa Ghaffari, Daniel Blischak, Lin Wang, Arhab Elahi, Ravi Thilakarathne, Syed Nasir Ahmed, Danny Haines, Negar Heydarigharehsoo, Hassan Kamkar, Ryan Vanderputten, Hamza Hamza, Azan Jamal, Siroos Shahriari, Juan Sanchez Higuerey, Arshbir Singh Saini, Arik Syed Haque, Natasha Suthar, Vic Cambi, Francis Christian Andres, Rashidul Islam, DI ZHU, Trevor Matthew Harding, Lalitha Prasad, Paulina Chiacchia, Yi Qiao Yang, Yousef Gharibiyamchi, Irm Soma Bhatti, Trevor Matthew Harding, Sheikh Hossain, Trecia Kilback, and Susann Lagore.



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7. Newsletter

This year a UCITE monthly e-newsletter was established. This e-newsletter consists of a summary of the group events that month and an upcoming agenda, plus highlighting relevant transportation engineering news, such as technological developments or ITE awards, as recommended by members and the UCITE officers. This e-newsletter is sent to the Membership every first Thursday of the month.



Sample E-Newsletter



8. UCITE By-Law Change

One of the first actions of this executive team was to modify the GSG bylaws. Changes were ratified by the process outlined in the previous by-laws by agreement from Faculty Advisor and SAITE. The pertinent changes made were:

- Elections specified to be in April to align with Association recommendations. Officer changeover still occurs in September however a transition period was established for May to September when incoming officers learn from outgoing officers when they may now resign early in that period. This is expected, over time, to bring the handover time closer to May as recommended by the Association.
- An “undergraduate representative” officer position was added to the executives. This position is currently not filled and is expected to be filled in collaboration with CEUS.

Address questions and concerns to:

Jacob Lamb, Jacob.lamb@ucalgary.ca

And

Central mailbox, uofcite@gmail.com