



# Fish Health Section



The official link to the FHS website is: <https://units.fisheries.org/fhs/>

## MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS AND COURSES

**Aquaculture 2019**  
New Orleans, Louisiana, USA  
March 7-11, 2019

**Special Session on Molecular Tools and their impacts on aquatic animal health management and policy**  
**Co-chairs: Pat Gaunt and Katie Haman**

We seek speakers to present in a special session on molecular tools, science recommendation(s) and data interpretation and the potential impacts such data may have on the aquaculture industry. This session will highlight some of the new technologies, how they compare to traditional diagnostics, and how they may be used by management agencies. We will also highlight several case studies, followed by a discussion of each case (i.e. pros/cons, lessons learned, etc). We will conclude the session with a recap of primary findings and subsequent data interpretation, management/policy implication(s), and existing gaps in the process. It is our goal to establish a dialogue with all stakeholders, and identify key next steps to addressing the broad topic of implications of molecular tools on aquatic animal health and management.

**Please contact Katie Haman (Katherine.haman21@gmail.com) for more information or to submit an abstract. Also see the flyer attached to the November FHS Newsletter. Although the abstract deadline has past, abstracts can still be submitted if you hurry.**

**2019 FHS Meeting and Western Fish Disease Workshop**  
Ogden, Utah, USA  
June 17-20, 2019

The 2019 joint meeting of the American Fisheries Society/Fish Health Section and the Western Fish Disease Workshop will be held at the Hampton Inn and Eccles Conference Center in Ogden, Utah. A welcoming social with light appetizers and cash bar will be held in the afternoon of Monday June 17<sup>th</sup>. A fun and casual session of interesting case studies will kick off the meeting on Monday evening. General session will start in the morning on Tuesday June 18<sup>th</sup> and will continue through the afternoon of Wednesday June 19<sup>th</sup>. A poster session will take place during the afternoon on Tuesday June 18<sup>th</sup> and the banquet will take place in the evening of Wednesday June 19<sup>th</sup>. A full day Continuing Education session designed around the intricacies and management of Flavobacteria will be held on Thursday June 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting Registration:** The conference website/registration services are scheduled to be available by January 2019.

**Call for Papers:** Individuals interested in presenting a paper or poster should submit a complete abstract no later than May 1, 2019. See the flyer attached the November FHS newsletter for more information.

## **JOBSGRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS**

### **Postdoctoral Position - Genomic and Functional characterization of Novel Viruses**

**National Fish Health Research Laboratory  
USGS, Leetown Science Center  
Leetown, West Virginia, USA**

The research laboratory of Dr. Luke Iwanowicz at the US Geological Survey, Leetown Science Center, National Fish Health Research lab seeks one highly motivated postdoctoral researcher with strong bioinformatics and molecular biology laboratory skills.

The successful candidate will contribute to on-going research that involves the discovery, genomic and functional characterization of novel viruses that infect sentinel and recreationally important fishes. This work also includes the molecular evaluation of host-immune responses to natural viral infection utilizing targeted and global gene expression approaches.

The specific research focus involves characterizing and determining the significance of novel, emerging hepatitis and retroviruses in wild white suckers and their association with skin and liver tumors inhabiting the Great Lakes region. We recently identified a novel hepatitis B-like virus, white sucker hepadnavirus (WSHBV), that infects the white sucker. This virus belongs to the same family, Hepadnaviridae, of viruses that infect mammals and birds. In addition, we have now identified the other putative oncoviruses in this species that have yet to be fully characterized. At present it is not clear if the WSHBV or these other viruses are associated with neoplasia.

Applicants must have a PhD in Bioinformatics, Biology, Microbiology or a relevant subject area. Eligible applicants must be a US citizen and have received a PhD within the past 5 years. A strong bioinformatics background is necessary. Candidates should have an outstanding academic and publication track record commensurate with their career stage and experience. This position is currently funded for 13 months with the possibility of extension for a total of 4 years. Starting annual salary is \$68K US.

Prospective applicants should contact liwanowicz@usgs.gov to discuss the project. Please send a CV and letter of interest.

Contact: Dr. Luke Iwanowicz, liwanowicz@usgs.gov  
Where: Leetown Science Center, National Fish Health Research Laboratory,  
Kearneysville, W.V.

Also see the flyer attached to the November FHS Newsletter.

**Fish Farm Technician**  
**Pacific Seafood**  
**North Central Washington State, USA**

Pacific aquaculture is seeking fish farm technicians for our north central Washington operations. Pacific Aquaculture farms Steelhead trout in net pens on the Columbia River. The technician will become familiar with all operations of the farm including feeding, harvesting, and inventorying.

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities**

Duties include but not limited to:

- Be a role model in projecting and applying The Pacific Group Diamond Philosophy (Productivity, Quality, Excellence and Teamwork) and promote teamwork at all times
- Monitor feeding, environmental conditions and fish health while maintaining accurate records.
- Learn and utilize computerized feeding systems.
- Maintain company assets in good operational condition.
- Work to continuously improve operations with respect to productivity, quality, safety, inventory levels and operating expense while utilizing effective aquaculture techniques.
- Must be able to work independently and with a team
- Perform other duties, as assigned

Apply online at <https://www.pacificseafood.com/careers/>, or contact Chris Stice at [Cstice@pacseafood.com](mailto:Cstice@pacseafood.com), (509)634-4446

See the attached flyer for more information.

**Extension Specialist – Fish Health**  
**Auburn University**  
**School of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences**  
**Greensboro, Alabama**

The School of Aquaculture, Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences (SFAAS) at Auburn University invites applications for a position at our Alabama Fish Farming Center (AFFC) in Greensboro. It is a non-tenure-track, 12-month faculty position with the title

Extension Specialist; however, responsibilities are 50% extension and 50% research. The position is supported by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) and the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station (AAES). The incumbent will be a member of the ACES Aquatic Resources Program Priority Team and must maintain a current AAES Hatch project.

**Responsibilities:** The primary extension responsibility will be disease diagnostic services for catfish farmers. The primary research responsibilities will be fish health questions of importance to the Alabama catfish industry. The successful candidate will interact with AFFC staff, members of the Southeastern Cooperative Fish Parasite and Disease Project (located in SFAAS), and other fish health and aquaculture specialists to develop a vibrant diagnostic program and relevant, extramurally funded, research program.

**Qualifications:** A PhD in an appropriate field or a DVM is required. Research experience with aquatic animals and two years of experience (staff, postdoctoral, or faculty) in diagnosis of fish diseases are also required. Experience in extension or outreach with fish farmers, a publication record in extension, and a publication record in aquatic animal research are desirable. The successful candidate must possess excellent interpersonal skills, communication skills, and organizational skills. They must also meet eligibility requirements for work in the United States at the time the appointment is scheduled to begin and continue working legally for the term of employment.

**Application:** Applicants must apply for the position electronically through: <https://aufacultypositions.peopleadmin.com/postings/search> and submit the following: 1) cover letter addressing the candidate's experience pertinent to the responsibilities of the position, 2) Curriculum vitae, 3) Reprints of up to three research publications and 4) Reprints of up to three extension publications. When prompted during the on-line application process, please provide names, phone numbers and email addresses of three professional references. Only complete application materials will be considered. Active review of applications will begin October 1, 2018 and the search will continue until the position is filled. Questions about the position should be directed to:

Dr. Cova Arias  
Search Committee Chair  
School of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences  
203 Swingle Hall  
Auburn University  
Email: [ariascr@auburn.edu](mailto:ariascr@auburn.edu)  
**Auburn University is an EEO/Vet/Disability Employer**

## RESOURCES/NEWS

## **ISAAH 2018 in the news!!**

See these summary articles:

*ISAAH 2018 reviewed*

<https://thefishsite.com/articles/isaah-2018-reviewed>

*Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health draws attendees from around the globe*

<https://www.hatcheryinternational.com/news/symposium-on-aquatic-animal-health-draws-attendees-from-around-the-globe-3254>

*Identifying aquatic animal health challenges in 10 minutes or less*

<https://www.hatcheryinternational.com/news/identifying-aquatic-animal-health-challenges-in-10-minutes-or-less-3277>

Also please find these reports attached to this newsletter email:

*Report on ISAAH Partnering Program*

*Fish Farming News – Article on Tilapia Lake Virus.*