



## **UK Hospitality and Catering Training and Education is in Safe Hands**

### **PACE Awards 2013**

Excellence, enterprise and outstanding contributions in hospitality and catering training and education have been rewarded and celebrated at the annual **Professional Association for Catering Education (PACE) Awards 2013.**

Representatives of the hospitality and catering training and education sector gathered to honour colleagues whose dedication, passion and innovative approach champion best practice and enrich education in the UK hospitality industry.

In addition to celebrating the incredible achievements of those working at ground level within education establishments, the PACE Awards 2013 introduced three extra special awards recognising long-term excellence and commitment.

The *Lifetime Achievement Award* was awarded to Peter Russum of Russums, for his commitment to PACE and catering education; the *Contribution to the Further Education Sector Award* went to Gerry Shurman of South Downs College for his dedication to planning and providing high quality training and education for the hospitality sector; and Philippe Rossiter FIH, Executive Secretary, The Master Innholders, received the *Contribution to the Hospitality Sector Award* for his tremendous input into establishing exceptional working relationships between hospitality employers and the college training sectors.

The PACE Awards, which took place on the evening of Tuesday 12 March at the East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham, are an esteemed and valued element of the PACE Learning & Development Best Practice Forum.

Geoff Booth, Chief Executive Officer, PACE, enthused: "Against a backdrop of stark funding cuts and over-stretched resources the hospitality and catering training and education sector continues to go from strength to strength. Educators are working smarter and more creatively to ensure students are inspired, relationships with industry are nurtured, and excellence in education is upheld.

“Training and education is a vital element of the UK hospitality industry. It shapes and nurtures the workforce of the present and future. The 2013 PACE Awards nominees and winners send out a clear message that our industry is in safe hands. My sincere congratulations go to all the worthy winners. Their unconditional commitment and passion to elevating education is inspiring.”

The 2013 PACE Awards winners:

**Partnership with Industry Awards – *Blackpool & The Fylde College.***

For the award that recognises activities that promote a good experience with another organisation, Blackpool & The Fylde College scooped the title for a multiple partnership that positively impacts the students and the staff.

**Best Chef Lecturer Awards – *Andrew MacLeod, The Manchester College.***

Andrew was praised for his passion and commitment that sees him dedicating much of his own personal time to inspiring students and ensuring they are given every opportunity possible.

**Best Hospitality Lecturer – *Leyonia Davey, North West Regional College.*** The judges were impressed by Leyonia’s use of her industry experience and relationships to enhance her teaching. She demonstrated a broad range of teaching methods and initiated projects that supported the local community.

**Best Restaurant Service Lecturer – *Josephine Pearce, Bournemouth & Poole College***

Josephine was the clear winner thanks to her engaging teaching style that made the judges want to experience her teaching!

**Award for Environmental Sustainability – *The Hospitality & Culinary Arts Department, Salford City College.***

An award that recognises the college that has developed the most innovative Sustainability & Environmental Management Project in terms of economic, environmental and social impact, Salford City College ticked many of the boxes. The project as a whole considered many of the environmental impacts and showing wise investment.

**Lifetime Achievement Award – *Peter Russum, Russums***

Peter received this deserved award for his unwavering commitment to PACE and catering education. As the inaugural Chair of Patrons, Peter has continued to support the development of PACE as a brand that has respect and value to all involved. His depth of passion and relentless energy to include all colleges was cited as one of the key factors in the success of PACE.

**Contribution to Further Education Sector – *Gerry Shurman, South Downs College.***

Gerry was honoured for the significant and innovative contributions made during his career to the progression and enhancement of education and training of young people. His passion for the industry and his enthusiastic and energetic support of PACE were praised.

**Contribution to the Hospitality Sector – *Philippe Rossiter FIH, Executive Secretary, The Master Innholders***

Philippe was recognised for his tremendous input into establishing exceptional working relationships between hospitality employers and the college training sectors.

For more information on the PACE Awards 2013 visit [www.paceuk.org](http://www.paceuk.org).

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Notes to editors:

The Professional Association for Catering Education (PACE) is an organisation with a regional and national network of members whose aim is to encourage catering educational institutions to work together to manage the challenges of continual change within hospitality and catering education.

PACE has more than 1200 members, who represent more than 400 organisations with catering courses throughout Great Britain and the Channel Islands. PACE acts as an ambassador on behalf of its members to express their shared views to relevant bodies and organisations affecting catering, education and training.

It also strives to promote staff development and interchange within the industry.

PACE provides unity across the hospitality and catering sector, and controls the education, welfare and opportunities of more than 150,000+ students annually.

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