

# Preservation Engineering Technical Committee



Date: October 28, 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: Sarah Gray, Erin Hemm, Jillian Wilson (PETC has many volunteer members supporting the competition)
- PETC Webinar Lead: Amy Woods
- 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

- Current PETC Co-chairs Amy Woods and Sarah Gray will be stepping down this fall and Rachel Palisin and Arlin Otto will become our two new Co-chairs. Rachel Will is remaining on as Co-chair. We continue to have two co-chairs from the USA and one co-chair from Canada. We have informed Lena Buchinger, current APT President, of this change and she has met with both new co-chairs and approved this change.

## GENERAL UPDATE

- **PETC Webinars:**
  - February 27, 2024: PETC hosted the 2023 Fischetti Winner virtual presentation by Donald Friedman, *Load Sharing in Accidental Hybrid Structure: An Early Concrete Warehouse*. 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.
  - April 23, 2024: *Timber Considerations for Preservation Engineering* will be held virtually and presented by Ron Anthony.
  - June 25, 2024: *Disaster Recovery – Collaboration Between Owners and Design Professionals*, by Trish Lowe Smith, MSHP, and Craig M. Bennett, Jr. PE, SE.
- **David Fischetti Award:** PETC has judged the submissions and will announce the 2024 Fischetti Award winner at this year's APT conference in Montreal. PETC thanks the judges, including Tim Crowe, Don Friedman, Tom Morrison, and Sarah Van Domelen.
- **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 has completed Phase 1 bridge selections and Phase 2 research and design. Four student teams are attending

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the Montreal conference, which includes Columbia, North Carolina State, University of Alberta, and Carleton. PETC thanks the Conference Committee, the Conference Event Planners, and Sandra Sanchez Pierre for the efficient team work in organizing the students and logistics this year! PETC raised \$7,950 in sponsorships from our network, in addition to the \$75,000 Richard Driehaus grant and \$6,400 from the Richard Jenrette Foundation. We also received an in-kind donation from a Montreal contractor who supplied PETC with materials needed at the conference to support the team bridges. Competition activities will be held on Friday November 15th and Saturday November 16th – all APT members are encouraged to attend!

## **STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS - PROGRESS**

See table at the end of this report.

## **ISSUES/CONCERNS**

None at this time.

## **FUTURE PLANNED ACTIVITIES**

1. PETC webinars: Four webinars will be planned for 2025. One will include a focus on this year's Fischetti Award Winner and one will be in collaboration with ISCARSAH.
2. Student Competition: APT members should plan to cheer on the student teams at the Montreal conference in November! We will begin planning for 2025 conference in December, which will focus on masonry arch theme.

## **ONGOING DISCUSSIONS AND EFFORTS**

1. Coordination/confirmation of waivers and insurance information for DRI on-site deployments; Greg is working with DRI and our lawyers on this.
2. Coordination and promotion of webinars. There were some missed opportunities with timing and outreach that are hopefully resolved for next year's webinars.

## **COMMITTEE TRANSITION PLANNING NOTES**

1. As stated in Actions/Motions above - Current PETC Co-chairs Amy Woods and Sarah Gray will be stepping down this fall, and Rachel Palisin and Arlin Otto will become our two new Co-chairs. Rachel Will is remaining on as Co-chair. We continue to have two co-chairs from the USA and one co-chair from Canada. We have informed current APT President of this change, and she has met with both new co-chairs and approved this change.

Strategic Goal Update follows on the next pages.

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## PROGRESS ON STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

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

Priority One – Prioritize Technical Content			
Goal	Action Item	Success Factor	April 2024 Evaluation
<b>Goal 1.I - Attract Develop and Promote Technical Content</b>			
Bring solid technical engineering content to APT	Develop technical workshops for Conferences <b>and virtual webinars</b>	Program developed and offered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PETC/IMI Guastavino workshop held at Detroit Conference</li> <li>• DRI disaster planning workshop held at Seattle Conference</li> <li>• <b>Organized three webinars in 2024 offered to all of APT and beyond</b></li> </ul>
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"> <li>• 2022 award winner selected and announced in Detroit</li> <li>• 2023 award winner selected and announced in Seattle</li> <li>• <b>2024 award winner has been selected to be announced in Montreal</b></li> </ul>
Bring solid technical engineering content to APT	Organize a technical engineering track at Conference	Program developed and offered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Not planned for Montreal, given the joint APT-NP-CAHP demand on session time; TBD for future conference</b></li> </ul>
<b>Goal 1.III – Focus Conference Events on Technical Content</b>			
Bring solid technical engineering content to APT	Organize a technical engineering track at Conference	Program developed and offered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Not planned for Montreal, given the joint APT-NP-CAHP demand on session time; TBD for future conference</b></li> </ul>
Priority Two – Improve Organizational Effectiveness			
Goal	Action Item	Success Factor	April 2024 Evaluation
<b>Goal 2.I - Optimize volunteer time to allow greater prioritization of technical content development and delivery</b>			
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"> <li>• Google Drive, Gmail and Google Meet are working well for PETC</li> </ul>
<b>Goal 2.II – Improve oversight, accountability, communication, coordination, and eliminate redundancies within all levels of APT by leveraging management best practices</b>			

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Priority Two – Improve Organizational Effectiveness			
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"> <li>• 2024 budget approved</li> <li>• Continue to coordinate sponsorships for future Student Competitions, we have a great number of sponsors for 2024</li> </ul>

Priority Three – Widen APT’s Reach			
Goal	Action Item	Success Factor	April 2024 Evaluation
<b>Goal 3.1 – Increase and Enhance Membership</b>			
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"> <li>• 1 event held in 2022</li> <li>• Discussed needs/wants during PETC meeting in Detroit</li> <li>• Plan for events in 2025 possibly with other committees or initiatives</li> </ul>
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"> <li>• Issued multiple eblasts in 2023 regarding learning opportunities, webinars, DRI initiatives</li> <li>• Issued periodic eblasts in 2024, including info for APT webinars, partner organization webinars (ISCARSAH, et al), student competition info, Fischetti, etc.</li> </ul>
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"> <li>• 2022 Timber Bridge in Detroit</li> <li>• 2023 Masonry Arch in Seattle</li> <li>• 2024 Timber Bridge in Montreal</li> </ul>
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"> <li>• Consulting with FEMA on providing support in Maui</li> <li>• HENTF participation in DRI workshop</li> <li>• Presented at FAIC conference in Jacksonville in 2023</li> <li>• Deployed volunteers to Vermont in early 2024</li> <li>• Look to NCSEA connection in 2024</li> </ul>

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Priority Three – Widen APT’s Reach			
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"> <li>• Broadcast multiple training opportunities to membership</li> </ul>
<b>Goal 3.II – Improve Visibility</b>			
Publicize and promote APT Awards, especially Fischetti Award			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PETC had several social media posts in 2022.</li> <li>• Social media posts in March 2023 for Fischetti and in Summer 2023 the Timber Frame webinar</li> <li>• Issued information about Fischetti Award to several allied organizations for distribution to their membership</li> <li>• Ongoing PETC eblasts and social media feeds for our activities</li> </ul>
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"> <li>• ICOMOS/ISCARSAH reached out to us in early 2023 (new APT MOU); PETC planning joint webinar with ISCARSAH in 2025</li> <li>• PETC connected with Timber Framers Guild and Timber Engineering Framing Council in 2024; TFG/TEFC provided a joint sponsorship in 2024.</li> <li>• NPS provided PETC with hard copies of Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Covered Bridges to distribute to each student member attending in Montreal</li> </ul>
<b>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</b>			
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"> <li>• More focus on this in 2024 and beyond</li> </ul>