

Preservation Engineering Technical Committee

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APT Board Meeting

Date: Board Meeting, Detroit, April 9-10, 2022

SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Date: April 1, 2022

- **Student Design-Build Competition:** Five schools have submitted their proposed Timber Bridge projects for this year's competition: University of Saskatchewan, Columbia University, City College of New York, Willowbank, and The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. The student teams will be working on their Phase 2 submissions, which are due at the end of May. Following review of the Phase 2 submissions, up to four teams will be selected to move on to Phase 3 of the competition, which will culminate in the finals at the Detroit conference.
- **David Fischetti Award:** PETC issued the Call for Award Nominations to PETC members, included the submission information in the recent APT Communique and APT social media, and we are promoting the award to various partner organizations. Submissions are due to PETC by May 27, 2022.
- **Disaster Response Initiative (DRI):** DRI hosted two volunteer working meetings this year, with good response at both meetings. DRI is considering sponsoring a virtual event with the APT Southeast Chapter later this year. In collaboration with APT's legal counsel and APT Executive, DRI is finalizing a waiver to be used for the collaboration program in the US Virgin Islands with a local nonprofit (CHANT – Crucian Heritage and Nature Tourism) and facilitated through the DOI/FEMA, and other future projects. DRI is connecting with the Heritage Emergency National Task Force (HENTF) on a new potential project in Mayfield, Kentucky, which was devastated by a tornado in Fall 2022. DRI also is working to finalize the report from their site visit to the Whitney Plantation last year.
- **Guastavino Vault Workshop:** PETC is leading the efforts to organize a workshop for this year's conference in Detroit. We are working with Silman and others from the Michigan Central Station project team that recently underwent Guastavino vault restoration. The International Masonry Institute (IMI) will host this workshop at their training center in Warren, Michigan, and the local masonry restoration contractor teams that worked on the local project will also be involved in the program.
- **Mentoring Program:** PETC established a mentoring/networking program for young professionals in the preservation engineering community. This has included a few virtual events to-date. We will plan to have an in-person event during the Detroit conference and get folks connected. We are also planning virtual events that will be a "book talk" type of event focusing on the webinars being presented by the Skyscraper Museum with Don Friedman, Tom Leslie, and panelists for the discussion.
- **PETC Communications:** PETC has issued several social media posts and emails to PETC and APT members to promote the Fischetti Award and Student Competition.

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ISSUES/CONCERNS

- **Budget and Coordination Issues:** PETC requests that the 2022-2023 budget process be further improved from last year, and that coordination and clarity regarding the conference budget vs. committee budgets be provided. This is a key issue for PETC because many of our activities are part of the annual conference. Fundraising and sponsorship issues for the conference, particularly as they relate to the Student Competition, should also be clarified. PETC can meet with Conference Committee, Treasurer, and the Executive Director upon request. PETC spent a lot of effort to pull together a very detailed budget in November 2021 and we have not received any indication regarding how much of our budget has been approved, other than a short turn around approval for work by DRI for the Virgin Islands. We have proceeded to plan for the Student Competition as well as the Conference Workshop so that these items are not delayed, but again we have not received formal approval. The request for committee budgets to meet a November deadline in the midst of our efforts for last year's conference was difficult for PETC to meet, but we expected a response regarding our proposed budget in December 2021 or at the latest January 2022 so we can plan accordingly. PETC is extremely active. We would very much appreciate it if we can get a formal response to our budget as soon as possible this year, and a plan to have responses in January of subsequent years. Thank you in advance for consideration of our budget.

ACTIONS/MOTIONS TO BE REQUESTED

- None

FUTURE PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- PETC will host our mid-year meeting via Zoom in April or May. Meeting topics will include updates regarding the Student Competition, DRI activities, planned conference Workshop, Mentorship activities, and possibly a featured speaker. PETC will issue invites and communication, and we welcome all APT members to attend the meeting.
- PETC Mentoring Program: We hope to dovetail the upcoming Skyscraper lectures into emerging professional outreach (April/May TBD). Additionally, one of the focuses of the mentoring program will be technical content while connecting the mentorship program with outreach to get new schools involved in the student competition.
- PETC Activities at the Detroit Conference:
 - PETC is leading the Guastavino Vault workshop and planning is ongoing. Boston Valley Terra Cotta is donating tile for the hands-on session. Several masonry contractors and consultants will be presenting.
 - PETC will host the Student Competition Seminar at the Detroit Conference. The topic will be Historic Timber Restoration and the student teams that participate in the competition finals will attend.
 - PETC and Detroit Conference organizers are discussing a potential emerging professionals social event at the conference, provided that space/time/funding are available.

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- PETC plans to host the Masonry Arch Competition at the 2023 Seattle Conference. Leading up to this, we may host pre-competition educational sessions regarding masonry arch design, analysis, and repair. We are considering connecting this session to the recent Practice Points published in the APT Bulletin regarding masonry arches.

ON-GOING DISCUSSIONS

- PETC continues to participate in the APT Inter-Committee Council (ICC) meetings to help improve communication between APT committees and efforts. We are also helping with the Task Group to discuss and develop agreements for speakers involved with committee events, such as workshops and webinars to help protect the content being presented.