



- ❖ **You are invited to participate in a Workshop for Aquaculture Genomics, Genetics and Breeding that will be held in Auburn Alabama March 24-25, 2016:** A workshop will be held in Auburn, Alabama focusing on genomics, genetics, and breeding of aquaculture species in the US. The workshop will bring researchers, government officials and industry leaders together to review the current status in aquaculture genomics, genetics, and breeding and discuss existing problems, future goals, gaps, and application of genome-based strategies for breeding. Some of the topics include traditional selective breeding, genome based breeding strategies such as marker-assisted selection, genome selection, genome editing, and analysis of associations of phenotypes and genotypes. You are invited to participate. In order to allow the organizer to assess the number of participants for planning, please send an email note to Dr. John Liu (liuzhan@auburn.edu) if you plan to attend.

- ❖ **The Aquaculture Genome Conference in San Diego was a great success:** The Aquaculture Genomics Conference was held on January 9, 2016 in San Diego, as a part of the International Plant & Animal Genome XXIV meeting (www.intlpaq.org). The conference was a great success. The Aquaculture Genome Workshop was organized by Dr. Mohamed Salem of Middle Tennessee State University. There were 84 attendees representing 18 Countries (US, Canada, Mexico, Norway, Australia, China, Netherlands, Thailand, Malaysia, Germany, Chile, UK, France, New Zealand, Turkey, Columbia, Taiwan, Japan) and 53 institutions. The workshop included four invited presentations, sixteen contributed presentations, and 42 poster presentations.

Congratulations to Dr. Salem and all the participants!

- ❖ **Nathan Campbell is serving as the Chair for Aquaculture this year:** Dr. Nathan Campbell of Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission was elected as Chair for Aquaculture. If you have any suggestions on the Aquaculture Genome Workshop for 2017, please send your suggestions to Nathan (camn@critfc.org).

- ❖ **Geoff Waldbieser elected as Chair-elect for Aquaculture:** Dr. Geoff Waldbieser of USDA ARS was elected as the Chair-elect for Aquaculture. He will serve as Chair in 2018 and run the Aquaculture Genome Workshop that year.

- ❖ **Steve Roberts was elected as Co-coordinator for Aquaculture within NRSP-8:** Dr. Steve Roberts of Washington University was elected as co-coordinator for Aquaculture. He will work with Dr. John Liu to coordinate all the NRSP-8 activities for aquaculture species. The former co-coordinator Dr. Caird Rexroad

took a new position as the national program leader for aquaculture within ARS. We appreciate the great leadership and service Caird has provided to our community, thank you, Caird!

- ❖ **Dr. Mohamed Salem was elected as NRSP-8 Chair-elect for 2017:** NRSP-8 includes cattle, goat and sheep, swine, chicken, horse, aquaculture, and Bioinformatics. The NRSP-8 committee elects a chair each year. This year, Dr. Salem will serve as chair-elect and the next year, he will serve as NRSP-8 chairperson.
- ❖ **Grants/contracts information needed for NRSP-8:** The National Animal Genome Program NRSP-8 is interested in leverage funding activities in all the involved species. If you have received federal, state, industry or private support in the last three years working with aquaculture genome research, please send the information with funding agencies, funding dollar amount, and the title of the projects to Dr. John Liu (liuzhan@auburn.edu) or Steve Roberts (sr320@u.washington.edu).