



The Association for Preservation Technology International  
*Association internationale pour la préservation et ses techniques*



## APT Technical Committee on Sustainable Preservation (TC-SP)

The APT Technical Committee on Sustainable Preservation was formed in 2004 to provide an arena for discussion, review, and information sharing. It aims to educate APT members on the relationship between historic preservation and environmental sustainability.

Co-Chair Nancy Rankin	<a href="mailto:nrankin@jgwaarchitects.com">nrankin@jgwaarchitects.com</a>
Co-Chair Cory Rouillard	<a href="mailto:trembc@gmail.com">trembc@gmail.com</a>
Co-Secretary Jason Wright	<a href="mailto:jasonkennethwright@gmail.com">jasonkennethwright@gmail.com</a>
Co-Secretary Elisabeth Bakker Johnson	<a href="mailto:ebie@nycap.rr.com">ebie@nycap.rr.com</a>
Co-Secretary Danielle Campbell	<a href="mailto:danielle.campbell88@gmail.com">danielle.campbell88@gmail.com</a>

We meet monthly via conference call, on the **first Wednesday of every month**.

We currently have four **Focus Groups**, which address a range of topics, interests, and purposes.

### Education & Research

#### Climate Change

**ZNCC - Zero Net Carbon Collaborative for Existing and Historic Buildings**

**OSCAR - the Online Sustainable Conservation Assistance Resource**

For more information, please contact the co-chairs of the focus groups to get involved and to join in the regularly scheduled group conference calls. (See following pages.)

In addition, this past year we have:

- Contributed to the conference programming for APT 2019 Miami, including:
  - Planning the “Heritage Values and Climate Action Planning” Symposium
  - Participating in the the Little Haiti Community Engagement Project
  - Providing abstract peer review by our members
  - Chairing paper sessions
- Participated in the Historic Codes Summit, in April, 2019 in Philadelphia
- Contributed to the “From the Archives” column in the *Communique* (Vol. 48:5, September/October 2019) on the history of the Technical Committees
- Issued periodic digests of articles of interest to our membership

In previous years, we have contributed to APT’s body of work in a number of ways, including:

- Conferences- contribute every year, including:
  - Paper tracks, paper sessions, session chairs, paper presentations (many!)
  - Plenary sessions:
    - APT 2017 Ottawa: “*Historic Buildings and the Race to Net-Zero Carbon*” and sustainable preservation networking reception to kick off the ZNCC
    - APT 2018 Buffalo: “*Climate Chaos and Historic Building Environments: The Intersection of Preservation and Resilience*”
- Workshops:



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- APT 2010 Denver: *“Energy Performance Testing, Modelling and Monitoring”*
- APT 2013 New York: *“Disaster Preparedness and Response”*
- APT 2016 San Antonio (with PETC): *“Building Science and Systems”*
- Symposia:
  - APT 2005 Halifax: *“Sustainability and Preservation”*
  - APT 2008 Montreal: *“Sustainable Preservation”*
  - APT 2011 Victoria: *“Sustainability Summit”*
  - APT 2015 Kansas City (with TC-MH): *“Renewing Modernism”*, and subsequent narrative summary *“Toward Consensus Principles for Practice”*
- APT Bulletin:
  - Guest edit special issues:
    - *Sustainability and Preservation* (Vol. 37:4, 2005)
    - *Sustainability* (Vol. 41:1, 2010)
    - *Climate Change and Preservation Technology* (Vol. 47:1, 2016)
- Other, including:
  - 2007 AIA Institute Honors Award for Collaborative Achievement
  - 2016 Contributed to the review of an NPS Preservation Brief on flooding and sea level rise
  - 2016 Climate Change & Cultural Heritage Conservation Literature Review
  - 2016 Contributed to public review of ASHRAE 34P Energy Guideline for Historic Buildings
  - 2018 Participated in events related to the UN High Level Political Forum on SDG 11.4
  - 2018 Created a travelling poster highlighting TCSP’s work and support of the Global Goals
  - (ongoing) Broadened group outreach to allied organizations, including AIA, RAIC, ICOMOS, Architecture 2030, Carbon Leadership Forum

Each year we identify an annual theme to focus our efforts:

- 2017: Zero Net Carbon
- 2018: UN Sustainable Development Goals
- 2019: Resiliency
- **2020: Collaboration**

This year’s goals and ways to get involved include:

- Get involved with focus groups in multiple capacities (see following pages)
- Help plan and contribute to upcoming conference events and workshops
- Contribute to publications, such as Practice Points, *APT Bulletin*, and Resource Roundup
- Help strengthen TCSP collaboration with other APT committees and outside organizations
- Share your thoughts and interests!

***We know we’ve got 10 years to get our act together as a species if we hope to keep living on this planet comfortably. We know that buildings account for 40% of the current carbon emissions. If we hope to address climate change effectively, we need to address the existing buildings. The members of APT are the people who know how to work with existing buildings. We have the expertise to address the historically significant buildings, and that translates to the appropriate treatment of any existing building. If we are to make this critical difference in our climate trajectory, the expertise of this organization is vital to making that happen.***



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## Education & Research Focus Group

Co-Chair Hugh Miller

[hcmfaia@comcast.net](mailto:hcmfaia@comcast.net)

Co-Chair Susan Ross

[susan.ross@carleton.ca](mailto:susan.ross@carleton.ca)

### description

The APT TC-SP Education and Research (E&R) Focus Group was organized ca. 2008. It supports efforts of faculty and students within University-level programs in related disciplines (heritage conservation, historic preservation, architecture, engineering, planning, history, etc) to address the relationship between sustainable design/practices and historic preservation/heritage conservation. The group exchanges resources such as course syllabi, new references and calls for papers to conferences or publications. It maintains a list of relevant thesis work, and it advises APT on key academic/research institutions and organizations with Sustainable Preservation related interests.

### format

The central endeavor of the E&R Focus Group continues to be its regular monthly phone call open to all members, with occasional guests from other organizations. The calls include both an agenda and open time for discussion of recent events and resources. The timing of the call is established by doodle polls for January-June and July-December to maximize availability according to participant's teaching/project schedules, and cover time zones from the UK to Pacific Coast. Despite a few new "attendees" over 2019, there has been a drop in the number of callers. Amanda Webb has had to step down as co-chair due to her other duties.

### Upcoming calls

- November 13, 2019 1-2 pm EST
- December 11, 2019 1-2 pm EST NB. *Conference call information now varies each month*

### goals and accomplishments

**Research topics list submitted to the APT Board:** Following on the initiatives in previous years to initiate an APT research Agenda, the E&R focus group participated in a request from the Board for a list of possible research topics. When shared within TC-SP this led to an interesting exchange within larger group.

**Research survey:** In August 2019, a 10 question survey was sent out to all TC-SP members. 17 responses were received and the results have been compiled with help from group member Jonathan Spodek. Initial results suggested that about half are involved in some kind of research. Almost all felt that APT could provide more resources for research, including - as examples only - in developing case studies; keeping an up to date list of research areas of APT members active in research, and assisting in grants. The survey also pointed to areas that overlap with other TC-SP initiatives such as OSCAR and the ZNCC initiative.

**Call notes:** Detailed notes of the monthly calls going back to 2012 have now been organized into a folder on dropbox..

### specific ways in which new members can get involved

Please contact Susan Ross or Hugh Miller for more information or to let us know you plan to call in.

*Current as of: November 5, 2019*



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## **Climate Change Focus Group**

Co-Chair Joe Oppermann      [joppermann@jkoa.net](mailto:joppermann@jkoa.net)  
Co-Chair Ilene Tyler          [ilene.tyler@gmail.com](mailto:ilene.tyler@gmail.com)

### **description**

The purpose of the Climate Change Focus Group is twofold: to consider the effects of climate change on the cultural resources of the built environment, and to assess/promote appropriate responses.

### **format**

- Please contact the Co-Chairs to brainstorm best next steps for action.

### **this past year's accomplishments**

- Completed preliminary planning for the TC-SP symposium: Heritage Values and Climate Action Planning, held at the 2019 APT Conference in Miami.
- Began initiative to coordinate with other Technical Committees on the role of climate change within their committee agendas.
- Began brainstorming and identifying climate-driven threats to and resilience/adaptation/mitigation measures for our built heritage.

### **current goals**

- Coordinate with other Technical Committees on the role of climate change within their committee agendas.
- Help us enumerate the many ways that climate events can be attributed to climate change.

### **specific ways in which new members can get involved**

Members are needed to support the co-chairs and to expand into a new plan of action. Please contact the Co-Chairs to join this sub-committee.

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## ZNCC Focus Group

Co-Chair Lori Ferriss [lori.ferriss@goodyclancy.com](mailto:lori.ferriss@goodyclancy.com)  
Co-Chair Mark Brandt [mtb@mtbarch.com](mailto:mtb@mtbarch.com)  
Co-Chair Nakita Reed [nakita@encoresdesign.com](mailto:nakita@encoresdesign.com)  
Co-Chair Scott Henson [Scott@hensonarchitect.com](mailto:Scott@hensonarchitect.com)

### description

TCSP initiated the ZNCC Zero Net Carbon Collaboration for Existing and Historic Buildings at APT Ottawa in October 2017. The founding partners besides APT include the AIA, RAIC, ICOMOS and Architecture 2030.

### this past year's accomplishments

- Maintenance of an initial website for base info: [www.znccollaboration.org](http://www.znccollaboration.org)
- Added a resources list to the website as part of the curate initiative
- Started an events calendar for various “climate – heritage” events around the globe
- Secured agreement from AIA to staff the website maintenance and evolution, following on from MTBA Associates staff, who initiated the site (note, currently being attended by Nakita Reed, ZNCC Co-Chair and TCSP member)
- Ongoing discussions with several other orgs who are interested to connect with ZNCC, including NBI, CaGBC, CLF/ECN, others. CLF Carbon Leadership Forum and CHN Climate Heritage Network are very involved and may soon assume closer liaison with ZNCC
- Conducted a series of bi-monthly calls
- Prioritized a set of tasks to form a 2-year action plan and commenced filling leads for the tasks: note this has been reduced to 3 initiatives and the website development in order to focus attention and improve success
- Commenced compiling a database in a Google Doc shared space – have initiated discussions about sharing content/process with OSCAR
- Ongoing participation in NGO alignment in embodied carbon working group led by CLF
- Supported the Climate Heritage Network (CHN) Launch in Edinburgh, Scotland (part of the ICOMOS initiative started last year as Climate Heritage Mobilization at the Global Climate Action Summit), through attendance and participation by co-chair Lori Ferriss, representing ZNCC (and co-chair Brandt remains on the CHN Steering Committee, representing ZNCC/TC-SP)
- Installed new co-chair to assist Brandt, Ferriss and Reed: Scott Henson

### current goals

Prioritized set of tasks for the 2-year Collaboration action plan include:

- **Curate, Communicate, Create: Three initiatives**
- Create/collaborate on a library of existing research and initiatives
- Gather data on continent-wide building stock and building reuse carbon from researchers and practitioners
- Develop methodologies for correlating energy retrofit efforts and collect strategies and technologies for reusing and upgrading existing buildings



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Also:

- Work with ICOMOS to develop inputs into the mitigation related portions of the new ICOMOS Charter on Climate Change and Heritage, through sharing our above initiative(s) with the CHN
- Seek grant money for this now narrower scope of initiatives

**specific ways in which new members can get involved**

Please contact the Co-Chairs.

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## **OSCAR Focus Group**

Co-Chair Cory Rouillard [trembc@gmail.com](mailto:trembc@gmail.com)  
Co-Chair Carly Farmer [carly.farmer@outlook.com](mailto:carly.farmer@outlook.com)  
Co-Chair Evanne St. Charles [evanneshea@gmail.com](mailto:evanneshea@gmail.com)

### **description**

OSCAR is an open-source interactive web application for design professionals engaged in the sustainable rehabilitation of historic buildings. OSCAR's holistic building evaluation and design approach helps to maximize the health, energy efficiency, and conservation of built historic assets without compromising their heritage value. The OSCAR Focus Group is building the web app and populating it with relevant information.

URL: <http://oscar-apti.org>

### **format**

Content forum calls are currently scheduled monthly, on the second Thursday of each month. More calls at an alternate time are planned. Other OSCAR coordination happens through individual emails and calls.

### **this past year's accomplishments**

#### General:

- Evanne St. Charles became a co-chair of the OSCAR focus group. Evanne has been an active part of the OSCAR content development team since 2013.

#### Website:

- Web Developer Joseph Russell has built OSCAR 2.0 with its primary functionality. He has been implementing Kat Ambrose's redesign, with continued input from Cory Rouillard. This work was done with the generous support of the Historic Preservation Education Foundation (HPEF) Partners in Training program.
- The OSCAR team has been adding content to this initial website framework.

#### Content:

- The OSCAR team is now focusing on creating content for its four databases: Preservation, Energy and Resilience Actions; Inherently Sustainable Features; Case Studies; and Resource Library.
- OSCAR has held seven monthly Content Development Forum phone calls in order to gather information from experienced practitioners on topics such as Steel Windows, Aluminum Windows, and Curtain Walls. Forum calls alternate between Preservation and Energy actions.
- Carly Farmer is working with graduate students at Carleton compiling the information that has evolved from the Content Development Forum calls into Action Cards. The Action Cards produced will be peer reviewed and then added to the OSCAR website.
- The OSCAR team is hosting its first full in-person Content Development Forum, on aluminum window preservation, at the 2019 APT Conference in Miami.

#### Outreach:

- Cory Rouillard introduced OSCAR to the Peer To Peer Network in New Haven, CT in December, 2018.
- Carly Farmer and Evanne St. Charles developed an informational flyer to be shared at conferences.
- Cory Rouillard presented OSCAR in September, 2019 at an AIANY panel discussion: *How Low Can We Go: Historic Preservation and Carbon Reduction*.



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- Carly Farmer presented OSCAR at the 2019 National Trust Canada conference in Winnipeg in October, along with a demonstration “mini-forum” on wood window preservation.
- Carly Farmer presented OSCAR at the Workshop on Modern Heritage at Carleton University in November, 2019.

#### Funding:

- OSCAR has been awarded a fourth grant by the HPEF Partners in Training program to continue our work with OSCAR development. We are very grateful for their continued support! This funding will be used to build in additional functionality to the site and support student researchers.
- Carly Farmer and Evanne St. Charles submitted applications to the Graham Foundation and to the AIA Upjohn Research Grant program for content development workshops and student researchers.

#### current goals

- Content Development Forum calls (step 1 of content development):
  - Continue with additional monthly Content Development Forum calls. Next series of calls: walls.
  - Improve on current model based on lessons learned from each call.
  - Improve outreach and identify key participants for each topic.
- Action Card development from forum notes (step 2 of content development):
  - Continue collaboration with Carleton University graduate students
  - Reach out to other universities for collaboration with graduate students on further development of Action Cards.
- Peer Review (step 3 of content development): Restart the peer review process for Action Cards.
- OSCAR site: continue development for improved performance and functionality

#### specific ways in which new members can get involved

- Participate in forum calls!
  - Assist with outreach to key experts and additional participants
  - Be an additional note-taker/ moderator during calls
- Assist with media and outreach
  - Update flyers and announcements
  - Coordinate with APT social media team and other communication channels
- Database organization
  - Update and organize the bibliography resource (Zotero)
- Be a liaison to other Technical Committees and outside organizations
  - Help plan relevant content forums to incorporate their content
- Compile known research into “content” pages for OSCAR. Select a topic of choice within the OSCAR framework. This may include a material, a sustainability improvement strategy, or a case study.
- Be a university liaison
  - Help develop graduate student internship positions
  - Find matching funding for graduate student internship positions
  - Work with graduate students to develop content
- Serve as a peer reviewer for the content that has been written to date
- Search for relevant funding partners and assist with grant writing

*Current as of: November 2019*