

**ITE McMaster Student Chapter
2020-2021 Outstanding Chapter
Award**



The 2020-2021 academic year brought a plethora of change and growth to the student chapter. With events going entirely virtual, the McMaster ITE Student Chapter has been able to leverage this period to adapt and entirely change operations.

As a result of meticulous planning throughout the summer, the student chapter is now recognized as the most active chapter in the entire Faculty of Engineering at McMaster University. Our current position allows us to reach a larger population of the student body and serve as a bridge with industry and academia members.

Meetings

The student chapter has consistently hosted monthly meetings since the beginning of the academic year in September. These meetings serve as an opportunity to reflect on brief to previous events, collect feedback from our executive team, and brief members on future events, and coordinate their roles. Minutes were produced within each meeting for members to read with actionable items.

Total Nb. of Meetings: 7

Dates: 7/09/2020, 15/09/2020, 2/10/2020, 10/11/2020, 29/11/2020, 13/01/2021, 04/02/2021

Location: Virtual (Zoom)

Presentation/speaker: Co-Presidents Anastasia & Moe.

Was this a joint meeting with another group(s)? Meeting consisted solely of ITE executive members

Describe one or two meetings that were particularly well received by your members.

Meeting on February 4th, 2021

The team had the opportunity to reflect on their break and the events we enjoyed hosting. Moreover, we were able to hear feedback on what they would like us to change. We laid out the necessary steps required to ship our monthly newsletter and begin posting on our multiple social channels. Students and executive members alike enjoyed the “Transportation Research Seminar Series” that was introduced this year. The series showcased the multifaceted nature of transportation engineering by inviting researchers from various fields.

In order to facilitate the process and ease the transition for future members, we’ve documented all the steps we undertake from brainstorm sessions to poster creation to posting on social media.

**ITE McMaster Student Chapter
2020-2021 Outstanding Chapter
Award**



Student/Younger Member Support (15 points)

Describe how your Section/Chapter supported your ITE Students and Younger Members last year. (i.e. scholarships, student leadership summits, mentoring, etc.)

The ITE student chapter has proactively recruited members of the student engineering body, particularly first and second years. Several of these younger student members are now representatives within the chapter.

Further, the student chapter had intended to attend the CITE conference in Vancouver; however, the event has been cancelled due to the ongoing pandemic. We were particularly disappointed when we found out that the CITE 2021 in Hamilton would be cancelled. The conference would have offered the chapter to volunteer as well as host the leadership summit on campus.

In line with our efforts of creating a bridge with industry members, we have reached out to the Hamilton Section with a manifesto of a mentorship program and the associated marketing materials (i.e. posters). Plans are in the works to launch the program next year.

Application of Technical Knowledge (10 points)

Did your Section/Chapter, for example, address a local transportation issue or collaborate with industry on a project or program.

Our faculty advisor, Dr. Moataz Mohamed, works closely with the transportation body within the City of Hamilton, Hamilton Street Railway (HSR). Hence, we were able to host an event with a Metrolinx project manager to understand their role within the city and what happened to the scrapped LRT project.

In collaboration with Dr. Mohamed, we have been able to offer workshops for students and ITE members to recreate existing intersections in Hamilton on Synchro Traffic Software. We also coordinated with another transportation professor, Dr. Hussein, and invited ITE students to attend VISSIM Software tutorial as part of his undergraduate/graduate level Traffic Analysis course.

Networking Events (10 points)

Did your Section/Chapter hold any networking events? Describe any events that would have led to a particularly meaningful experience for members.

Networking is embedded in every event we host. From our Transportation Research Seminars to Industry Speaker Sessions, we encourage students to ask questions within the sessions and to reach out after the event is over. In order to facilitate the process of reaching out with speakers, we send an email thanking them for their time, a screenshot of the event, and the email and LinkedIn profile of our speakers.

**ITE McMaster Student Chapter
2020-2021 Outstanding Chapter
Award**



Prior to the pandemic, these events have enabled members to hold coffee chats to extend the conversation and learn more about the incredible individuals within the transportation field. These coffee chats still do take place (over Zoom).

K-12 STEM Outreach (10 points)

Did your Section/Chapter participate in any K-12 STEM Outreach events? New Member Recruitment (10 points)

Did your Section/Chapter have a member recruitment event or another method of attracting potential new members?

The student chapter has conducted several recruitment events over the academic year. Initially, we sought to find executive members for roles including Co-President, Vice President of Administration, Vice President of Finance, and Vice President of Communications. The next step consisted of hiring year reps who attended events and advertised events to their peers.

We are planning to participate in a K-12 STEM Outreach event in collaboration with Women in STEM over the next couple of months.

Diversity and Inclusion (5 points)

How did your Section or Chapter attempt to both diversify participation and encourage an inclusive environment?

This can be described demographically as well as through activities that encourage the engagement of various people including Public Agencies, women, planners, and younger member communities for example.

Following the tragic death of George Floyd, the student chapter has used its reach on social media to spotlight and advertise events taking place at McMaster University that highlighted BIPOC voices.

The student chapter values an environment that embodies diverse visions and diverse voices. We support a student body that is inclusive of all people as our diversity contributes to our innovation and continued success as a society.

Training/Professional Development (5 points)

Did your Section/Chapter put on any training events for your members or conduct an educational opportunity?

The student chapter hosts several software tutorials during the semester as mentioned in the section "Application of Technical Knowledge".

Field Trips/Technical Tours (5 points)

Did your Section/Chapter go on any field trips or technical tours?

**ITE McMaster Student Chapter
2020-2021 Outstanding Chapter
Award**



In the past, the student chapter has consistently organized trips (in collaboration with the Mohawk Student Chapter) to visit the Transportation Operation Centers (TOC) at the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and the City of Toronto. However, due to the ongoing pandemic, the chapter was unable to organize a virtual version of this trip.

Service Projects (5 points)

Did your Section/Chapter participate in any community service projects?

No, the student chapter did not participate in community service projects.

Funding Support (5 points)

Do you raise funds outside of dues and events to reinvest in your members?

The student chapter has successfully been able to raise funds from the McMaster Students Union (MSU).

LeadershipITE (5 points)

How does your Section/Chapter support members interested in LeadershipITE?

How does your Section/Chapter integrate its Alumni?

Student chapter members are interested in LeadershipITE in its role to help young transportation professionals.

The chapter continues to integrate alumni by inviting them as speakers to highlight their lives as Engineers-in-Training (EITs) and their journey navigating the transportation industry.

Advocacy (5 points)

Did your Section/Chapter engage in any activities to educate and inform members about issues, legislation, and/or regulations that might impact the transportation industry

The student chapter has been able to educate and inform members on the societal impacts of the transportation industry by inviting speakers who shed a light on the role of socioeconomic factors on transit.