

2017 Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities Traffic Safety Scholars Social Media Posts

 Bailey Niccole Bindle posted a photo on Instagram — in Charlotte, North Carolina.

22 mins · Instagram · 

It was such an honor to be a Traffic Safety Scholar representing @saddnation at the #Lifesavers2017 Conference on Highway Safety Priorities! While I was there I had the opportunity to speak in a workshop about outreach strategies for generations Y & Z, network and meet up with partners, as well as spark conversations on how we can continue to make our communities safer and save lives on our roads! 🧐 🚗



NASCAR HALL OF FAME

 Tap to tag friends

Bailey Bindle
Peru State College,
Peru, Nebraska
Criminal Justice:
Counseling &
Psychology with
minor in Substance
Abuse Counseling
(Facebook, Twitter &
Instagram)



Yudan Wang, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Information Technology & Management (Facebook)

<https://www.facebook.com/hsrcinfo/photos/a.1753976401534416.1073741828.1732821380316585/1830991770499545/?type=3&theater>

Level	Name	Who is Driving?	Who is Monitoring?	Who Intervenes?
0	No Automation	😊	😊	😊
1	Driver Assist	😊 🤖	😊	😊
2	Partial Automation	🤖 😊	😊	😊
3	Conditional Automation	🤖	🤖	😊
4	High Automation	🤖	🤖	🤖 😊
5	Full	🤖	🤖	🤖

Why Highway Safety Should be a Priority for Each of Us
 Published on March 27, 2017
 Victoria Nneji | Design Researcher | 14 shares, 3 comments, 0 likes

**Victoria Nneji,
 Duke University,
 Mechanical
 Engineering –
 Robotics (Linked
 in)**

This weekend, I was honored as a Traffic Safety Scholar at the Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities in my great state of North Carolina. My work in the Humans &

Autonomy Lab at Duke University has afforded me with opportunities to make an impact on technology and transportation early on. From trains to planes, though, this was my first time delving deep into vehicle systems on our nation’s roadways. Participating in Lifesavers reminds me that each of us is very much affected by highway safety.

On our first evening, a speaker asked for anyone in the room affected by a traffic accident to raise their hands. Everyone’s hands went up. We were all affected. I went around the conference over the next couple of days meeting as many of the people there as possible. We had leaders from General Motors, Toyota, Uber, State Farm Insurance, U.S. and States’ Departments of Transportation, and Safe Kids International along with those who do research on motorcyclist and pedestrian safety.

Each person I met took time to share what brought them to the conference and I began to think more about how my research could meet practical needs of policymakers and grassroots advocates. Whenever I mentioned that I study human-systems integration with automated vehicles, I was met with immense excitement.

Many of us envision a future of robotic capsules zipping us from point to point but as I learned this weekend, there are many considerations that must be addressed before we get there. What would be necessary for unmanned cars to transport kids from school to soccer practice? How would the vehicles and infrastructure communicate with people not connected to “smart” devices? Where do drivers learn more about the driver assistance technologies– from the dealership or from the owner’s manual?

The decisions that will be made about automated and connected vehicles should not only matter to each of us but should also be made with each of our communities’ involved. Highway safety affects our ability to get to work on time, to reach grandma’s house for Thanksgiving, and to make it on the ambulance to the emergency room. The future is promising. It belongs to each of us and my experience as a Traffic Safety Scholar reminded me that we must keep that in mind to ensure safer accessible mobility for all.

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Victoria Chibuogu Nneji is a Ph.D. candidate in Mechanical Engineering-Robotics. She has had the opportunity to work on the future of automation for freight trains as well as on-demand mobility via aviation. Victoria is the 2017 Traffic Safety Scholar from Durham, North Carolina and plans to get more experience with driver performance in smart and connected cars to complete the transportation trifecta.

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/why-highway-safety-should-priority-each-us-victoria-nneji>



Ashleigh Tran added 2 new photos — with Jeri Dye Lynch and Nicola Khan.

19 hrs · 🌐

Last weekend, I had the honor of attending the 2017 Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities as a Traffic Safety Scholar in Charlotte, NC. This is always a fantastic experience and opportunity to meet others in the field and to learn about exciting new research. Can't wait for next year!

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share

👍❤️ Jeri Dye Lynch and 22 others

Ashleigh Tran, University of Kansas, Cognitive & Brain Sciences (Facebook)

<https://www.facebook.com/ashleigh.tran>



Addison Dlott, Ithaca College, Documentary Studies & Production (Linked In)

This past weekend, I had the honor of receiving a scholarship to attend the 35th annual Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities in Charlotte, North Carolina. As one of the 38 traffic safety scholars, I had the incredible opportunity to network, learn, and share my passions for traffic safety. My work with the coalition the [National Organizations for Youth Safety](#) and the Los Angeles-based non-profit [In One Instant](#) has offered me so many opportunities to grow as a young professional in the traffic safety realm.

The conference featured hundreds of exhibitors and over 80 workshops to attend. I was extremely excited that the organization [Kids and Cars](#) put on a screening of the documentary, *To the Moon and Back* during the conference. The film, directed and produced by Susan Morgan Cooper, tells the story of Miles Harrison, a Virginia man who adopts a young boy from Russia, and Bill Browder, an investment banker who searches for justice for his lawyer, Sergei Magnitsky, who was killed after exposing corruption in the Russian government. These stories eventually led President Putin to institute the Russian Adoption Ban. This film relates to traffic safety specifically through the story of Miles Harrison. A mistake led to his newly adopted son dying of heatstroke, after accidentally being left in a hot car. Following the screening, a panel was held with the families featured in the film and the producer/director.

There was not a dry eye in the room. This film was a perfect example of the power of media. As the room stood up to give a standing ovation to the family and the filmmaker, I came to appreciate the power of media and its ability to stimulate invaluable conversations, inspire new behavior, offer support and promote change.


I am thankful for the opportunity to be able to participate and learn from the traffic safety community and continue my work with the organizations that have missions I care about so deeply. Attending this conference has been an invaluable opportunity, and I look forward to continuing to grow as a community leader and professional.

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Addison Dlott is an undergraduate student pursuing a degree in Documentary Studies and Production at Ithaca College in Ithaca, NY. Addison is the 2017 Traffic Safety Scholar from Natick, MA, and hopes to continue her passions for media and traffic safety.

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/power-media-traffic-safety-addison-dlott?published=t>

Skylar Yoder, Cornell University, Industrial Labor Relations (Facebook)



Skylar Yoder added 5 new photos — with **Bryan Delaney** and 5 others.

Just now · Charlotte, NC · 

Recently, I had the honor of attending the 2017 **Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities** as a Traffic Safety Scholar. Over the course of the conference, I met many professionals from various fields working on studies and initiatives to minimize traffic-related fatalities. The workshops I attended on pedestrian safety, recent distr... [See More](#)



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Marissa Kunerth, North Dakota State University, Strategic Communications & Business Administration (Facebook)

Thanks to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, I am fortunate to have been named 1 of 38 national Traffic Safety Scholars and to have had the opportunity to attend the 35th annual National Lifesavers Conference in Highway Safety Priorities in Charlotte, North Carolina over the past four days.

This conference is the largest gathering of highway safety professionals in the United States with over 2,300 attendees. Throughout this conference, I had the opportunity to network with countless prominent highway safety professionals, participate in three plenary sessions and a luncheon, choose from more than 80 workshops featuring leading experts in the related field of traffic safety, and explore the city of Charlotte.

It was truly an amazing experience to reconnect with old friends, create new, and learn more about a topic I am so passionate about.



Road Safety Activist

Yoder '19 taking her passion to national conference



Skylar Yoder, Cornell University, Industrial Labor Relations (Cornell University ILR Website, News Section)

Skylar Yoder '19 was named a 2017 Traffic Safety Scholar and awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to attend the 35th annual [Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities](#) in Charlotte, N.C., Saturday through March 28.

"I attended Lifesavers last year as a speaker and wanted to attend again," Yoder said. "I have been a road safety activist since high school, so I was really interested in attending the conference since it brings in a lot of professionals from around the country and the world."

Yoder's interest for traffic safety began as her community service outlet while in high school. She chose traffic safety since it is an issue that impacts everyone.

Her first work was to advocate for a law against texting while driving in her home state of Oklahoma. "I then moved to the national level because of my efforts on the state level and began working with an organization in D.C. to train other students around the country to do what I did," Yoder said.

Yoder is excited about catching up with others in the traffic safety movement at the conference. "I am excited to go back because I will get to see some of my peers who have been working in the traffic safety world for a while and I will get to hear what they are doing because they are involved with other organizations."

The essay for the scholarship required relating one's college major to traffic safety, which caused some difficulty in the beginning.

"At first, I thought they were totally separate and isolated, but when I began to start writing my essay, I began to see the overlap between how businesses and unions could advocate for traffic safety by having policies for employees driving company cars."

An interest in international relations and a passion for activism were factors that helped Yoder choose Cornell.

"I liked the spirit of activism and being passionate about whatever you are doing at Cornell, so that is a big reason why I came here."

In December, Yoder spoke at the global summit for Safe Kids Worldwide.

At the Lifesavers conference last year, she did a presentation on how adults can communicate effectively with teens about road safety issues.

"I am a youth myself and gave my perspective about how it is best to communicate with teens." After speaking at Lifesavers, Yoder was offered a job as a social media manager for [End Distracted Driving](#).

Founded by a lawyer who lost his daughter to a distracted driver, the organization encourages action against distracted driving.

Yoder took the job and has been sharing safety messages on its social media accounts for about a year. "I do research regarding the latest distracted driving trends, issues and laws, as well as engage with our followers about the impact these topics have on their lives."

Yoder looks forward to using the insight and techniques she learns at the conference to continue saving lives on the road.

<https://www.ilr.cornell.edu/news/road-safety-activist>



2017 Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities

Published on April 7, 2017



Niloo Parvin [Follow](#)

Graduate Research Assistant at Institute for Transportation at low...



Niloo Parvin, Iowa State University, Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering (Linked In)

I have been recently selected as a Traffic Safety Scholar and received a scholarship to attend the 2017 Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities in Charlotte, North Carolina. My overall experience of this conference was very positive and I am very grateful for this opportunity to be able to attend all the different educational workshops, network with top minds in traffic safety, and present my own research.

My research on traffic safety and safety in highway design features helped me get selected as a Traffic Safety Scholar. For the past two years I have been seeking a Master of Science degree from the Iowa State University in Civil Engineering with a specialization in transportation. During this time, I have worked on a variety of transportation safety projects helping with crash data analysis, roadway data assessment and data collection. Additionally, I have been working on my MS thesis which compares SHRP II Roadway Information Dataset (RID) and U.S. Roadway Assessment Program (usRAP) dataset using cost-benefit analysis. The U.S. Roadway Assessment Program, have conducted numerous research

efforts in the field of road safety to establish a methodology to determine built-in level of safety for the roads as well as tools to identify cost-effective safety improvements.

The Lifesavers conference got off to a good start for me with the traffic safety scholar reception where I got to learn more about other selected scholars and hear about the story of some of the top leaders in the area of traffic safety. Next thing on my agenda was attending workshops on highway safety priorities and learning about top notch research and best practices in the area of autonomous and connected vehicles. I also got the opportunity to present my research paper "An Investigation of Skew Angle and Other Factors Influencing Crash Frequency at High-Speed Rural Intersections" to the conference attendants in the poster session. The most interesting thing that I learned in this conference was getting to know the vast range of disciplines that are involved in traffic safety, from law enforcement to public health and medical professionals and civil and mechanical engineers. It was a big eye opening experience, as I learned to try to see the traffic safety problems from all these different perspectives. It helped me understand that collaboration between all these different professionals and agencies is crucial for solving the traffic safety issues.

Overall, attending Lifesavers conference inspired me to continue working hard in the area of traffic safety and be passionate about saving lives more than ever. I would like to thank the Lifesavers Board and Planning Committee for giving me the opportunity to attend this conference. I greatly enjoyed my time at the conference and I am looking forward to attending it again next year in San Antonio.

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/2017-lifesavers-national-conference-highway-safety-niloo-parvin?published=t>

Georges Bou Saab, Iowa State University, Transportation Engineering (Linked In)



Georges Bou Saab

Graduate Research Assistant at Iowa State University

36m · Edited



The 2017 Lifesavers Traffic Safety Scholars program provided me with the tremendous opportunity to interact with practitioners from various aspects including police officers, fire-fighters, healthcare providers and specialists, and psychologists. I was able to learn how these different fields have an impact on traffic safety related decision-making processes. At the end, we strive to raise awareness among our communities with the aim to save lives and reduce fatalities. Growing up in a cosmopolitan city with an estimated population of 2.5 million, I witnessed atrocious crash incidents. More than 35,000 people lost their lives in the U.S. in 2015. Therefore, it is crucial to address the impact of roadway fatalities and work together with as a community to make the roads safer. I am grateful for this scholarship and I hope to get involved again next year.

1 Like

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Lifesavers 2017

Published on April 7, 2017



Lauren D'Arinzo | [Follow](#)
Research Assistant at Center for Injury Research and Prevention (C...



I'd like to extend a huge thanks to the Lifesavers Committee and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for awarding me a scholarship to attend the 2017 Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities in Charlotte, NC. Not only did I have the opportunity to present my epidemiological surveillance research about drowsy driving to leaders in the field, but I also got a glimpse of the current obstacles and innovations in the world of traffic safety. It was an incredible experience to attend workshops and see the collaborative interaction of public health professionals, engineers, insurance company representatives, law enforcement officers, and government officials, all coming together for the purpose of making our roads safer.

The conference was extremely well organized and I was impressed by the breadth of disciplines represented. My favorite workshop honed in on the ethical questions surrounding the future of autonomous vehicles. I also attended a panel about supporting infrastructure for safe biking which made me nostalgic for Copenhagen, where I studied abroad. It was a privilege to meet other students and professionals who are revolutionizing this field, and I look forward to staying in touch with them.

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/lifesavers-2017-lauren-d-arinzo?published=t>

**Lauren
D'Arinzo,
Franklin &
Marshall
College
(PA), Public
Health &
Math-
ematics
(Linked In)**

Bryan Delaney, Ithaca College, Strategic Communications (NOYS Website Blog, Facebook) <https://noys.org/lifesavers-experience-youth/>



crusader tasked with creating positive change on the roads. As a communication major and passionate advocate, I was ready to immerse myself in the Lifesaver's Conference with a desire to learn and grow.



With an open mind, I was excited to step out of my comfort zone, learn about unfamiliar fields of transportation safety, hear impactful, real-life stories, and explore unique and innovative communication strategies for connecting with different demographics. I had the opportunity to learn about commercial vehicle safety, innovative experiential marketing tactics to address distracted driving, as well as effective strategies for connecting millennials with traffic safety messaging. As I listened to these speakers, my mind raced with ideas, questions, and opinions about these new topics. From the MADD Victim Advocates Panel to a workshop on methods for utilizing drugged driving statistics to create powerful campaigns, I realized the immense diversity and

breadth of highway safety priorities that deserve attention and advocacy.

In addition to exploring new topics in traffic safety, I also learned unique communication strategies for raising awareness around familiar issues such as distracted and impaired driving. I attended workshops that trained individuals on effective social media and marketing strategies to engage target audiences. I was even able to acquire new knowledge about what types of content engages different demographics in cause-driven advocacy campaigns.



Aside from the powerful workshops and speakers, the

Lifesaver's Conference also provided an opportunity to connect with old friends and meet new friends. We were able to visit and explore the NASCAR Hall of Fame, where we even met NASCAR Legend Bobby Allison! I know we cherished the few hours we were able to be NASCAR drivers at the Hall of Fame, but the opportunity to talk about our favorite Lifesaver's Conference moments, laugh about some of the hilarious times we've all shared together, and even make plans for our future times together, were truly some of my fondest memories of the

conference. The people I have met through my involvement in traffic safety have become some of my best friends.

expertise of my peers. I, along with 37 others in the room, was a

As Tuesday arrived and my departure back to New York approached, I reflected on a Nelson Mandela quote that has stuck with me since I began advocating for youth health and safety in high school: "What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead." I realized that this quote was a perfect summation of what the Lifesavers Conference is all about!

Every single individual who attended the LifeSaver's Conference on Highway Safety Priorities had a desire to keep our roads safe and make a difference throughout the United States by working toward the goal of zero fatalities on the roads.

When I reflect on my 2017 Lifesaver's Conference experience, I am thankful for the opportunity to attend an event that has developed my communications skills, fostered my passion for youth health and safety, connected me with other passionate safety advocates, and inspired new thinking about issues affecting individuals on our roadways. The invaluable memories from Lifesavers will remain close as I continue my advocacy efforts to keep my peers safe on the roads and inspire those around me to take a stand against issues that affect their lives.

As I look forward to my work as a Youth Correspondent Advisor and Tread Wisely Ambassador with NOYS, as well as an Executive Student Leader with In One Instant Teen Safe Driving Program, I am thankful for the opportunity to be a part of organizations that are leading the charge to address important issues, save lives, and make a positive difference in the world.

Will you join me in speaking up and working hard to make our roads a safer place, for young drivers and for all? Whatever your own skills and interests, this movement needs you!



Daniel Foster, John Hopkins University, Public Health/Preventive Medicine (Facebook)

Jacob Smith, Johnson & Wales University, Business Administration (JWU Blog)



JWU Denver Student Named Traffic Safety Scholar

by [Jacob Smith](#), on Apr 13, 2017 3:46:32 PM

About JWU

Johnson & Wales University is a 4-year private institution. Our students study arts and sciences, business, culinary arts, education, nutrition, hospitality and engineering & design at our four

JWU Denver student Jacob Smith was recently named a 2017 Traffic Safety Scholar for his dedication to road safety as a speaker, consultant and activist. In March, he traveled to North Carolina to attend the National Lifesavers Conference and receive his well-earned award.



I was recently named a **2017 Traffic Safety Scholar (TSS)** and awarded a scholarship to attend the 35th annual National Lifesavers Conference on Highway Safety Priorities in Charlotte, NC. I attended this conference last year, but this year I connected with others and gained knowledge from professionals across the country.

The conference offered engaging workshops on occupant protection, impaired driving, distracted driving, law enforcement, vehicle technology and much more. I focused my attention on sessions that were about improving pedestrian and road safety as a public health perspective. Attending the sessions informed me about developing strategies for pedestrian educational programs as well as community enforcement programs. I also attended a session that provided a high-level overview of road safety on a global perspective and effective prevention measures that can be taken from public health professionals.



I was thrilled to attend the workshop, “A Public Health Perspective on Preventing Motor Vehicle Crash Deaths”. Facilitated by Natalie Draisin from the [FIA Foundation](#), the presentation focused on traffic fatalities in the United States and shared effective prevention measures that have been used world-wide, such as speed management and safe routes to school.



Additionally, I collaborated with [Safe Kids Worldwide](#) during the conference as an exhibitor. I worked with Safe Kids this past year as a road safety intern. This year, Safe Kids merged their exhibitor space with General Motors to highlight their 20th anniversary of the [Buckle Up partnership](#). Throughout the conference, we highlighted the partnership showcasing the most successful national road safety program focused on protecting kids and teens in and around cars. Not only was this a fantastic learning experience, but my time networking with other safety professionals empowered me to continue my work in road safety.

Jacob Smith is a sophomore at JWU Denver majoring in business administration and media and communications.

http://blogs.jwu.edu/jacob-smith?hs_preview=zVmwbill-4996910570

Md Atiquzzam, Auburn University, Civil Engineering (Facebook)



Albert Atique added 7 new photos — with Toby E Board and Gurdiljot Singh at [Charlotte Convention Center](#).

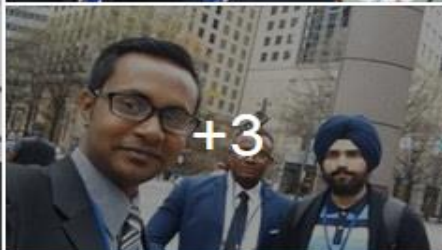
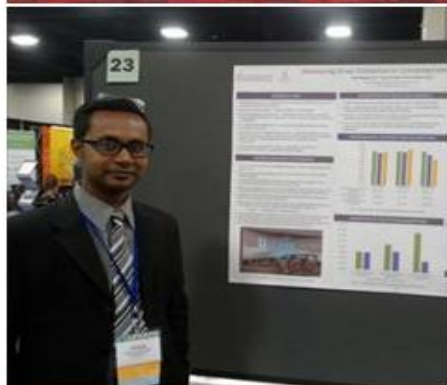
April 12 at 5:37pm · Charlotte, NC · 🌐

Lifesavers Conference 2017

Charlotte, NC | March 26-28

Just a couple of weeks ago, I attended the "2017 Lifesavers Conference on Highway Safety Priorities". I have been told to write something about my experience of attending this conference and I am not really sure where to start. It was my first time attending a Lifesavers Conference and the experience was simply wonderful. There are a number of reasons I liked this conference. First, this conference covered almost all possible highway safety priorities, from distracted driving to wrong-way driving. As a traffic safety researcher, it always awes me how diverse the traffic safety research could be. Lifesavers does a wonderful job to bring this diversity together. You can meet reseachers and policy makers from all discipline that works in making our road safer. As a result, it is also a wonderful networking opportunity.

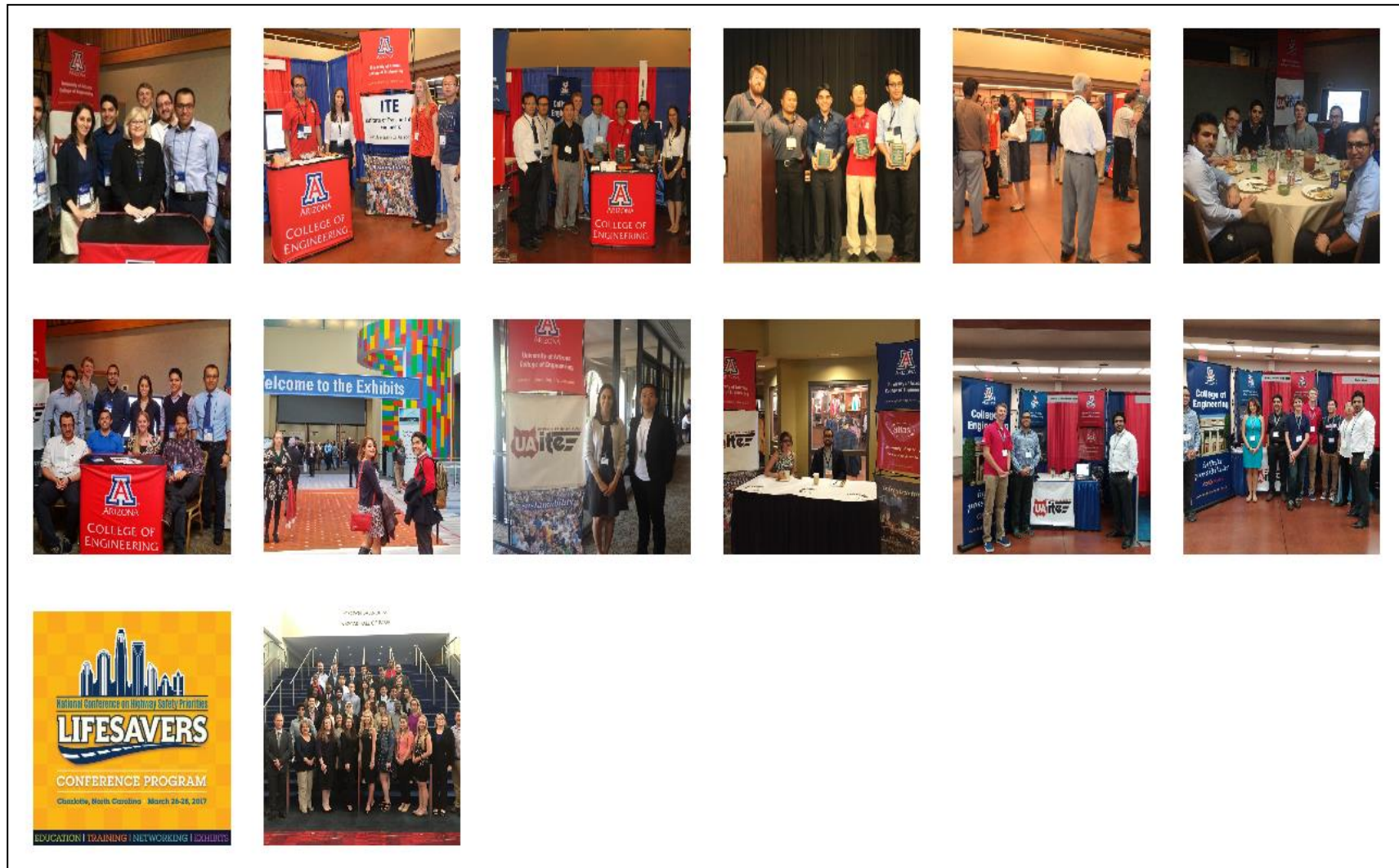
I attended the conference as a Traffic Safety Scholar, which made my experience even better. Traffic Safety Scholars get discounted registration, a travel allowance from the conference committee, and access to exhibit hall as well as all sessions.



https://www.facebook.com/AtiqueDShadow/posts/10208750536871734?notif_t=like¬if_id=1492033164656660

Amin Ariannezhad, University of Arizona, Civil Engineering (Univ. of AZ ITE Student Chapter website)

<https://arizona.collegiatelink.net/organization/uaitc/gallery/album/71683>



Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

CEE Transportation Students Win National Awards

April 4, 2017 | Research, Scholarships and Fellowships, Students | CEE, ITE Student Chapter

National Lifesavers Conference on Highway Safety Priorities

University of Tennessee Knoxville graduate students Alexandra "Ali" Boggs and Kwaku Boakye were named 2017 Traffic Safety Scholars (TSS) and received an award of a \$1,000 scholarship at the 35th annual National Lifesavers Conference on Highway Safety Priorities, held in Charlotte, North Carolina, from March 25-28. Boggs and Boakye, who are pursuing doctoral degrees in Civil and Environmental Engineering, are two

Alexandra Boggs & Kwaku Boakye, University of Tennessee - Knoxville, Civil Engineering (Univ. of TN website)

University of Tennessee Knoxville graduate students

Alexandra "Ali" Boggs and Kwaku Boakye were named 2017 Traffic Safety Scholars (TSS) and received an award of a \$1,000 scholarship at the 35th annual National Lifesavers Conference on Highway Safety Priorities, held in Charlotte, North Carolina, from March 25-28. Boggs and Boakye, who are pursuing doctoral degrees in Civil and Environmental Engineering, are two of the 38 U.S. and Canadian college students selected through a competitive essay application process. In the competition, students were to demonstrate how their field of study could be used to address the problem of deaths and injuries in motor vehicle crashes.

"Being part of the Lifesavers family is an endearing experience for me" said Boakye. "At the Lifesavers conference, you get to the opportunity to connect with professionals and experts in your field and that helps boost your confidence in the research you do." In sharing insights from his essay, he said, "As transportation engineer, I strongly believe that Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) offer promising solutions to road crashes, which is a menace of society. Today, in-vehicle and vehicle-to-infrastructure technologies such as emergency electronic brake lights, speed and headway control, lateral driving support (e.g. blind spot/lane change warning), and collision avoidance systems, have potentially increased safety by improving driver performance."

"From a young age, I have realized the safety impacts of motor vehicle transportation and have been driven to determine ways of reducing fatalities in hope there would soon be zero," said Boggs. "The Lifesavers Conference expanded my knowledge in various safety transportation aspects, in particular occupant protection for children. The leading cause of death for children in the United States is motor vehicle injuries, with approximately one-third of the children who died in 2014 were unrestrained. I can only imagine that finding the best car seat and installing it correctly is not an easy job for new parents. At the conference, I was able to hear the effectiveness of reducing fatalities through community education programs to assist in protecting parents' treasured loved ones. I want to thank the Lifesavers Traffic Safety Scholars Committee for allowing me to attend the conference and hear how 'lifesavers' are decreasing the number of motor vehicle deaths."

<http://cee.utk.edu/cee-transportation-students-win-national-awards/>



Jin Wang added 3 new photos.

2 mins · 🌐

I am truly honored to attend the Lifesavers Conference on Highway Safety Priorities as a scholarship recipient a few days ago. It is such an incredibly encouraging and unforgettable experience. The Lifesavers is the largest national non-profit gathering of private and public groups and individuals dedicated to improving traffic safety in the US. Not only did I get to network with thousands of professionals and experts devoted to traffic safety career, but I learned so much about the leading traffic safety research and practices from all kinds of disciplines towards the goal, "0", no fatality due to traffic crashes. The Lifesavers experience is a perfect reminding to me of why I love the traffic safety profession so much and how important and rewarding for us to be able to create a safe transportation environment safe for everyone. Being a Traffic Safety Scholar means more than an award or a title. It is love. It is hope. It is responsibility.



**Jin Wang,
Auburn
Univ., Civil
Engineering
(Facebook)**

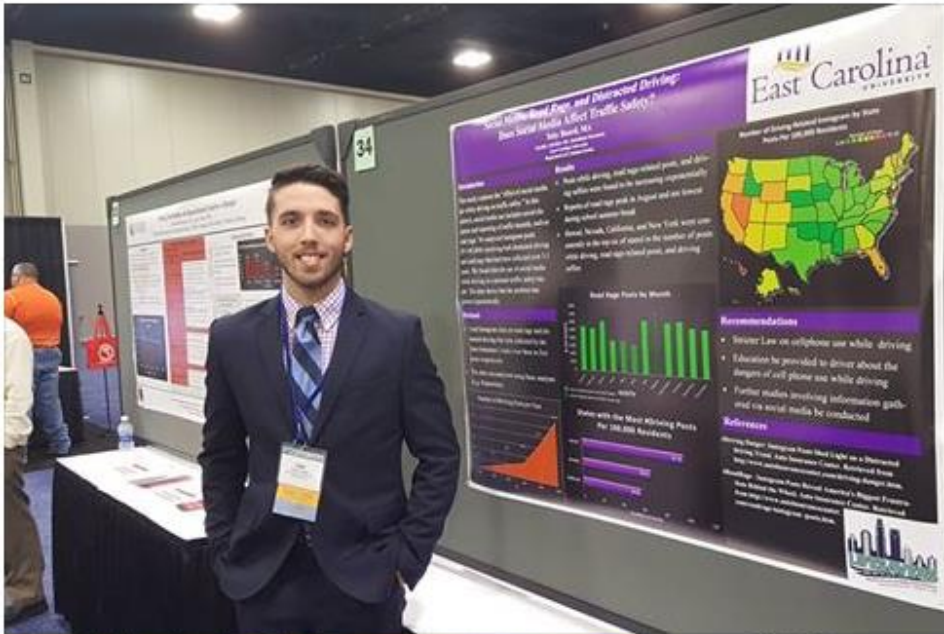
<https://www.facebook.com/jin.wang.739978/posts/785306858285776>



Toby E Board added 4 new photos.

April 15 at 5:47pm · 🌐

At the end of March, I was honored with the opportunity to attend and present research at the Lifesaver's conference on Highway Safety. It was an amazing experience in beautiful downtown Charlotte, NC. Lifesaver's annual conference has thousands of attendees from multiple different academic and professional backgrounds. I was lucky enough to be chosen as a traffic safety scholar. I was given a scholarship and a fantastic opportunity to present research and network with many i... See More



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4/17/2017

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Neal Paschal, The University of Alabama, Civil Engineering

In March, I was fortunate enough to be able to attend the largest gathering of highway safety professionals in the US at the Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities. Thanks to both of us receiving a grant to help attend the conference, I traveled with another graduate student from UA, Qifan Nie, and we took on Charlotte, NC together.

The conference was extremely fun to attend, and it was eye opening to see and get different perspectives on traffic safety from all types of professionals. I enjoyed going to many different sessions on a variety of transportation safety aspects and learning how my background in civil engineering could mesh with other people's backgrounds (such as a Public Health Official or a police department Community Resource Officer) to improve safety for everyone involved. One session was on Driver Assistance Technologies, which are the first step towards automated vehicles, and how new technologies like lane assistance and back up cameras are being tested and implemented. Another session focused on "wrong way" crashes and how to help prevent them. While crashes that occur as a result of traveling the wrong way on a road are relatively rare, due to their nature the crashes themselves are often very bad. Learning that even simple measures just as putting up increased warning signs and making pavement markings clearer and more visible can dramatically decrease those crash rates while being relatively inexpensive at the same time. My favorite session would have to have

been the one titled “Let’s Share! Changing roadway User Behavior through Engineering”. It was particularly interesting to me because it focused on engineering better roadways by shifting the focus from just getting as many cars through a road as possible to instead focus on how cities can make it safer to share the road with pedestrians and bikers. Many cities are taking a “road diet” approach to reduce the number of lanes on a road without actually reducing the number of cars the road can handle, and that reduction in lanes makes it easier for pedestrians to be seen and cross safely. To keep it interesting (not that I needed help paying attention), some of the speakers included some funny relevant comics in their presentations too.

Lifesavers was a great conference to attend not only because of going to different sessions, but because there were other students like me who were able to attend and present their research. Learning what other cutting edge research is currently being done was a fun experience, but just meeting, talking, and networking with my peers was awesome in and of itself. I definitely came away with a few new friends who I’ll enjoy seeing grow and develop in their professional careers.

And conferences can be fun too! Because the Convention Center where it was held was right next to the NASCAR museum, the conference gave everyone who attended a free pass to go into the museum on Monday afternoon. Coming from a family who is big into NASCAR, I had a fantastic time walking around the museum and seeing the history, and even got Bobby Allison’s autograph!

After attending Lifesavers and seeing how roadway safety is being improved and what we can do to work towards having zero roadway deaths, I would definitely recommend any student interested in transportation or road safety to attend. Personally, I feel that I came away with a lot of valuable knowledge and friendships that will help me in my career down the road and I hope to be able to attend the conference again in the future.

<http://gisresearch.ua.edu/news-and-events/2017-lifesavers-national-conference-on-highway-safety-priorities>

Civil Engineering GIS Research Group

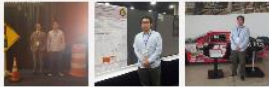
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2017 LIFESAVERS CONFERENCE IN CHARLOTTE, NC

4/17/2017

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Qifan Nie, The University of Alabama, Civil Engineering

I was honored to receive an invitation to the Life Saver's Conference as a scholarship recipient. While doing research with the Center of Advanced Public Safety under Dr. Randy Smith and Dr. Andrew Graettinger's guidance, it was my hope to communicate with the people who are doing the similar research like us. Fortunately, this conference gave us a chance to share our research ideas with all other researchers around the world.

The conference itself was one of the best conferences I have ever attended. The valuable information given at the workshops and the opportunity to network and connect with not only students, but professionals in the traffic safety world was amazing. I gained so much knowledge about highway safety from all types of perspectives including the media, government, nonprofits, law, etc. Additionally, I had the opportunity to present my research work as a poster presentation. Most of all, this conference was so much fun! Making new friends, connecting with accomplished individuals, and most importantly, learning so much about traffic safety.

I am extremely honored to have attended this conference. A huge thank you to the Lifesavers Planning Committee and Traffic Safety Scholars program staff. Thank you!

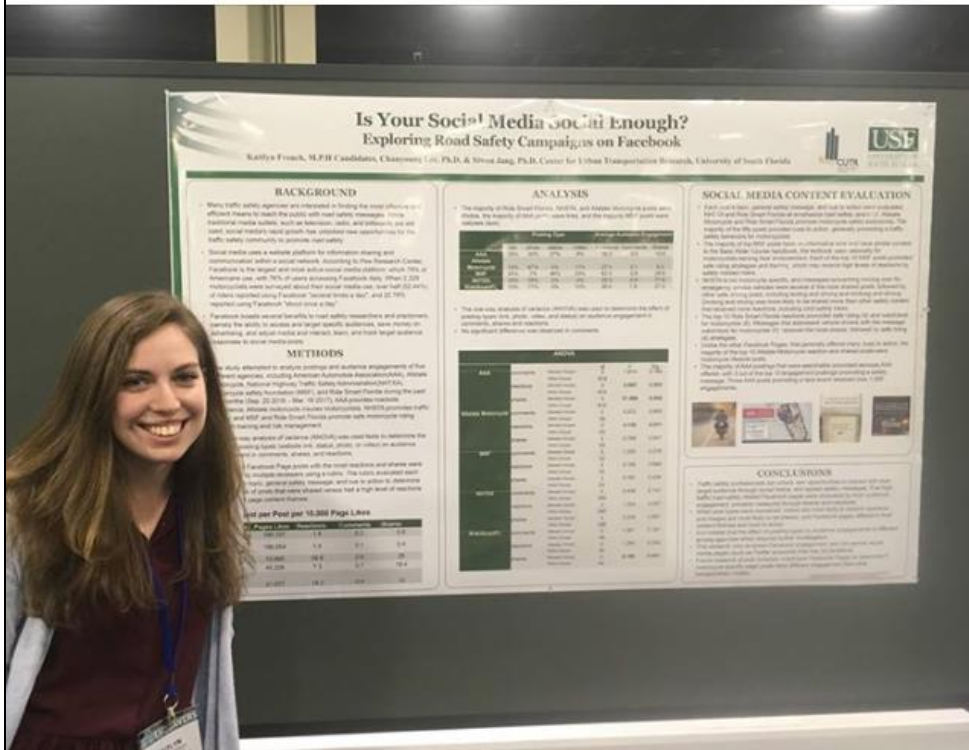
<http://gisresearch.ua.edu/news-and-events/2017-lifesavers-conference-in-charlotte-nc>



Katie Brianna French

April 3 at 8:59 AM · 🌐

Had the best time at Lifesaver's conference in Charlotte! My poster went over super well & it was such a great networking opportunity!!!
#Praise #Thankful



👍❤️😲 48

3 Comments

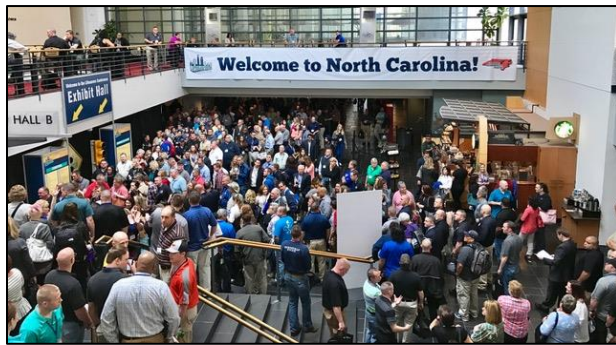
Kaitlyn French,
University of
South Florida,
Public Health
Education
(Facebook)



Christy Bailey, Columbus State University, Non-Profit/Business Management (CSU News Article)

National Lifesavers Conference - Great Experience for Public Safety Career

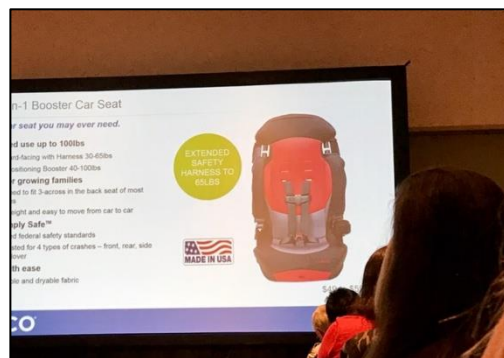
The Lifesavers Conference brings together a large group of advocates from public safety professionals, researchers and students committed to networking, sharing best practices, research, and policy



initiatives in the highway traffic safety. They also provide student scholar award opportunities to help cover the cost to attend. More information can be found at lifesaversconference.org #lifesaversconference2017.

I am very thankful to have been chosen as a 2017 Traffic Safety Scholar Award recipient making it possible for me to attend the Lifesavers Conference in Charlotte, NC. It gave me the opportunity to meet with people from NHTSA, National Safety Council, CPS Board and network with other traffic safety advocates to ask questions, gather research information and hear how programs work in other states. Everyone I met seemed to have some of the same goals, to improve traffic safety.

The most rewarding part of the conference was the opening plenary mission moment hearing from Richard Leotta. He is the father of fallen police officer Noah Leotta who was struck and killed by a drunk driver while working a special DUI checkpoint in 2015. The touching story of how after his tragic death at the young age of 24, the family worked diligently to help make a difference. They introduced tougher drunk driving laws for the state.



In 2016 Maryland law makers passed 'Noah's Law' that requires breath-testing ignition devices for anyone convicted of drunk driving to help prevent this type of senseless tragedy from happening to others. This motivating story of dedication to 'Noah's Law' was inspiring for all who heard his message to continue making a difference in traffic safety and not give up.

The many different types of workshop sessions at Lifesavers Conference provided evidence-based understanding and program opportunities to get involved. Each track of study all had the same message and theme, working towards the common goal of ZERO deaths in highway and traffic safety.

Thank you to the Lifesavers Conference Committee, NHTSA and for the Traffic Safety Scholar Award that gave me the opportunity to attend.

UF University of Florida
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DEJA JACKSON NAMED A 2017 LIFESAVERS TRAFFIC SAFETY SCHOLAR

Published: April 5th, 2017
Category: Awards, People, Uncategorized

University of Florida Transportation Institute (UFTI) student Deja Jackson was named a 2017 Traffic Safety Scholar (TSS) and awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to attend the 35th Annual National Lifesavers Conference on Highway Safety Priorities, March 25-28 in Charlotte, NC. Jackson, who is pursuing a Ph.D. in civil engineering, is one of 38 U.S. and Canadian college students selected through a competitive application process. The Lifesavers Conference showcases the latest

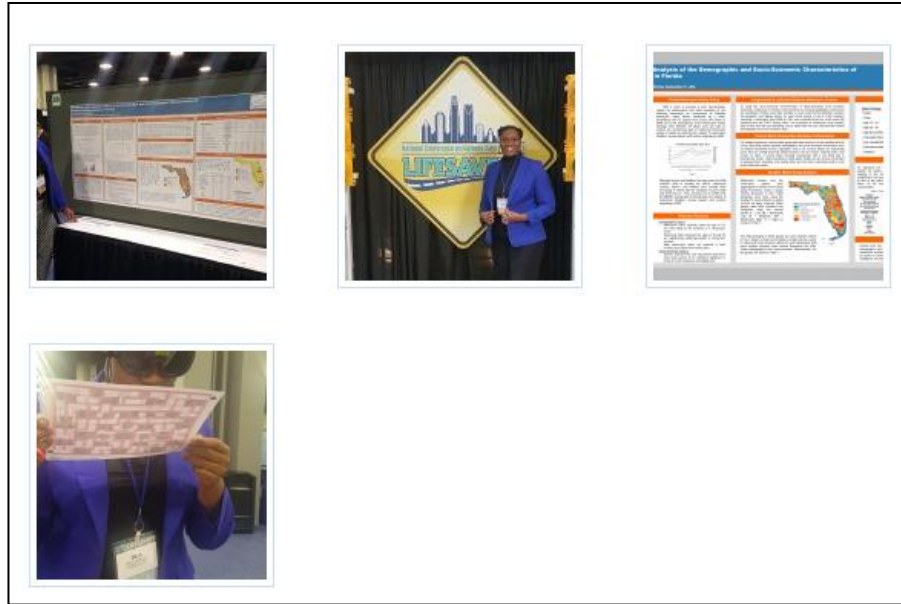
Deja Jackson at the Lifesavers Conference doing the Gator Chomp.

Deja Jackson, University of Florida, Civil & Coastal Engineering (Univ. of Florida Transportation Institute website)

University of Florida Transportation Institute (UFTI) student Deja Jackson was named a 2017 Traffic Safety Scholar (TSS) and awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to attend the 35th Annual National Lifesavers Conference on Highway Safety Priorities, March 25-28 in Charlotte, NC. Jackson, who is pursuing a Ph.D. in civil engineering, is one of 38 U.S. and Canadian college students selected through a competitive application process. The Lifesavers Conference showcases the latest research, evidence-

based strategies, proven counter-measures, and promising new approaches for addressing the nation's most pressing traffic safety problems.

This was the second year of the Traffic Safety Scholars program, which provides college students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees the opportunity to attend the Lifesavers Conference, which is the largest gathering of traffic safety professionals in the U.S. The goal of the TSS program is to showcase the diversity of opportunities in traffic safety and encourage students, regardless of discipline, to pursue a career in a dynamic field that draws from a variety of disciplines from engineering, education, and enforcement to communications, business, marketing, medicine, public health, political science, counseling, and more.



Jackson and her fellow Traffic Safety Scholars were honored at a pre-conference reception on March 24, 2017, in Charlotte, where they were welcomed by Jana Simpler, director of the Delaware Office of Highway Safety and Chair of the Governors Highway Safety Association; Rick Birt, vice president of Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD); and John Ulczycki, vice president of Legislative Affairs for LMG Holdings,

Inc., and Chairman of the Lifesavers Board of Directors.

To learn more about the Lifesaver Conference and the TSS program, visit <http://www.lifesaversconference.org>.

<http://www.transportation.institute.ufl.edu/2017/04/deja-jackson-named-2017-lifesavers-traffic-safety-scholar/>



Alex Badilla at 📍 Charlotte Convention Center.

Just now · Charlotte, NC · 🧑🏻‍🤝‍🧑🏻

It was another successful year at the 2017 Lifesavers Conference in Charlotte, NC and I was honored to receive the Lifesavers' Scholar Award for a second year. Equally as fruitful but with more opportunity, each year I attend this conference I deepen my knowledge in safety priorities in injury prevention and I find more intuitive ways to approach my research at the University of Miami. Being a second year scholar also gave myself and other scholar alumni the chance to mentor the new 1st year scholars and help in shaping the program for next year's scholars. Having the various backgrounds of research – including road engineering, public health epidemiology, and medical injury interventions – allowed for everyone to see new approaches to reducing road fatalities and crash incidence on the roads. Our overall goal of addressing these issues and proposing solutions was a huge success. I want to thank the Lifesavers Scholars Committee and congratulate all of the other scholars, and I look forward to next year's Lifesavers Conference in San Antonio, TX.



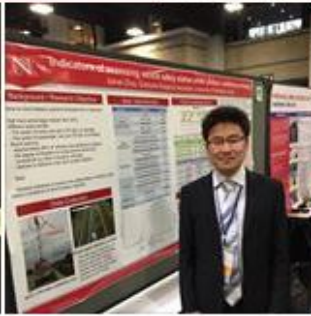
**Alejandro
Badilla,
University of
Miami,
DeWitt
Daughtry
Dept. of
Surgery
(Facebook)**



Jianan Zhou added 5 new photos.

10 hrs · 🌐

It's an exciting and unforgettable experience for attending the 2017 Lifesaver Conference! Not only meeting with friends focusing on highway safety research all over the U.S., but also enjoying the smart products and NASCAR racing! Thanks for the Traffic Safety Scholarship provided by the Conference committee 😊😊



👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share

👍 5



Jianna Wang Nice pictures, you looked great

Like · Reply · 3 hrs



Li Zhao Handsome Jianan ^^

Like · Reply · 2 hrs

Jiana Zhou,
University of
Nebraska-
Lincoln, Civil
Engineering
(Facebook)



**Gurdiljot Gill,
California
Polytechnic
State Univ.,
Transportation
Engineering
(LinkedIn)**

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/lifesavers-2017-gurdiljot-gill?published=t>

I had the great privilege to attend the Lifesavers 2017 meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, and fortunate enough to receive a scholarship and honor of being a Traffic Safety Scholar. I also got the approval to showcase my research on Hit and Run crashes through a poster presentation. The meeting with professionals and fellow presenters (known as “poster dash”) before the actual presentation was a great experience as I got great inputs to improve the clarity in my future presentations as they are mostly very technical but need to be illustrated as simple. During that workshop, I had the chance to meet two of the co-founders of Lifesavers, and hear their stories, who executed this great idea 35 years ago (I believe this number is correct!). That interactive moment of talking with professionals who are decades ahead of me in experience is truly memorable for me. During my presentation in the exhibitors' hall, a police officer shared vital information regarding the Hit and Run crashes (my research topic) which gave me a whole new perspective of this problem. I would like to share another memorable moment which happened while I was part of the audience. I attended a lecture from a UN representative who shared the following stats: 3500 children die every week throughout the world due to roadway crashes, which is equivalent to 10 jumbo jet crashes every week with children as the only passengers. The stats were from WHO. Even though the whole room was filled with traffic safety people who deal with such numbers all day, still the room fell silent trying to grasp the horrifying situation which we take for granted. Although I know we are far from our goal of zero traffic fatalities, but that lecture made me realize the importance of the work I was entrusted to perform as a future traffic safety researcher. I owe a very special and big “Thank You” to the organizers for making this a great learning experience for me and giving enormous motivation and inspiration for future endeavors.



Ped Safe

April 27 at 3:13pm · Baltimore, MD · 🌐

From the Creator of PAWS, Ms. Allison Powell :

A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to attend the Lifesavers Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina. The Lifesavers Conference is a national conference focused primarily on highway safety priorities. I was informed about the conference during Fall 2016 by my preceptor from the State Highway Administration and was encouraged to apply. I was offered the opportunity to become a Traffic Scholar and present on my pedestrian safety program, PAWS (Pedestrians are Walking Safely). During this conference, I was able to select a variety of workshops to attend. Some of the workshops covered areas such as distracted driving, pedestrian/bicycle safety, and impaired driving. As a traffic scholar, I decided to participate in the research poster presentations. I was extremely nervous but I enjoyed sharing my research with everyone in the Exhibit Hall. My favorite part of the Lifesavers Conference was the Poster Dash workshop. During this workshop, poster presenters were grouped based on their area of interest. We each went around the table to pitch our posters and receive constructive criticism. I was able to network with other researchers and organizations that were interested in pedestrian safety. Overall, I had an amazing experience at the 2017 Lifesavers Conference and I encourage others with an interest in highway safety to attend the next conference, you won't regret it.



**Allison Powell,
Morgan State
University,
Public Health,
Policy &
Management
(Facebook)**

<https://www.facebook.com/PAWSMSU/posts/266988623766130>

Ashirwad Barnwal, Iowa State University, Civil/Construction & Environmental Engineering (LinkedIn)



Ashirwad Barnwal

Graduate Research Assistant, Institute for Transportation
2d

I feel honored to receive the traffic safety scholarship from the Lifesavers committee to attend the 35th Lifesavers annual conference on highway safety priorities in Charlotte, March 26-28, 2017. Lifesavers conference is the largest gathering of highway safety professionals who meet annually to showcase the state-of-the-art research and developments in the field of traffic safety. At the conference, I had the opportunity to present a poster on my research which aimed to identify pertinent factors that affect the injury severity outcome in collisions with roadside fixed objects along rural interstates in Iowa. Moreover, I was also able to attend numerous workshops and network with people who share a common passion of making roads safer than ever. In nutshell, attending this conference was an amazing experience for me and I look forward to participate again in San Antonio in 2018. Follow the link if you want to know more about the conference: <https://lnkd.in/ehKDvfg>



6 Likes

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6263799466197868544/>

Amirfarrokh Iranitalab, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Civil Engineering/Transportation (Wordpress blog)

My Experience at 2017 Lifesavers Conference

Posted on April 28, 2017

I was fortunate to receive a scholarship for the second year in a row to attend the Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Planning this time held in Charlotte, North Carolina. The conference, which was held from March 26-28 had many fascinating exhibits, hands on learning experiences and interesting lectures. This time I was honored to present a poster titled "Approaches to Traffic Crash Severity Modeling" at the conference, which was based on my research on crash severity.

I greatly appreciate the chance to attend Lifesavers again, it was a very diverse, illuminating and interesting few days. I look forward to keeping up with the people I met and implementing things I learned into my own work.



<https://transporsite.wordpress.com/2017/04/28/my-experience-at-2017-lifesavers-conference/>

Shashank Mehrotra, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering (LinkedIn)

LinkedIn Sign in

Lifesaver's Conference 2017 - A beginning to a new journey

Published on May 10, 2017

 **Shashank Mehrotra** | Follow
Graduate Student at University of Massachusetts, Amherst

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CROWN BALLROOM
NASCAR HALL OF FAME

The LifeSaver's Conference 2017 was held in Charlotte, North Carolina in March. The thought leadership on the ideas of road safety and fatality reduction was extraordinary and has inspired me immensely in my focus areas of research towards analyzing crash patterns and distractions. I was among the 40 scholars who were felicitated by the organizers which was a great honor for me. For me the greatest learning at this conference was how the problem of traffic safety has been challenged through a multi-disciplinary approach which considers every aspect be it from transportation design and safety, human factors engineering, industrial psychology, anthropology as well medicine. It was a wonderful experience interacting with peers from different backgrounds coming together to find a solution. I look forward to applying for the next conference and hope I can add more value towards a "zero fatality" goal.

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/lifesavers-conference-2017-beginning-new-journey-shashank-mehrotra?published=t>



Alyssa Royce

SADD National Student Leadership Council Vice President of Conference

17h

Just a few weeks ago, I had the privilege of attending the Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities in Charlotte, North Carolina as a speaker, exhibitor, and Traffic Safety Scholar. Lifesavers is the premier U.S. highway safety conference focused on reducing the number of deaths and injuries on our nation's roadways. I was chosen as one of the conference's Traffic Safety Scholars, awarded a scholarship to attend the conference and network with professionals in the field. I presented a workshop entitled "Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Distracted: Turning Passengers into Advocates" in which I discussed the importance of speaking up as a passenger and involving teens in traffic safety discourse. It was a great honor to receive this award and to attend the Lifesavers Conference to share my passion for highway safety with those who share a similar interest. Car crashes remain the leading cause of death among people my age- a terrible and, in fact, preventable reality. I look forward to a career in transportation safety, working with nonprofits, government agencies, and communities to prevent traffic crashes. Attending the Lifesavers Conference makes me even more excited for a future in highway safety.



4 Likes

Alyssa Royce, Stockton University, Business Management/Public Health (LinkedIn)

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6272940335362502656/>

Amy Walsh, William Jewell College, Nursing – BSN (College website)

NATIONAL LIFESAVER'S CONFERENCE CHARLOTTE, NC



MARCH 2017

NATIONAL LIFESAVER'S CONFERENCE: TRAFFIC SAFETY SCHOLAR





Recently, I had the opportunity to travel to Charlotte, NC to attend the National Lifesaver's Conference as a Traffic Safety Scholar! Throughout nursing school, I had the opportunity to become involved in research on Child Passenger Safety. With the support of the Department of Nursing, my research advisor, and many others I had the opportunity to present my research at multiple conferences. I also had the opportunity become a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician (CPST). While working on my research I was introduced to Lifesaver's. I am so blessed to have received the Traffic Safety Scholar's scholarship. This scholarship gave me the opportunity to attend the conference and network with other students and nurses with the common goal of traffic safety.

Why should I be interested in traffic safety when I am going to be a nurse? During my career as a nurse, I am going to be working with infants. Being a good nurse goes beyond caring for those babies during their stay in the hospital. As a nurse, I am also an educator. I want to make sure those precious newborns are safe for their first ride home. It is my job to provide education to the parents and/or caregivers. This can involve car seat screens, assisting in installing car seats, checking recalls, etc. My care and support goes beyond the bedside.

During my time at the Lifesaver's conference, I had the opportunity to meet and network with people from multiple car seat manufacturers! If anyone has an interest in National Traffic Safety, I would suggest attending the Lifesaver's Conference! It is a conference that you will never forget! I am looking forward to next year's conference in Texas!!