



Update from the Board: Spring 2018

By Chris Powell

The [ASBC Research Council](#) aims to provide financial support for academic research projects related to the brewing and allied industries. We are delighted to announce that we have a growing number of sponsors, and I would like to thank each company for their kind support, which is crucial to the success of this activity.

We have also launched a revamped [Lab Proficiency Program](#), which provides a mechanism for the independent validation of brewing laboratories. If you are not familiar with this concept, or are wondering how accurate your brewery measurements are, then it's absolutely worth looking into. The program allows regular assessment of testing accuracy and instrument performance, helping you to ensure that your data is robust and meaningful.

In addition to these activities, we continue to provide member value through our [webinars](#) and [LABS meetings](#), as well as events such as the [Malt Symposium](#) coming up in Minneapolis, June 10–13. The LABS meetings provide the opportunity to meet colleagues and attend scientific presentations by industry experts at various locations across the United States. As we go to press we will have recently held a session on “Funky Fermentations” in Portland, Oregon, and will be looking forward to “Cold-side Flavor and Aroma Additions” in Boulder, Colorado.

The webinar series continues to be a great success with a huge number of people linking in on a regular basis. Ten webinars have already been scheduled for 2018, with the next edition on “[Malt Aroma Research](#)” rapidly approaching. Look out for details elsewhere in *The Buzz*, and don't forget that, as a member, you can catch up with ones you have missed on the website.

While on the subject of the website, many thanks to those of you who helped out with the “card sort” activity. This is crucial in allowing us to reconfigure the website to make it as useful and logical to navigate as possible. Look out for the re-structuring coming imminently...

Finally, we know that the [Methods of Analysis](#) (MOA) is an essential tool for many ASBC members, and the Technical Committee does a fantastic job in developing up-to-date content. We have major plans to grow the MOA, taking this resource to the next level. This is still in the early stages of development, but we hope to be able to share information soon!

It has evidently been a very busy first half of the cycle, and the 2018 Brewing Summit is already looming large on the horizon. The organizing committee is ahead of the game in finalizing the domestic arrangements and sorting through the vast number of abstracts submitted. This is not an easy task, but I trust that their hard work will bear fruit in August when we meet again in San Diego. I have been assured that the weather will be better than in Florida last year, so I am especially looking forward to seeing you there, sharing good conversation, and celebrating the Science of Beer!



Chris Powell
ASBC President