Welcome to this special TRB Spring edition of ITRE Directions. It seems every year we try to outdo our performance from the year before. This is also the case this year. Our students, staff and affiliated faculty contributed to thirty four presentations at the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research. Several of these were invited presentations, which are indicative of the caliber of the work that was conducted. This year we also celebrated two best paper awards, the first by lead author and former student Zachary Bugg, (now Dr. Bugg and gainfully employed at Kittelson and Associates!) given out by the Highway Capacity and Quality of Service Committee. The second to the lead author and our very own ITRE Post-Doc Associate Dr. Katy Salamati (photo below) given out by the Roundabouts Committee. As you will also note in this newsletter, we hosted our annual NC State University reception at the TRB meeting, and it was a great success by all accounts. Our new and more spacious venue was welcome by all our guests and we hope to grab it again in the years to come. Many thanks are due to Ms. Lora Bremer in the CCEE department and Christie Vann at ITRE for coordinating all the activities associated with this reception, from fundraising coordination, to invitations and venue and food selection.

**ITRE Staff Receive Best Paper Awards from Two TRB Committees**

ITRE staff were recognized with the best paper award from two individual committees at the 92nd TRB Annual Meeting. The Highway Capacity and Quality of Service (AHB40) committee recognized Zachary Bugg, a recent doctoral graduate from ITRE who is now employed by Kittelson & Associates, Inc.; Nagui M. Roupail, ITRE director; Bastian Schroeder, ITRE Highway Systems assistant director; and Brandon Nevers of Kittelson & Associates for their paper, “Implementing Auxiliary Through Lanes in a Highway Capacity Analysis Context.”

The TRB Committee on Roundabouts (ANB75) recognized Katy Salamati, ITRE postdoctoral researcher and lecturer at NCSU; Roupail; Schroeder; and Duane Geruschat of Salus University for their paper, “Event-Based Modeling of Driver Yielding Behavior to Pedestrians at Two-Lane Roundabout Approaches.” Each of these papers evolved from national-level research secured by ITRE in past years, and each served as a vital component of Bugg and Salamati’s respective dissertations, which they each completed in 2012.
**ITRE Student Activities at TRB**

Several students from ITRE attended the 92nd Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting in January, 2013. ITRE students are highly involved in major research projects at the national level as evident from their participation in the various TRB technical sessions. 17 research papers co-authored by ITRE students were submitted in August, 2012 to be considered for presentation and publication at TRB.

This year at the conference, the students successfully presented their work at several poster sessions and podium lectures and took part in the student research poster competition held by the Southeastern Transportation Research, Innovation, Development and Education Center (STRIDE). All ITRE students are members of the NC State University student chapter of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE).