

# **ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023**

The fiscal year for the ABET Bridge is the calendar year, January 1 through December 31. This report includes an overview of activities during 2023.

## **BRIEF HISTORY AND BACKGROUND**

The ABET Bridge was established with a separate governance structure by the ABET Board of Directors in 2008, and it was granted the use of ABET's intellectual property. The ABET Bridge was incorporated under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code on May 22, 2008. Initially, there were three board members, and the initial by-laws were adopted on December 17, 2009. Since then, the by-laws have been amended three times, addressing issues such as term lengths for officers, increasing the number of directors, and clarifying the terms of service for board members.

The ABET Bridge's mission statement, current officers, board members and additional information can be found on the ABET Bridge website: <a href="https://www.abetbridge.org/">https://www.abetbridge.org/</a>.

The ABET Bridge board consists of two standing committees: nominations and audit. Additionally, ad hoc committees are assigned as needed to complete other necessary tasks. The board conducts most of its work through email correspondence and annual voice-over-internet-protocol meetings.

#### **ACTIVITIES**

ABET Bridge offers comprehensive advisory services tailored to assist and support higher educational institutions in effectively preparing for and navigating the accreditation process. Our services encompass accreditation self-study reviews, practice accreditation visits, assistance in establishing assessment programs, and facilitation of faculty workshops on ABET accreditation processes, self-study composition, and ongoing improvement initiatives. This commitment stems from our deep understanding of ABET's accreditation procedures and requirements, as well as our dedication to facilitating successful outcomes for both Institutions and ABET Bridge. Through this mutual agreement, ABET Bridge and our advisory team are united in our mission to provide invaluable guidance and support throughout the accreditation journey. These services help programs prepare for successful evaluation for accreditation by one of ABET's four commissions. However, ABET Bridge advisory services are independent of any accreditation activities provided by ABET. The ABET Bridge Coordinator, a contract employee of ABET Bridge, assigns consultants from a pool of well qualified ABET experts to assist programs in this process.

In addition to accreditation-related services, ABET Bridge provides assistance to institutions in establishing new programs, including curriculum development. While this service falls outside the scope of accreditation, many of ABET Bridge's consultants from academia possess expertise in this area.

In 2023, ABET Bridge received 28 inquiries for consulting services, with 11 of them originating from international institutions.

ABET Bridge received 16 inquires in 2023 that led to advising agreements, but agreements were created for 17 institutions (some inquires originated in 2022, some 2023 inquiries led to agreements in early 2024 which are not reflected here). While the most requested service was self-study reviews, in 2023 ABET Bridge conducted three two-day workshops, two inside the U.S. and one outside the U.S. Additionally, advisors completed three mock visits during the same period.

### **FINANCES**

For 2023, revenue from all activities equaled \$129,400, which included \$119,800 consultation revenue and \$9,500 workshop revenue. At year end, total reserves equaled \$186,896.

Although ABET Bridge has relatively small financial operations and reserves, 2023 is the first self-sustaining year since the restart of advising activities in 2021.

#### SUPPORT OF ABET

Starting in 2020, ABET Bridge assumed sponsorship of two ABET Awards: the ABET Innovation Award and the Claire L. Felbinger Award for Diversity and Inclusion.