



**University of British Columbia  
Institute of Transportation Engineers  
Student Chapter**

**Annual Report  
2005-2006**

Report prepared by

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## INTRODUCTION

The 2005-2006 academic year was a great success for the student chapter of the Institute of Transportation Engineers at the University of British Columbia's Institute of Transportation Engineers. With a new executive, the club has been able to expand existing activities, especially with regards to the area of outreach and publicizing the club in the greater civil engineering community.

The following report summarizes the section's activities during the year in seven sections. The first section introduces the report. The second section lists the members of the club and their roles. A summary of this year's activities can be found in the third section, as well as our website, which is itself acknowledged in the fourth section. Financial reports are detailed in the fifth section. The sixth section briefly reviews plans for the club for the 2006-2007 school year. Finally, the seventh section provides a summary of the report and presents the concluding statements.

## 2.0 MEMBER ENROLLMENT

The 2005-2006 UBC ITE Student Chapter Executive members are:

Chapter Advisor:	<b>Dr. Tarek Sayed</b>
President:	<b>Karim Ismail, M.A.Sc</b>
Vice President:	<b>William Hui, B.A.Sc.</b>
Secretary and Treasurer:	<b>Karim El-Basyouny , M.A.Sc</b>
Webmaster:	<b>Caleb Ho, B.A.Sc.</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> Year Representative:	<b>Tijana Rahmani, B.A.Sc.</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Year Representatives:	<b>William Hui, B.A.Sc.</b> <b>Harry Lau, B.A.Sc.</b>
Graduate Student Representative:	<b>Karim Ismail, M.A.Sc</b>

With the awarding of the 2010 Winter Olympics to Vancouver-Whistler, numerous transportation projects are underway in the region. Such projects include the upgrading of the Sea-to-Sky Highway, the construction of two major rail lines (Canada Line and Evergreen Line), and the inception of the Gateway Project. Consequently, these high-profile projects have captured the interest of many students, which in turn, has led to another year of growth for the club.

The following is a full list of the student members this year (in alphabetical order by surname):

<i>Andrea Becker</i>	<i>Gerrit Kamps</i>	<i>Melissa Graal</i>	<i>Saeed Sahami</i>
<i>April Evans</i>	<i>Harry Lau</i>	<i>Michelle Lo</i>	<i>Sara Torbian</i>
<i>Bahaneh Dehghani</i>	<i>Jeremy Bruce</i>	<i>Mike Canning</i>	<i>Wael Ekeila</i>
<i>Bidoura Khondaker</i>	<i>Jonathan Ho</i>	<i>Mohamed El-</i>	<i>William Hui</i>
<i>Chris Cheng</i>	<i>Karim El-Bassyouny</i>	<i>Esawey</i>	<i>William Lenng</i>
<i>Cindy Tse</i>	<i>Karim Ismail</i>	<i>Nima Nabavi</i>	<i>Wook Kang</i>
<i>Elnaz Ansari</i>	<i>Mahzad Mousavi</i>	<i>Nai Chiu</i>	<i>Zahra Pirani</i>

As a testament to the continued success of the club, the majority of the new members have submitted applications to become members of ITE international, taking advantage of the waived membership fee for first-time students.

### **3.0 SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES**

To actively promote the field of transportation engineering to fellow undergraduate and graduate students in the university, the club has sponsored a regular guest lecture series, a fieldtrip, and an industry night. Additionally, the club has initiated other outreach strategies, such as introducing the undergraduate student paper competition for industry night and obtaining a seat on the Civil Club, a student society for civil engineers at UBC. The following sections highlight the activities this past academic year.

#### **3.1 Professional Guest Lecture Series**

This year, as there was a sharp increase in investment into new transportation infrastructure in the region, many of the lecture series focused on such projects. While a variety of topics were presented over the course of the year, many speakers worked for Translink, the local transit and road authority. This exposed prospective graduating students to local activities, allowing them to become more informed about the evolving transportation network in the Lower Mainland. Following is a list of the topics and presenters for the year:

Oct. 6, 2005	<b><i>Simulation Study for the Proposed UBC Sub-Grade Transit Terminal</i></b> <i>Hansel Wang</i> <i>Road and Infrastructure Planning, TransLink</i>
Oct. 27, 2005	<b><i>General Discussion About Intelligent Transportation Systems – ITS</i></b> <i>Keenan Kitasaka</i> <i>Manager, Intelligent Transportation Systems, TransLink</i>
Nov. 10, 2005	<b><i>Recent &amp; Future Advanced Traveler Information Systems (ATIS) in BC</i></b> <i>Homayoun Vahidi</i> <i>Senior Associate, IBI Group</i>
Feb. 23, 2006	<b><i>Parking Principles in the City of Vancouver</i></b> <i>Paul Pinsker</i> <i>Parking and Development Engineer, City of Vancouver</i>
Mar. 2, 2006	<b><i>Planning and Evaluation of Options for the Northeast Sector Rapid Transit Project</i></b> <i>Clark Lim</i> <i>Manager, Research and Technical Services, TransLink</i>

### 3.2 Group Tour of the West Coast Express Facilities at Waterfront Station – March 3, 2006

This year, the primary field trip was generously led by Mr. Clark Lim, Manager of Research and Technical Services at TransLink. Mr. Lim arranged for a tour of the West Coast Express commuter train facilities at Waterfront Station. Several enthusiastic UBC ITE members participated in the event and were treated to tours of train carriages and the incident management center. The day concluded with a discussion of how the train system is an integral part of the regional transportation network and the role it will play as the region continues to grow. In retrospect, the fieldtrip was a great learning experience for all involved.

### 3.3 UBCITE/GVITE Industry Night & Student Paper Competition – March 30, 2006

Continuing in what is now an annual tradition of UBC ITE, the UBC ITE/GVITE Industry Night & Student Paper competition provided a unique opportunity for students of all levels to connect with professionals. Many students took advantage opportunity to gauge the job market as well as to pose questions to persons involved in projects in which the students have a personal interest. Students and professionals alike had the opportunity to hear presentations on the latest transportation engineering research being done by UBC students. However, the competition this year included undergraduate participants, which served as an incentive for these students to pursue and demonstrate their interest in this field. The results of the competition are as follows:

1. James Fam *Application of Dynamic TSP Strategy to the Evergreen LRT Line*
2. Mohamed El Esawey *A Comparison Of Between Two Unconventional Intersection Schemes: USC & XDL*
3. Hasan, Moudud *An Evaluation of Online Reinforcement Learning Neuro-Fuzzy Traffic Signal Controllers*
4. Johnathan Ho *Fraser Highway Traffic Queuing Study*

With increased funding from sponsors from the private sector, UBC ITE was able to award more money to winners than in the past. This year, the first place winner received \$300 in prize money, and the second and third place winners received \$200 and \$100 respectively. A \$50 special award was given to Jonathan Ho for his participation as an undergraduate student. Overall, the industry night was the capstone to a highly successful year.

### **3.4 Participation in the Student Society**

A new initiative was undertaken by UBC ITE this year to further promote the profession of transportation engineering and its activities, student sponsored or otherwise. Through negotiations with the Civil Club, the civil engineering student society, UBC ITE was recognized as a student club, on par with other high profile student clubs, including Concrete Toboggan, Steel Bridge, and the student chapter of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers (CSCE). Through this initiative, UBC ITE was able to ask representatives of the student society to promote the guest lecture series mentioned earlier. This supplemented the club's efforts in advertising the lecture series through posters. Furthermore, copies of the posters were reproduced in the weekly newsletter published by the student society, which further aided promotional efforts. Hence, we attribute the increased membership of the club due to this initiative. The participation of UBC ITE within the undergraduate student society has clearly increased its profile among the student population.

## **4.0 UBC ITE STUDENT CHAPTER WEBSITE**

Our website ([www.civil.ubc.bc/research/ite](http://www.civil.ubc.bc/research/ite)) served as the direct link between professionals and students. Building upon work that was done prior to 2005, each page on the site was reprogrammed to a more object oriented style of operation. All pages now link to templates, so that any style changes to the template was reflected in all pages linked to it. Thanks to our talented webmaster, several pieces of redundant code generated by Dreamweaver was eliminated and as such, updating information on the site has been streamlined, allowing work to be focused on industry-related efforts rather than programming efforts.

As was the case in previous years, the site houses information on chapter activities, such as the guest lecture series, as well as the industry night and the fieldtrip. Please note that the *Activities* and *News* pages have been amalgamated to address redundancy issues. A new *Jobs* page was created this year at the request of professionals and students. This strengthens the link between professionals and students, a link that UBC ITE is proud to have helped establish. Each page on the website is updated on a biweekly basis to keep students and professionals up to date on the chapter's activities.

Finally, a poll was installed on the website to gather feedback from students. This poll allowed executive members to solicit interest on upcoming guest lectures as well as other matters pertaining to the club. The poll was IP based, ensuring that one user cannot vote more than once regardless of the status of the user's cookies settings.

### 5.0 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

This year the UBC ITE Student Chapter received funding from the Greater Vancouver Section of ITE, CH2MHill, and the UBC Department of Civil Engineering. The following is table of the financial records of UBC ITE over the 2005-2006 academic year.

09th May '06				
Date	Debit	Credit	To/From	Comments
5 <sup>th</sup> October '05	\$ 15.00	\$ -	Harry	GVITE Breakfast Meeting
5 <sup>th</sup> October '05	\$ 23.60	\$ -	Harry	Beverages
29 <sup>th</sup> September '05	\$ -	\$ 1,203.28	Karim	Carry over from last year
5 <sup>th</sup> October '05	\$ 15.00	\$ -	William	GVITE Breakfast Meeting
29 <sup>th</sup> September '05	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	-	Set a side
30 <sup>th</sup> September '05	\$ -	\$ 500.00	Karim	Civil Dept.
3 <sup>rd</sup> October '05	\$ 15.00	\$ -	Kareem	\$15 Starbucks Gift Card
6 <sup>th</sup> October '05	\$ 26.50	\$ 3.00	Kareem	Pizza Sale
27 <sup>th</sup> October '05	\$ 45.00	\$ -	Kareem	3 X \$15 Starbucks Gift Card
26 <sup>th</sup> January '06	\$ 15.00	\$ -	Karim	GVITE Breakfast Meeting
20 <sup>th</sup> January '06	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	Karim	Financial Aid
1 <sup>st</sup> February '06	\$ 2.83	\$ -	Kareem	Paper Cups
1 <sup>st</sup> February '06	\$ 60.00	\$ -	Kareem	Coffee
18 <sup>th</sup> February '06	\$ 30.00	\$ -	Kareem	\$15 Starbucks Gift Card
20 <sup>th</sup> February '06	\$ 2.84	\$ -	Kareem	ITE Applications/CH2M
20 <sup>th</sup> February '06	\$ -	\$ 2.16	Kareem	Cheques
20 <sup>th</sup> February '06	\$ 15.00	\$ -	William	GVITE Breakfast Meeting
20 <sup>th</sup> March '06	\$ 6.83	\$ -	Tijana	Posters
21 <sup>st</sup> March '06	\$ 75.00	\$ -	Kareem	5 X \$15 Starbucks Gift Card
27 <sup>th</sup> March '06	\$ 25.74	\$ -	Kareem	Staples
28 <sup>th</sup> February '06	\$ 25.53	\$ -	Kareem	Cheques
30 <sup>th</sup> March '06	\$ 4.98	\$ -	Kareem	Ice
30 <sup>th</sup> March '06	\$ 67.40	\$ -	Kareem	Sushi
30 <sup>th</sup> March '06	\$ 145.90	\$ -	Kareem	Safeway
30 <sup>th</sup> March '06	\$ -	\$ 85.00	William	Beer sold
30 <sup>th</sup> March '06	\$ 26.37	\$ -	Tijana	Licence
30 <sup>th</sup> March '06	\$ 119.87	\$ -	Tijana	Liquor
30 <sup>th</sup> March '06	\$ 9.28	\$ -	Karim	Copysmart
30 <sup>th</sup> March '06	\$ 49.75	\$ -	Karim	Starbucks
30 <sup>th</sup> March '06	\$ 7.96	\$ -	Karim	Staples
30 <sup>th</sup> March '06	\$ 7.78	\$ -	Karim	Staples
11 <sup>th</sup> April '06	\$ 350.00	\$ -	IN Winners	2nd, 3rd and 4th IN winners
09 <sup>th</sup> May '06	\$ -	\$ 250.00	Karim	CITE
09 <sup>th</sup> May '06	\$ -	\$ 268.04	Karim	Civil Dept.

Transactions Summary				
Date	Debit	Credit	Balance	Comments
<b>Total</b>	\$ 2,188.16	\$ 3,311.48	\$ 1,123.32	<i>Surplus</i>

## 6.0 FUTURE PLANNING

With the major success of UBC ITE initiatives this year, the club will strive to build upon those achievements in the upcoming academic year. Many of the executives will continue to participate within the club as executive members, but possibly in different roles. The club is also looking forward to attracting new members from the undergraduate student population to participate in the executive.

Regarding projects, UBC ITE will continue to sponsor the guest lecture series as well as the annual industry night. The club is planning to take a more active role within the Civil Club and its social activities. UBC ITE will also focus its efforts in sponsoring joint activities with the faculty's transportation courses, making the club more visible to the student population. The annual fieldtrip will also be sponsored by UBC ITE, and there is consideration that it would be a joint venture with CSCE

This summer will see the formal planning of the aforementioned activities as well as a preliminary draft of the budget for the following year.

Next year's executive member list has not yet been finalized but will include all members from the current executive (with the exception of the graduating members) and the following individuals in alphabetical order:

- Bahaneh Dehgani
- Johnathan Ho
- Clark Lim and
- Zahra Pirani

## **7.0 CONCLUSION**

This has been an exciting and productive year for the UBC ITE Student Chapter. With well attended and presented guest lectures, a tour of the West Coast Express facilities at Waterfront station, and a successful industry night, the chapter has made great strides in its development since the previous year. Quite possibly, this academic year may have been one of the best years for the club since its inception. Through the club's initiatives, we have accomplished and in some cases, exceeded our primary goals of:

- Promoting the field of transportation;
- Enriching the transportation-related knowledge of UBC civil engineering students;
- Demonstrating the possibilities for employment in transportation engineering; and
- Facilitating networking between the local student and professional communities.

**APPENDIX- MEETING MINUTES**



**Meeting No.** 1  
**Date** July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2005  
**Time** 12:00 pm  
**Venue** CEME Faculty Lounge  
**Attendance** Karim Ismail, Kareem El-Bassiouni, William Hui, Harry Lau  
**Regrets**

**1. Executive Matters**

a. Executive positions assigned

<b>President</b>	Karim Ismail
<b>Vice President</b>	William Hui
<b>Secretary &amp; Treasurer</b>	Kareem El-Bassiouni
<b>Events Coordinator</b>	Harry Lau
<b>Undergraduate Representatives</b>	William Hui & Harry Lau
<b>Graduate Representatives</b>	Karim Ismail & Kareem El-Bassiouni

b. Executive members should communicate through the following email address:

[UBCITE@googlegroups.com](mailto:UBCITE@googlegroups.com)

c. Executive members should be able to have access to the following website:

[google.groups.com](http://google.groups.com) (**Vice Presidents Task**)

**2. Student Contests**

- a. Expand the graduate student contest by including graduate students from other schools; e.g. school or economics, urban planning, psychology, statistics, etc. (**Presidents Task**)
- b. Increase the graduate student contest prize values. (**Pending**)
- c. Expanding the referee committee to include donators and other faculty members. (**Pending**)
- d. Include a separate undergraduate student contest to be held in January as part of the CIVL 440 course. (**Presidents Task**)

**3. Promoting UBC ITE**

- a. Contacting professors for potential guest speakers. (**Presidents Task**)
- b. Attending the monthly ITE meetings. (**Pending**)
- c. Attending CSCE meetings. (**Variable**)
- d. Promoting UBC ITE in the Civilization magazine by contacting the editor and reserving our own space. This space could be used to announce future guest speakers etc. (**Presidents Task**)
- e. For the time being the Civil Engineering Department mail list will be used to promote the up coming guest speakers. (**Presidents Task**)

- f. ITE membership applications are to be filled and mailed during the first couple of weeks of the 1<sup>st</sup> semester, a specific deadline is yet to be set. **(Variable)**

#### **4. UBC ITE Website**

- a. Renovating the UBC ITE website. **(Vice Presidents Task)**
- b. Presidents welcome message. **(Presidents Task)**
- c. Must include the UBC ITE objectives. **(Pending)**
- d. Include a polling system. **(Vice Presidents Task)**
- e. Provide information of up coming events or guest speakers. **(Pending)**

#### **5. Financial Account**

- a. Contact Paul to transfer the UBC ITE BMO bank account to the new President and Treasurer. **(President & Treasurer Task)**
- b. Set up the 05-06 bank transactions and balance books. **(Treasurers Task)**

#### **6. Next Meeting**

- a. The next meeting will be held on the August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005.
- b. Discuss the progress on the fund raising process.
- c. Discuss the contents of the UBC ITE website.
- d. Schedule the next meeting.



<b>Meeting No.</b>	2
<b>Date</b>	August 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2005
<b>Time</b>	12:00 pm
<b>Venue</b>	CEME Faculty Lounge
<b>Attendance</b>	Karim Ismail, Kareem El-Bassiouni and William Hui
<b>Regrets</b>	Harry Lau

### 1. Executive Matters

- a. Introducing Wael Ekeila as a potential event co-ordinator

### 2. Promoting UBC ITE

- a. Contact has been established with Prof. T. Sayed for potential guest speakers. **(President)**
- b. Contact has been established with Dept. of Civil Engineering requesting a funding of 700 CDN.
- c. Contact has to be established with Dr. J. Jenkins for potential guest speakers. **(President)**
- d. Promoting UBC ITE through CSCE survey.

### 3. UBC ITE Website

- a. Renovating the UBC ITE website. **(Vice President)**

### 4. Financial Account

- a. Contact Paul to transfer the UBC ITE BMO bank account to the new President and Treasurer. **(President & Treasurer)**
- b. Set up the 05-06 bank transactions and balance books. **(Treasurer)**

### 5. Next Meeting

- a. The next meeting will be held on the September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005.
- b. Discuss the progress on the fund raising process.
- c. View the contents of the new UBC ITE website.
- d. Schedule the next meeting.



**Meeting No.** 3  
**Date** September 1<sup>st</sup> , 2005  
**Time** 12:00 pm  
**Venue** CEME Faculty Lounge  
**Attendance** Karim Ismail and William Hui  
**Regrets** Harry Lau and Kareem El-Bassiouni

- 1. Executive Matters**
- 2. Promoting UBC ITE**
- 3. UBC ITE Website**
- 4. Financial Account**
- 5. Next Meeting**



<b>Meeting No.</b>	4
<b>Date</b>	September 08 <sup>th</sup> , 2005
<b>Time</b>	1:00 pm
<b>Venue</b>	CEME Faculty Lounge
<b>Attendance</b>	Kareem El-Bassiouni and William Hui
<b>Regrets</b>	Harry Lau and Karim Ismail

### **1. Executive Matters**

### **2. Promoting UBC ITE**

- a. Contact was established with the CSCE, through William.
- b. UBC ITE will be included in the CSCE survey.

### **3. UBC ITE Website**

- a. Karim has to come up with the welcome message.
- b. Last years industrial night information is required.

### **4. Financial Account**

- a. Karim has to contact Paul to insure the transfer of BMO account balance to the new executive committee.
- b. Two receipts were collected for: beverages & GVITE.
- c. A locker needs to be rented from CSCE for storage purposes.

### **5. Next Meeting**

- a. The next meeting will be held on the September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005.
- b. Discuss the progress on the fund rising process.
- c. View the contents of the new UBC ITE website.
- d. The new budget plan has to be proposed.
- e. Karim has to plan for the booking and schedule of our weekly speakers.
- f. Schedule the next meeting.



<b>Meeting No.</b>	5
<b>Date</b>	September 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2005
<b>Time</b>	1:00 pm
<b>Venue</b>	CEME Faculty Lounge
<b>Attendance</b>	Karim Ismail, Kareem El-Bassiouni and William Hui
<b>Regrets</b>	Harry Lau

### 1. Executive Matters

- a) A potential new executive member: Bahaneh Dehghani.

### 2. UBC ITE Student Chapter Logo



### 3. Lecture Series

- a) Book data show
- b) Book conference room
- c) Prepare posters and send announcement

### 4. UBC ITE Website

- a) Missing President Welcome Message

### 5. Financial Account

- a) The UBC ITE forecast of expenditures for 05/06 was agreed upon.
- b) The UBC ITE 2006 bank account was activated.

### 6. Next Meeting

- a) Prepare for next weeks guest speaker.
- b) Rent a locker and prepare an inventory list.



<b>Meeting No.</b>	6
<b>Date</b>	October 06 <sup>th</sup> , 2005
<b>Time</b>	12:00 pm
<b>Venue</b>	CEME Faculty Lounge
<b>Attendance</b>	Karim Ismail, Kareem El-Bassiouni and William Hui
<b>Regrets</b>	Harry Lau

### 1. Lecture Series

- d) Discuss the content of the Thank You letter and it's envelop.

### 2. UBC ITE Website

- b) The website has been updated.

### 3. Financial Account

- c) Money for the GVITE meetings and beverages was paid back.
- d) Preparing an application for the Walter Gage Memorial Fund.

### 4. Miscellaneous

- a) Locker room rented.
- b) Place and order for the pizza tomorrow.



<b>Meeting No.</b>	7
<b>Date</b>	February 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2006
<b>Time</b>	12:00 pm
<b>Venue</b>	CEME Faculty Lounge
<b>Attendance</b>	Karim Ismail, Kareem El-Bassiouni, Tijana Rahmani and William Hui
<b>Regrets</b>	Harry Lau

### 1. Guest Lecture Series

- e) Announcements for the two upcoming events.
  - o 23<sup>rd</sup> February: Paul Pinsker
  - o 2<sup>nd</sup> March: Clark Lim
- f) Thank you letters and \$15 gift cards were handed over to Karim.

### 2. UBC ITE Website

- c) The website has been updated to include the announcements for the upcoming guest lecture series, 2006 industry night & student competition.

### 3. WCE Tour

- a) Tijana will inform the 441 class about the field trip and the upcoming guest lecture on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- b) Tour information received from Clark and Karim will modify the WCE tour announcement to include the new details.

### 4. 2006 Industry Night & Student Competition

- a) Tijana will handle the announcement for the 4<sup>th</sup> year students.
- b) Kareem will handle the announcement for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year students.
- c) Karim will ask Paul about the food funding from the department.
- d) No extra furniture is required for the event.
- e) Posters need to be put up one night before the event from the bus loop, parkade etc.
- f) Ask Prof. Sayed about what types of food should be served at the event.
- g) Karim has to amend our 2202 booking to include the serving of alcohol.
- h) Tijana will take care of the license issue regarding serving alcohol.
- i) Thank you letters for the referee's were revised.
- j) IN & SC posters were prepared.
- k) A letter of appreciation will be awarded to Dr. Jenkins.

## **5. Financial Account**

- e) An application for a cheque book was submitted at CIBC. The cheque book should be ready within 7 business days.
- f) The ITE applications and CH2M receipt letters were mailed.



<b>Meeting No.</b>	8
<b>Date</b>	March 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2006
<b>Time</b>	12:00 pm
<b>Venue</b>	CEME Faculty Lounge
<b>Attendance</b>	Karim Ismail, Kareem El-Bassiouni, Tijana Rahmani, Jonathan Ho, and William Hui
<b>Regrets</b>	Harry Lau

### **1. 2006 Industry Night & Student Competition**

- a. Tijana will handle the announcement for the 4<sup>th</sup> year students.
- b. Karim will handle the announcement for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year students.
- c. William will send a reminder about the IN & SC at TransLink.
- d. Karim will send a reminder about the IN & SC.
- e. The department will reimburse the food funding.
- f. Posters need to be put up one night before the event from the bus loop, parkade etc.
- g. Karim has to amend our 2202 booking to include the serving of alcohol.
- h. Tijana will take care of the license issue regarding serving alcohol.
- i. A letter of appreciation will be awarded to Dr. Jenkins.
- j. William will send a list of the food types to buy.

### **2. UBC ITE Annual Report**

- a. Karim will prepare the UBC ITE Annual Report.