

*As this issue of **World Aquaculture** magazine enters the final stages of preparation, we have received the sad news about the passing of Meryl Broussard after a long battle with cancer. Meryl was President of WAS from 1996-1997 and was instrumental in establishing aquaculture as a presence within the USDA from the time he first joined the organization in 1985. WAS Past President Bob Stickney, who was Meryl's Ph.D. advisor at Texas A&M University, and Nick Parker and Ken Davis, former colleagues from Memphis State University, with input from others, are preparing a career summary that will be published in the September issue of the magazine.*



The WAS 50th Anniversary celebration spearheaded by Dr. Craig Browdy was also a success. The official reception was attended by 22 Past-presidents, 12 Fellows, and 9 Honorary Life Members. Dr. Robin Overstreet and Dr. Tom Zeigler attended and were recognized as founding and continuous members for 50 years. Past-presidents Dr. Paul Sandifer (1979), Dr. Maria Célia Portella (2018), and Dr. Craig Browdy (2002) toasted the attendees, thanking all for their contributions to the Society and its mission. There were 22 exhibitors with 20 years or more of

participation in WAS tradeshows. I hope you noticed the Anniversary plaques in their booths. The Celebration continues throughout 2019 at various conferences. WAS members with 25 or more years of membership should remember to pick up your anniversary pins and certificates at the registration booth at upcoming WAS meetings.

During her term as President, Dr. Maria Célia Portella tasked an ad hoc Strategic Planning Committee to draft a 5-year strategic plan for the World Aquaculture Society for 2020-2025. The Committee consists of Dr. Mike Denson (Chair), Dr. Wendy Sealey, Dr. Kathleen Hartman, Dr. Humberto Villarreal, Dr. Antonio Garza de Yta, Dr. Rohana Subasinghe, Dr. Miguel Costa Leal, Dr. Portella (ex officio) and myself (ex officio). The group has been meeting since October 2018 through several webinars and a full day session at AQUA 2019. I have provided a draft to the WAS Board of Directors, the Past-Presidents Committee and the WAS Fellows Committee to request comments and advice. The Committee feels their shared knowledge and experiences with WAS and other professional organizations can provide additional perspective to our deliberations. The Committee intends to incorporate suggested changes into the final document and present back to the Board at the Mid-Year Business meeting at LACAQUA 19 for final approval.

There is nothing more vital to an organization than the membership's trust that elections are held in an honest and fair manner. An election of WAS Officers, Directors, and Bylaws changes was held during December 19, 2018 to February 03, 2019. However, due to electronic voting irregularities, the Board of Directors decided to void the result and ask the membership to re-vote on the same ballot. These irregularities resulted in the Election Committee and the Board being unable to differentiate between legitimate votes and block voting attempts. Several procedures were initiated to insure that voter ID is

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12)

First, I want to thank the membership for allowing me to serve as President of the World Aquaculture Society. This is the pinnacle of my professional service and I hope that I can help manage the operations of our Society. My immediate predecessor, Dr. Maria Célia Portella, was able to accomplish an amazing amount during her seven-month term as President. I am indeed fortunate to be able to have her assistance and guidance during my term. I also want to acknowledge the service of Dr. Bill Daniels, outgoing Past-president. Bill has the distinction of the longest length of continuous service to WAS as a Director and Officer. With the 50th Anniversary celebration and Board meetings in New Orleans, we missed the opportunity to properly recognize Bill for his accomplishments and service. Dr. Darryl Jory and Dr. Antonio Garza de Yta ended their terms as Directors in New Orleans. It was my pleasure to serve with these individuals and I look forward to working with those coming on board.

I hope you were able to join us at Aquaculture 2019 in New Orleans. The Triennial conference was the most successful to date, with 3500 participants from 85 countries. A special thanks to Steering Committee Members Dr. Sandy Shumway, Dr. Mike Denson, Dr. Michael Masser, and Paul Zajcek for their hard work. Program Committee Chairs Dr. Jay Parsons and Dr. Sandy Shumway organized 104 sessions with 1350 speakers and 225 poster presentations. The Trade Show was at full capacity with 205 booths. A huge part of the success of these conferences continues to be due to WAS Executive Director John Cooksey and his management team, along with support from WAS Home Office staff Carol Mendoza and Judy Andrasko.

## CONTENTS *(continued)*

2	President's Column	10	African Chapter Report
3	Editor's Note	10	Asian Pacific Chapter Report
5	USAS Chapter Report	70	Conference Calendar
6	Korean Chapter Report	71	Future Conferences and Expositions
8	Latin American and Caribbean Chapter Report	72	Membership Application

## PRESIDENT, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

secure and to prevent proxy voting. These changes include member IDs no longer being used as passwords and computer software code that can detect proxy voting attempts. We regret the imposition to both the candidates and the membership due to the re-vote but sincerely felt that the integrity of the election process demanded the delay.

The Society is eagerly awaiting the next two Chapter Conferences. The Asian Pacific Chapter is hard at work on the Asian

Pacific Aquaculture (APA'19) Conference and Exposition to be held June 19-21, 2019 in Chennai, India. LACQUA19 will be the 2019 Annual meeting of the Latin American & Caribbean Chapter held November 19-22, 2019 in San José, Costa Rica. San José will be the site for the WAS Board of Directors Mid-year meeting. I look forward to seeing the WAS Board, the LACC Board, and members in beautiful Costa Rica!  
— *Jimmy L. Avery, President*

## AFRICA CHAPTER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

around 850 people from Egypt, Africa and worldwide will attend Africa Aquaculture 2020. In addition, around 135 Egyptian and international aquaculture commercial companies will be part of the trade show.

As a big boost to aquaculture development in Africa, this First Aquaculture Africa Conference 2020 will be a good opportunity to define the course to take. Different technical and administration tools are needed to support the continent's developmental agenda because currently aquaculture is only contributing less than 2 million t, or around 2.5 percent of global aquaculture.

In this regard, we are indebted to the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation that has agreed to be the main hosting agency, with its affiliated agencies such as the General Authority for Fish Resources Development, the Central Laboratory for Aquaculture Research and WorldFish. The Egyptian Aquaculture Society, with its volunteer membership of over 350 and also a key affiliate of WAS, will also be instrumental in planning and hosting this conference and exposition.

I am also appreciative of the gesture demonstrated by other par-

ties in supporting this big upcoming event, such as by Aller Aqua (our Chapter Founding Gold Sponsor), Skretting Egypt and some Egyptian academic institutions. We continue to welcome more parties and collaborators on board. The African Union Development Agency (formerly NEPAD) has promised to walk the journey with us.

With reference to the structure and governance of the Chapter, I promised in my previous chapter report to discuss our intentions to elect a permanent board for the Chapter, as we have been operating under an Interim Board since Chapter inception. The nomination process has just started and after elections we hope to have our first substantive permanent board by next quarter, a team that is willing to serve and take the chapter forward.

I urge and remind all aquaculture stakeholders from within Africa and from outside Africa with interest in aquaculture in Africa to join WAS or renew your memberships such that you continue to enjoy many of the benefits in store. On the registration portal, do not forget to choose the African Chapter as the chapter of choice.

Let's all team together and build the African Chapter we want!  
— *Sherif Sadek, Interim President*

## ASIAN PACIFIC CHAPTER, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

to learn many things and provided an opportunity to expand my professional network, which has greatly benefitted the students and faculty of my university. Many undergraduate students have been sent out to foreign countries for their internship for the first time and I am sure that those students have seen the light of experience and are happy with their international exposure. These sorts of activities brings a feeling of fulfilment and I am thankful to the board and will be happy to see its growth in the coming years!

I thank all the steering committee members of APA19 and the conference management team, especially John Cooksey, Mario Stael and Noah Cooksey, for doing such a wonderful job. I also thank the APC Chapter secretary Ms. Nate and national organizing secretary Ms. Menaga for contributing a lot to the APA19 meeting. I also thank all the program chairs, session chairs and co-chairs, ICAR fisheries institutes and state fisheries universities, sponsors and industry people who have participated and made this event successful.

One of the important benefits of your WAS membership is free online access to all issues of the Journal of the World Aquaculture Society (JWAS). As always, we strongly encourage

members of the APC to support the journal and submit your quality manuscripts to JWAS. I also would like to remind you that the APC is posting selected magazine articles translated to Chinese on the APC website. Now WAS has a strategic partnership with the Global Aquaculture Alliance (GAA) and you'll benefit much by having membership in two major organizations with a single payment.

The next APC conference (World Aquaculture 2020) will be held in Singapore on 8-12 June 2010. I encourage your active participation in this major international conference. I finish this column by wishing that all of you – scientists, students, producers and all aquaculture enthusiasts – keep working hard to improve sustainable aquaculture production in the APC region.

I thank all APC members for entrusting me with the leadership of our chapter and I am grateful to our staff and governing board members for their tireless efforts on behalf of the organization. On behalf of the APC Board of Directors, I invite each one of you to get engaged in WAS. This is YOUR society and its strength and success depend on YOU!

— *S. Felix, President*