Institute of Transportation Engineers
ANNUAL REPORT OF STUDENT CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

FROM: June 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015

STUDENT CHAPTER AT: Portland State University

1. STUDENT CHAPTER OFFICERS
President: Nicholas Stoll
Vice President: Savannah Ernzen
Conference Coordinator: Bryan Blanc
Secretary: Matt Downey
Treasurer: Ali Razmpa
Professional Development Director: Tasnia Subrin
Website/Blog Manager: Mandia Gonzales
PHD Coordinator: Tara Goddard
Events Coordinator: -

2. STUDENT CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP
Number of Student Chapter members: 271
Number of Student members of Institute: Not tracked
Number of Students eligible to be a Student member of the Institute: Not tracked
Number of faculty members who are current ITE members: 3

3. INFORMATION ON TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING ENROLLMENT
Number of undergraduate students (sophomore - senior years) in your academic department: Not tracked
Full time: Not tracked Part time: Not tracked
Does your curriculum allow an undergraduate student to major or minor in Transportation?
☑ Yes ☒ No: Not specifically listed, but students have the option to declare an emphasis.
Number of graduate students in Transportation: 15 in the Civil Engineering Department, 47 in Urban Studies and Planning, and 5 PhD students.
Full time: Not tracked

4. SUMMARY OF STUDENT CHAPTER ACTIVITIES
Attached

5. ROSTER OF STUDENT CHAPTER MEMBERS
Attached

Report submitted by: Nicholas Stoll
Email: nbstoll@gmail.com

Contents approved by:
Name: Miguel Figliozzi (Faculty Advisor)
Phone: 503-725-2836
Date: April 12, 2013
Please submit report to: Danielle Scharf, Western District Student Initiatives Chair
Portland State University ITE Chapter:
Students in Transportation Engineering and Planning (STEP)

Annual Report Contents

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Overview:

The Portland State University (PSU) Student ITE Chapter, Students in Transportation Engineering and Planning (STEP), strives to engage its members in relevant transportation issues to further their professional and academic development through its yearly activities. The chapter also seeks to facilitate relationships between transportation students from different disciplines, both within PSU and with other universities, with a view toward building a shared understanding that will be helpful to students both in their academic studies and in professional practice.

Portland State’s STEP attended several conferences during the past year. Portland State STEP had a large showing at this year’s Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting in January in Washington DC, with many students also presenting. Students also attended conferences in Kansas City, Philadelphia, and Portland. There are several students also going up to Seattle, Washington in the mid-April for the National APA Conference. Through attendance at these conferences students have been able to share their research while learning about the latest research being done elsewhere, in addition to building connections with a diverse array of transportation professionals.

The chapter has continued several annual events, including participation in the Oregon ITE Traffic Bowl. This year, the chapter came in third place for the regional competition. Our ITE chapter also holds social events at the beginning of each term to encourage students to become involved, and hear about future events. This year’s annual Gingerbread Competition was a competition to build a 20-minute neighborhood, and was a great success. We have an annually held event coming up at the beginning of May, which promises to be a good opportunity for planners and engineers to come together for some enjoyable socializing. This event, the Urban Olympics, will also be held in combination with the Young Professionals in Transportation (Portland chapter) this year, and allow students the opportunity to mingle with young professionals working in the fields of transportation, engineering, and planning.

STEP is looking forward to completing the remaining activities scheduled for this academic year, bringing a new team of officers on board for the next school year, and beginning to plan for an exciting new year of activities.
Summary of Student Activities:

**Fall Term Social Hour | October 16, 2014**
Within the first couple weeks of the term, STEP hosted a social for current and prospective transportation students as kickoff for the new school year. Roughly 40 students and/or faculty were in attendance, and gathered in the ITS lab in Portland State’s Engineering Building for socializing and pizza. STEP’s president, Nicholas Stoll, introduced the new officers, and outlined upcoming events.

**Pre-Traffic Bowl Even | November 13, 2014**
A jeopardy style competition was held to select a team for the ITE Traffic Bowl. Participants were quizzed on various aspects of transportation acumen, and in the end, four were selected to compete and represent PSU in the 2014 ITE Traffic Bowl. Roughly 15-20 students were in attendance, and food was provided.

**Oregon ITE Traffic Bowl | November 20, 2014**
Portland State competed in the Oregon ITE’s William C. Kloos Traffic Bowl, which was held on PSU’s campus. The event tested students on transportation-based knowledge with Jeopardy-style questions. Competitors also included teams from Oregon State University, University of Oregon, University of Washington, and Oregon Institute of Technology. The PSU team consisted of Bryan Blanc, Chawalit Tipagornwong, Matt Downey, and Gerald Fittipaldi. After fierce competition, the PSU team took third place.
Gingerbread 20-minute Neighborhood Competition | December 4, 2014

STEP held their annual Gingerbread Competition at the end of fall term. The year’s theme was 20 minute neighborhoods, and after each team completed their neighborhood, the neighborhoods were combined to create a city. Nine groups were formed, with both faculty and students in attendance. With no formal winner, participants voted on which neighborhood they enjoyed the most. In the end, the city included parks, bridges, high-rises, hospitals, and a host of other creative inventions.

Kittelson and Associates Talk | November 20, 2014

Kittelson and Associates is a Transportation Engineering and Planning consultant with a large presence in the Portland area and the Pacific Northwest region. Kittelson and Associates annually comes to PSU to speak with students about professional opportunities with their firm and elsewhere. A presentation about initial professional development in the transportation engineering/planning world was given and students were encouraged to discuss their questions about the field with the professional in attendance. Lunch was provided.
The Transportation Research Board Meeting took Washington DC by storm. Portland State University was well represented in poster sessions, workshops and presentations. Roughly twenty students from PSU were in attendance. For many students, this was their first time attending TRB. This proved to be a huge opportunity for STEP members to share their research, learn about other research being done all over the world, and network with transportation students and professionals.

Oregon Active Transportation Summit | March 30-31, 2015
Several students attended this year’s OATS here in Portland. This conference gave students a chance to hear about the current state of active transportation, and included NACTO bikeway design and urban street design training during the second day of the event.

Upcoming Activities:

HDR Talk | April 8, 2015

![HDR Talk Invitation](image-url)
Smith Siromaskul from HDR is coming to PSU to talk about solving the “unsolvable problems” in intersection design. He will discuss how he and his team approach difficult engineering problems, and provide some important takeaways for students.

**New Student Reception | April 8, 2015**

April 8th is the new student reception for the Urban Planning department. STEP officers will be in attendance to provide potential students with an idea of what STEP is an organization, as well as describe opportunities for students to become involved in the organization.

**Urban Olympics | May 1, 2015**

This annual event is sponsored by STEP and Portland State’s Planning Club. This event is scheduled to take place on a Friday afternoon with a follow-up happy hour to announce the winners. With a typical attendance of nearly fifty people, this is a great opportunity for planning and engineering to come together and compete in social transportation related activities like a Portland scavenger hunt and transit bingo. This year, the Portland YPT chapter will join in the event, and bring many young professionals to join students in friendly competition.

**Future Cities Series | TBD**

STEP is organizing a series of individuals and companies to come and give talks about the “future” of transportation. A representative from Portland’s GlobeSherpa has agreed to discuss their role in increasing the ease at which mobile bus fares are purchased, and discuss what this could mean for Portland.
Acknowledgements:

The Portland State University ITE Chapter, STEP, would particularly like to acknowledge ITE for its generous financial support of the student chapter and for its support of students in general. STEP would like to thank the following organizations and individuals for their enthusiasm, advice, and financial support:

- ITE Western District and Oregon ITE
- TREC (Transportation Research & Education Consortium)
- DKS & Associates
- Oregon Department of Transportation
- Dr. Miguel Figliozzi (Faculty Advisor)
- Dr. Chris Monsere
- Dr. Jennifer Dill
- Virginia Luka (Portland State University Student Group Advisor)
Roster of Active Student Chapter Members

While the STEP group has over 271 members, the following chart shows the breakdown of STEP members who participated in at least one event in the 2014-2015 academic calendar year as of March 31, 2015.

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