



Fish Health Section Asian Fisheries Society

Secretariat: SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department, Tigbauan 5021, Iloilo, Philippines
Tel: (63-33) 335-1009, 336-2965, 336-2937; Fax: (63-33) 511-9070
E-mail: afs_fhs@aqd.seafdec.org.ph; Website: <http://afs-fhs.seafdec.org.ph>



FHS/AFS Executive Committee (2002-2005)

The **FHS/AFS Executive Committee for the period 2002-2005** was elected during the **Sixth Triennial General Meeting (TGM-6)** held in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia on 26 November 2002 in conjunction with the **Fifth Symposium on Diseases in Asian Aquaculture (DAA V)**, a triennial symposia organised by the FHS. The elected officials are:



**Chairperson:
Dr. Melba B. Reantaso**

Aquatic Animal Research Pathologist,
Cooperative Oxford Laboratory,
Maryland Department of Natural
Resources, 904 S. Morris Street,
Oxford, MD 21654; Tel: 410-226-
5193; Fax: 410-226-5925;
E-mail: mreantaso@dnr.state.md.us;
melba@goeaston.net

Melba was the Regional Aquatic Animal Health Specialist of the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) from 1999 to 2002 in charged of the Asia-Pacific Aquatic Animal Health Management Programme – and as such managed the Asia-Pacific Quarterly Aquatic Animal Disease Reporting System – in co-operation with FAO and OIE, and FAO's Aquatic Animal Pathogen and Quarantine Information System or AAPQIS – the Asia chapter. She assisted Asian governments in the development and implementation of the National Strategies on Aquatic Animal Health Management, organized and conducted training programmes on various aspects of aquatic animal health management, developed and implemented regional projects to strengthen regional and national aquatic animal health programmes, and promoted co-operation with national, regional and international organizations with mutual interest in aquatic animal health management in the Asia-Pacific region. Melba has 18 years of combined experience in research, training, diagnostics, extension and international aid and project development in aquatic animal health in developing countries (Asia and Latin America). Prior to joining NACA, Melba was a civil servant for 20 years at the Fish Health Section of the Philippine Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources. Melba earned post-doctoral, PhD and MSc degrees on fish diseases at the Nippon Veterinary and Animal University (as Japanese Society for Promotion of Science – JSPS Post-Doctoral Fellow), the University of Tokyo (as Japanese Government - Monbusho scholar), both in Japan, De La Salle University (in the Philippines as an IDRC scholar),

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respectively; and Bachelor of Science degree in Zoology from the University of the Philippines. She has authored and co-authored 30 technical publications on aquatic animal health. Beginning September 2002, she relocated to the United States to take up a post as Aquatic Animal Research Pathologist at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Cooperative Oxford Laboratory based in Oxford, MD where she is involved in planning, conducting and reporting routine and specialized histopathological examinations of natural and experimental shellfish and finfish tissue samples to determine causes and mechanisms of morbidity and mortality, and to monitoring health of Chesapeake Bay aquatic animals. Melba continues cooperative work with FAO and APEC and will be in charge of AAPQIS-North America chapter. A pioneering member of the FHS, Melba served as Secretary/Treasurer from 1999-2002.



Vice-Chairperson: Dr. Takashi Aoki,

Professor, Laboratory of Genetics and Biochemistry, Department of Aquatic Bioscience, Tokyo University of Fisheries, Konan 4-5-7, Minato Tokyo 108-8477; Tel: + 03-53463-0556; Fax: +03-5463-0690; E-mail: aoki@tokyo-u-fish.ac.jp

Aoki is Professor in Fish Genetics and Biochemistry, teaches graduate and undergraduate courses and directs a research program, dealing with fish and shellfish diseases and immunology. Aoki had published extensively on fish and shellfish diseases and immunology and on topics including cloning and characterization of fish and shellfish immune-related genes, characterization of virulence and drug resistance genes of fish pathogenic bacteria, studies and vaccines for aquaculture and molecular diagnostic technique. He is currently President of the Japan Society of Fish Pathology.

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Secretary/Treasurer:
Dr. Peter John Walker,
Associate Professor, Senior Principal
Research Scientist, CSIRO Livestock
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Fax. 61-7-3214-2718, Mob. 041-
707-2603, E-mail:
Peter.Walker@csiro.au

Peter has BSc, MSc, and PhD degrees in biochemistry and virology and has been working as a Senior Principal Research Scientist with CSIRO Livestock Industries in Brisbane and Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Queensland and Griffith University. His technical expertise is in virology and the application of biotechnology to diagnosis and control of viral disease. He has published more than 70 virology research papers and is a member of the Editorial Board of several international virology journals. He is also the Australian member of the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses. In recent years, Peter and his team have focussed on diseases impacting on cultured shrimp production. He has worked extensively in Asia and is a regular consultant to FAO and NACA on issues relating to shrimp health management.



Dr. Supraneer Chinabut
Past FHS/AFS Chairperson:
Director, Aquatic Animal Health Research
Institute (AAHRI) Aquatic Animal Health
Research Institute (AAHRI), Department
of Fisheries, Kasetsart University Campus,
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5613993, E-mail: supraneer@fisheries.go.th

Supraneer is highly experienced and engaged in supervising the routine activities of AAHRI by looking for extra funding support to maintain the research activities and diagnostic service. She provides assistance to AAHRI staff on research related to aquatic

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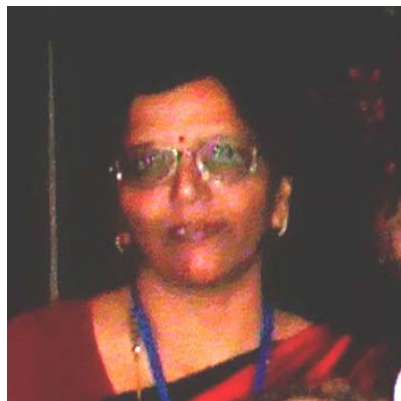


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animal health, organising trainings and workshops both national and international levels (e.g.-Shrimp Health Management Workshop (8 times):- Basic Fish Disease Diagnosis (10 times) and co-operating in various research projects. She holds BSc, MSc, (Auburn University, USA) and PhD (Institute of Aquaculture, Stirling University, U.K.) degrees in fisheries and fish health. She has more than 30 years of experience in research, diagnosis, teaching both national and international in aquatic animal health, authored and co-authored more than 100 technical publications and more than 50 general fisheries articles (1970-2000), editor of AAHRI Newsletter both Thai and English version, attended more than 20 International scientific and technical conference (1980-2000), working closely with many institutions in the region on aquatic animal health, working as thesis supervisor and committee member of more than 30 MSc students, and member Executive Committee of the FHS/AFS between 1997-1999 and Chairperson from 1999-2002.



Dr. Indrani Karunasagar (India). Associate professor, Department of Fishery Microbiology, University of Agricultural Sciences, College of Fisheries, Mangalore 575 002, Karnataka, India. Tel: 0091 824 2246384, 0091 824 2243180 Fax: 0091 824 2246384, 0091 824 2248366; E-mail: mircen@sancharnet.in

Indrani is Associate Professor in Microbiology and Director of the UNESCO MIRCEN for Marine Biotechnology at the College of Fisheries of the University of Agriculture Sciences in Mangalore. She is also scientific advisor to the International Foundation for Science, Sweden and a Member of the Task Force of the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India. Her research interests include molecular diagnostics, bioremediation and probiotics, bacteriophages and shellfish toxins, use of biotechnological tool in health management, public health related pathogens.

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Dr. Agus Sunarto (Indonesia). Fish Health Research Laboratory, Jl. Ragunan 20, Pasar Minggu, Jakarta, Indonesia. Telephone: 62-21-7805052, Fax:62-21-7815101, E-mail: agussunarto@hotmail.com

Agus is a young health professional at Indonesia's Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries with a DVM degree in aquatic bacteriology and MSc in virology. His thesis entitled 'Characterization of white spot syndrome virus (WSSV) from Indonesian shrimp farms and development of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) assay for its detection' was awarded 'The Best Master Thesis of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University Putra Malaysia'. He is currently investigating the role of Koi herpes virus (KHV) on the mass mortality of koi and common carps in Indonesia. He is also responsible for developing surveillance, monitoring and reporting program for the Asia-Pacific Quarterly Aquatic Animal Disease Reporting System. Under an FAO-TCP project, he is actively involved in the establishment of laboratory (Level III – virology and immunology) and development of aquatic animal health information system in Indonesia.



Dr. Kwang-Sik Choi (Korea RO). Associate Professor, School of Applied Marine Science, Cheju National University, 1 Ara 1 Dong Cheju, Cheju 690756, Korea RO, E-mail: skchoi@cheju.ac.kr

Albert is Associate Professor at Cheju National University. His current research interest include: (a) reproductive physiology of marine bivalves (oysters, clams, scallops); (b) bay

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ecosystem modeling using oysters; (c) taxonomy of *Perkinsus* in Korea (rRNA sequences of Perkinsus); (d) epizootiology of *Perkinsus* in clam population; (e) histopathology of marine bivalves including oysters, mussels, clams and scallops; (f) reproductive physiology of the Antarctic clam, *Laternula elliptica* and (g) cellular defense of the clams, *Ruditapes philippinarum*. Albert obtained his MSc and PhD at Texas A&M University.



Dr. Mangalika Hettiarachchi (Sri Lanka),
Senior Lecturer, Department of Zoology, University of Kelaniya, Kelaniya, Sri Lanka. Tel: 94 (0) 1 914479; 911407; Fax: 94 (0) 1 911485; E-mail: dchris@sltnet.lk

Manga, a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Zoology, University of Kelaniya since 1991 also served as the Head/Department of Zoology from 1998 to 2001. Her Department started an M.Sc. Program in Aquaculture and Fisheries Management (first postgraduate program in aquaculture offered in Sri Lanka) in 1997 and she served as the First Coordinator. Currently, Manga represents the University of Kelaniya at the Aquatic Resource Committee of Science and Technical Personnel Development Project funded by Asian Development Bank, a project to control out-breaks of white spot disease in shrimp culture in Sri Lanka. Five M.Sc. students have completed their research projects (related to aquaculture and diseases in aquaculture) under her supervision, while 4 students are carrying out their research projects. One M. Phil student is writing his thesis after completing the research on white spot syndrome in *Penaeus monodon* cultured in Sri Lanka. Manga provides lectures for undergraduate and postgraduate students on general aquaculture and diseases and health management in aquaculture. In addition, she is also a Visiting Lecturer on the same topics for other institutions in Sri Lanka.

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Dr. Chu-Fang Lo (Taiwan).
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Grace is Professor of Zoology at National Taiwan University. Respected by her academic colleagues and appreciated by the aquaculture industry, she has won acclaim both locally and internationally for her work on the White Spot Syndrome Virus (WSSV). Over the last decade, Grace and her associates have conducted research on the virus itself, on the associated disease and on the development of control measures. She is currently investigating gene-based strategies against the disease. Grace is also a Monbusho Scholar and obtained her PhD from University of Tokyo in Japan.



Dr. Pornlerd Chanratchakool (Thailand). Pathologist, Aquatic Animal Health Research Institute (AAHRI) Aquatic Animal Health Research Institute (AAHRI), Department of Fisheries, Kasetsart University Campus, Jatujak, Bangkok 10900, Thailand. Telephone: 66 2 579 6803, Fax: 66 2 5613993, E-mail: pornlerc@fisheries.go.th

Pornlerd works as pathologist at AAHRI. He has more than 10 years of experience in both research and field work, on shrimp diseases and farm management. He is the chief author of the shrimp farm manual "Health management in shrimp ponds". He has been invited to many countries to participate in seminars, workshops and conferences. Pornlerd obtained his PhD from Institute of Aquaculture, Stirling University in U.K.

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Dr. Celia R. Lavilla-Torres (Newsletter Editor): Scientist, Fish Health Section, SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department, Tigbauan 5021, Iloilo, Philippines. www.seafdec.org.ph; Tel: (63-33) 336 2965, Fax: (63-33) 511 9070, E-mail: celiap@aqd.seafdec.org.ph

Celia has a Bachelor's degree in Biology, a Master of Science in Marine Biology, and a Ph.D. in Agriculture major in Fish Pathology. At present, she is a Scientist at the SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department working on fish health research, training and diagnostics. As a researcher, she has worked on luminescent vibriosis of cultured *Penaeus monodon* and *Scylla* spp. and published papers in international journals and proceedings. She is actively involved in training activities at SEAFDEC serving as lecturer and resource person. She is one of the pioneer lecturers and trainers in the long-running course on Fish Health Management offered annually by SEAFDEC with international participants. An on-line version of this course has been produced and offered for the first time in 2002 with 26 students from more than 10 countries. On-line teaching through the internet is a cost-effective way of reaching out to learners and producing trainees. Her involvement with diagnostics has widened her perspective on the disease problems that plague various aquaculture systems. Celia's expertise in fish health was also obtained through her training with various mentors at the Hiroshima University, University of Arizona, Simon Fraser University and the University of Maryland. She and her group at SEAFDEC published a manual on Diseases of Penaeid Shrimps in the Philippines (2000), a textbook for college students on Health Management in Aquaculture (2001), and a fully illustrated manual on Husbandry and Health Management of Grouper (2001). She also served as co-editor of the proceedings on the Use of Chemicals in Aquaculture in Asia (2000) and Diseases in Asian Aquaculture IV (2002). She served as member of the NACA Regional Working Group (1998-2000) that developed quarantine guidelines and health certification system for the responsible movement of aquatic animals in the Asia-Pacific. At present, she is a member of NACA's Advisory Group on Fish Health Management in Asia. Her involvement in the Executive Committee of the FHS/AFS dated from 1993 --- as member (1993-1996), Chairperson (1996-1999), and Newsletter Editor (1999 to present).

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	Dr. Agus Sunarto (Indonesia)
	Dr. Kwang-Sik Choi (Korea RO)
	Prof. Chu-Fang Lo (Taiwan)
	Dr. Mangalika Hettiarachchi (Sri Lanka)
	Dr. Pornlerd Chanratchakool (Thailand)
Newsletter Editor	Dr. Celia Lavilla-Torres (Philippines)

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