



COMMITTEE MEMBER PROFILE

PAUL DELANEY

Committees: ACADA Executive Advisory Committee

Role: ACADA Professional Members' Representative

Q. How long have you been working in the cake decorating industry?

I'm a third-generation pastry chef and have been in the industry for 40 years

Q. What have you achieved in our industry that makes you feel super proud?

I have represented Australia in ACADA's International Cake-Off Challenge at International Cake Show Australia for several years. I've competed in the ICSA 'Wedding Cake Wars' and been runner up winner in the ACADA Australasian Haute Couture Wedding Cake Designer of the Year. I have also demonstrated for 'The Cake Guilds' and was awarded the 'Trade Baking Show' champion. In 2017 my wife and I created our own product, 'The Original Chocolate Drip' and have since travelled internationally, introducing and demonstrating its use.

Q. What do you love about our industry?

I love that the industry is creative, challenging and rewarding. It is ever evolving, which ensures it is always exciting. I also love the people who I have met and collaborated with, sharing knowledge whilst encouraging young cake decorators along the way. Also, because I get to look at cake, taste cake and decorate cake! Who doesn't love cake!

Q. What did you do before joining this industry?

I have owned my own Illawarra based business (Delaney's Cakes) for 32 years, specialising in wedding and novelty cakes. I am a qualified baker and pastry chef, with additional qualifications in chocolate and boiled sugar. Throughout this time, I have mentored and trained over 20 apprentice pastry chefs, as well undertaking part-time Tafe teaching whilst running our own business.

Q. Why did you join ACADA?

I joined ACADA to share knowledge while creating friendships and to assist industry growth. From the outset it has been a friendly and encouraging organisation for everyone no matter their skill level, which I love. I also joined because I appreciate the organisations dedication to spotlighting Australian and overseas talent.

Q. What do you hope to achieve in your new role?

In my new role, I would like to continue to support cake decorators who are hoping to make it their full-time profession. I would like to collaborate with others who share cake decorating as their passion, and pass on the knowledge I've gained from my industry and retail background.