

2022 NCITE ELECTIONS

This is a special Election Edition of the INCITER containing information for the 2022 NCITE Elections

Electronic ballots will be emailed **Monday, October 4th, 2021** 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 2021 NCITE President Kevin Peterson at kevin.peterson@co.washington.mn.us.

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 2022 NCITE election. The immediate Past President position is filled by succession:

Immediate Past President – **Kevin Peterson**

The candidates for each open position are as follows:

President (1 candidate, 1 open position)



Natalie Sager

Natalie is a Traffic Engineer (PE) at HDR with over eight years of experience. She has a widespread background in traffic operations, safety, planning, and final design with both local and non-local agencies. She graduated with a bachelor's degree of Civil Engineering from the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities in 2014 and enjoys traveling and hiking with her husband, Tom.

Natalie has been an active member of NCITE since she joined in 2014. During her membership, she has served as the Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Committee co-chair/chair, Director, Treasurer, and has co-authored two INCITER articles. She also recently completed the 2021 Class of LeadershipITE. Natalie supports key ITE initiatives, including providing valuable professional development & networking opportunities, and finding new ways to help grow our industry. She looks forward to the opportunity to continue on the NCITE board and contribute her organizational skills and attention to detail to NCITE as the incoming President.

Vice President (1 candidate, 1 open position)



Jeremy Melquist

Jeremy is a Traffic Engineer for the City of Bloomington where he manages traffic operations and Intelligent Transportation Systems in the City. He received his Civil Engineering degree from the University of Minnesota in 2013 and is currently a licensed Professional Engineer and Professional Traffic Operations Engineer.

Jeremy has been involved with NCITE since 2014 and has served as Younger Member Committee Co-Chair and Chair, Professional Development Committee Co-chair, and Director, and Treasurer.

Jeremy lives in New Brighton with his wife (Jess) and dog (Murphy).

Secretary (2 candidates, 1 open position)



Joe Devore

Joe (PE, PTOE, RSP2(I)) has been involved with the NCITE and the traffic engineering community in the Twin Cities for over 9 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 multi-modal corridor improvements throughout the Midwest Region. Joe is an avid Minnesota sports fan, having played baseball at the University of Minnesota, and continues to find ways to mentor students interested in traffic and transportation engineering at both the University of Minnesota and North Dakota State University.

Joe has been an active member of ITE 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, and was the NCITE director in 2019. He has been an active presenter and member in NCITE SimCap and Intersection Traffic Control Committees over the years and is always excited to share and foster transportation knowledge shared throughout our community.

Joe has mostly been working virtually for the past 2 years and is an avid proponent of pushing for a hybrid working model fitting transportation professionals' individual needs. How these changes impact NCITE's direction moving forward are very important to identify and find the right mix of in-person, virtual, and hybrid opportunities for NCITE members to engage and network in 2022. I look forward to the opportunity to represent the section as the 2022 NCITE Secretary!

Secretary (2 candidates, 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.

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 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 the 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.

Treasurer (1 candidate, 1 open position)



Nik Costello

Nik is an Engineer III with the Washington County Public Works Department with over 15 years of experience in the transportation industry, primarily focused on traffic engineering. For the past 3+ years he has been working full time in the Metro Transit Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project Office as a transit design engineer and technical liaison to the project's many partner agencies, working to deliver what will hopefully be the region's first BRT line that will operate primarily within a dedicated guideway. 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, and chair of the Intersection Traffic Control Committee in 2018. He lives in St. Paul with his wife Kelly, daughter Ruth (2.5), and dog Karl (14). In his spare time, he enjoys golfing, fishing, camping, downhill skiing, curling, and traveling the country. Nik is honored to be considered for the position of treasurer, and excited for the opportunity to serve NCITE in a new role and continue to give back to an organization that has given him so much over the years.

Director (3 candidates, 2 open positions)



KC Atkins

KC is a professional engineer and project manager at SEH with a broad range of experience in multimodal engineering, planning and design. She has extensive experience in preliminary and final design for bicycle/pedestrian accommodations, developing multimodal design guidance and best practices, urban/rural roadways, interchanges, local roads, and context-sensitive design solutions. KC also has experience in traffic engineering, traffic analysis, and delay calculations, as well as traffic safety, crash analysis, safety plans, and road safety audits. Her wide range of knowledge allows her to incorporate multiple elements of engineering into her work to provide safe multimodal infrastructure. Her design experience has provided opportunities to discuss and analyze various design solution trade-offs and develop street, bikeway, trail and pedestrian designs from the early planning and concept level stages through final design and construction documents. KC is an effective leader in engaging the public, policy-makers and internal teams around technical ideas and designs.

KC earned her degree from the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities in 2007 and recently moved from Minneapolis to Eden Prairie with her husband Andrew (structural engineer), two daughters and her pandemic dog. KC became active in NCITE in 2017 and has served as the Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Committee co-chair/chair. Prior to joining ITE, KC was an active member of the American Society of Civil Engineers having served as the Committee on Younger Members Publications Member from 2013 to 2016 and various positions within the ASCE Wisconsin Southeast Branch Younger Member Group prior to that. She looks forward to the opportunity to get more involved with NCITE and bring a variety of presentation topics to its members.



Cade Botton

Cade is currently a graduate engineer working for Hennepin County in their Traffic Management Center. He graduated from the University of Minnesota in 2018 with a degree in Civil Engineering and he is currently preparing to take the Professional Engineer Exam. Cade is currently living in St. Louis Park with his fiancé Lauren and dog Rupert. He will be house hunting after his marriage next summer. In his free time Cade enjoys spending time outside, playing sports and video games, and spoiling his dog with treats.

Cade has been active in ITE since he joined the county and he is the current chair of the Intersection Traffic Control Committee. He believes that ITE is valuable for providing professional development and network opportunities, and it is a great way to support others and share tips for avoiding failures and finding success. Cade is excited for his future with ITE and he hopes that he can continue to contribute to the section.

Director (3 candidates, 2 open positions)



Justin Sebens

Justin has been in the transportation industry for eight years working in the private sector. He has primarily focused on traffic modeling and operations while mixing in noise and air work.

Justin was the co-chair and chair of the simulation and capacity group and has been actively involved in ITE for 10 years. He was the student leader for the University of Wisconsin ITE student chapter and has been a member of NCITE since moving to Minnesota. Justin is originally from Illinois and enjoys golfing and spending time with his kids.

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



Nick Erpelding

Nick (PE, PTOE, IMSA II) is a Traffic Engineer at SRF Consulting Group in Minneapolis. He has been with SRF for the past 10 years, previously having spent four years with Westwood and six at RLK, all in the Twin Cities Metro area. Nick currently leads SRF's 8-person Traffic Operations section, providing expertise on projects ranging from coordinated signal timing optimization to Transit Signal Priority to multi-modal arterial traffic modeling and analysis. Over the past 10 years Nick has optimized signal timing for more than 1,000 intersections; he excels in the hands-on programming and configuration of signal control hardware and software necessary to maximize efficiency and safety. His other traffic engineering experience includes traffic signal and pedestrian signal design, ITS planning and design, roadway lighting design and traffic impact studies. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Notre Dame in 2001.

Nick has been a member of ITE since joining as a student in 2000. He has served the NCITE section as Yearbook Chair, Communications Chair, Director, Treasurer, and 2012 section President. At the District level Nick has been active with the Traffic Boal committee since 2014, serving as event host since 2018 and as Co-Chair since formation of the new Great Lakes District in 2020. Nick is a frequent presenter at ITE committees and conferences at the section, district and national level, and has been honored to receive the Transportation Professional of the Year award from both the NCITE section (2019) and GLITE district (2021). He actively supports the mission of ITE, including the opportunities it provides for networking and professional development and the connection it helps to provide between the agency, consultant, academic and student communities. Nick looks forward to contributing his energy and passion to promoting the continued growth and success of the organization.

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