


# Joe Brewer

**Record Title - Do Not Delete :** Joe Brewer

**Linked Preliminary Proposal - Do Not Delete :** Joe Brewer

**Please share an overview of activities during the previous academic year. :** The 2020 – 2021 academic year continued to see significant challenges at the University of Kentucky College of Design. Due to continued travel restrictions, we were unable to send students or faculty to the PCI events. Further, our local precast partner, Gate Precast, closed their Winchester, Kentucky plant. Despite these headwinds, our PCI Central Region Representative Phil Wiedemann coordinated between our College and Steve Schweitzer (formerly of Gate, now at Bristol Group) to ensure that we would continue to have a strong relationship with a local precast rep. We could not ask for a better partner than Steve; he and I have committed to regular meetings and are planning to have concerted efforts with our students now that pandemic restrictions are being lifted at the University of Kentucky. In May, Steve visited our College and presented an overview of the precast industry to a select group of students during a lunch-and-learn. Beyond this transition, the PCI Grant was essential for funding curriculum and activities for our students during the school year. Here is an overview of our past year: • We held “Concrete Week” during the Fall Semester. During this week, a global panel of precast experts and architects with experience in precast design gave lectures over Zoom. o Lectures were attended by an average of 95 unique viewers, representing 25% of the College of Design population. o The lectures were reinforced by product demonstrations, local field trips to see examples of precast projects, and the incorporation of precast concrete in studio projects • During the PCI studio, we partnered with a local non-profit called Community Action Council (<https://commaction.org/>) whose mission is to “prevent, reduce and eliminate poverty for individuals, families, and communities through direct services and advocacy.” During the studio, students were exposed to precast processes by designing decorative precast tiles that could be aggregated on surfaces in the Community Action Council’s Garden. Students were then able to cast their designs by going through the entire precast process, including the creation of the molds, the pouring of the concrete, curing, and mounting. o After the tile project, the students were asked to design and build a site-cast concrete wall for the community garden. This wall serves as an entrance to the garden and exposed students to the differences between precast and building formwork on site. o The midterm project for the studio was to design a social intervention project that incorporated precast and directly solved a community issue that was identified by the student.  <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1HCCZRO1W1zk2NIAipRKkE1hKW6vwlyCCy19cYFVP3ow/edit?usp=sharing>

**Can you give a few examples of students learning outcomes? :** Students in the PCI Studio were measured on the following relevant NAAB student learning outcomes: SC.4 Technical Knowledge—How the program ensures that students understand the established and emerging systems, technologies, and assemblies of building construction, and the methods and criteria architects use to assess those technologies against the design, economics, and performance objectives of projects. - Students were evaluated based on their understanding of precast techniques, the implementation of precast and its intersection with other building systems, and the outcomes of precast and site-cast concrete design and construction. Beyond the NAAB outcomes, the students were also evaluated based on their engagement with the community (including identification of problems and emergent solutions), their overall architectural execution, and their understanding of the discipline of architecture as it relates to interacting with subject matter experts.

**Please upload photos of students engaged in projects, tours, or other activities. :**  
20220615\_PCI\_Studio\_Images.pdf

**Please share a link to any student work you would like to share. :** <https://docs.google.com/presentation>

/d/1HCCZRO1W1zk2NIAipRKkE1hKW6vwlyCCy19cYFVP3ow/edit?usp=sharing

**Can you share any opportunities that working with your local partner helped the students achieve something that would otherwise have not been possible? :** With the closing of the Gate Precast plant in Winchester, KY, we were worried that we would no longer have a relationship with a local partner. However, thanks to the diligence of Marty McIntyre and our regional rep Phil Wiedemann, we were able to maintain a great relationship with Steve Schweitzer in his transition to the Bristol Group. Steve has been a wonderful mentor and great advocate for our program. Now that the University of Kentucky is eliminating its Covid precautions and that we have re-established our connection with a local partner, it is our intent to make the 2022 - 2023 PCI Studio the best one we've had. We will accomplish this by sending students and faculty to the PCI Convention, the Foundation Professor's Seminar, and working with Steve and the Bristol group to set up tours at regional precast plants.

**Is there anything you learned this year that you would like to share with other professors? :**

**Is there anything that the PCI Foundation can do in the future to be of greater service to you during the grant? :**

**Please upload a list of any community partners, precast partners and other people who worked with your students during the year. Include their names and company. :** 20220615\_Local\_Precast\_Partners.xlsx

**Did you attend the PCI Convention? :** No

**Did you attend the PCI Committee Days? :** No

**Did you attend the PCI Foundation Professors Seminar? :** No

**Do you have a student assessment of your program that you can share? :**

**student assessment upload :**

**Is there anything else you would like to add? :**

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