

# Preservation Engineering Technical Committee



APT Board Meeting, Seattle

*Date: April 22, 2023*

## PROGRESS ON STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

- PETC has made substantial progress on most actions/goals, particularly those focused on Technical Content and Outreach.
- See table at the end of this report for details on each strategy and corresponding goals.

## SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **David Fischetti Award:** PETC has issued the call for nominations for this year's Fischetti Award. Submissions are due on May 26, 2023.
- **Disaster Response Initiative (DRI):** DRI deployed with a team of FAIC's National Heritage Responders and researchers from Penn State to Hindman, Kentucky, in March. We evaluated several sites affected by the catastrophic floods that occurred in July 2022. The focus of the trip was evaluating structures associated with the Hindman Settlement School, which preserves both intangible cultural heritage (Appalachian folk music and legacy of rural settlement schools) and tangible heritage (physical archives) in facilities that are heritage structures. This type of organization and project is an ideal collaboration between APT and FAIC, as was envisioned when establishing the MOU between the organizations and represents an important step in developing our partnership. Reports and follow-up from the project are ongoing as of early April.

## ISSUES/CONCERNS

- PETC has experienced slow response times from Redstone on emails and recently for establishing a process for coordinating webinars. PETC cannot continue with some of our initiatives without prompt responses from Redstone nor without the webinar process.
- For now, PETC has put a hold on promoting PETC-led webinars until a webinar process is finalized. We urge Redstone to complete these tasks so PETC can resume planning webinars.

## ACTIONS REQUESTED

- PETC does not have specific motions for board consideration.
- PETC requests that the APT Executive continue to work with Redstone to iron out the process for webinars and to generally improve response times to emails, requests, etc.
- PETC requests that APT Executive continue to develop and finalize speaker agreements that we should use for webinars and other APT events.
- APT Executive to strike a Sponsorship Policy task group; John Dumsick will participate for PETC.

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## 2023 SEATTLE CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

- **Student Design-Build Competition:** Four schools have submitted for the Masonry Arch Competition: Columbia University, Carleton University, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and McGill University. The committee is working with the teams as they move to Phase 2 (design build of masonry arches on-campus) which will be received in June. PETC is working with the Conference Committee to coordinate competition activities at the conference.
- **Workshop:** DRI has submitted materials and is coordinating *WS3: Preserving History Through Natural Disasters*. The goal of the workshop is to highlight preservation professionals' role in disaster management using the lens of the Disaster Management Cycle facing many communities and historic sites. The workshop sessions will follow the typical flow of the cycle, focusing sequentially on disasters and response; recovery; preparedness; mitigation and resilience. This workshop will engage experts focused on emergency response to share their experiences, lessons learned, and hopes for the future. The workshop format will include presentations, table-top discussions, and a walking tour.

## FUTURE PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- **Webinars:**
  - PETC will host a Masonry Arch Analysis webinar for the Student Competition teams on May 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - 2022 Fischetti Winner Presentation by Holly Boyer (Timber Steeples) – timing being confirmed – likely summer or fall.
  - Joint webinar with ISCARSAH to present case studies on the ICOMOS *Principles for the Analysis, Conservation and Structural Restoration of Architectural Heritage*. Timing is being discussed between PETC and ISCARSAH.
- **DRI Participation at AIC Conference:** DRI members are presenting a panel discussion with AIC's Architecture Specialty Group (ASG) on Friday May 16, 2023 at 10:30 AM as part of the 51<sup>st</sup> annual AIC meeting in Jacksonville, Florida. The session will focus on the differing perspectives of the multiple individuals who are involved after a disaster affects historic resources, highlighting issues requiring collaboration, common challenges faced, gaps in disaster response and preparedness, and how we, as heritage stewards, may be able to better address these concerns. We intend this session to generate connections and gather information to guide future programming for the AIC/APT disaster response partnership.
- **Fischetti Video:** PETC has been developing content for a video to commemorate the life and work of David Fischetti. The purpose is to provide context and promote the annual Fischetti Award. Video interviews with David's colleagues have been completed, and PETC will work with a video editor to compile an extended version of the video, as well as short clips for use on social media. PETC requested funds for the video editor in our 2023 budget' since this budget was not approved, we will defer this initiative to 2024.

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- **Mentorship Program:** PETC has been developing a mentoring program for emerging professionals, and we are now collaborating with other committees and APT leaders regarding a wider-reaching program. We anticipate that there will be 1-2 virtual events (PETC or wider reaching) with technical content to provide EPs the opportunities to connect with other more experienced practicing preservation engineers. Topics may include professional development and project/material/system specific issues. Formats will include online seminars, roundtable discussions, or forums to ask project related questions of practicing professionals. Additionally, PETC would like to host a networking event at the 2023 conference with other technical committees to focus on the EP. We will continue to coordinate all-APT EP activities with ICC and the APT Membership Committee.
- **Preservation Engineering Resource Library:** Don Friedman proposed this initiative at the 2022 Conference, and the purpose is to gather a bibliography and/or digital copies of actual publications of peer reviewed (or generally-accepted industry work) preservation engineering focused resources. This will be beneficial to emerging professionals and seasoned professionals alike. PETC requested some funding for this initiative, but it was not approved for 2023. PETC will continue to work on the research task without funding in the coming year, and we will repropose a budget for website work in the future.

## ONGOING DISCUSSIONS

- Nothing further to add.

*PETC's strategic goals follow on next page.*

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## PROGRESS ON STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

Updated April 2023 – new items since November 2022 are in red font.

Priority One – Prioritize Technical Content			
Goal	Action Item	Success Factor	April 2023 Evaluation
<b>Goal 1.I - Attract Develop and Promote Technical Content</b>			
Bring solid technical engineering content to APT	Develop technical workshops for Conferences	Program developed and offered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PETC/IMI Guastavino workshop held at Detroit Conference</li> <li>DRI planning workshop for Seattle Conference</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>Issued call for 2023 submissions in February</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>Deferred – not planned for Seattle</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>Deferred – not planned for Seattle</li> </ul>

Priority Two – Improve Organizational Effectiveness			
Goal	Action Item	Success Factor	April 2023 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>			
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>2023 budget template and process are improved from 2022 - thanks!</li> </ul>

Priority Three – Widen APT's Reach			
Goal	Action Item	Success Factor	April 2023 Evaluation
<b>Goal 3.I – Increase and Enhance Membership</b>			

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Priority Three – Widen APT's Reach			
Goal	Action Item	Success Factor	April 2023 Evaluation
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 1-2 events in 2023</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 eblast in Feb 23 regarding learning opportunities</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> </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>• Not yet started – for 2023</li> </ul>
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>• Not yet started – for 2023</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</li> <li>• Issued information about Fischetti Award to several allied organizations for distribution to their membership</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 recently reached out to us (new APT MOU); PETC members have connections with ISCARSAH. Planning joint webinar with ISCARSAH in 2023.</li> <li>• Potential connection with Timber Framers Guild</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>			

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Priority Three – Widen APT's Reach			
Goal	Action Item	Success Factor	April 2023 Evaluation
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 2023 and beyond</li></ul>