



## *IN THIS ISSUE...*

Message from the (Past) President.....	2
Message from the President .....	3
In Memoriam – Gary Kenneth Trietsch (1947 - 2022).....	4
2022 ITS Texas Annual Meeting Review .....	5
Thank you to the 2022 Annual Meeting Sponsors & Exhibitors .....	8
2022 ITS Texas Scholarship Winners .....	10
2022 ITS Board of Directors Election & 2023 Board of Directors .....	10
Your 2023 ITS Texas Board of Directors .....	12
2023 ITS Texas Annual Meeting – November in College Station .....	13
ITS Texas at 2023 ITS America Conference & Expo.....	14
ITS America Coming to Texas – April 24 - 27, 2023 .....	15
Write an Article for the Newsletter .....	17
ITS in the News .....	17

## MESSAGE FROM THE (PAST) PRESIDENT

ITS Friends and Members,

2023 is shaping up to be a dynamic year for ITS Texas while a semi-bittersweet year for me. After benefitting from educational forums and networking opportunities that are the core of ITS Texas since joining the industry in 2001 and having the honor of serving on your board since 2016, I now hold the enviable yet transitional title of Past President. Highlights of the 2022 Annual Meeting are revisited in this newsletter, but looking ahead I am proud to now shine the spotlight on Victor and the other board members and am excited and envious of their developments in the works for 2023 and beyond!



Thank you,

Alex Power



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

ITS Friends and Members,

It was very exciting to see you all at our 2022 ITS Texas Meeting. This year 2023 has marked a major turning point as people's lifestyle and workstyle are returning to normality. People are finding their way to travel more into our nation's roadway and transportation infrastructure. We are now experiencing the great value of TSMO and ITS technologies. ITS proves, again and again, to keep traffic moving within the existing infrastructure without increasing the need for additional transportation structural expenditures.



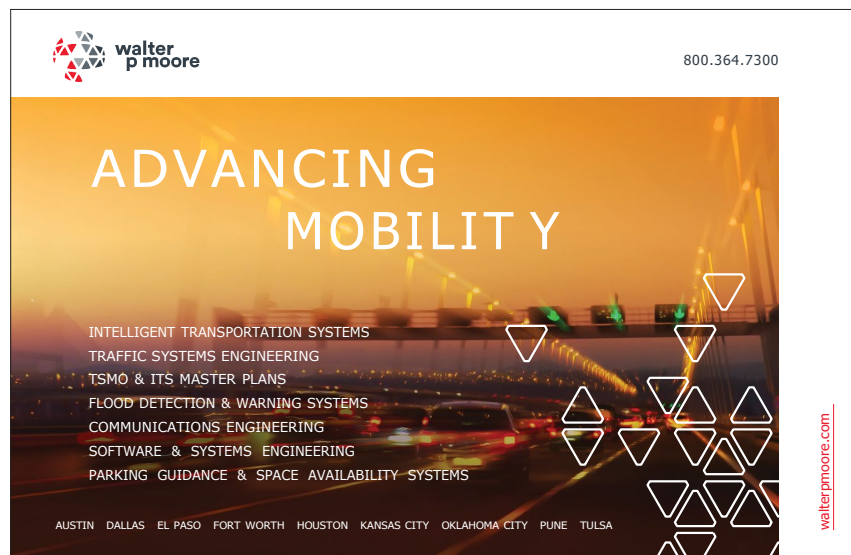
We are very excited this year as we have a presence for the first time at the ITS America Conference & Expo on April 24-27, 2023 at the Gaylord Texan Resort, in Grapevine, TX. We will be at the exhibit hall in booth 1523. Please make sure you stop by and say hi to your ITS Texas board of directors.

Presently, our board is developing an ITS Texas strategic plan with exciting initiatives. Some of those include revamping our website and efforts to increase the number of our student chapters to motivate the next generation of ITS professionals. Stay tuned for more.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter that was put together by our board members and we invite you to submit articles to showcase your projects with our ITS Texas community.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you soon. :)

Victor De la Garza



## IN MEMORIAM – GARY KENNETH TRIETSCH (1947 - 2022)

Dear ITS Texas Members and Friends,

It is with great sadness and huge sense of loss to the ITS Texas community that we inform you of the passing of Gary Trietsch, at age 75. Mr. Trietsch was the first President of the Intelligent Transportation Society of Texas (ITS Texas) and resident of Houston, passed away November 7, 2022. Gary had a long and distinguished career with TxDOT, joining the Fort Worth District Tarrant County construction section in 1967, working summers and part time while attending the University of Texas at Arlington. After earning his bachelor's degree in civil engineering in 1970, he moved to the design section. From 1972 to 1978, Mr. Trietsch worked in the district traffic engineering section, earning his master's degree in civil engineering from the University of Texas at Arlington in 1974. While working in various design capacities in the Fort Worth District from 1978 to 1987, Mr. Trietsch became Assistant District Design Engineer in 1985.



Gary moved to Austin in 1987, becoming director of the Safety and Traffic Operations Section in the Safety and Maintenance Operations Division. As Assistant Division Director for Traffic Operations in 1988, he was responsible for the central permit operations, traffic safety, traffic engineering and traffic management systems sections in the Maintenance and Operations Division. In 1992, Mr. Trietsch was selected as director of the division. Gary moved to Houston and served as the Houston District Engineer until his retirement in 2008. He was a champion for the development and deployment of advanced traffic operations concepts and intelligent transportation systems in the Houston area and throughout the state of Texas. During his time at the Houston District, Gary was a key supporter and instrumental in the development and operations of the Houston TranStar partnership. Gary came out of retirement to serve as Executive Director of the Harris County Toll Road Authority from 2014 to 2020.

Honored for his contributions in the field of engineering and to the state of Texas, Mr. Trietsch received the 1991 Dewitt C. Greer Award from TxDOT, the 1996 Transportation Engineer of the Year award from the Texas Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers, the 1997 Dr. L.I. Hewes Award from the Western Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (WASHTO), and the 1999 ATSSA National Safety Award. He was a member of the Institute of Transportation Engineers and the National Society of Professional Engineers. We are proud that Mr. Trietsch was also the Founding President of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) of Texas in 1993. His contributions to ITS Texas will forever be an example for future leaders to follow and emulate.

He is survived by his wife, Bonnie, his daughters, Stephanie and Shelly, his son-in-law and tech support, Jeff, his grandsons, Travis, Ray, and Knox, his granddaughter-in-law, Priscilla, his great-granddaughter, Ella Rose, his sister and brother-in-law, Pam and Burl, and many other family and friends.

Regards,  
ITS Texas Board of Directors

## 2022 ITS TEXAS ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW

The 2022 ITS Annual Meeting was held at the San Marcos Convention Center on September 28 - 30, 2022. The ITS Board of Directors extends a very big thank you to all who attended and made this meeting a success. This was the first ITS Texas Annual meeting since our joint meeting with TexITE in Dallas in November 2021. Seeing so many of our friends, colleagues, and exhibitors return to ITS Texas was very encouraging. With so much that has happened in the past few years – your show of support by attending the Annual Meeting is an indication that ITS as an industry and/or profession is strong and looking to continue to innovate as our theme for the meeting “The Next Big Thing” indicated.



This year's attendance of 341 people, which compares to 2019 attendance of 415 (the last ITS Annual meeting before Covid), and shows that ITS Texas is back and continuing to grow to pre-pandemic levels. We were very thankful to have all exhibitor personnel working at the 41 exhibitor booths displaying their products and services in the vendor showroom. The vendors are always a very important part of the meeting as they showcase new and evolving technologies that are the future of ITS in Texas. We greatly appreciate their support. For a complete list of the exhibitors please see page 9 of the newsletter. We also want to thank all of the presenters that came from near and far and provided everyone who attended a wealth of information. For a list of the all the presenters and their presentations please visit the ITS Texas website. Finally, thanks to all of our sponsors who made this meeting possible with their generous support. Please see page 87 of the newsletter for a complete list of all the sponsors.



The 2022 Annual Meeting started out with a traditional training workshop on Wednesday. Our thanks to Nader Ayoub of Iteris for presenting the workshop on Diamond Interchange Operations. The training included discussions of operation and design considerations using traditional 4-phase and 3-phase operations. It also included a look at alternative designs such as the diverging diamond interchange and displaced left turn operations. With traffic now fully back to pre-Covid levels, this was a very timely topic that was well attended. After a day of training or

travel – depending on your schedule – everyone enjoyed the Social Event at EVO Entertainment. The very first and possibly only ITS bowling tournament was held with AM Signal capturing bragging rights for the meeting. All who attended enjoyed the Mexican food buffet, bowling after the tournament concluded, and playing pool and video games. It was a nice way to reconnect with friends and colleagues before getting down to business the next day and learn about new and emerging technologies and practices.



On Thursday, the Annual Meeting officially began with Breakfast with Exhibitors – thanks to the exhibitors for their participation and making the meeting a success. After everyone had a good breakfast – the Opening Session was a very informative panel discussion titled “Innovation for Transformation from Pavement to Sky” moderated by Mr. James Kuhr from the TxDOT Strategic Planning Division. Panel members were – Mr. Darran Anderson – TxDOT Director of Strategy and Innovation, Mr. David Freidenfeld for the TxDOT Transportation and Programing Division, and Mr. Raul Rios from the TxDOT Aviation Division. Many of the new and innovative ideas that TxDOT is exploring like connected and autonomous vehicles, big data and how to use it, and the new UAS program were discussed.



This was followed by technical sessions on “Vehicles Electrification and Charging – Challenges & Opportunities” and “Performance Measurement”. The kick-off luncheon was not up to the expectations that the ITS Texas board had established, and we apologize for the delay that many experienced in being served lunch. We did however have a very informative Keynote Speaker in Ms. Tracy Larkin Thomason – Senior Vice President for Program Development at ITS America. She spoke on how collaborations and innovations can transform transportation implementations and operations. Her national perspective and experience in this area were unique and insightful on how other states around the country handle many different challenging issues.

The following technical session explored “Data Analytics” and “Incident Management and Special Events”. Then the last session of the day was a new idea suggested by ITS Texas Treasurer Lester Miyasaki – the Vendor Showcase. This innovative idea session allowed all of the vendors an opportunity to present a short description of their company, services, and equipment. Based on the attendance in the session – it was a huge success. Thanks again to the vendors for their participation in this new concept. The day was concluded with the Vendor Reception where everyone was able to enjoy food and drinks while discussing all the day’s sessions and new information in a relaxed atmosphere.



The technical sessions continued on Friday that included: “Connected and Automated Vehicles”, “Interagency Coordination”, “Multimodal Transportation Opportunities” and “Arterial Traffic Management Systems (ATMS)”. The final session of the meeting was the Business and Awards luncheon, which once again featured Mr. James Kuhr from the TxDOT Strategic Planning Division and Mr. Joe Hunt from the TxDOT Dallas District. They discussed “Transportation Data – Past, Present and Future”. After the presentation the ITS Texas Student Scholarships were awarded and election of the 2023 ITS Texas Board Members and Officers was announced.



As always, the final act of the meeting was the door prize awards – where it seems certain people always seem to win at least one prize every year. If you would like to review any of the presentations from this year’s Annual Meeting, please go to the ITS Texas web page. We know that the success of our Annual Meeting relies primarily on our members. Thank you for your attendance, participation, presentations, and energy. We look forward to seeing you in November 2023 for next ITS Texas Annual Meeting in College Station.



## THANK YOU TO THE 2022 ANNUAL MEETING SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS

ITS Texas would like to acknowledge and express its gratitude for the commitment and support of our conference sponsors and exhibitors, whose help made our meeting a great success!

### 2022 ANNUAL MEETING SPONSORS

Training Sponsor:	Iteris	
Social Event Sponsor:	Paradigm	
Bowling Sponsors:	JTS Transcend Engineers & Planners	
Cabana Sponsors:	Buyers Barricades Cubic ITS Econolite	
Laynard Sponsor:	Kimley Horn	
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Bronze Sponsors:	DKS Associates Mobotrex Quiddity Engineering	Syline Products Texas Highway Products



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## 2022 ANNUAL MEETING EXHIBITORS

Iteris	360 Network Solution Inc.	SICK, Inc.
Miovision	Activu Corporation	VIVOTEK USA, Inc.
INRIX	Antaira Technologies	Versilis
Skyline Products	Lantronix	AM Signal LLC
Consolidated Traffic Controls Inc.	Loetek Electronics USA, LLC	American Signal Company
Twincrest Technologies	Boschung America	Daktronics, Inc.
ELTEC	Wanco, Inc.	Texas Highway Products
Econolite	Mobotrex	Paradigm Traffic Systems
Wireless Technology, Inc/WTI	TrafficVision	Oriux
Citian	Applied Information	Image Sensing Systems, Inc.
EtherWAN	SWARCO McCain Inc.	JTS
Siemens RUGGEDCOM	UrbanLogiq	Abloy USA Critical Infrastructure
Genetec	The Hoosier Company Inc./LLC	Cubic, ITS
Southern Manufacturing	TAPCO	



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## 2022 ITS TEXAS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Every year ITS Texas provides scholarships to deserving graduate students at Texas colleges and universities who are pursuing educations in fields that contribute to ITS. Your attendance at the Annual Meeting and your sponsorships all contribute to ITS Texas' ability to provide funding for graduate study in Texas in the field of ITS.

The Board of Directors, through the scholarship award committee, selected 5 recipients for 2022, with a total of \$9,000 being awarded:

- Arabi Mehrdad from the University of Texas at Arlington received a \$2,300 scholarship
- Boni Jobaidul from the University of Texas at Arlington received a \$2,050 scholarship
- Bassil Maria from the University of Texas at Austin received a \$1,800 scholarship
- Haque Mahshid from the University of Texas at Arlington received a \$1,550 scholarship
- Wang Peirong (Slade) from the University of Texas at Arlington received a \$1,300 scholarship

Each scholarship recipient received recognition at the Annual Meeting in San Marcos

## 2022 ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION & 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The ballot provided at the 2022 ITS Texas Annual Meeting in November provided four candidates from which to choose two new Director At Large. The Board would like to thank the University of Texas at Arlington and the University of Texas Student Chapters for counting the ballots.



Victor De la Garza was elected to the position of President, Lester Miyasaki to Vice President, Marques Allen to Treasurer, and Minh Le to Secretary. The new At Large Directors are Roma Stevens with Stevens Technical Services and David Ayers of Southern Manufacturing. Alex Power will serve in the role of Past President, Tony Voigt will continue his role as Administrator, and Brandi Bush and John Gianotti will continue to serve their terms as At Large Directors. Since the Annual Meeting – Marques Allen has resigned from the ITS Texas Board.

Due to this change, Minh Le was promoted from Secretary to Treasurer and John Gianotti was promoted from At Large Director to Secretary. This however left an At Large Director position vacant. The ITS Texas Board contacted our runner up candidate, Renee Hurtado, who not elected to the board at the Annual Meeting and asked if they would consider participating as an At Large Director. Renee Hurtado of DKS Associates accepted the position. The Board of Directors appreciates the participation of all the candidates and encourages any individuals interested in serving on the Board to submit a statement of interest when self-nominations are invited in 2023. Thanks to all who voted and to the candidates for agreeing to serve on the Board of Directors. See page 11 of this newsletter for the listing of the Board of Directors.



## YOUR 2023 ITS TEXAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS



### President

Victor De la Garza, Jr.  
AECOM (El Paso)



### Vice President

Lester Miyasaki  
Wireless Technology, Inc.  
(California)



### Treasurer

Minh Le  
Texas A&M Transportation  
Institute (Dallas)



### Secretary

John Gianotti  
TxDOT San Antonio District



### Director

Brandi Bush  
TxDOT Dallas District



### Director

Roma Stevens  
Stevens Technical Services, Inc.  
(Houston)



### Director

David Ayers  
Southern Manufacturing  
(Arlington)



### Director

Renee Hurtado  
DKS Associates (Austin)



### Past President

Alex Power  
TxDOT (Retired)



### Administrator

Tony Voigt  
SV Traffic, LLC (Houston)

Board member information can be found at <https://www.itstexas.org/board-of-directors>.



## 2023 ITS TEXAS ANNUAL MEETING – NOVEMBER IN COLLEGE STATION

ITS Texas is looking forward to holding the 2023 ITS Texas Annual Meeting in Aggieland. The Annual meeting will be held at the Hilton College Station and Conference Center located at 801 University Drive – just minutes from the Texas A&M campus. The meeting which will only be two days instead of our normal three-day meeting promises to be fast paced, exciting with dynamic speakers. **We look forward to seeing you in November in College Station!**

More details to come on the ITS Texas [website](http://www.itstexas.org).



## ITS TEXAS AT 2023 ITS AMERICA CONFERENCE & EXPO



As many of you may know, the 2023 ITS America Conference & Expo will be at the Gaylord Texan Resort in DFW on April 24-27.

ITS Texas will have a booth at the ITSA Conference & Expo. Come see us, meet our Board Members and learn about our upcoming annual meeting in College Station, ITS Texas Project Awards, training opportunities, student chapters and scholarship opportunities, and about how to get involved with the ITS Texas Chapter. We are in booth 1523.

ITS Texas will also collaborate with Southwest Research Institute in the inaugural Future Leaders Program at the ITSA Conference & Expo. The new program is designed to inspire the next generation of leaders in the ITS industry through a variety of activities at the Conference & Expo. Participants can attend education sessions and training and network with ITS professionals, exhibitors, sponsors and technology providers.

Complimentary student registration includes access to the full education program, networking, refreshments and lunch. Benefits of attendance include:

- Networking with professionals, enhancing interview skills and learning about job opportunities.
- Discussing research and projects with peers and industry leaders.
- Participating in an exclusive walking tour with an ITS America and SwRI ambassador.
- Exploring innovative technologies through interactive exhibits and demonstrations.
- Learning about ITSA connected and automated vehicle education (CAVe-in-a-box) training development

This year, students have an opportunity to submit a 500-word ITS-related abstract that will be reviewed by SwRI, ITS Texas and ITS America Events. Up to five students will be chosen to present their abstracts at the Conference & Expo on April 26. March 31 is the deadline to submit abstracts to Minh Le, ITS Texas treasurer and student chapter liaison, at [m-le@tti.tamu.edu](mailto:m-le@tti.tamu.edu).

Students are not required to submit an abstract to receive a complimentary registration to the conference and expo. For more information, visit <https://www.itsamericaevents.com/expo/en-us/experiences/future-leaders-program.html>.

## ITS AMERICA COMING TO TEXAS – APRIL 24 - 27, 2023

ITS America will be bringing their annual Conference & Expo (#ITSA2023) to Texas on April 24-27, 2023. This event will be held at the beautiful Gaylord Texan Resort and Conference Center in Grapevine. The event will explore *Implementing Innovation for All* and bring together the entire intelligent transportation community for thought-provoking education, networking, and demonstrations exploring the technologies and solutions that will enable a better future. [Registration](#) is open.



The ITS Texas Board has reached out to Texas universities and colleges to encourage student attendance at the ITS America Conference & Expo, including the Future Leaders Program described on the next page.

ITS America is finalizing the program, which will highlight these themes:



**Automated Vehicles**



**Emerging Technologies**



**Mobility On Demand &  
Equitable  
Transportation**



**Smart & Digital  
Infrastructure**



**Sustainability &  
Resiliency**



**V2X/Connected  
Vehicles**

ITS Texas, along with many of our regular ITS Texas Annual Meeting exhibitors and sponsors, will have a booth (#1523) in the Exhibition Hall. So mark your calendars, [register](#), and visit us at the Conference & Expo.





April 24-27, 2023 | Gaylord Texan Resort, TX

IMPLEMENTING INNOVATION FOR ALL

## FUTURE LEADERS PROGRAM WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



The Future Leaders Program, brought to you by Southwest Research Institute (SWRI) and ITS Texas, is designed to bring students, emerging leaders, and young professionals to the ITS America Conference & Expo; providing them an opportunity to attend education sessions, training, meet with exhibitors, sponsors, technology providers, and network with ITS professionals that can offer career advice and mentorship.

Attend ITS America Conference & Expo to:

- Network with industry professionals to enhance interview skills and seek out potential job opportunities.
- Take advantage of the opportunity to discuss research and projects with peers and industry leaders.
- Participate in an exclusive walking tour with an ITS America and Southwest Research Institute (SWRI) Ambassador.
- Experience and explore innovative technologies live through interactive exhibits and demonstrations.
- Learn about ITSA CAVE-in-a-box training development.
- Opportunity to submit a 500-word ITS related abstract that will be reviewed by SWRI, ITS Texas, and ITS America Events and five (5) students will be chosen to present at ITS America Conference & Expo. Abstracts can be submitted to [Minh Le](#) by March 31 to be considered.

Registration is **complimentary** for all students participating in the Future Leaders Program, and includes access to the full education program, networking, refreshments, and lunch.

To register, visit [itsamericaevents2023.com/futureleaders](https://itsamericaevents2023.com/futureleaders).

### HAVE QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

**JAIME MCAULEY**  
Event Director  
ITS America Events  
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**JOSH JOHNSON**  
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**MINH LE**  
Treasurer and Student Chapter Liason  
ITS Texas  
[m-le@tti.tamu.edu](mailto:m-le@tti.tamu.edu)

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## WRITE AN ARTICLE FOR THE NEWSLETTER

The ITS newsletter is a great way for you as an ITS professional to **share your projects, plans, initiatives or other ITS related items with the ITS community**. If you would like to share something with the ITS Texas members through the newsletter, please contact any of your ITS Texas Board members. They are listed in the newsletter and you can send an email to any by simply clicking on their name.

## ITS IN THE NEWS

- [Connected Cars are just as Revolutionary as Electric Ones](#)
- [Purdue University may have Solution for State's Pothole-Riddled Roads](#)
- [Waze Helps the U.S. Police Deal with Traffic Problems Caused by Heavy Construction](#)
- [Oklahoma House Approves Landmark Autonomous Vehicles Bill](#)
- [U.S. Eliminates Human Controls Requirement for Fully Automated Vehicles](#)
- [The Most Important Car Automation Trends of 2022](#)
- [Aurora Unveils Test Fleet of Autonomous Toyota Sienna Robotaxis](#)



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