



Teachers' Committee Meeting, 09/17/2022

Meeting

Online meeting, 17th September 2022

Call to order

The chair called the meeting to order at 02:00pm.

Present

Alan Twigg, Armin Busse, Bradley Hobbs, Don MacQueen, Kathy Jorgensen, Paula Jacobson, Sara Gratiot, Tom Ward

Joining later: Kathy Allen, Laura Cooper

Guest: Ward Fleri

Apologies/Regrets

Juliet Davoren, Lin Pettengill, Linda Henderson, Sandee Schultz, Tim Wilson, Trina Merriman

Edit Agenda

Adding the presentation of the TSC Strategic Plan, presented by Ward Fleri

Motion to add presentation
Paula/Bradley

Vote 8/0/0, Motion carried

Announcements

None

Presentation: TAC Strategic Plan, Ward Fleri

Link to presentation

[SCTCdc20220917_TAC.StrategicPlan](#)

Old Business

Minutes of previous meeting

Motion to accept minutes
Alan/Sara

Vote 9/0/1, Motion carried

Elect Officers

Secretary:

No nominations, no volunteers

• Include search for secretary into next meeting's invitation/survey

Report from Party Program Committees

- Monthly Party Programs Oct/Nov 2022 - done
- Valentines Program 2023- done

New Business

Approve TC-BC Liaison

Nominated Don MacQueen

He is willing to serve as TC-BC Liaison

Vote 10/0/0, approved

Report Board

Don reporting:

- Last year new Moly-flooring, used this year, helped the dancing
\$500 shipping charge
- Geoffrey Wood & Kathy Jorgensen passed Teacher's Exam
- Membership
Behind
- Valentines Ball
02/11/2023
Alameda ... Club
No musicians yet
- Website Frontend ready
Reviewed by branch committee
Ready to deploy, need to hire
New dancer has better opportunities
Calendar improved
- Monthly Party Walk-through
Recommended to return to pattern
- Ceilidh Dances
Discussion how this can contribute to the branch
- 10/08/22, 10:00-12:00 next branch committee meeting
No agenda yet
- Interest for new Teacher Candidates
No leads at this time

Report TAC

Trina provided written report, see attached.

Elect TAC Representative, revisited

TAC Representative:

- No affirmation
- Postpone to next meeting

Discuss future Teachers' Workshops

No recommendations

Other Business

DAA

Laura and Lin reported:

- Late winter or early spring
- Need dates
- And interest

Choose dates for next meetings

No conflicts to other event were identified:

- 01/21/23
- 05/20/23
- 09/16/23

Trying for Hybrid meeting otherwise online only.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn
 Kathy/Bradley
Vote 10/0/0, Motion carried
The meeting ended at 03:47pm.

Respectfully submitted by Armin Busse, Chair, 09/19/2022
Reposted 12/15/2022

TAC Teacher's Conference Weekend and Summer School

Happily, TAC was able to get back to our summer events. Predictable, attendance was down, with only 56 teachers signed up for the TCW and 105 attendees at summer school. Numbers were down mostly due to COVID concerns, and the discomfort of masking. Nonetheless, a fine time was had by all. The teacher at the weekend was Raphaëlle Orgeret from Lyon, France. Robert McOwen (Virginia) and Jeanne Moody (California) joined the teaching staff for Summer School. Music by Tartan Ties.

Candidate Courses went very well. Geoffrey Selling tutored the level candidates and Rebecca Blackhall-Peters led the level 2 & 3 class. Gary Thomas was the only musician covering BOTH classes, so he alternated between the two groups. One candidate tested positive on the first day and had to drop out. So, the candidate group, tutors and musician self-isolated to keep themselves safer. But it was all worth it, as ALL the candidates passed their exams, including our own Geoffrey Wood and Kathy Jorgensen. Congrats to both of them!

Next year's TCW and Summer School will be held from July 28th to August 6th at King's College in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Ron Wallace will be the TCW instructor.

This year's fund-raising efforts that were successful in covering costs of the summer events.

News from the AGM

Ward Fleri and his committee have been working on developing a strategic plan for TAC. The plan was approved at the annual meeting. The goal is to refresh and reimagine TAC's role. Ward will be making a presentation at the SF Branch Teacher's Committee Meeting on September 17th, to let you know more of the details, what you can expect to see in the future and how you can support these new efforts. The complete strategic plan is available here: <https://tac-rscds.org/index.php/about-us/strategic-plan>

Good progress is being made with debt reduction (debt incurred due to larceny in earlier years). Longwood University debt and Fiona Miller's credit card debt are now cleared. We are well ahead of schedule in paying off the Interest Free loan from one of our members. (The initial Interest Free loan was \$120,000, of which \$77,850 is still outstanding.) TACSound also lent \$25,000. to cover the crisis. That will be the last loan to be repaid. The scholarship funds are okay, with the Bobby Brown Fund (support of musicians) in need of more donations, in order to be self-supporting

Stricter financial controls are now in place. And TAC is getting onto better financial footing.

Membership: In order to welcome CTI program teachers, some adjustments were made to the membership structure, adding the category of "Instructor" member, and changing the term "Associate" member to "Supporting" member. And the usual very lively discussion ensued regarding membership standing and dues. The issue was sent to the newly formed Membership Committee (part of the Strategic Plan), to develop plans and present to the AGM next year.

TAC Reps Meeting:

This year, the TAC Reps meeting was held a week before the TWC, as a cost-saving measure. However, as it was successful, it may become the usual format. What was missing is the contact and camaraderie. Perhaps we'll have a Zoom meeting, followed by a social gathering at the TCW. More discussion needed.

We discussed how classes were faring, as we slowly come back from COVID. Many classes are much smaller. And some areas have lost access to their venues. We'll all keep dancing, and reaching out to dancers, old and new, to rebuild our classes.

Yours,

Trina Merriman

SF Branch TAC Rep.



TAC Strategic Plan

San Francisco Branch Teachers' Meeting
17 September 2022

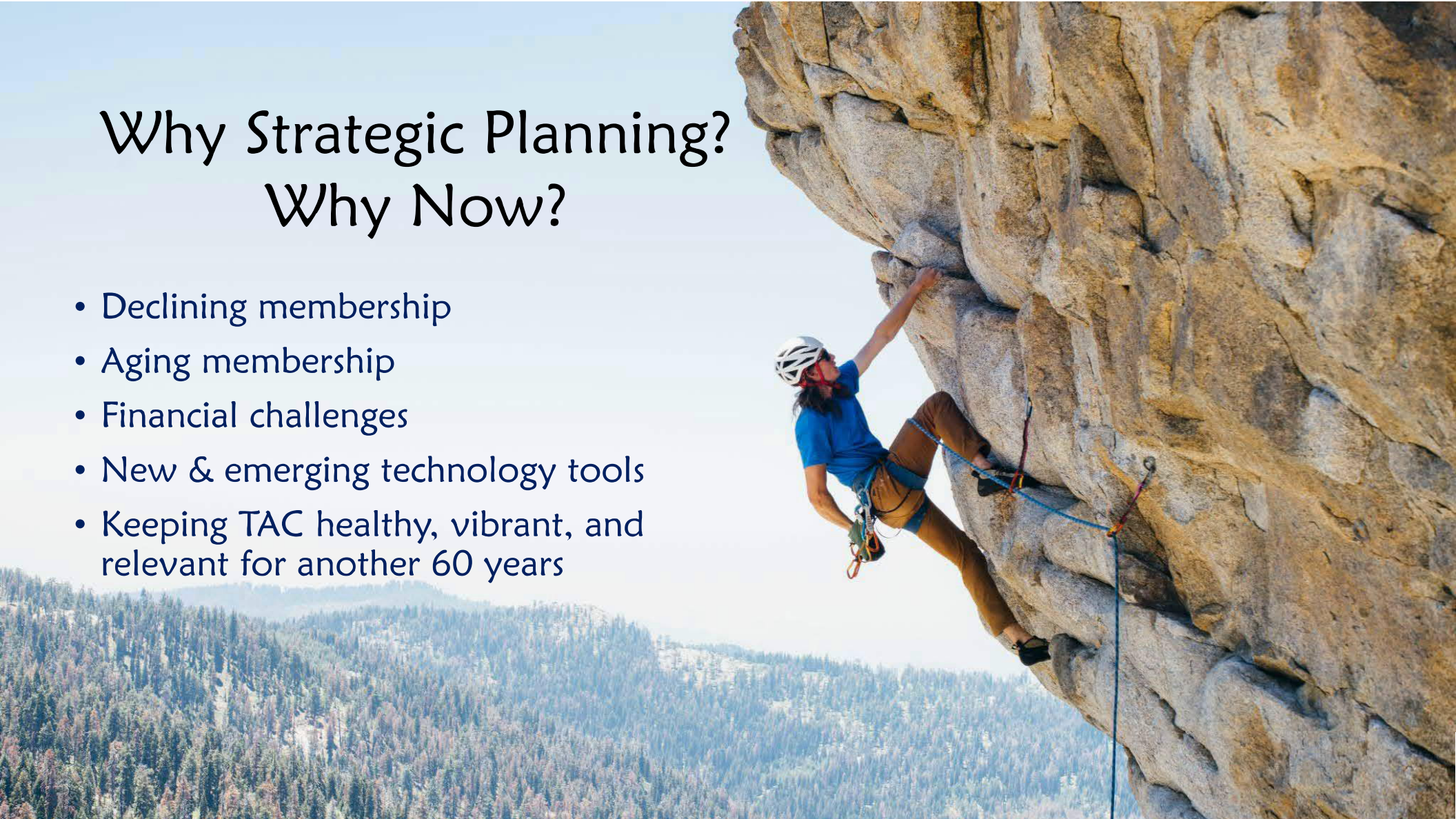
By

Ward Fleri (rscds.sandiego@gmail.com)
TAC Vice Chair



Why Strategic Planning? Why Now?

- Declining membership
- Aging membership
- Financial challenges
- New & emerging technology tools
- Keeping TAC healthy, vibrant, and relevant for another 60 years





Mission and Vision Statements

Mission statement – Answers “why do we exist?” “What is the purpose of TAC?”

To teach, inspire, and connect Scottish country dance teachers in North America and beyond.

Vision statement – Answers “where are we going and why?”

By 2028, we envision a vibrant TAC that supports a thriving SCD community in North America through additional and diverse events, a sound financial foundation, and compelling membership value.



Three Goal Areas

Finance & Administration

Achieve financial strength, effective administration and the use of enhanced technology through fundraising and expansion of leadership roles among the membership

Teacher Development

Create a teacher development program that recruits and supports new teachers and offers growth and learning opportunities for experienced teachers at TCW, SS, and during the year

Promotion of SCD and TAC

Increase the visibility of and participation in SCD and the TAC in North America



Fundraising committee

- Achieve financial strength and flexibility by 2028, with zero debt, \$50,000 available for strategic initiatives, and no reliance on upfront attendee deposits for initial funding of events.



Archive committee

- Establish an easily accessible (as feasible) physical and digital archive of TAC-related materials



Technology group

- Implement IT platforms for programming, resources, and communication based on modern technology



Education committee

- Create and provide a mentorship program for new teachers
- Provide opportunities for group discussion and support for new teachers
- Offer varied online & in-person growth and learning opportunities, with a focus on experienced teachers but open to all
- By 2026, train 15 additional Fully Certificated North American SCD teachers and add 20 CTI instructors through recruitment (particularly of younger teachers) and training support
- Develop a Winter School by 2027 to increase opportunities to participate in TAC events



Publicity committee

- Publicize online master classes & teacher/instructor training opportunities
- Be a resource for other TAC activities



Membership committee

- Develop a value proposition for being a TAC member
- Develop membership strategies



Youth committee

1. Promote greater participation of youth (under 35) in SCD and TAC events (e.g., reduced SS fees, Youth Weekend, Newcastle North America)
2. Place an online information hub on the TAC website for SCD events and resources in N. America (e.g., musicians for hire, demo teams)



Information Hub working group

- Place an online information hub on the TAC website for SCD events and resources in N. America (e.g., musicians for hire, demo teams)



TAC Sound/Books Working Group

- Review business models of TACSound and TACBooks, and revise as needed



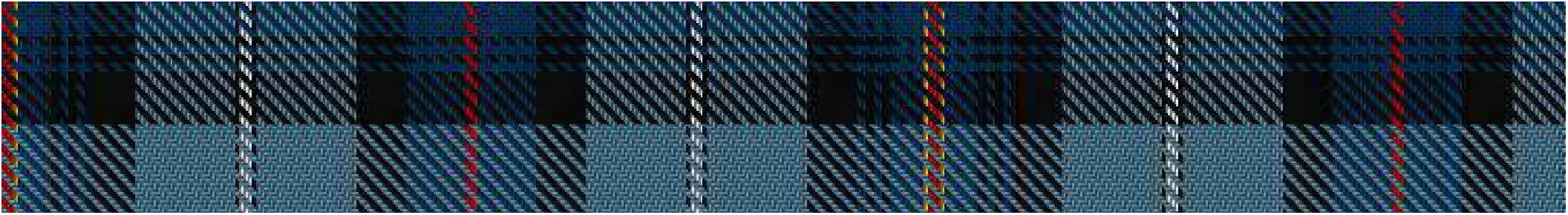
Plan Implementation

- The plan is ambitious and will need to evolve over time
- Committee structure will likely evolve over time
- Not all objectives and timelines may be met
- The plan requires greater engagement of TAC members
- Non-TAC members are welcome to participate
- Progress will be monitored at least quarterly
- Please consider your own skills, talents, and interests and then consider how you could contribute to these important new initiatives.

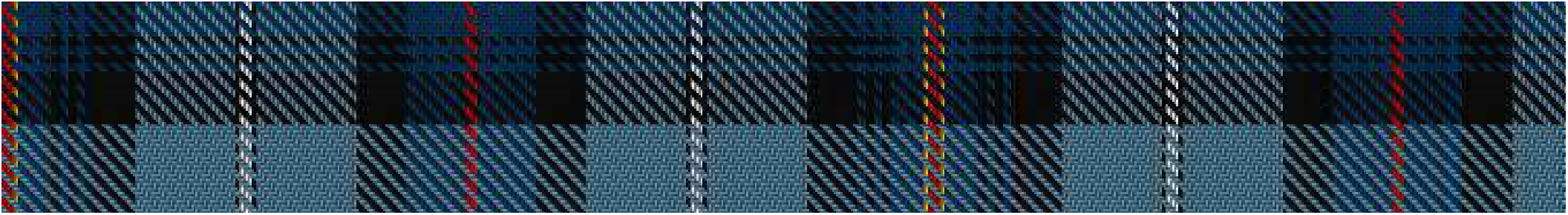


Summary

- The plan is designed to enhance the value of TAC to its members and the SCD community in three main goal areas
- Fundraising to enable investment in technology; expanded programming; support of younger dancers/teachers/instructors and emerging teachers/instructors/musicians
- Enhance teaching resources – TACBooks, TACSound, archive
- Full cycle teacher training from recruiting, examination prep, early year mentoring, and master classes
- Host/sponsor additional events and classes, esp. for younger dancers/teachers
- Details available at <https://tac-rscds.org/index.php/about-us/strategic-plan>



Questions?



Back-up Slides

Finance and Administration Objectives

1. Achieve financial strength and flexibility by 2028, with zero debt, \$50,000 available for strategic initiatives, and no reliance on upfront attendee deposits for initial funding of events.
2. Implement IT platforms for programming, resources, and communication based on modern technology
3. Reorganize the TAC Executive Committee's responsibilities to support TAC's strategic plans
4. Establish an easily accessible (as feasible) physical and digital archive of TAC-related materials
5. Review business models of TACSound and TACBooks, and revise as needed

Teacher Development Objectives

1. Create and provide a mentorship program for new teachers
2. Provide opportunities for group discussion and support for new teachers
3. Offer varied **online** growth and learning opportunities, with a focus on experienced teachers but open to all
4. Offer varied growth and learning opportunities **in-person**, with an emphasis on experienced teachers and open to all (e.g. regional teachers' workshops)
5. By 2024, increase participation to 33% of TAC membership in annual TCW and SS teacher development activities and expand program offerings
6. By 2026, train 15 additional Fully Certificated North American SCD teachers and add 20 CTI instructors through recruitment (particularly of younger teachers) and training support

Promotion of SCD and TAC Objectives

1. By 12/31/25, define a compelling rationale for membership
2. Increase the proportion of under 35 dancers attending TAC events (e.g., reduced SS fees, Youth Weekend, Newcastle N.A.)
3. Develop a Winter School by 2027 to increase opportunities to participate in TAC events
4. Place an online information hub on the TAC website for SCD events and resources in N. America (e.g., musicians for hire, demo teams)