IAPCT Executive Board
Quarterly Report, June 2018

Goals for IAPCT that the membership agreed at our annual meeting in August 2017guide the work of the executive board.

To help support these goals, become a member. Dues are only $60 per year. Please contact Allie Powers at IAPCTConference@gmail.com to join. Membership gives you a voice in the direction of the IAPCT. Members are welcome to attend meetings of the Executive Board and contribute to discussion. Contact Bruce Nevin <bnhpct@gmail.com> to arrange this.

2018 IAPCT Conference and Annual Meeting

Location: Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, USA

Dates:	Thursday 11 October	➢ Explore the William T. Powers Archive ➢ Annual Meeting, including elections
	Friday & Saturday 12–13 October	➢ Presentations and Panel Discussions Schedule

Registration:
Download the registration form.
Send it to Alison Powers <iapctconference@gmail.com>.
Credit cards are accepted. For security, don't send credit card information in email. Put your card number, expiration date, and CVV/security code on the registration form, and make sure your address includes the zipcode. Indicate which amount below you wish to pay ($100, $135, or $160).

- ○ **Non-Members $135.00 (USD)**
- ○ **IAPCT Members: $100.00 (USD)**
  Yearly membership is $60 and may be paid with registration as a total of $160.

2019 IAPCT Conference and Annual Meeting

Date: 11 – 15 September 2019
Location: Manchester University, U.K. https://www.manchester.ac.uk/research/structure/

Email forum

The CSGnet listserv depends upon continued benign neglect by administrators at the University of Illinois. Since Gary Cziko's retirement and departure from that campus, administrators have not noticed (or have not cared) that no UI students or faculty use or benefit from the CSG account. We do not want to risk it being pulled down without notice as part of a cost-cutting cleanup of their computer systems.

Aside from this concern, some members and email participants have proposed that a more modern forum platform would support better communication e.g. by improving search, and making topics and threads easier to identify. An anonymous donor has provided funds that will support such an alternative platform (phpbb) with a reliable hosting service for 12 to 15 years. We will make a decision on this at our annual meeting in October.

Archives

Long-time IAPCT archivist and publisher Dag Forssell has sent digitized conference videos to the archive

at Northwestern for inclusion in the William T. Powers collection. Archiving of source code is still an open question.

Instruction

We have discussed the need for tutorials and instructional videos. Rick is working on a video. He will present on PCT research methods at the 2018 conference.

Marketing / Exposure / Outreach

Media contacts list
Rupert has created and used a media contact list that others can also use.

Researchgate.com
Upload papers, chapters, presentations, data, and other PCT research items to your researchgate account and associate each with the 'project' named "Perceptual Control Theory (PCT)". You must first have created a Researchgate account for yourself.

Youtube channel.
We have a Youtube channel that collects videos on PCT. Presently, this is based on Bruce Nevin's personal account. He will port this to an IAPCT Google account.

Lectures and videos
Rupert and Dag have been developing and presenting public lectures. Videos of lectures are posted on our PCT YouTube channel. Several of us are developing or considering developing instructional videos to post.

Wikipedia
We need volunteers to review the PCT-related articles in Wikipedia and improve them. These articles are:

- Perceptual Control Theory
- William T. Powers
- Method of Levels

If you are unfamiliar with editing Wikipedia, there is a lot of help available. Here are two kinds of introductions:

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:Getting_started
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Everything_you_need_to_know

Support for PCT Research
Grants. We are seeking Bill's NSF proposals in the archives. These may help with funding of future research.

Citations. Bruce Nevin is putting together a PCT bibliography to put on line.

Working groups. The PCT Learning Working Group (LWG) currently comprises Rupert Young, Martin Taylor, Kent McClelland, Vyv Huddy, and Joh Orengo. Rupert posted a draft working plan on 12/8, which was followed by a reply from Joh.

Methodology. Good guidelines have been published for PCT research at lower levels of the perceptual hierarchy, but procedures are less clear at higher levels. At the 2018 conference, Rick Marken will present on how to do PCT research.

Nurturing seeds of scientific revolution. As we develop ideas for research, we should enquire in each field,

- What are the dissatisfactions?
- What are the anomalies, pushed out of the main stream of 'normal science'?
- What is the wheat among the chaff – the kernel of truth – and what shape does it take in PCT?
- What are the hot topics of research, & how does PCT do it better?
- Where can PCT be integrated into an existing research program?

Amendments to bylaws

At the regular Board meetings during December 2017 and the first calendar quarter of 2018 the Board approved the following amendments to the [IAPCT bylaws](#). Red text is inserted, struck-out text is removed.

1. This was an obvious omission:

   Article IV. Officers.

   Section 1. Enumeration of officers. The officers of the corporation shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. If it is deemed necessary, one person may serve as Secretary-Treasurer. Officers shall be members nominated and elected at an annual meeting.

2. This amendment redefines the terms of the officers and of Board members. We decided that the terms of office should be longer than one year and staggered (not all ending at the same time) to ensure continuity and institutional memory on the Board. Officers will be nominated and elected at our next annual meeting.

   Section 2. Term of office. Officers shall be nominated and elected by members at the annual meeting. The individual who is elected Vice President is thereby nominated President for the following year. Officers shall hold office until the next annual meeting. The term of office for the President, Vice President, and Secretary is three years; except that, counting from the date of acceptance of this bylaw, the Secretary shall be subject to election or re-election after one year, and the Vice President after two. The Treasurer will serve until he or she resigns or is removed. Any officer may be removed by a majority of those voting at an annual meeting. In the case of a vacancy, the other officers can appoint a replacement from among the members to serve until the next election.

3. The board should have an odd number of members to avoid a tie vote. Adding an at-large member may make it easier to maintain international representation on the board.

   Article V. The Executive Board.

   Section 1. Membership. The Executive Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the organization and one at-large member nominated and elected each year by the members of IAPCT at an annual meeting.

4. This is an obvious clarification of process.

Article VI. Amendments.

These bylaws may be amended when necessary by two-thirds majority of the Executive Board, ~~subject to~~effective upon ratification by a majority of members voting at the next annual meeting. Proposed amendments must be submitted to the Secretary to be sent out with regular Board announcements.

Calls for volunteers

- **Email Forum.** Help us transition from CSGnet to a more stable, secure, and capable forum platform.
- **Wikipedia.** Review and improve Wikipedia articles relating to PCT.
- **How Control Systems Learn.** Join or support the Learning Working Group (LWG).
- **Grants.** We need folks to identify funding sources, research their requirements and "hot buttons", and draft proposals for research, for conferences, for things like a "traveling exhibit" associated with a museum of science.