

21. MEMBERSHIP

By the end of 2010, SAAFoST paid up membership stood at 1,514 and was made up of the following classes with numbers in each class shown in brackets followed by the annual subscription fee including 14% VAT :

Honorary Life Members (10) free subscription
Professional members (507) R399
Members (383) R399
Student members (470) R110
Institution members (80) R1,710
Custodian members (65) R9,120

Of the above members and professional members, 67 were retired.

A list of all paid up members as at 31 December 2010 can be found in Chapter 32.

Membership growth

In 1960, a questionnaire was circulated to 150 organisations and individuals to gauge interest in the formation of a food science association. One hundred replies were received which led to the formation, in March 1961 of a working committee to deal with membership applications and to draft a constitution. At the inaugural meeting in August the same year, the draft constitution was adopted and 95 membership applications were accepted which number had changed by the first AGM in July 1962 to 107 members being: institutional 20, members 65, affiliate members 22. A decade later, well after the formation of the Cape and Northern branches (and prior to the formation of the Natal branch in 1973), membership had reached 300. In 1976 it stood at 380 with the Cape branch having 146 members, Natal 70 and the Northern branch 164. Membership steadily increased to 418 in 1979 and, as a result of a recruitment campaign and improved secretarial skills, stood at 766 by 1981, 927 by 1983 and had broken the 1 000 barrier by 1985. By this time, it was evident that wildly fluctuating membership numbers were the unfortunate norm. Nevertheless, membership reached about 1 600 in 2005 and although, nominally, it reached 2000 on occasion after recruitment campaigns, interest in the 2010 IUFoST World Congress in Cape Town plus the addition of student members, in reality the number of members in good standing was closer to 1 500 in 2010.

Membership notes

In 1976 the affiliate member subscription fee was R4-00 and that for members, R5-00 pa. Membership certificates were commissioned in 1977 with illuminated versions being proposed for Honorary Life Members in addition to which a four page bilingual membership application form was introduced by Dr Maurice Kort. It is recorded in Northern branch minutes of 1979 that a certain Mr Hardwick was paid R20-00 to inscribe 56 membership certificates by hand.

Classes of membership

Originally membership consisted of affiliate members, members, institution members and Honorary Life Members.

In 1987 all non-honorary individual members were regraded into members and professional members to meet the requirements of the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP). Affiliate members, together with institutional representatives and student members, were then classed as non-corporate members who did not have the vote while professional and honorary members were classed as corporate members and had the vote.

The terms, corporate and non-corporate members were dropped in 2010 in favour of voting and non-voting members. This happened when the constitution was changed to extend voting and office-bearer nomination rights, to include members and also the representatives of institution and Custodian Members. The only non-voting members after this change were student members.

Although voting and nomination rights were extended, office bearers nominated for branch committees was largely confined to professional members who, together with Honorary Life Members, were exclusively eligible for serving on a SAAFoST Council.

Custodian Membership

In 2003 the Council approved the concept of a higher grade of membership called Custodian Membership. This to comprise of a select group of organisations that best exemplify the standards of excellence competence and integrity needed to ensure a supply of safe, affordable and wholesome food and ingredients, while also advancing Food Science and related technologies. Membership to be by Council invitation only, in order to “cherry pick” and co-operate with the most respected organisations in the food industry. It was through the additional financial support received from these members that SAAFoST was able to appoint permanent staff and a secretariat and so transform itself from a wholly volunteer run association to one more capable of promoting food professionalism in South Africa by offering a host of additional services and activities.



Custodian Membership was the brainchild of Owen Frisby and was formally launched in September 2004. These members were given exclusive use of the custodian logo and motto shown above, for use on stationery, e-mails, business cards websites, etc. In one case, company fleet vehicles were adorned with the logo and motto. Custodians, with company logos and links to company websites, were listed on the SAAFoST website and presented with specially designed certificates presented, initially, at the formal launch of the concept on 3 September 2004 and afterwards at SAAFoST branch or national events.

Custodian Membership requires that the member:

Nestlé – A founding Custodian Member (2004).
 Judah Duiker (Nestlé), Jaci Barnett (Northern Branch Chair), Nigel Sunley (President)

- Act with integrity in the provision of safe and wholesome food.
- Supports the Food Science and Technology profession.
- Subscribes to the SAAFoST members Professional Code of Conduct.
- Prominently displays the Custodian Certificate.
- Is a Custodian Member in good standing.

(Photographs taken at the Inaugural Custodian Meeting held in 2004 where

the founder Custodian Members received their certificates)

Dinnermates – A founding Custodian Member. (2004). Nigel Sunley (President), Jaci Barnett (Northern Branch Chair), Robert Rauch CEO (Dinnermates)

The Following were Custodian Members on 31 December 2010.

3M, Air Products, Anchor Yeast, Bokomo, Cadbury SA, Cargill Flavour Systems, Carst & Walker, Cell-Chem,	Mars, McCain, McCormick SA, Monsanto, Nampak, Nestle, Novozymes, Orley,
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<p>Clive Teubes, Coca-Cola, Consulting Microbiological Laboratory, Crest Chemicals, Crown National, Dinnermates, DSM Nutritional Products, Famous Brands, Fifers Bakery, FlavourCraft, Flavourome, FoodBev-SETA, Food Safety Network, Foodspec, Gelita, Givaudan, Hahn & Hahn, IFF, I & J, Imana Foods, Isegen, Jannderee, Kelloggs, Kemclean, Kraft,</p>	<p>Packo, Pick 'n Pay, Radical Waters, Rainbow Chicken, Rich's, SA Breweries, SA Sugar Association, SABS, Savannah, Scientific Pest Control, Sensient, Simba, Snackworks, SPAR, SSI Engineering & Environmental Consultants, Sunspray, Swift Micro Laboratory, Symrise, Tiger Brands, Tongaat-Hulett Starch, Tongaat-Hulett Sugar, Unilever, Woolworths .</p>
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Photo here of the first presentation of Custodian certificates, 3 September 2004