

Professional

The Douglas Bomford Trust

Awarding is rewarding...

Secretary Alan Plom reports on recent events supported by the Douglas Bomford Trust:

As indicated elsewhere in this issue of Landwards, we are in ‘Presentation Season’. The Douglas Bomford Trust (DBT) sponsors several prizes and scholarships each year, not least those presented at the recent IAgRE Awards Day.

In addition to our long-standing prize for ‘Best Paper’ in an IAgRE journal - presented this year to Linus Opara for his contribution to a paper published in Biosystems Engineering on “Exploring novel carbon footprints for improved refrigerated containers usage and a more efficient supply chain” - the Trust instigated two new awards to promote ‘environmental engineering’.

The inaugural Environmental Engineer Award was presented to Prof Mark Kibblewhite, by Trustee Richard Robinson recognising his “distinguished contribution to environmental professionalism throughout his career”. Mark also helped the Trust make effective use of our resources and was a much-valued mentor to those involved in soil and environment-related projects during his six years as a Trustee. The first Environmental Engineer Team Award (for a “substantial contribution to improving any aspect of the environment”) was received by the CNH Methane Tractor Team.

Scholarships

The Trust’s latest crop of scholarship winners at Harper

Adams were also presented with their certificates by Trustee Richard Robinson. Congratulations to Pavel Dundin, Anna Schoemecker, Max Finch and Rhodri Williams

Rhodri - a second-time DBT Scholar who also received a Claas scholarship and placement in Germany in 2020/21 - gave a heartfelt ‘Thank You’ speech on behalf of all 136 HAU students who received a total of 160 scholarships between them this year.

These included a number of other aspiring agricultural engineers being supported by other organisations, including the David Lawson Trust (awarded to previous DBT Scholar, Eric Murray); JCB (Eric again!), and ‘our’ Max Finch who also received another scholarship from The Alamo Group.

We enjoyed chatting to several other previous DBT scholars and lecturers, and it is always rewarding to hear their ideas and personal aspirations. The Trust is keen to continue to maintain contact and mentor recipients into their future careers. As Richard said in his presentation speech: “Douglas (Bomford) would have been delighted to meet such an excellent group of students, who will push our trade forwards”.

Rhodri has since endorsed this view (in a LinkedIn post): “The support from both these scholarships allows me the opportunities I take every day, and allow me to grow my knowledge and strive for excellence in both personal and educational life. Definitely helping me on my



journey to professional and personal development.”

‘Tis also the time for new Strategies....

The poster behind the HAU Scholars’ group photo proclaims: “Together we will make a difference” – the title of the new Strategy for HAU to 2030 and beyond, announced by Vice-Chancellor Prof Ken Sloan, prior to the Scholarship presentations. This was very different to traditional ‘launches’, with excellent local food served ‘al fresco’ while guests were ‘serenaded’ by Harper’s resident ‘covers’ band. [Particularly enjoyed by DBT Secretary ‘Al Plom’, who plays the drums as well as drumming up support for the Trust!]

Coincidentally, promoting collaboration is a key theme in DBT’s new Strategy and stakeholders will be invited to a workshop later this year to discuss how we can encourage working in partnership and information sharing.



Congratulations to Pavel Dundin, Anna Schoemecker, Max Finch and Rhodri Williams, Front L-R with trustees rear L-R Alan Plom, Richard Robinson and David White.

The
DOUGLAS BOMFORD
SUPPORTING AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING
Trust



For further information, see the Trust's website:

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on Twitter and on LinkedIn, for news of interesting events, opportunities, or developments.