

FROM PCI HEADQUARTERS

Parker named managing director of market development



Dawn Parker

Dawn Parker has been named PCI's new managing director of market development, starting February 22, 2016. She is responsible for all market development activities at PCI, working closely with the Marketing Council and regional directors to help grow the prestressed concrete market across the

United States.

Parker started as the executive director of PCI-IW in 2013 and has been active with PCI marketing committees and activities, in addition to her work with the regional directors. She has prior association experience as the vice president of economic development for the Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce/GO Topeka Economic Partnership and as president/chief executive officer of the Topeka Home Builders Association.

She holds both a BS in management and an MBA from Friends University in Wichita, Kans.

Gate's Lewis joins PCI staff as architectural services manager

Jim Lewis joins the PCI staff March 1, 2016, as the architectural services manager. He is responsible for the areas of architecture, productivity, and safety and *Ascent* magazine.

Before joining PCI, Lewis served as the director of architectural systems for Gate Precast's six architectural precast concrete manufacturing facilities. In this role, he educated architects, owners, and contractors on sustainable architectural precast concrete systems. He has focused most of his career on architectural facades. In 2015, he was a speaker at the American Institute of Architects National Convention and the Design-Build Institute of America Expo, and has been involved in design assistance consulting roles on numerous large public and private projects throughout the United States.

Lewis is past chairman of PCI's Sustainability Committee and a longstanding member of the PCI Architectural Committee. He earned his BS in architecture from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Va.

PCI names Miller new communications manager



Madeleine Miller

PCI's new manager of communications, Madeleine Miller, started on January 18, 2016. Reporting to Alex Morales, managing director of education and membership, she will be focusing on member communications and will manage *PCI Update*, email blasts, and the PCI website. She will

also work closely with PCI's market development team in their efforts to promote precast concrete.

Miller was previously the marketing and communications manager for the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals. She has worked in the media in numerous roles, including reporter, writer, and producer for a local newspaper and several radio and television stations. Miller is an Accredited Business Communicator and has received numerous industry awards for her work, such as the American Society of Business Publication Editors National Editorial Award, the Dalton Pen Award, and two International Association of Business Communicators' awards.

She holds a BA in communications and journalism from DePaul University and is working on an MA in global communications from DePaul.

QA 2020 VISION COMMITTEE RENAMED

QA 2020 Vision Committee members voted to change the committee's name to the Quality Enhancement Committee. The committee made the decision after determining that its original name did not clearly represent the committee's activities.

INVESTMENT IN PRECAST CONCRETE EDUCATION BEARS FRUIT



Dean Gwin
PCI Foundation
Chairman

A few years ago, some people in the precast concrete industry had an idea. It was an idea that many of us probably had before, but nothing came of it for many years. The idea was that instead of teaching architects and engineers about our industry and our products on the job, we could educate them while they were still in school. And instead of passively allowing others to guide that education, our industry could start working with educators to ensure that students receive the best possible precast concrete education.

It was a good idea—which isn't uncommon. What makes this idea special is that a dedicated group of industry professionals banded together with a shared vision of building a precast concrete program at the schools where our customers first learn their trade. Since we began, the PCI Foundation has worked with 24 professors who have taught 58 semesters of classwork at 15 schools. They have directly reached more than 900 students and many other students who have taken part in the programs in some manner. The program has expanded beyond architecture, and we now also reach schools of engineering and construction management.

Those of us who were in the trenches early often heard the lament, "I won't see the benefit of a college student learning our products for many years." Now that we have offered programs at schools for nine years, we are finding that it doesn't take long for a student who has been through one of our programs to get on the job, where they can help promote and design precast concrete projects.

Last year, 128 students went through a PCI Foundation-funded program. This year, another 165 will participate. The professors tell us time and again how their programs reach beyond the walls of their classrooms and permeate the school. Other classes are invited on field trips, sit in on the presentations, or take part in other activities.

Fifteen years ago when we started the PCI Foundation, it was hard to imagine exactly where it would take us. Nine years into our studio program, we are seeing amazing results. There are 136 accredited schools of architecture in the United States. We have supported precast concrete programs in 15 of those schools, meaning we have reached about 11% of accredited schools of architecture. If the entire industry pulls together to fund these programs, we will see an amazing workforce, educated in designing with precast concrete and ready to work as our partners.

Are you relying on others to educate your future customers? One of the best parts of our programs has been the local involvement by PCI, not only because of the direct interaction with the students and professors, but because the funding for a studio comes from a local area.

The fun has just begun. Many will help us take the programs to a wider variety of schools so we can span the country. Take a moment and imagine the difference we could make if we continue the growth of this program. Take a moment to consider how you can help make this happen. To make a donation, visit our website at pci-foundation.org.

fib technical resources available to PCI members

As a National Member Group organization of *fib* (International Federation for Structural Concrete), PCI receives free PDFs of all bulletins published more than a year ago. PCI members have access to download and print these *fib* bulletins through the Members Only section of the PCI website at https://www.pci.org/Members_Only/Technical_Resources/fib_Bulletins/.

Bulletins are a series of *fib* publications that includes several types of technical documents: model codes, guides to good practice, state-of-the-art reports, and technical reports.

Recently, 12 bulletins were added to the list of more than 70 available to PCI members. Two of the new bulletins, *Prefabrication for Affordable Housing* (Bulletin 60) and *Design of Precast Concrete Structures Against Accidental Actions* (Bulletin 63), directly relate to precast concrete structures.

Bedolla new technical team admin, Bulvan retires after 18 years



Laura Bedolla



Chris Bulvan

Laura Bedolla joined the PCI staff January 4, 2016, as the new technical services administrative assistant, working with PCI's technical team of Jason Krohn, Sid Freedman, Emily Lorenz, William Nickas, and Roger Becker. She takes over many of the responsibilities previously held by Chris Bulvan, who retired in December after 18 years at PCI.

Bedolla's job duties include creating, maintaining, and following up on all Technical Activities Council ballots; work on various projects, such as calls for papers; updating *Aspire* and *PCI Journal* subscriptions; and performing other duties for *PCI Journal*.

She worked for eight years as admin support for an IT team at a local proprietary trading company and has extensive customer support experience. Bedolla received her BA in liberal arts from the University of Michigan–Dearborn.

Anians takes on role of education admin



David Anians

David Anians is the new PCI administrative assistant for education and publications, mainly supporting Alex Morales, managing director of education and membership, and Paul Grigonis, director of publishing and art direction. He is responsible for QC School registration, reporting

attendance data to the American Institute of Architects and the Registered Continuing Education Program, working in the PCI bookstore, and responding to member inquiries about PCI's education programs.

Anians joined PCI on January 11, 2016. His experience includes working with the AmeriCorps program as a teacher and administrative assistant in an adult education department for English as a second language and citizenship education. Anians has a bachelor's degree from Northern Illinois University in community leadership and civic engagement, a program that teaches the structure, processes, and activities of not-for-profit organizations and associations.

Turner new PCI sales admin



Trice Turner

Trice Turner started January 25, 2016, as PCI's sales administrative assistant, a newly created position. She will provide administrative support to Kirstin Osgood, senior manager of sales and member recruitment.

In this position Turner will build and maintain the member prospect database, assist with membership campaigns, and provide sales and advertising support.

She previously worked as an admin in the legal industry and for a promotional marketing firm that participated in a variety of trade shows, both locally and nationwide.

Turner has a BA in performing arts management with a minor in theater from Columbia College of Chicago and is pursuing a master's degree in communication, media, and theater from Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago.

Risser named to Council of Manufacturing Associations Board of Directors



Bob Risser

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) Council of Manufacturing Associations (CMA) announced that Bob Risser, president and chief executive officer of PCI, has been named to the CMA Board of Directors. Risser will join the 20-member NAM Board of Directors to

advance a robust, progrowth manufacturing policy agenda.

The CMA, comprising nearly 260 manufacturing trade associations, represents every part of manufacturing in the United States and broadens the reach and impact of the industry's advocacy.

"PCI's involvement in CMA gives PCI staff and members a shared voice on issues important to the precast concrete industry, the ability to tap into the experience and expertise of other manufacturing associations, and access to NAM's considerable products and programs," Risser says. "Membership in the CMA is another aspect that adds value to our PCI members."

PCI publishes second edition of guidelines for SCC



The second edition of PCI's *Guidelines for the Use of Self-Consolidating Concrete in Precast/Prestressed Concrete* has been released. These guidelines have been updated to incorporate developments that have taken place since the first edition was published in 2003.

The term *interim* was removed from the title to

recognize that these guidelines represent current recommended practice for using self-consolidating concrete (SCC) in the precast/prestressed concrete industry. These guidelines address the use of SCC in precast, prestressed concrete manufacturing plants and reference PCI's *Manual for Quality Control for Plants and Production of Structural Precast Concrete Products* MNL-116-99 and *Manual for Quality Control for Plants and Production of Architectural Precast Concrete Products* MNL-117-13. Construction site use of SCC is not addressed in these guidelines. The goal of this publication is to present recommendations for best practices for the use of SCC as applicable to current North American practice.

A free copy of these guidelines is available at <http://www.pci.org/epub>.

North American precast concrete industry issues environmental product declarations in key categories

The North American precast concrete industry has released Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) in three key precast concrete product categories. The EPDs will allow architects, engineers, building owners, and other specifiers to better understand the environmental impacts of precast and prestressed concrete products.

The EPDs are available for architectural and insulated wall panels, structural precast concrete products, and underground precast concrete products.

An EPD is a standardized, internationally recognized, comprehensive tool for providing information on a product's environmental impact. Information in the EPD documents is based on an International Organization for Standardization (ISO)-compliant life-cycle assessment and verified by a third party. The detailed analysis considers all processes in the manufacturing of a product, including raw material and energy extraction, preliminary production, and the manufacture of end products.

The industrywide EPDs, jointly released by the Canadian Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute (CPCI), the National Precast Concrete Association (NPCA), and PCI, are issued within clearly defined product groups based on the precast concrete product category rules (PCRs). Only CPCI, NPCA, or PCI members that have contributed data to these EPDs can contribute to a new LEED v4 credit for EPDs. For more information on LEED credits, visit www.usgbc.org and www.cagbc.org.

The EPDs were independently prepared by Athena Sustainable Materials Institute in accordance with ISO 14025 and ISO 21930; the *Product Category Rules for Preparing an Environmental Product Declaration for Precast Concrete* (UN CPC 3755), March 2015; and ASTM International's EPD program operator rules. They were also independently verified by ASTM International in accordance with ISO 14025 and by Industrial Ecology Consultants in accordance with ISO 14025 and the PCRs.

To download copies of the precast concrete EPDs, go to http://www.pci.org/Design_Resources/Environmental_Product_Declarations/.

PCI ONLINE ACADEMY RETURNS

>> The PCI Online Academy, a series of evening courses offering professional development hours in technical content, has returned for 2016. The first course, Special Inspector Training, was held in February.

The next course is Precast Concrete Mix Design. This course for precast concrete plant and department of transportation materials laboratory personnel will be offered in five parts from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (EDT) on Thursday evenings from April 27 to May 26, 2016.

The sessions, which cover materials, proportioning, durability, architectural concrete, and troubleshooting, were developed by the PCI Quality Assurance Council and approved by the PCI Technical Activities Council.


Registration is open at https://www.pci.org/Education/Online_Academy. Member-benefit pricing is set at \$99 for anyone who registers by April 1, 2016, using the code MIXPCI. After the early-bird deadline, the member price becomes the standard \$295. Government employees can register for the standard member price of \$295 at any time using the code MIXGOV.

For more information, contact PCI's education manager, Sherrie Nauden, at snauden@pci.org or (312) 786-0300.

Improved functionality coming soon for PCI eLearning Center

PCI launched the PCI eLearning Center in 2011, offering the first online learning management system dedicated to the precast concrete industry. After four years of offering free precast concrete-specific continuing education courses to anyone in the world, PCI is refreshing the look of the eLearning Center.

The new PCI eLearning Center, to be up by April 1, 2016, will be faster, smarter, and easier to navigate. Although the new site will have the same look as the current PCI eLearning Center, menus will be streamlined and it will have expanded capabilities for learning.

Register to use the site now at <http://elearning.pci.org/registration.asp>. For more information, contact Alex Morales, managing director of education and membership, at amorales@pci.org. 

Compiled by K. Michelle Burgess (mburgess@pci.org)

PCI CALENDAR

Events

For the most current information on PCI events, visit <http://www.pci.org/events>. For industry events, visit <http://www.pci.org/news/events>.

2016 PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference at the Precast Show Nashville, Tenn.	March 1–5, 2016
PCI Summer Conference Spokane, Wash.	June 9–12, 2016
PCINE Annual Meeting Saybrook Point, Old Saybrook, Conn.	September 13–14, 2016
2016 PCI Committee Days and Membership Conference Rosemont, Ill.	October 6–9, 2016
2017 PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference at the Precast Show Cleveland, Ohio	February 28–March 4, 2017
2018 PCI Convention and National Bridge Conference at the Precast Show Denver, Colo.	February 22–24, 2018

PCI personnel training and certification schools

If you have any questions about the Quality Control School schedule or need help completing a registration form, please contact PCI's managing director of education and membership, Alex Morales, at amorales@pci.org or (312) 360-3219. Registration forms are available at <http://www.pci.org/schools>.

Level I/II	May 9–11, 2016	Charlotte, N.C.
	June 20–22, 2016	Harrisburg, Pa.
Level III	May 11–14, 2016	Charlotte, N.C.