



ANNUAL REPORT STATEMENT FOR 2019 - 2022

The ABET Bridge was established with a separate governance structure by the ABET Board of Directors in 2008, and it was granted the use of ABET's intellectual property. The ABET Bridge was incorporated under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code on May 22, 2008. Initially, there were three board members, and the initial by-laws were adopted on December 17, 2009. Since then, the by-laws have been amended three times, addressing issues such as term lengths for officers, increasing the number of directors, and clarifying the terms of service for board members.

The past few years have presented unparalleled challenges, with the onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic fundamentally altering the landscape of operations for the ABET Foundation (now operating as ABET Bridge). As the crisis unfolded in early 2020, it became evident that adaptability and resilience would be paramount in navigating this extraordinary period. Despite the disruptions, ABET Bridge rose to the occasion, showcasing unwavering dedication and fortitude in maintaining our mission amidst adversity.

Throughout the three years encompassed in this report statement, ABET Bridge convened online with numerous pivotal meetings, demonstrating a commitment to collaboration, transparency, and progress. Despite the shift to virtual platforms, the essence of our mission remained steadfast, driving discussions and decisions aimed at advancing education and accreditation within STEM disciplines.

Moreover, the November 2020 meeting reflecting our commitment to enhancing STEM education and fostering meaningful connections between schools and companies. Decisions to waive training fees for the first cohort and explore modifications to fee structures underscored our dedication to accessibility and continuous improvement.

Similarly, the meeting in December 2020 emphasized the urgency of action to meet launch deadlines for the ABET Bridge Relaunch project. Despite challenges posed by document review and approvals, the board remained focused on ensuring the smooth operation of ABET Bridge, underscoring the importance of timely decision-making and adaptability in the face of evolving circumstances.

In the meeting held on September 2021, via Zoom, discussions revolved around strategic allocations of resources, including funding for award stipends and the conceptualization of an ABET scholarship to support underserved students. The board deliberated on the impact of the pandemic on advising numbers, highlighting the need to explore innovative ways to reach out to potential beneficiaries.

In conclusion, the years 2019 to 2022 marked a period of resilience, adaptation, and strategic decision-making for ABET Bridge. Despite unprecedented challenges, the foundation remained steadfast in its commitment to advancing its mission. During this period ABET and ABET Bridge examined the advising function, its objectives, and value to our constituents and

community. In 2020, ABET Bridge assumed responsibility for funding the ABET awards for innovation and the Claire L. Felbinger Award for Diversity and Inclusion. The advising function was relaunched in 2021. Looking ahead, ABET Bridge stands poised to continue its impactful work, guided by a spirit of innovation and collaboration, as we navigate the ever-changing landscape of education and accreditation.