

Preservation Engineering Technical Committee



Date: April 13, 2024

Committee Co-Chairs:

Amy Woods, Rachel Will, Sarah Gray

Committee Structure and Members:

- PETC Executive: Amy Woods, Rachel Will, Sarah Gray, Arlin Otto, Jenna Bressler, Tom Morisson, Tim Crowe, John Dumsick, Adam Rush, Rachel Palisin
- Disaster Response Initiatives Leads: Adam Rush, Rachel Palisin, Patricia Lowe, Will Teron
- PETC Student Design-Build Competition Leads: Erin Hemm, Jillian Wilson (PETC has many volunteer members supporting the competition)
- PETC Webinar Leads: Amy Woods, Rachel Will
- PETC Mentorship Program Leads: Rachel Will, Tom Morisson
- PETC Fischetti Award Leads: Rachel Will

Regular Committee Meeting Schedule:

- PETC Executive meets monthly via Google Meet
- PETC hosts general membership meetings in May (virtual) and at the APT Conference (in-person). Our 600+ PETC member list is invited. We typically host about 50-100 attendees.

ACTIONS/MOTIONS REQUESTED

None requested by PETC

GENERAL UPDATE

- **PETC Webinars:** PETC hosted the 2023 Fischetti Winner virtual presentation by Donald Friedman (*Load Sharing in Accidental Hybrid Structure: An Early Concrete Warehouse*) on February 27, 2024. About 100 people attended. We trialed a 1.5-hour format that included a 1-hour presentation and 30 minutes of open Q&A; this worked well in that the presented had a full hour for the technical topic and ample time for discussion. Other webinar topics planned for 2024 are listed in the Future Activities section below.
- **David Fischetti Award:** PETC has issued the Call for Submissions for this year's award, with submissions due on May 24, 2024.
- **Disaster Response Initiative (DRI):** DRI coordinated a few qualified volunteers to travel to Vermont to review recent flood damage. DRI will be providing a "scoping" report that will help the property owners understand the type of specialists and contractors needed to further assess conditions and implement temporary or permanent repairs. DRI is in early discussions with an organization in Puerto Rico to lead a post-disaster workshop, similar to the DRI workshop at the Seattle Conference.
- **Student Design-Build Competition:** This year's Timber Bridge competition is off and running! Five teams (Columbia, City College of New York, North Carolina State, University of Alberta, and Carleton) have submitted Phase 1 bridge selections and are now in the Phase 2 research and design stage. PETC is already working on competition logistics for Montreal with the Conference Committee and the Conference Event Planners.

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS - PROGRESS

See table at the end of this report.

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ISSUES/CONCERNS

None at this time.

FUTURE PLANNED ACTIVITIES

1. PETC webinars:
 - a. April 23, 2024: *Timber Considerations for Preservation Engineering* will be held virtually and presented by Ron Anthony. Registration is now open on the APT webpage.
 - b. June 25, 2024: *Disaster Recovery – Collaboration Between Owners and Design Professionals*, by Trish Lowe Smith, MSHP, and Craig M. Bennett, Jr. PE, SE.
2. Student Competition: Teams moving to the Phase 3 finals will be selected in early/mid-June. APT members should plan to cheer on the student teams at the Montreal conference in November!

ONGOING DISCUSSIONS AND EFFORTS

1. Coordination of sponsorship for the conference and to PETC students: PETC is working with Greg Galer to integrate/coordinate PETC's requests for competition sponsors with general conference sponsorship. Discussions will continue through April, so that PETC (and APT) can start the sponsorship requests.
2. Coordination/confirmation of waivers and insurance information for DRI on-site deployments; Greg is working with DRI and our lawyers on this.

COMMITTEE TRANSITION PLANNING NOTES

1. Current co-chairs have identified a few candidates with PETC membership who have led/are leading our initiatives. We will be discussing their interest, availability, and timing for taking on a co-chair role over the course of this year.
2. PETC co-chairs will rotate on/off one at a time to facilitate smooth transition of knowledge and procedures.

Strategic Goal Update follows on the next pages.

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PROGRESS ON STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

Updated April 2024 – new items since October 2023 are in **red font**.

| Priority One – Prioritize Technical Content | | | |
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| Goal | Action Item | Success Factor | April 2024 Evaluation |
| Goal 1.I - Attract Develop and Promote Technical Content | | | |
| Bring solid technical engineering content to APT | Develop technical workshops for Conferences | Program developed and offered | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PETC/IMI Guastavino workshop held at Detroit Conference DRI disaster planning workshop held at Seattle Conference |
| Bring solid technical engineering content to APT | Award a David Fischetti article with excellent engineering content | PETC members submit articles and award is given | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2022 award winner selected and announced in Detroit 2023 award winner selected and announced in Seattle 2024 award submissions are being accepted now |
| Bring solid technical engineering content to APT | Organize a technical engineering track at Conference | Program developed and offered | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not planned for Montreal, given the joint APT-NP-CAHP demand on session time; TBD for future conference |
| Goal 1.III – Focus Conference Events on Technical Content | | | |
| Bring solid technical engineering content to APT | Organize a technical engineering track at Conference | Program developed and offered | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not planned for Montreal, given the joint APT-NP-CAHP demand on session time; TBD for future conference |

| Priority Two – Improve Organizational Effectiveness | | | |
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| Goal | Action Item | Success Factor | April 2024 Evaluation |
| Goal 2.I - Optimize volunteer time to allow greater prioritization of technical content development and delivery | | | |
| Engage with PETC members more effectively | Use Google Suite set up by APT to organize PETC files and member lists; use Google Meet for committee meetings, and Google Chat or Groups for informal engagement with members | Successful use of Google Suite | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Google Drive, Gmail and Google Meet are working well for PETC |
| Goal 2.II – Improve oversight, accountability, communication, coordination, and eliminate redundancies within all levels of APT by leveraging management best practices | | | |

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| Priority Two – Improve Organizational Effectiveness | | | |
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| Goal | Action Item | Success Factor | April 2024 Evaluation |
| Effectively organize PETC's Budget and Action items | Submit a more thoughtful and organized budget and meet with APT Exec so that PETC is treated better as we organize so many events throughout the year | Success if our efforts are more respected next year and things are handled smoothly | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024 budget approved • Approach for sponsoring Student Competition to be established and started earlier in 2024 |

| Priority Three – Widen APT's Reach | | | |
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| Goal | Action Item | Success Factor | April 2024 Evaluation |
| Goal 3.1 – Increase and Enhance Membership | | | |
| Get more young professionals involved with APT | Mentorship program: offer 3 virtual events throughout the year | Completion of events | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 event held in 2022 • Discussed needs/wants during PETC meeting in Detroit • Plan for events in 2024 possibly with other committees or initiatives |
| Outreach to PETC members | Develop and send out PETC eNews 3 times per year. Content includes training opportunities, info about PETC and DRI meetings, info about conference activities | Eblasts issued | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issued multiple eblasts in 2023 regarding learning opportunities, webinars, DRI initiatives, etc. • Issuing periodic eblasts in 2024, including info for APT webinars, partner organization webinars (ISCARSAH, et al), student competition info, Fischetti, etc. |
| Get more students involved with APT | Organize the PETC Student Design-Build Competition at Annual Conference | Annual Competition at Annual Conference | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022 Timber Bridge in Detroit • 2023 Masonry Arch in Seattle • 2024 Timber Bridge in Montreal |
| Engage PETC members with hazard response certifications to respond to regions affected | Develop relationships with FEMA and NCSEA | Relationship developed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consulting with FEMA on providing support in Maui • HENTF participation in DRI workshop • Presented at FAIC conference in Jacksonville in 2023 • Deployed volunteers to Vermont in early 2024 • Look to NCSEA connection in 2024 |

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| Priority Three – Widen APT’s Reach | | | |
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| Goal | Action Item | Success Factor | April 2024 Evaluation |
| Engage PETC members with NCSEA hazard response certifications to respond to regions effected | Grow our certified members by notifying members of NCSEA programs and opportunities. | Successful assistance in regions needing help | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broadcast multiple training opportunities to membership |
| Goal 3.II – Improve Visibility | | | |
| Publicize and promote APT Awards, especially Fischetti Award | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PETC had several social media posts in 2022. Social media posts in March 2023 for Fischetti and in Summer 2023 the Timber Frame webinar Issued information about Fischetti Award to several allied organizations for distribution to their membership Ongoing PETC eblasts and social media feeds for our activities |
| Outreach with allied engineering organizations | Cross-promote and/or collaborate with ISCARSAH, Disaster Response Alliance (DRA), and possibly other organizations. Keep APT Partners & Outreach Comm informed. Organize a partnered event every other year. | Partner event offered | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICOMOS/ISCARSAH reached out to us in early 2023 (new APT MOU); PETC members have connections with ISCARSAH. Planning joint webinar with ISCARSAH in 2023 – Defer to 2024. Potential connection with Timber Framers Guild and Historic Bridge Foundation for 2024 |
| Goal 3.III - Expand sharing of technical expertise and outreach to under-represented groups, international audience, partner organizations, and educational institutions to extend APTI's expertise to a larger audience | | | |
| Create and utilize partnerships to distribute technical content in partner publications | Collaborate with technical committees and involve authors to reprint APT articles | Minimum 1 reprint per year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More focus on this in 2024 and beyond |