

10. PRESIDENTIAL REPORTS

From the SAAFoST records and the Biennial Presidential reports to the association the following concerns and achievements can be noted:

1967 –1969 (L Ginsburg)

- Membership was increasing, there was consideration being given to a Food Science Fund (to help Stellenbosch University employ more staff for research and teaching), and the establishment of the logo or crest.

1970 –1972 (L Ginsburg)

- Formation of the Natal Branch was under consideration.
- National membership increase of 30 during the period.
- Amended constitution and rules adopted.
- Dr GM Dreosti was awarded Honorary Life Membership.

1972 - 1975 (J de Wit)

- Council approved the establishment of the Natal Branch.
- National membership growth from 300 in 1972 to 419 in 1975.
- Publication of scientific papers in *Food Industries of South Africa* had become a major problem and links with them were discontinued.
- As of 1974 *SA Food Review* became the official journal.
- SAAFoST a founder member of IUFoST
- The new logo was to be put to the vote and was subsequently approved.
- The state of training in the food industry was a concern for the Council.
- The fund to help Stellenbosch University (suggested in 1969) was not materialising.

1975 – 1977 (J P de Wit)

- University and technikon enrolment was poor and a brochure to be distributed to schools was being prepared.
- Paid up national membership reached 432.
- Misleading labelling was a concern.
- Council was working on closer liaison with the Department of Health.

1977 - 1979 (Dr H J H de Muelenaere)

- Work on closer liaison with the Department of Health was progressing.
- SAAFoST had been invited to appoint one delegate to IUFoST for a four-year period. The President, Dr de Muelenaere, had been appointed as the delegate.
- The first specialist group, the Fermentation Group, had been formed at the beginning of 1979 under the administration of the Northern Branch.
- Council had decided to initiate an Industrial Achievement Award in 1978, to stimulate local product and process development.
- Council had decided to initiate an Academic Achievement Award to be made annually.

1979 - 1981 (Dr H J H de Muelenaere)

- Membership had grown from 418 to 766 during the period.
- The accidental death of Professor Brian Koeppen was noted with great regret.
- Dr de Muelenaere announced that Council had decided to inaugurate the Brian Koeppen Memorial Scholarship for postgraduate studies in Food Science, to be awarded annually.
- The establishment of SAFSAC (SA Food Standards Advisory Council) in 1980 and its recognition by the Department of Health was achieved by involving a total of 23 food-associated organisations.
- The proceedings of the Fifth Biennial Congress had been published as a 142-page supplement to *Food Review*.
- Council had decided on a Public Information Programme to counter incorrect media reporting on food additive issues.
- Council was considering the matter of Professional Registration of Food Scientists (Natural Scientific Professions Act). There were 11 other associations involved with this matter.

1981 - 1983 (Dr P van Twisk)

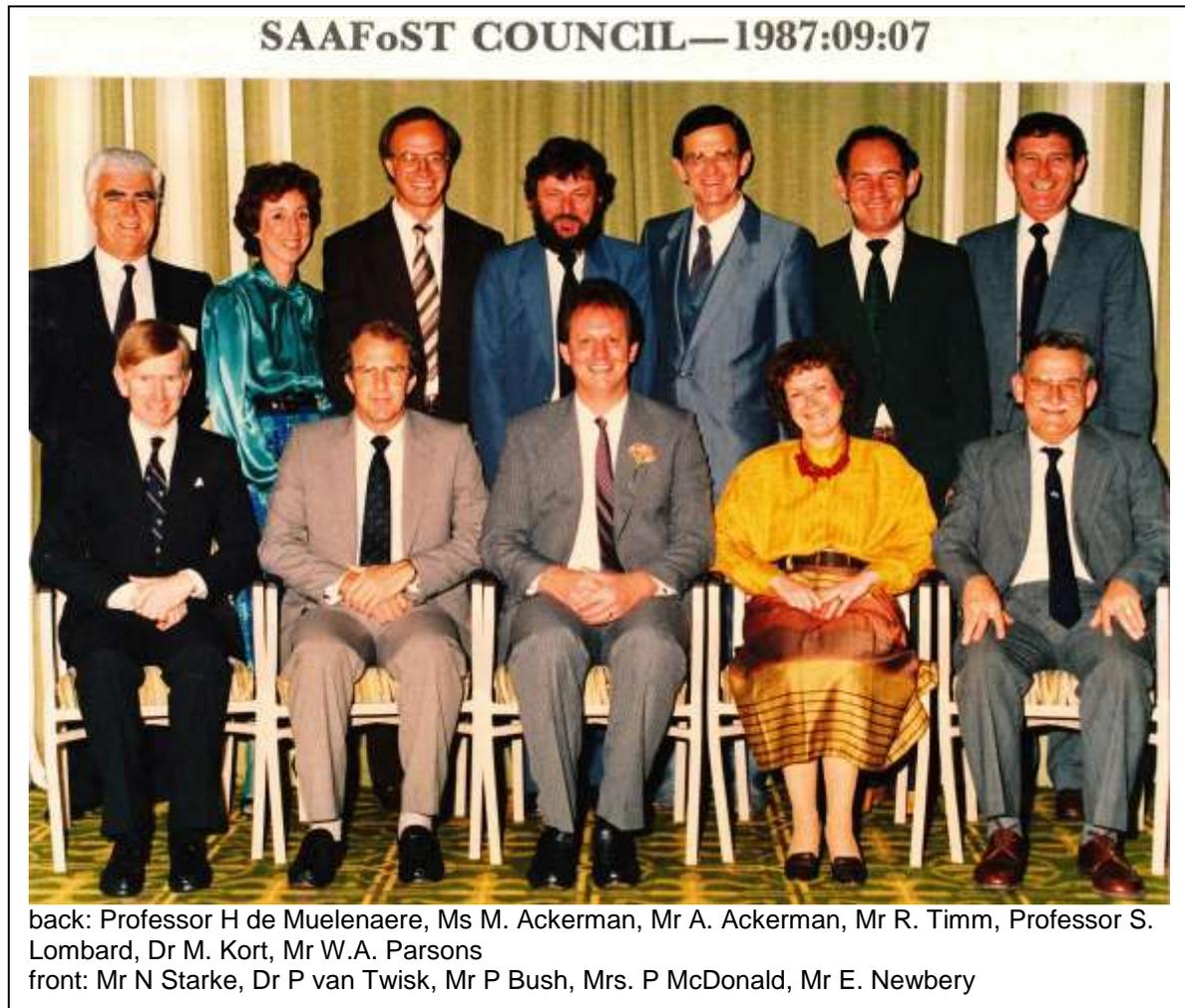
- Membership now 927.
- Workshop organised. Given by Professor John J Powers of University of Georgia.
- Council Education sub-committee established to handle all educational matters.
- New brochure for high Schools being compiled.
- Northern Branch involved in compiling English and Afrikaans TV programmes on Food Science careers.
- SAFSAC was working with the Dept. of Health on Food Legislation.
- The Koeppen Memorial Scholarship awarded for the first time in 1982.
- Sharon James appointed full time secretary at the Communications Group Offices from July 1983.
- Fermentation Specialist Group was active over the two years.

1983 – 1985 (Dr P van Twisk)

- Membership had risen to 1005.
- Professor van Noort had taken over the National Secretariat from *Food Review*.
- SAFSAC had been involved with aflatoxin legislation.
- SAAFoST had been represented at the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) Congress on Mycotoxins and Phycotoxins (marine biotoxins) in Pretoria.
- Fermentation Specialist Group discontinued.

1985 – 1987 (P B Bush)

- Membership 943.



- Penny McDonald appointed as National Secretary in Johannesburg. Exco Chair – Ernest Newbery.
- All members had been re-graded, in line with the new constitution and SACNAS rules, based on copies of highest academic qualification and experience submitted.
- A strategic plan for the association had been drawn up and was being implemented.
- First membership handbook produced and distributed.
- The launch of a Technical Journal was being undertaken in conjunction with the Nutrition Society.
- An Eastern Cape Branch was proposed.
- Liaison with the Dept. of Health was ongoing.
- An undergraduate bursary of R1 000 annually was offered.

1987 – 1989 (P B Bush)

- Membership had reached 1 009.
- Branches had achieved financial independence.

- *Food Review* was being provided free of charge to members.
- *The South African Journal of Food Science and Nutrition* was launched and was costing about R 10 000 annually.
- Support for Food Science education was now more than R 6 000 annually.
- Two successful technical symposia had been organised, one in Durban (additives) and one in Johannesburg (microwaves).
- FLAG established by the Department of Health with SAAFoST representation.
- Honorary Life Membership was awarded to Dr P van Twisk, Professor H J H de Muelenaere, and Mr E R Newbery.

1989 - 1991. (P B Bush)

- Membership 1 105.
- Mr E R Newbery retired after many years on Council as Vice-President and Chairman of Exco.
- Exco now operated from the Northern Branch under the Chairmanship of Mr W A Parsons with Mrs P McDonald as the National Secretary based in Edenvale.
- The finances of the association were sound as a result of the surplus generated by the technical symposium on food safety by the Natal Branch and the three branches were financially self-sufficient.
- Food Science and Technology education continued to be supported with awards, bursaries and travel assistance to university students and book prizes to technikon students.
- The Northern Branch arranged a workshop on Advanced Sensory Analysis Evaluation. Seminars for In-Store Demonstrators on Food and Food Safety were held in the Cape and Northern Branches.
- Discussions took place on the formation of a Food Safety Advisory Service.
- *The South African Journal of Food Science and Nutrition* became well established and the SA Society for Dairy Technologists and the Association of Dietetics SA (ADSA) joined as co-sponsors.
- The Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) in the United States recognised SAAFoST as an affiliate member. Contact with the Australian Institute of Food Science and Technology (AIFoST), the Institute of Food Science and Technology (IFST) in the United Kingdom and IUFoST continued.
- The activities of SACNAS continued to be monitored.
- SAAFoST continued to be represented on FLAG by Mr R G Timm.
- Mr W A Parsons and Dr M J Kort were awarded Honorary Life Membership.

1991 – 1993 (Mr A N Starke)

- The Department of National Education had recognised the Journal for subsidy purposes.
- Honorary Life Membership awarded to Mr A N Starke and Mr P B Bush.

1993 – 1995 (Mr W A Parsons)

- Mr Sunley had been invited to present a paper at the New Zealand/Australian Institutes of Food Science and Technology Conference on “Future Direction and Strategies in the South African Food Industry”.
- Mr Bush reported on the IUFOST Congress that he had attended. There had been 11 South African delegates to the congress and 59 countries had been represented. The next congresses were scheduled for 1999 in Sydney and 2003 in Chicago, USA.
- The East, Central and Southern Africa Association of Food Science and Technology had been established (ECSAFoST) and would be linked with the next SAAFoST congress in 1997, and there was to be a ECSAFoST mini-conference in Harare, Zimbabwe in 1996.

1995 – 1997 (Mr W A Parsons).

- Tribute was paid to Dr M Kort for the sterling job he was doing as National Secretary.
- Student chapters in the Cape and Natal were continuing and growing.
- Tribute was paid to Roxanne Reid of *Food Review*.
- The Council had initiated Shields, with the help of Ron Timm that professional and institutional members could purchase.
- Shields were presented to Council members and Branch committee members. These shields were to be returned when the member left the committee.
- Dr Richard Mason, University of Queensland, Australia, thanked SAAFoST for the invitation to attend the Congress and invited greater co-operation with sister associations AIFoST and the New Zealand Institute for Food Science and Technology (NZIFoST).

1997 – 1999 (Mr W A Parsons)

- Ms Roxanne Reid was thanked for all she had done for SAAFoST as Editor of *Food Review* and Ms Brenda Neall was welcomed as the new editor.
- Drs P van Twisk and T van de Venter were thanked for their work on FACS, and Mr R Timm for his work on FLAG.
- Student chapters were also mentioned with satisfaction.
- The closing of *The Journal of Science and Nutrition* due to financial difficulties was particularly mourned by the academic institutions.

1999 – 2001 (Mr W A Parsons)

- The President, Mr WA Parsons, thanked Ms Brenda Neall (*Food Review*) and Dr M J Kort (National Secretary) for their contributions during the past two years.
- During these years there had been a 40th birthday celebration, a Professional Code of Conduct had been published, a new strategic plan had been developed and a successful website had been launched. There had been successful involvement in FLAG, FACS, International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI), student chapters, and IUFOST’s long distance study programme.

The minutes of the BGM also highlighted the following:

- Mr Parsons had been the longest serving President of SAAFoST (eight years).
 - Professor Walter Spies thanked SAAFoST for the invitation to IUFoST to attend the 2001 Congress.
 - Dr Mary Schmidl delivered greetings from IFT (USA).
 - Changes to the constitution were made to introduce the office of President Elect and to limit the Presidential office in the future to one term of two years.
 - The strategic planning meetings had resulted in the following future objectives:
 - Professional – increased level of professionalism and service to members
 - Marketing. – public relations activities
 - Resources – appointment of permanent staff
- These were explained to and adopted by the Biennial General Meeting (BGM).

2001 – 2003 (R G Timm)

- The first Executive Director, Mr Owen Frisby, was appointed.
- Ms Michelle Murphy was appointed Membership Secretary in Durban to assist Dr Kort.
- The Association registered for VAT with effect from July 2003.
- The President’s Award was initiated.
- Custodian membership category had been proposed by the Executive Director and approved.
- FACS had come under the SAAFoST umbrella.
- The values of awards and grants had been increased.
- The association had been registered as a Non Profit Organisation with the Department of Social Development.
- The Continuing Education Programme was introduced whereby postgraduate level courses workshops & symposia were endorsed with a CEP Logo.
- Formal ties with IFST in the UK had been established through the signing of a co-operation agreement.
- Executive breakfasts were initiated by the Executive Director to encourage senior management involvement in food science and SAAFoST activities.
- The first SAAFoST Expo and Talk Shop “By Professionals for Professionals” was initiated and it was organised by the Executive Director
- Honorary Life Membership was awarded to Dr A C Visser.

2003 - 2005. (N C Sunley)

- Membership ca. 1600.
- Custodian membership 45.
- Membership Development Officer appointment being considered.
- Sean Summers (CEO of Pick ‘n Pay) had addressed SAAFoST about the product tampering scare.
- Education.
 - Shortage of young scientists. Programme for School Careers Advisors – a DVD was produced.

- Seminars (Careers roadshows) for final year Food Science and Technology students launched.
- Annual Student Project evenings continued to be very popular.
- Greater involvement with SACNASP
- FLAG involvement with Food Regulation continues. Council also had to fight the Medicines Control Council Regulation 101 under which many foods would have come under the Medicines Control Act.
- Joined with Consumer Goods Council of South Africa to promote a single Food Control Authority for South Africa.
- The Sudan Red scare of March 2004 involved SAAFoST with the media and the shortcomings of law enforcement.
- The successful bid for the IUFoST 2010 Congress was a point for rejoicing, however it meant that the 2009 Congress would have to be cancelled and the terms of committees and council would be extended by a year to 2010.
- The values of the bursaries were again increased.
- Honorary Life Membership awarded to Mr Ron Timm.

2005 – 2007 (D Watson)

- Membership ca. 1600.
- Custodian members numbers now totalled 56.
- Ongoing problems with the membership database, billings and secretarial efficiency (van der Walt & Co)
- Beatrix van der Linde appointed first membership Development Officer followed (after her resignation) by Irene Burke. An office was established in the CSIR campus.
- Council approved a new logo and this was subsequently approved at the BGM.
- The Third Expo and Talk Shop at CSIR was the most extensive yet with collaboration for the second time with the International Commission on Microbiological Specifications for Foods (ICMSF).
- FACS under the Chairmanship of Dr P van Twisk now financed by SAAFoST and run in collaboration with the South African National Consumer Union (SANCU) and ADSA. It distributed 150 000 brochures to consumers and health practitioners via the media and another 150 000 using the retail chains.
- Education was still a concern.
 - Career DVDs & CDs for teachers and schoolchildren were produced for distribution.
 - Seven bursaries of R 20 000 per annum each were being offered.
 - The values of other awards and scholarships were increased.
 - Furthermore, the introduction of a bursary for journalism was under consideration.
- SAAFoST maintains good relationships with the Department of Health, the South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) and the National Research Foundation (NRF). Continuing efforts to woo the media have been bearing fruit, as was co-operation with the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP).
- Honorary Life Membership was awarded to Dr Bernard Cole.

2007 – 2010 (Mrs R Maguire)

- SAAFoST hosted the extremely successful 2010 IUFoST World Congress of Food Science & Technology at the CTICC in Cape Town, attracting 1 752 delegates from 79 countries.
- Turners Travel & Conferences succeeded van der Walt & Co as National Secretariat.
- In 2009 and 2010 SAAFoST administered 20 postgraduate bursaries for FoodBev SETA
- The “Students on Site” initiative was launched allowing student members seeking employment for in-service training, holidays or following graduation to advertise themselves to potential employers on the SAAFoST website.
- Membership increased to over 2 000 with 64 Custodian members.
- Student membership fees were abolished to encourage all food science and technology students to join SAAFoST and become actively involved during their studies.
- Mr Owen Frisby awarded Honorary Life Membership.