

# Fish Health Section



## FHS NEWS – June 2023

**Fish Health Section website:** <https://units.fisheries.org/fhs/>

**Fish Health Section Facebook Site:** <https://facebook.com/FishHealthSectionAFS>

**Fish Health Section Twitter feed:** @AFSFishHealth

Would you like your recent open-access publication featured on our Twitter feed? We would like to share one publication per week. Just fill out the form at: <https://forms.gle/NWVXEFOGcdYME6gh8>.

**Membership notice:** Starting in March 2023, only paid FHS members will receive newsletters and communications from the section. Thank you to all the renewing members! You are what makes this section successful! Make sure to add [fhs@afsmembers.simplelists.com](mailto:fhs@afsmembers.simplelists.com) to your safe list to continue to receive communications from the section!

## AFS-FHS ELECTION -- OPEN NOW

We are excited to announce that the 2023 FHS Election is now open! The slate of nominees is incredible - thank you very much to those who nominated and to those that agreed to volunteer. The future of our section is in your hands! Please VOTE ASAP to have your voice heard.

### *How to vote:*

An email will be sent directly from Survey Monkey to all current FHS Members. If you do not receive the email (and expect to) or need the ballot in an alternative format, please contact the Nominating and Balloting Committee Chair, Nick Phelps ([phelp083@umn.edu](mailto:phelp083@umn.edu)).

The election will close on July 17, 2023.

Thank you!!

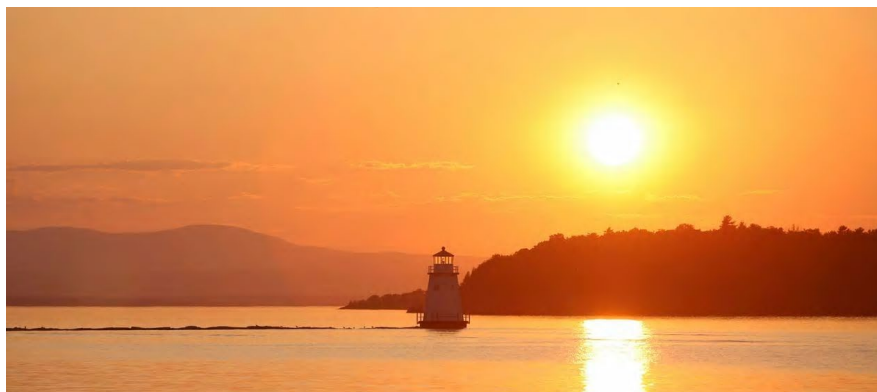
Nominating and Balloting Committee

## QA/QC Committee Update

The laboratory QA/QC committee has recently updated applications and created renewal criteria for our Tier 1 and Tier 2 programs. The updated material is currently available on the FHS [website](#) so we encourage everyone to visit this site and participate in improving laboratory QA programs for our aquatic animal health laboratories.

## MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS AND COURSES

## 2023 Joint Meeting of the Northeast Fish Health Committee and the AFS Fish Health Section



### **“Applying Research: Bridging the Gap Between Aquatic Animal Health Research and Inspections”**

**University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont  
July 24 – 27, 2023**

**Call for Papers/Posters** – see attached .pdf for details.

The 2023 Annual Meeting of the AFS Fish Health Section will be held jointly with the Northeast Fish Health Committee (NEFHC) for the first time on July 24-27, 2023 in Burlington, VT! The theme for the meeting is “Applying Research: Bridging the Gap Between Aquatic Animal Health Research and Inspections”. The venue for the meeting is the University of Vermont. Room rates are extremely affordable for Fall in New England; \$79 per night for single and \$59 per person per night for a double. The University is on beautiful Lake Champlain and only a few blocks from the [Church Street Marketplace](#) – Vermont’s award-winning open-air mall featuring over 100 places to shop and dine.

The FHS looks forward to co-hosting this meeting with the NEFHC and provides a tremendous opportunity for learning more about fish health research and topics unique to the Northeast US and provides an opportunity to attract our Canadian colleagues to the meeting.

The meeting will begin on July 24-25 with the Northeast Fish Health Committee Meeting, followed by a Continuing Education Course on July 25<sup>th</sup>, and the FHS meeting will occur on July 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>. We are planning the following special sessions: (1) “Fish Health Research/Topics in the Northeast US, (2) The Role of Thiamine in Fish Health and (3) Freshwater Mussel Health What We Know and Don’t Know, plus several general sessions.

### **REGISTRATION**

Early registration ends **June 24, 2023**. The registration fee (U.S. dollars) includes a reception on Tuesday evening with heavy hors d’oeuvres, electronic workshop proceedings, refreshments at breaks, breakfasts, and luncheons on each of the two full days of the workshop (Wednesday, Thursday), and a banquet dinner on Thursday night. Late registration will incur an additional fee of \$50 (U.S. dollars), for each registration category. Early registration prices are:

NEFHC Meeting Registration (July 24-25)	\$135
Continuing Education Session (July 25)	\$125

FHS Meeting Member Regular Registration (July 26-27)	\$375
FHS Meeting Non-Member Regular Registration (July 26-27)	\$425
FHS Student Registration	\$250
One-Day Registration	\$188
Additional Banquet Ticket	\$ 60
Additional T-Shirt (one is included in general registration cost)	\$ 20

## Lodging

### **University of Vermont**

Rooms for the conference are \$79/night for a single and \$59/person/night for a double.

There are hotels available in the area if you wish to stay off-campus. We do not have contracts with any of the local hotels.

**Directions/Travel:** The University of Vermont is only minutes away from [Burlington International Airport](#). Transportation from the airport to the hotel, such as taxis, Uber, and Lyft, are readily accessible from the airport.

[Rental cars](#) are also available from the airport, and if this option is used, the University does charge \$10/day for parking.

### **Student Travel Awards: *Application deadline May 8, 2023***

The AFS-FHS is pleased to announce that the Snieszko Student Travel Awards will be available to help students with the cost of attending the 2020 Joint Meeting of the NEFHC and the AFS-FHS. These awards of up to \$2000 to allow students (undergraduates, graduates, or veterinary) post-docs or residents to give an oral or poster presentation at the conference. For more details, including application requirements, please refer to <https://units.fisheries.org/fhs/about/awards/>. Please direct all inquiries and submissions to the Chair of the FHS Awards Committee at [sirisaac\\_standish@fws.gov](mailto:sirisaac_standish@fws.gov)

### **Continuing Education:**

A full day of Continuing Education, entitled “**Molecular biology tools: from diagnostics to understanding epidemiology to guide aquatic animal health management**”, will be held on July 25<sup>th</sup>. Molecular biology has revolutionized the aquatic animal health lab, providing accurate and sensitive methods to detect pathogens. As the technology is constantly improving and the price continues to drop, molecular biology techniques can be applied in innovative ways to improve our understanding of aquatic animal health. Though the technology has significantly improved disease diagnostics and pathogen discovery, it has also enhanced our understanding of epidemiology. This continuing education course will cover some of the basics of molecular biology, how such techniques have been used to advance aquatic animal health, and benefits of this research to fish health managers and aquaculturists. Pending final CE committee approval, this session will provide 6 RACE CE credits.

We look forward to seeing all of you at the meeting in June. For additional information please contact: Anita Kelly [amk0105@auburn.edu](mailto:amk0105@auburn.edu) (334-624-4016) or Tom Jones [Tom.Jones@vermont.gov](mailto:Tom.Jones@vermont.gov) (802-793-6781).

**Best Student Presentation and Poster Awards Announcement** – see attached .pdf for details.

## **JOBS/GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS**

### **M.S. assistantship in Catfish Nutrition**

#### **Mississippi State University**

Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Aquaculture

College of Forestry Resources

~20,000/year (before taxes) + tuition + health insurance

Start date: August 2023

#### **Description**

The M.S. student will take classes on the main campus at Starkville, MS, and conduct the research in Stoneville, MS, at the Thad Cochran National Warmwater Aquaculture Center. The student will be trained in the nutritional aspects of catfish aquaculture, ingredient/feed digestibility, nutrition trials, immunological assays, proximate composition analyses, etc.

#### **Required qualifications:**

- B.S. degree in Aquaculture, Fisheries, Nutrition, Microbiology, or related sciences with GPA>3.2
- If the applicant is not a U.S. citizen, then the TOEFL exam for English proficiency must be taken. The TOEFL score should be a minimum of 79.
- Interested candidates should send an e-mail to Dr. Fernando Yamamoto ([fyy5@msstate.edu](mailto:fyy5@msstate.edu)) with the subject line: "M.S. applicant 2023" with C.V. and transcript (B.S.)

### **Zebrafish Related Job Announcements**

<https://wiki.zfin.org/display/jobs/Zebrafish-Related+Job+Announcements>

## **RESOURCES/NEWS**

### **Changing jobs**

FHS Past-President Gary Marty is retiring from his position as a diagnostic fish pathologist with the British Columbia, Canada, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, effective June 9, 2023. He is not retiring from fish pathology; instead, he will continue providing diagnostic, teaching, and research services as a private fish pathology consultant. His new email address is [gdmarty.FPC@telus.net](mailto:gdmarty.FPC@telus.net).



## **We are pleased to announce the AFS-FHS Summer Seminar Series is back for another year!**

Over the past three years, graduate students and early career professionals have had limited chances to network or share their important work. This summer seminar series provides an avenue for young scientists to showcase their work in a time of limited travel budgets and other restrictions.

If you missed the previous year's series, the presentations have been archived here:

<http://z.umn.edu/fishhealthseminar>.

## **We will again be awarding Best Student Paper Awards to support student travel, made possible by our generous sponsors!**

Thanks to generous contributions from our sponsors, we have been able to award 12 student travel awards over the past three years and anticipate the same level of support this year.

### **Want to present?**

This is a low-stakes opportunity for students and early career professionals to introduce themselves to a mix of lab groups from across the country and show off their work. Presentations (20-minute talk followed by 5-minute Q&A) will take place on Thursday afternoons (12-1 pm Central Time) from May 4th - Aug 24th. Eligibility for the best presentation awards will be limited to active AFS-FHS student members so make sure your membership is up-to-date!

Slots are limited and will be allotted in a first come, first serve basis. Preference will be granted to active AFS-FHS student members so update your student membership now!

### **Want to be notified of upcoming seminars?**

Anyone interested in receiving announcements regarding upcoming seminars and abstracts can join the AFS Summer Student Seminar Listserv.

The seminars are free and open to the public - please forward these announcements to your networks. The seminar calendar and Zoom access information will be available mid-April.

### **Important links:**

[Student and early career professional presentation signup.](#)

[AFS-FHS Student Seminar Series Listserv](#)

[Seminar calendar and Zoom access information](#)

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us. We hope to see you this summer!

Matt Griffin ([matt.griffin@msstate.edu](mailto:matt.griffin@msstate.edu))

Megan Shavalier ([shavali1@msu.edu](mailto:shavali1@msu.edu))

Nick Phelps ([phelp083@umn.edu](mailto:phelp083@umn.edu))

**Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership (AADAP) Updates are now available online (**new link**):** <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/aquatic-animal-drug-approval-partnership-update>

## **Best Student Presentation and Poster Awards Announcement**



Students presenting papers or posters at the next AFS-Annual Meeting have the opportunity to compete for the best student presentation and poster awards. The 2023 AFS-Annual meeting is to be held July 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> in Burlington, Vermont, as a joint meeting with the Northeast Fish Health Committee. Best presentation awardees may win up to \$400 and best poster awardees may win up to \$200.

**To compete, students must simply state their interest in competing for the award when submitting their abstract. Students must be members of the FHS to participate.**

Presentations will be judged on:

### **Presentation Content**

1. Introduction: Provides broad conceptual framework and overview of previous work, and the hypothesis and/or objectives are clearly stated
2. Methods: Originality, appropriate use of methods/statistics, and effort required (short vs. long study)
3. Results and Discussion: Significance of contribution, conclusions well supported, relevance of findings to the field, placed in border context, and originality of the work

### **Presentation Style and Delivery**

1. Ability to speak clearly
2. Organization of presentation
3. Quality of presentation graphics/images (meaningful, clearly labeled, etc.)
4. Quality of delivery: Minimal use of jargon, not reading slides, maintain eye contact with audience
5. Time management: met time limits
6. Effect on audience: generated lots of questions, excitement vs. silence

Posters will be judged on:

### **Poster Content**

1. Abstract: Quality of the summary and quality of the writing
2. Introduction: Provides broad conceptual framework and overview of previous work, and the hypothesis and/or objectives are clearly stated
3. Methods: Originality, appropriate use of methods/statistics, and effort required (short vs. long study)
4. Results and Discussion: Significance of contribution, conclusions well supported, relevance of findings to the field, placed in border context, and originality of the work



**Poster Style and Presentation**

1. Adhered to poster layout criteria
2. Emphasis on images/graphic elements over text
3. Visual appearance
4. Organization of poster
5. Quality of presentation graphics/images (meaningful, clearly labeled, etc.)
6. Effect on audience: Generated much attention

Feel free to contact members of the Awards Committee with questions.

Awards Committee

Isaac Standish, Chair ([sirisaac\\_standish@fws.gov](mailto:sirisaac_standish@fws.gov))

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