SITE celebrated its 30th anniversary in Las Vegas, Nevada. There was something for everyone at this year’s 2019 conference. Attendees enjoyed morning yoga classes, dynamic keynote speakers, an 80s themed welcome party, interactive poster sessions and awards, Cirque du Soleil shows, a visit to a local elementary and middle school, award-winning research paper presentations, networking with colleagues, and 100s of sessions showcasing educational technology theory and best practices from researchers and practitioners around the world. This year’s conference honored SITE’s founders and past presidents. It was a special moment in SITE’s history to celebrate the leadership and ongoing commitment to SITE from our current and former founders and presidents.

The conference sponsored an innovators playground where attendees experimented with hands-on interactive technology led by educational technology innovators, experts, and students. Playground technology included: virtual reality, HoloLens, and augmented reality used in a NASA STEM innovative lab; music developed in GarageBand by Alexander Dawson school students then coded and choreographed to “dancing” parrot drones; Make to Learn Animation Machine Kits that enabled participants to recreate nineteenth century inventions; gaming for fundraising; and Math Snacks that allowed participants to immerse themselves in games and animations that convey math in creative, visual, and applied ways.

Pre-conference workshops were also packed with interactive and engaging technologies, tools, and strategies and were the most attended pre-conference workshops in SITE’s history. Workshop participants enjoyed sessions on designing online classrooms for high levels of student collaboration, 3D design and printing, virtual and augmented reality learning, project-based learning design, social media in the classroom, and gamification education.

Whether you attended workshops, keynote addresses, or the innovators playground, SITE offered attendees an opportunity to engage in dialogue with others and to think critically about technology and its place in school and the curriculum. When we engage in dialogue with others, interesting possibilities may surface that can lead to further reflections and actions to transform our classrooms and society.

We hope you find the conference proceedings useful as you revisit topics of interest that will contribute to your research and work in educational technology and teacher education. The proceedings contain over 385 papers including abstracts and full-text articles and is available free to SITE members.

Remember to stay connected to SITE throughout the year! We hope you were able to join at least one Special Interest Group (SIG), with the purpose of staying connected to people with similar teaching and research interests all year. Help your SIG stay active in between conferences by volunteering to participate in activities sponsored by the SIG. We are always looking for more SIG members who are willing to assist with conference planning, review paper proposals, and share professional development expertise. Give back to SITE by serving in some capacity to make us stronger collectively as an organization.

Mark your calendars for the 2020 SITE conference in New Orleans, Louisiana from April 6-10, 2020. We promise to deliver another successful conference full of excitement, collaboration, networking, and learning. Thank you for sharing your research and best practices in these proceedings and enjoy reading your colleagues’ work. We look forward to seeing you in New Orleans in 2020!

Kevin J. Graziano
2019 Conference Local Chair
Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education
Nevada State College