ALLIANCE FOR BAKERY STUDENTS AND TRAINEES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY 16TH JUNE 2023 4PM - 5PM





Treasurer Report

Spring/Summer 2023.

To meet all the requirements of ABST financing this year has been very challenging, to maintain and achieve the industry support and meet the increase in costs, notably Alton Towers at a huge +25% in conference costs. ABST finances to date remain within the targets set for the financial year to meet our agenda for student activities and our annual conference. This remains our most expensive financial cost and a huge commitment for us all. The continuing effects of the covid recovery and cost of living situation and the many demands has made industry support very challenging. We are only able to continue in expanding each year due to the dedicated work of the organising team and in securing contributions and support from our sponsors, without this we would be unable to continue but this is essential to enable us to keep the cost of attending conference as low as possible.

Conference agenda commitments to date remain on track for another exciting event at Alton towers in June this year. We are constantly reviewing ways to improve the experience ABST has to offer and continue to include colleges, students and industry trainees in the organisation process to be able to plan a cost effective, relevant and motivational programme each year.

I trust all will enjoy what is again a very full, interesting, career supporting and well organised conference and the ongoing ABST agenda for you the year.

Graham Turner ABST Treasurer



Competition Secretary Report Spring/Summer 2023.

Firstly make I give our thanks to the 25 ABST Competition Sponsors, without whom there would be no prizes and no medals. I would also like to thank them for helping to provide competition Judges.

We should remember that the February competitions kindly sponsored by Gunther's, Rondo and The Chocolate Quarter has already taken place and from the 49 entries the winners be receiving their cups & prize money on Saturday night of the conference with all the other awards.

My thanks of course go out to all the judges and stewards who have taken time out of their own lives to come and help with the competitions especially the Chairman of the Bread Judges – Jim Bridge and the Chairman of the Confectionary Judges – Jane Hatton.

We have had 611 individual entries (90 more that last year) into the 29 classes at Conference which equates to over 1000 products that need to be judged. A thank you to all the lecturers who help guide the students through making their entries (whether they are listened to or not), as without their support there would not be any entries.

Finally good luck to all of you who have entered, whether you win or don't place at all you will have learnt on how to improve from seeing the other entries and talking to the judges.

Graham Duckworth

ABST Competition Secretary



Tutor Representative Report

Spring/Summer 2023.

The ABST University and College membership is growing, we now have 19 education establishments on our file, who we have regular contact with. The majority offer further education bakery courses and some have university status offering degrees of various levels including Technical, NPD. Food Science, Management, and other bakery related studies. A warm welcome to our new members, Lee Pugh at Cardiff Met and Paul Bentley at Strode College. The website has been updated with all the college names and logos, and continues to be a go to place for important information for students, trainees, tutors, and the industry.

We look forward to reporting on the new level 3 Apprenticeship this year. There is also the opportunity for tutors to put information onto the site regarding their own establishment. It is very important that the ABST group of tutors keep in good contact with, other colleges and universities as this helps with the important networking and communication of like-minded people.

The ABST continues to gain support for students, tutors, and trainees from the Worshipful Company of Bakers with their bursary award scheme and CPD opportunities. The Craft Bakers Association also offer student support for work placements and visits to industry. Thank you to all our sponsors from industry for their continued support of students, trainees, and apprentice bakers for the future. Good Luck to all the students entering the competitions at conference.

Dawn Gemmell
Tutor Representative