President’s Message

It’s hard to believe that my term as the ALSITE President is already 10% complete. In June 2000, I had no idea what working on ALSITE’s board held in store for me. I have learned so much in the past two year’s and I’m sure the remaining eleven months hold more opportunities for professional and personal growth. I am very honored to lead this dedicated group of professionals for upcoming year. It is comforting to know that I can always depend on ALSITE members for expert technical and professional advice. I would like to thank all the members who graciously volunteered to work this year as the Section’s standing committee chairs, representatives and liaisons.

Our Strategic Plan Committee made great progress last year, and will continue this year. Most of the Task Forces have met and are developing their objectives and formulating action plans and the progress of the Task Forces will be outlined at our Annual Meeting this June. Finalizing the Section’s updated Strategic Plan and beginning its implementation will be my top priorities in 2003. Please be aware that it’s not too late to participate in the Strategic Plan update. If you want to be involved please contact Darrell Skipper, the committee’s chair, or myself directly.

Please make every effort to attend our upcoming Spring Meeting in Prattville. This meeting will be on March 6th and be a joint meeting with the Alabama Transportation Planners Association. The tentative technical program includes presentations on roundabouts, video detection and GPS. Also note that our Annual Meeting will be a joint meeting with the Deep South Section. The dates for this meeting are June 4-6, 2003. The date for our Fall 2003 meeting has yet to be determined, but it will be held in Huntsville and will also be a joint meeting with the Tennessee Section. It certainly appears we will all have plenty of opportunities to network outside our normal group this year. Don’t forget about the Southern District Meeting scheduled for April 13-16, 2003 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Ken Cush

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In This Issue</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southern District ITE Report</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALSITE Scholarship Awards</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Transportation Director Announced</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Meeting</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Updates</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Spotlight</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALSITE Fall Meeting Minutes</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALSITE 2003 Elected Leadership</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation Safety Award</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertisers</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standing Committees</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Southern District ITE Report

2003 Southern District Meeting
April 13-16, 2003
Adam’s Mark Hotel
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

The Southern District ITE Board met in Covington, Kentucky, December 2, 2002, the site of the 2004 Annual meeting. This was the annual “year-end” meeting and 18 members attended. This a very exciting time of the year, having all the Sections and Southern District Committees give their annual reports to the Board. It’s the time of the year when we look back at the past year and start the process of transiting to the next.

Our District President, Mr. John Van Winkle has worked diligently on setting primary goals on both student chapters and communications. Communications, is the lifeblood of the many tasks we try to convey, and hinders us to no end if we cannot find the right avenues to follow. Communication (or lack of) seems to be a common hurdle in most of our daily tasks, and even sometimes, we bog ourselves down with too many memos, letters, faxes, and e-mails (too much information), to the point of losing our productivity. The student chapter tasks have been slow in development, but now we have a liaison for each chapter and well on our way in developing better (I think) communications. An ALSITE group, Jim Meads, Stacey Glass, Ken Cush, Doc Dorsey, and I met with the Auburn Student Chapter recently. Jim and Doc gave short presentations and then we all met with the students to talk about ITE and our hopes of interacting with them more often.

As part of the district meeting, the board also voted in a new student chapter!

Welcome

University of Alabama - Birmingham
Our new ITE Student Chapter!

Dr. Virginia Sisiopiku, Ph.D., Faculty Advisor
Jim Meads, ALSITE Liaison

Let’s get involved with them and show our support!
(We may even have the beginnings of an Auburn - Alabama new rivalry!)

Future Annual Meeting Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Covington, Kentucky</td>
<td>April 18 - 21, 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Savannah, Georgia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Gulfport, Mississippi</td>
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Future Events Around the Nation:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 9-15</td>
<td>Child Passenger Safety Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 7-11</td>
<td>National Work Zone Awareness Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 11-17</td>
<td>National Transportation Week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Until next time... Your Section Representative

James Foster

Please note: if you are interested in speaking to the new student chapter at UAB please contact Jim Meads at (205) 940-6420.
Applications for the following 2002 Scholarship Awards are now available.

Charles E. Alexander Transportation Engineering Scholarship
Description: $3,500 award

Billy Jones Memorial Traffic Engineering Scholarship
Description: $2,500

Students at the University of Alabama can obtain an application from Dr. Daniel S. Turner. Auburn University students should contact Dr. Robert L. Vecellio for an application. University of Alabama-Birmingham students should contact Dr. Virginia Sisiopiku.

Eligibility: Recipients must be students in an accredited civil engineering curriculum at a university within the state of Alabama and must graduate in the 2003-2004 academic year.

Application Deadline: March 1, 2003

New Transportation Director Announced

Joe McInnes Will Serve as New Director of the Alabama Department of Transportation

Governor-elect Bob Riley announced on December 30, 2002, that Joe McInnes will serve as Alabama Department of Transportation's director under Riley's administration.

Mr. McInnes is a Wetumpka native and a graduate of the University of Alabama. He worked with Blount International, Inc. for 25 years before retiring in 1999 as the company's executive vice president and chief administrative officer. He and his wife currently reside in Montgomery.

Riley stated, "I am convinced that together we can make much needed and long overdue changes in the DOT and finally begin to build roads in Alabama based on priorities and not politics."

McInnes said he looks forward to working with Riley in implementing various reforms included in A Plan for Change, Riley's plan for reforming Alabama's government.

From his plan: "Our state has long suffered under an antiquated system of determining transportation priorities. It has been a system defined by political payback rather than long term planning. I want to change a system that serves the politicians at the expense of the people. I want to install a system that will provide the roads we need to expand our economic base throughout the 21st Century. I want to create a system that considers public safety a higher priority than political favors.

I have been told over and over that I will be giving away the governor's power to make deals with the legislature. My response is always the same - it is the right thing to do, and that is the reason we are going to do it. Please join me in this effort, because we will never change Montgomery until we prove to the entrenched politicians that the interests of the people are paramount. Together we can build a world class transportation system and begin a new day in Alabama."

Let's help welcome Governor Riley and Mr. McInnes by showing them that the ALSITE organization is a tool available to them to improve transportation in our state.
SPRING MEETING
Prattville, AL
March 6, 2003

7:30 a.m.  Registration
8:30 a.m.  Alabama Section Welcome
           Ken Cush, President

           City of Prattville Welcome
           Mayor Jim Byard

TECHNICAL PROGRAM

Presiding:  Tim Westhoven, Vice President

8:40 a.m.  "ALDOT Traffic Count Data and the Internet"
           Danny R. Manley, Alabama Department of Transportation,
           Montgomery, AL

9:10 a.m.  "Roundabouts: Relieving Congestion, Improving Safety, and a Better
           Human Environment"
           Eric Worrell, FHWA, Southern Research Center, Atlanta, GA

10:00 a.m.  BREAK
10:30 a.m.  "Video Detection"
           Speaker TBA

11:00 a.m.  "GPS and Its Use in Transportation and Automotive Applications"
           David M. Bevly, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Auburn,
           University, AL

11:30 a.m.  BREAK
12:00 p.m.  LUNCH
1:00 p.m.   Business Meeting
1:30        Adjourn

Personal Updates

Bob Vecellio, P.E., is Assistant Department Head of the Civil Engineering
Department at Auburn University and is the President-Elect for the Alabama Section
of ASCE.

Jennifer K. Gray, P.E., and her husband Steve welcomed the arrival of Vivian
Marie Gray on January 6, 2003 at 10:59 a.m. Vivian weighed 8 lbs., 3 oz. and was
20 ¼" long.
Project Spotlight

Shoppers traveling to the Riverchase Galleria in Hoover, AL are not sitting in traffic any longer, thanks to the new flyover ramps that recently opened. The Riverchase Galleria is situated on US Highway 31 at the I-459/US Highway 31 interchange, where approximately 100,000 vehicles traverse per day. The standard solution to traffic congestion was roadway and ramp widening combined with revised signal timing, but it was shown through analyses that this would not be adequate to solve the traffic congestion. Motorists traveling SB on I-459 to the Riverchase Galleria would back up on the exit ramps, because they could not enter onto US Highway 31. This situation posed a safety problem as well as a congestion problem. During afternoon peak periods, two lanes of traffic would back up onto I-459 adjacent to vehicles traveling at speeds of 60 to 70 MPH.

The City of Hoover and the Alabama DOT had the idea that an additional ramp which avoided US Highway 31 was the solution to the congestion. The justification study for the interchange modification was started in 1995 and the project came to fruition with the opening of the ramps in November 2002.

The flyover ramps project provided a secondary exit to bypass US31 and connect motorists directly to the Riverchase Galleria and Highway 150. The bridge design consisted of long span curved steel girders, with bridge piers being constructed in the median of I-459 under traffic, so that the project would be completed in time for the Christmas shopping season. The project is a definite success, as it alleviated the congestion that occurs during the Christmas shopping season; traffic counts that were taken by Skipper Consulting in December 2002, estimated that 20,400 vehicles per day were using the entrance and exit ramps. Richard Caudle described the project as, "a classic case where traffic engineering developed a non-standard solution to a congestion problem which uniquely fit both the opportunities and constraints of the situation."

In addition to the City of Hoover’s initial funding, the design and construction were federally funded with the City of Hoover and the Alabama DOT providing matching funds. The construction, which took approximately two (2) years, cost approximately $28 million. The project was constructed by Jones Brothers, Inc.

ALSITE member Rodney Long is the City Engineer for the City of Hoover. The traffic engineering team included ALSITE members Richard Caudle and Darrell Skipper of Skipper Consulting. The roadway design was performed by Earth Tech, and the field survey and bridge design were done by Volkert and Associates.

Special thanks to Rodney Long, Richard Caudle, and David Hand of ALDOT for their input on the project.
I. Call to Order:  
President Becky White called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

II. Minutes:  
Vice President Ken Cush read the Annual Meeting Minutes published in the Newsletter. A motion was made by Joe Robinson and seconded by Rod Long to accept the minutes. The motion was passed by voice vote.

III. Officers/Director’s Reports:  
A. Tim Westhoven read Secretary/Treasurer’s Report:  
   June 12, 2002 - October 9, 2002

   Treasury Balance on June 12, 2002 $5,472.79

   Receipts since June 5, 2001
   Member Dues Payments $260.00
   Annual Meeting Proceeds $373.72
   Shirt Sale Proceeds $1,575.00
   Newsletter Advertisements $25.00

   Total Receipts $2,233.72

   Disbursements since June 12, 2002
   Annual Meeting Plaques $287.00
   Stamps $13.60
   Travel Expenses – Scholarship Recipient $200.00
   Scholarship Donation – Spring Meeting $315.00
   Scholarship Fund Tax prep (2000&2001) $550.00
   Newsletter Expenses $346.17

   Total Disbursements $1,711.77

   Treasury Balance on October 9, 2002 $5,994.74

B. Vice-President’s Report:
   - Vice-President Ken Cush reported on motions adopted by the Board at their meeting held on October 8, 2002. The Board adopted the following:
     - Denied the increase in surcharge to meetings for the Scholarship Fund.
     - Motion to not renew membership with JECA for FY 2003

C. Past President’s Report:
   Past President Stacey Glass had no report

D. District 5 Representative Report:
   James Foster announced that the Southern District Meeting in Philadelphia was a success. He stated the next meeting would be held in Winston-Salem, April 15 & 16, 2003. He requested that members fill out the Professional activities questionnaire that went out in the fall Newsletter. This would be used in our Annual Report that will be used to win the Section Awards. Becky White interjected an additional request for members to fill out this questionnaire.
E. Jenny Grote, International President:
Jenny wanted to give an update on ITE dues money to let everyone know just where the money is being used. Two new videos have been produced one is about neighborhood traffic management programs and the other one was done to promote student participation in ITE. They had a student competition as well for a brochure that is a companion to the video where the students designed and voted on the winning entry. This is the second year that ITE is offering free student membership and there has been a 30% increase in student members. There are over 600 titles now in the bookstore. The MUTCD was the number one best seller last year and brought in over a million dollars in income. ITE has an Infinity Program where you can get discounts on rental cars as well as insurance programs. You can get all information from the web page at ITE.org. There are now four online learning courses. Three are related to signal courses and one is an on-site impact analysis. The spring conference will be held in Ft. Lauderdale and the annual meeting will be held in Seattle in August and will be a joint meeting with District Six. Jenny stated that she splits her President’s message with a different district every month and the June issue had District Five participating and showcased the southern district and she spoke of what a great job this district does and how she appreciates all the hard work done by the southern district. The candidates that will be running to take Jenny’s place next year are Tim Harps from Salt Lake City and his opponent is Don Henderson from Van Cover, Canada.

F. Affiliate Director’s Report:
Becky White presented Jenny with one of their new ITE shirts as appreciation and thanks. Becky stated that yesterday there was a press conference held in Montgomery at ALDOT headquarters to formerly present to them the International ITE Transportation Achievement award that they won for their response to the I-65 bridge replacement. Also, Earl Newman who was the chair of that committee that selected the award recipient flew down from Springfield, Missouri for the day for that press conference. She stated her appreciation for the support that the International headquarters gave in helping with the event. Moreover, Becky spoke of how hard everyone has been working on developing a good relationship with the DOT in order to provide them with better services and be the premiere transportation engineering organization DOT looks to for expertise in this state.

IV. Committee Reports:
A. Membership:
Ken Cush reports that there are no additional members.

B. Scholarship:
David Griffin reports that the Billy Jones Memorial Scholarship to date is $2,782.00. Corporate donations to Billy Jones Memorial total $700.00. Expenditures total $2,750.00 to Jim Chambliss and Emily Fuqua in their 2001 scholarship award. The 2002 scholarship payment to Amanda Estes-Irving and Ben Pierce total $3,000.00 for this current year. Fund balance today is $88,244.15. Those persons that ask to be reminded annually to give donations are now on notice; it is time to give your donations.

C. Newsletter:
Ken Cush gave the newsletter report for Natalie Hobbs. Natalie has sent a memorandum to Ken that 208 newsletters were sent out. Collections for the newsletters were $25.00. Expenditures were a total of $346.17.

D. Legislative:
Dale Lenoir states there is no report.

E. JECA:
Robert Kolar encourages everyone to go to www.BobRiley.com and read his prediction statement and decide for himself or herself how their potential vote could affect the engineering profession.

F. Meeting and Site Selection:
Ken Cush reports that upcoming meetings are scheduled for March 2003; in Prattville at the Legend site it will be a joint meeting with the Alabama Transportation Planners Association. Ken asks everyone how many people think they can attend the meeting in March so they can pick a date.
Upcoming summer meeting in Gulf Shores will be June 4th – 6th, which will also be a joint meeting with Deep South. The fall meeting will be around the same time next year as this one, will be joined by Tennessee and it is scheduled for Huntsville.

G. Technical:
Bob Vecellio states there is no report.

H. Alabama Technology Transfer Program Liaison:
John McCarthy announces that there are five different seminars coming up in 2003. Please see www.alabamat2.org for information on seminar dates and locations.

Joe Robinson announces that he is pleased to have everyone in Tuscaloosa. He states that there were 67 people registered; 75 people showed up for the meeting today and he thanks everyone for attending.

V. Old Business:
Becky updates everyone on the Strategic Planning Task Force that has been set up. She would like to let everyone know if they want to serve on the force that she will find a spot for them. Becky wants to let everyone know about the committees and who chairs those committees.

- ALDOT Relations Task Force:
  Chaired by Dan Turner. Members are Darrell Skipper, Ed Watts, Stacey Glass and Jim Meads.

- The Local Governments Task Force:
  Chaired by Tim Westhoven. Members are James Foster, Robby Anderson, and Kerry NeSmith.
  This task force needs more representation so Becky asks everyone to please consider becoming a member.

- The Standards Development and Education Task Force:
  Chaired by Ken Cush. Members are Robby Anderson, Bill Metzger, John Stewart, Steven Jones, and maybe John McCarthy.
  The above three task forces were appointed to assist different areas of our first goal; which was to serve governmental agencies.

The second strategic plan goal was to provide service to our membership. We will have one task force set up for that goal.

- The Membership Service Task Force:
  Chaired by James Brown. Members include Natalie Hobbs, Jeff Stevenson, Ken Cush and Larry Profit.

The third goal of our strategic plan was Outreach and there are three task forces for that goal.

- The Service Projects Task Force:
  Becky states that she is the chair for that committee. Members are Blair Perry, Rosemary Sawyer, Jim Stewart and Scott Skipper.

- The Students Chapter Task Force:
  The chair is Jim Meads; members are James Foster, Scott Dorothy, Virginia Sisiopiku and Rod Turochy.

- The Public Awareness Task Force:
  Chaired by Rod Long. Members are Joe Robinson, Darrell Skipper, John Garrett, and Tim Taylor.

Becky requests everyone to please become members of a task force and tells everyone that is already a member that they are very much appreciated. Becky is initiating a new award called the “kick-butt award” given to the member that gets involved when something really needs to be done and this year the award goes to Dan Turner for serving on the ALDOT task force.
VI. New Business:
Dan Turner states that as a result of a years worth of strategic planning they have decided that nothing else is more important than establishing strong ties with ALDOT. Dan says that his group was appointed to find technical needs of ALDOT and to find a way to fill them. Said they have had two conference call meetings and Stacey and Darrell went to ALDOT and visited the maintenance department and ask them what training we needed. The number one training need is to find out about access management and permitting. In addition, work zone traffic control training is another number one need. Dan is going to put training materials together and try to teach them. Said he wants to do this as a service because we he wants us to be indispensable. He is also going to offer a motion from the committee that you approve the concept of teaching shop courses by ALDOT, this year if possible and to have a tentative budget of $2,000.00 - $3,000.00 for you to trust the executive committee to make that decision. Dan also states that we will have to buy training materials, may have to buy visual aides, that we may have to hire an expert to come in state and teach parts of this for us. Dan believes this would lead to full participation by ALDOT because we are serving their needs. Dan Turner makes a motion for approval to begin the teaching and a budget of $2,000.00-$3,000.00 to be administered by the executive committee at their discretion. Becky White seconds the motion and the motion was passed by voice vote.

VII. Adjourn:
Becky White thanks everyone for their support throughout the year as she passes the gavel to Ken Cush. Ken thanks Becky and asks everyone to support him as they have Becky in the past year. Becky White adjourns the meeting at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tim Westhoven
Secretary/Treasurer

ALSITE 2003 Elected Leadership

Immediate Past President
Ms. Becky White, P.E.
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Affiliate Director
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Assistant Affiliate Director
Mr. Jim Stewart
Vulcan Signs
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e-mail: jstewatr@vulcaninc.com
ALABAMA SECTION ITE
2003 TRANSPORTATION SAFETY AWARD

Nominations are needed for the 2003 Transportation Safety Award. Please consider your fellow members in ALSITE for this prestigious award. If you wish to make a nomination, please complete this form and mail it to the address below.

Nominee’s Name _____________________________________________

Position Title _______________________________________________

Employer’s Name ____________________________________________

Business Address ____________________________________________

Immediate Supervisor’s Name _________________________________

Briefly state this individual’s contribution to transportation safety ____________________________________________

The Nomination Committee may want to discuss this nomination with you. Please provide the following information.

Name of Nominator __________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________________

Telephone Number __________________________________________

Relationship to Nominee _____________________________________

Thank you for your assistance. Please complete this form and mail or fax to:

Mrs. Becky White, P.E.
Sain and Associates, Inc.
244 West Valley Ave.
Birmingham, AL 35209
phone: (205) 940-6420
fax: (205) 263-2041
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James R. Brown, P.E.
Vice President

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Gary Dennis

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Highway Design Services
Comprehensive Transportation Planning
Transit, Parking and Bike Planning

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Louis A. Chalmers, Jr., PE
Vice President

1600 Parkway Center, Suite 720
Marietta, GA 30067
Phone: 770-423-1562
Fax: 770-423-1562

E-mail: LouisC@LoweAssoc.com
Mark Your Calendars...

Alabama Section Meetings
Spring Meeting – March 6, 2003, Prattville, AL
Annual Meeting – June 4-6, 2003, Gulf Shores, AL
Joint Meeting with Deep South Section
Fall Meeting – TBA, Joint Meeting with TN Section

Southern District Meeting
April 13-16, 2003, Winston-Salem NC

ITE International Events
August 24-27, 2003, Seattle, Washington

The mission of the Alabama Section Institute of Transportation Engineers is to provide a leadership role in providing a transportation system in Alabama that improves mobility and safety for the traveling public. Activities of the Section focus on advancing the transportation profession and developing our members through education and training.

2003 ALSITE Standing Committees, Representatives and Liaisons...

**Associated Business Division**
Tommy Lee* 251.943.2645

**Awards**
Becky White* 205.940.6420
Stacey Glass 334.242.6848
Jim Meads 205.940.6420
James Foster 251.574.8595
James Brown 205.349.2100

**Legislative**
Dale Lenoir* 205.755.0811
Dan Turner 205.348.6550

**Meeting Arrangements, Program & Site Selection**
Tim Westhoven* 205.942.2486
Robby Anderson 334.361.3675
Tommy Lee 251.943.2645
Dan Sanders 256.539.5839

**Membership**
Ken Cush* 256.234.8495
Kerry Nesmith 205.582.2254

**Newsletter and Publicity**
Rosemary Sawyer* 251.342.1070
Natalie Hobbs 205.298.6074

**Officer Nominations**
Becky White* 205.940.6420
Stacey Glass 334.242.6848
Robby Anderson 334.361.3675

**ALSITE Strategic Plan Committee**
Darrell Skipper* 205.655.8855
Robby Anderson 334.361.3675
James Brown 205.349.2100
Ken C and 256.234.8495
James Foster 251.574.8595
Stacey Glass 334.242.6848
Vict McSwain 251.434.7513
Jim Meads 205.940.6420
Tim Taylor 334.242.6275
Bruce Thomas 251.342.1070
Dan Turner 205.348.6550
Ed Watt 423.842.3335
Tim Westhoven 205.298.6074
Becky White 205.940.6420
"Doc" Dorsey 334.705.5450

**Past Presidents**
Becky White* 205.940.6420
Stacey Glass 334.242.6848
Robby Anderson 334.361.3675
James Brown 205.349.2100
Jim Meads 205.940.6420

**Technical**
Bob Vecellio* 334.844.6286
Tim Westhoven 205.298.6074
Joe Robinson 205.349.0240

**Transportation Consultant**
Ed Watt* 423.842.3335
Malcolm Beasley 251.342.1070

**Alabama Technology Transfer Center Liaison**
Rod Turochy 334.844.6271

**Career Guidance Committee**
Jim Meads* 205.940.6420
Bob Vecellio 334.844.6286

**Student Chapter Liaison**
"Doc" Dorsey 334.705.5450
Jim Meads 205.940.6420

**Scholarship**
David Griffin** 205.349.0240

**Tellers**
Ed Watt* 423.842.3335
Don Vawter 256.739.0524

*Committee Chair **Committee Liaison