

ABST Committee Annual Reports 2018/19

ABST Treasurer - Graham Turner

ABST finances 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. We are 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. Sponsorship has been particularly challenging this year due to the many demands on industry and requests for support but this is essential to enable us to keep the cost of attending conference as low as possible.

Conference agenda cost commitments and receipts 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 for you this year.

ABST Communication Secretary - Christopher Foxall

Communication this year has focused on new methods of communicating with our members. In an ever changing world with changes in social media platforms we have seen a significant difference in the types of communication methods that our members use. Our previous methods such as Facebook has been declining due to more preferred methods such as Instagram.

The ABST has also created a Snapchat profile which will be trialled to see how this can continue to communicate to members in the future, although this particular platform has its own challenges. Other duties have continued as usual, although I feel that the ABST will need to progress further in the near future to fully support our members. There are many opportunities that could be progressed to further develop the support offered, however the organisation relies on volunteers and we need students to come forward to suggest new ideas and support these also. This year is my final year in the role of the communication secretary position.

Although this has been a great opportunity, which I have been developing over the past 8 years, I feel it is now time for a fresh and younger approach to further develop the way we communicate. I have been very lucky to have taken this opportunity and had the support to develop it from what the role originally was to where we are now. I am happy to report that the new communication secretary is very passionate about the ABST, and the baking industry and I could not think of any person that would be better suited to this role or that could develop it further in the future. I will continue to support the ABST and look forward to see how the communication role develops in the coming years.



ABST Competitions Secretary - Graham Duckworth

Firstly I apologise for not being at the conference this year as I have already committed to a Scout activity on this particular date for over a year and a half.

With the 2018-19 Presidents accident early in his term the request for sponsorship was significantly delayed. This has sadly meant that a number of the competitions this year needed to be funded out of the general ABST funds rather than by individual companies. That said, we did have a very successful Burger Bun innovation competition in February sponsored by Gunther's Bakery who are also at conference. This is the second year of the February innovation class that kicks off our competitions and we will be looking to run it again, so pay your new ABST membership in September and look out for details on the Feb 2020 innovation class.

Those companies that have come forward to sponsor the competitions have been outstanding in their continued support and a special mention must go to AB Mauri who on top of continuing to support 2 competitions took on the old Hovis Cup competition after Rank Hovis pulled out of supplying flour to anyone but Premier Foods business's and the Harvester Class has kept this tradition of a easy to make but hard to master bread class alive.

Many thanks to Chris Abbot for taking on my duties, as well as his own this conference weekend and to all those other ABST members and helpers who have supported the competitions organising.

Also many thanks to all the judges and stewards who have given up their time to help with this year's competitions, especially Sue Haskell our wonderful head steward and our two head judges Jane Hatton and Jim Bridge.

Finally, thank you the members for entering. We would not have as fantastic a conference, if you did not put your skills to test against others from across the UK and Ireland and a big thank you to all the lecturers for teaching the skills and supporting the members to be here. You help keep professional baking as an enviable mastery for us all to aspire toward.

ABST President - Jimmy Griffin

Awaiting Report