

Republic of Ireland Centre (C2) Newsletter - Winter 2021



Issue 26 | Winter 2021



Welcome ...

From the Centre Chair and Councillor Michael O'Keeffe MCIAT

... and Season's Greetings

to all members, affiliates and fellow industry professionals! The past couple of months have been eventful and we have a packed newsletter for your perusal over the holidays.

As you've undoubtedly noticed, we've also undertaken a revamp of the newsletter layout as part of our efforts to engage with our members and affiliates in the Republic of Ireland. Since becoming a member of the Centre Committee over 7 years ago, the knowledge-base and friendships I've developed are invaluable. In 2022, we aim to create initiatives to increase interaction with our members and affiliates in both professional and informal (social) environments - more on that later!

I'm seeking some photos of completed projects from you - our members and affiliates - to promote the AT profession. They will be placed below and we can also provide some information on the design, scale, performance and accolades as well as your practice. Please email me directly at mike_okeeffe87@yahoo.com

COVID-19 Update

The health and safety of our members, affiliates, staff and clients is our main priority and CIAT is closely monitoring the Government's advice regarding COVID-19 (Coronavirus). The Institute continues to work hard to ensure its successful operation and supporting the membership and affiliates during this period of uncertainty.

It is strongly recommended all members and affiliates regularly familiarise themselves with the information provided by the Government and the HSE. Information on COVID-19, the symptoms and how to protect yourself can be found on the HSE website. Further to the winter newsletter, the CIF Construction Sector C-19 Standard Operating Procedures has been updated and Version 9 is now available to download here.

If you require any further information or advice, please do not hesitate to contact us at **info@ciat.global** - we will continue to do all we can to support our members and affiliates in this period.



This Issue ... at a glance

COVID-19 Update

Updated CIF C-19 Standard Operating Procedures - V9: 22 October 2021

Important Update on the Architectural Technologists Register (ATR)

Outcome of liaison with SCSI for both parties to work collaboratively to administer the ATR

CIAT AGM 2021

Summary of the first physical event since the onset of the pandemic - by Patricia Mulvey MCIAT

New 'Zero Emission Building' standard proposed by European Commission

An initial overview of the proposals for the Energy Performance of Buildings (recast) published on 15 December 2021

CIAT-Accredited Conservationist

What is it? Do you qualify? What are the benefits?

CIAT Republic of Ireland Social Initiatives

Proposed initiatives to increase member and affiliate engagement in the Republic of Ireland

Events & CPDs

A look forward at upcoming CPDs, events and conferences that will assist you in maintaining currency of knowledge and your annual CPD obligations

Important Update on the Architectural Technologists Register (ATR)

On 25 March 2021, a meeting was held with the **Department for Housing, Local Government and Heritage** where they promised to

ATR

report back and provide guidance on the most seamless route for ATs to gain Statutory recognition to act as **Assigned and/or Design Certifiers**. Following the meeting in March, CIAT was asked to meet with the **Society for Chartered Surveyors**, **Ireland (SCSI)** who manage the Building Surveyors Register to explore the possibility of implementing an AT Register in collaboration. Following a SCSI Board meeting on 15 December 2021, they advised CIAT that they are not in a position currently to extend their already broad remit. In addition, the SCSI confirmed their support for the establishment of an **AT Register** '*in the interest of the construction and property sector and consumer protection*'.

We are now returning to the **Department for Housing, Local Government and Heritage** to confirm the position of SCSI and seek clarification on the most efficient route to form the **ATR** together with a timeframe for its implementation.

Members and affiliates are encouraged to maintain the sustained pressure on the Minister/Department via their local TDs to ensure we can achieve a **Statutory Register** as soon as possible.

The number of Architectural Technologists registering on the ATR is increasing slowly, with 259 MCIAT members on the Register and 197 applicants having registered their Intention to Register. It is essential that all CIAT members prevail upon their unaffiliated Architectural Technologist colleagues to assist CIAT in gaining the appropriate recognition for our profession by joining CIAT or registering on the ATR. Visit the website;

www.architecturaltechnologistsregister.ie.

Please visit our website, <u>ciat.ie</u> for further information on the joining or qualifying process by clicking on the following links: <u>Join CIAT Professional Assessment</u>

CIAT AGM 2021 with Patricia Mulvey MCIAT

The 2021 **Annual General Meeting** was a very successful hybrid event held in Manchester and online on Saturday 27 November. Our membership has remained above 350, therefore we had three Voting Delegates in attendance: Liam Cotter MCIAT, Patricia Mulvey MCIAT and Irene Hayden MCIAT (online). Michael O'Keeffe MCIAT was also in attendance as Centre Councillor.

Bad weather and heavy snowfall severely hampered the attendance of some travelling by rail and road on the day. Flights were also disrupted with others having to be taxied to the venue from London due to diverted flights.

Formal proceedings got under way at the slightly delayed time of 10:15am with opening remarks from the Chair and outgoing **President**, **Eddie Weir PCIAT**.

Three resolutions relating to regularisation of the **Code of Conduct** were passed successfully with Voting Delegates using the online platform, Slido, to vote.



Our own Voting Delegate, Patricia Mulvey MCIAT, exercising her vote on Slido at the CIAT AGM 2021 in Manchester.

Our new President, Kevin Crawford PCIAT, was inaugurated, and his ceremonious speech was inspiring and enthusiastic in his Scottish broque.

Following the formal meeting, delegates and attendees formed smaller groups and got to know each other through an interactive conference titled 'AT into the Future'. Jointly chaired by Francesca Berriman, Kevin Crawford and Eddie Weir, the speakers and audience participated in a series of questions and feedback on the proposed 'Strategic and Corporate Plan – New Lens, Changed World 2023-2028' and 'CIAT Future Leaders'.

The content and responses on subject matters were insightful and thought provoking and included opinion on Strengths / Weaknesses / Opportunities / Threats of and for ATs; values and aspirations; tools and training.

This year's AGM was a great event! The Centre Committee would encourage members to attend in person where possible. The professional knowledge and experience of ATs is phenomenal, and attendance of the event is always inspiring. We all left the venue with a sense of renewal and drive to continue to push towards the formal recognition of the **Architectural Technologists' Register** in Ireland.



Outgoing President, Eddie Weir PPCIAT, passes the Presidential Chain of Office to new President, Kevin Crawford PCIAT.

Centre Committee 2021-2023

The Committee, which is currently meeting remotely 5-6 times a year, is as follows:

Role	Member
Chair	Michael O'Keeffe MCIAT
Vice-Chair	Liam Cotter MCIAT
Secretary	Paul Condron MCIAT
Councillor	Michael O'Keeffe MCIAT
Treasurer	Liam Cotter MCIAT
CPD Officer	Christophe Krief MCIAT
Education Officer	Andrew Swarbrigg MCIAT
Membership Officer	Brian K. Davies MCIAT
Practice Officer	Sean Ryan (Affiliate)
PR Officer	Patricia Mulvey MCIAT
aspirATion Chair	'Vacant'
Committee Member	Niall Culleton MCIAT
Committee Member	Patrick Clarke MCIAT
Committee Member	Irene Hayden MCIAT
Chair - Technical	Gerry O'Neill MCIAT

Our aspirATion Chair position is currently vacant and expressions of interest in joining should be advised to the **Education Department** at Central Office by emailing education@ciat.global. For more information on aspirATion, see the next page.

Contact details for members of the **Centre Committee** can be found on the Republic of Ireland page of the CIAT website.

CIAT ROI Centre Social Initiatives

'Nine & Dine' Golf Outing

As outdoor meet-ups will continue to be part of our lifestyle in 2022, the Centre Committee are proposing to host a 'Nine & Dine' Golf Outing in Spring 2022. The aim will be to allow CIAT members and affiliates to come together in a leisurely setting and get to know each other. Some Committee Members are new to the sport and all golfing abilities are welcome!

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact patricia@brackfieldconsulting.com. The location will be dependent on responses received.

AT WhatsApp Group

We are proposing to create a new WhatsApp group for like -minded architectural technologists in the Republic of Ireland to come together and get to know each other, share local information regarding planning, building control, construction products etc. and all other AT issues and ideas.

This group will be informal and separate to CIAT.

If you would like to be part of this group, please email patricia@brackfieldconsulting.com.

New 'Zero Emission Building' standard proposed by European Commission

with Michael O'Keeffe MCIAT

Proposals for a revision of the **Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)** have been published on 15
December 2021. It sets the vision for achieving a **zero-emission** building stock by 2050 including decarbonisation objectives and renovation programmes.



It puts forward a new definition of "Zero-Emission Building" in Article 2 as "a building with very high performance in line with energy efficiency first principle, and where the very low amount of energy still required is fully covered by energy from renewable sources at the building or district or community level where technically feasible". The proposed revisions to Article 2 also aim to clarify the definition of "nearly Zero-Energy Building" as well as "Deep Renovation" - the gold standard for building renovation - and "Staged Deep Renovation" to ease its delivery.

With further revisions proposed to the majority of Articles, the following are a few noteworthy proposals:

- The Life-cycle of Global Warming Potential (GWP) of new buildings will need to be calculated as of 2030 in accordance with the <u>Level(s)</u> framework. This includes an assessment of embodied carbon or whole life-cycle emissions of construction and operational usage.
- A harmonized scale of energy performance classes across the EU, which will be rescaled with the highest Class A reserved for Zero-Emission Building and Class G for the worst ones (this has the potential to recategorise current Class A rated homes back into Class B unless the building is Zero-Emission to start with!).
- An added focus on the renovation of the very lowest performing residential buildings with the highest potential for decarbonisation and energy poverty alleviation.
- The indicator for which buildings are to be rated (Primary Energy Use in kWh/m²/yr) is to remain unchanged.

It also supports better air quality, the digitalisation of energy systems for buildings and the roll-out of infrastructure for sustainable mobility. The proposed revision of the directive is now being considered by the **Council** and the **European Parliament**.

CIAT-Accredited Conservationist

What is it?

The CIAT Conservation Accreditation Register identifies **Chartered**

Architectural Technologists (MCIAT)

competent in the conservation of cultural and heritage buildings, monuments and sites. **CIAT-Accredited Conservationists** are recognised and qualified to provide a full range of conservation-related



services, which includes acting as the lead consultant by organisations such as Historic England, Historic Scotland, Department for Communities Northern Ireland and the Historic Environment Service (Cadw), Wales.



Do you qualify?

Suitability for the Register is based upon a technical assessment of a candidate's portfolio followed by a formal interview. The scheme has only one tier or grade, which requires all applicants to demonstrate that they are fully competent and hold appropriate experience attained within the last three years.

Once registered, to remain on the Register, candidates must retain currency in the field of conservation and this must be demonstrated to the Institute every five years.

What are the benefits?

The status of **CIAT-Accredited Conservationist** is equivalent to The Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland (RIAI) Grade 1 and all other schemes that adhere to the ICOMOS Guidelines and form part of the Edinburgh Group.

In 2020, the **Department of Culture, Heritage & the Gaelteacht** confirmed there are no restrictions in the Republic of Ireland in regard to who can be appointed as the lead practitioners in grant-funded conservation projects. However, they state that professionals should be competent and that membership of an accredited conservationist scheme illustrates the necessary set of skills required.

If you have the requisite experience and wish to obtain recognition through the **CIAT-Accredited Conservationist** scheme, find out more <u>here</u>.

Be part of the aspirATion Group

aspirATion supports students, recent graduates or newly qualified professionals entering the discipline,



as well as working with CIAT to help shape the future of Architectural Technology. It is a dynamic, forward-thinking and inclusive network, acting as the gateway into furthering your career within the discipline.

We are looking for someone to take on the role of Chair for the **Republic of Ireland aspirATion Group**. To apply, please submit a personal statement outlining why you would be suitable for the role. You can view the <u>Terms of Reference</u> for the Group here. For further information please contact the **Education Department** at Central Office by <u>education@ciat.global</u> who will be more than happy to provide more information and introduce you to the Centre Committee.

Upcoming Events

Due to the on-going COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic, most events remain effected in some manner, resulting in postponed, online or hybrid events.

The following are the updates we can provide together with some options for online CPD to meet your annual obligation.

Authentic Built Environment CPD Practice

Date

12 January 2022

Location:

Online - Remote Event

Further Information:

Explore authentic & appropriate teaching, learning & assessment practice for multidisciplinary CPD in the Built Environment!
See GMIT EventBrite

National Construction Summit

Date

3 February 2022

Location:

Sport Ireland Campus, Blanchardstown

Further Information:

For programme of events, speaker list and to register, see <u>National</u> Construction Summit

Ireland's Retrofit & nZEB Conference

Date:

10 February 2022

Location:

Online - Remote Event

Cost:

€435.00 +VAT (limited offer)

Further Information:

For programme of events, speaker list and to register, see CMG Events

CIAT - AT CPD Register

Date:

Any

Location:

Online - Information Sheets, Webinars and Articles

Further Information:

See CIAT AT CPD Register

CIOB Academy - Courses & CPD

Date:

Any

Location:

Online - Webinars

Further Information:

See CIOB Academy.org