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one-stop website or fact sheet to address the misinformation that is out there so we can direct the inquiries like "I don't eat farmed fish because it is full of antibiotics and bad for you" to a science-based rebuttal to many of those ill-informed consumers. There is so much great research and factual, science-based information available; we just have to figure out how to get it directly to consumers. I believe this is happening through membership growth, academic programs and social media. However, an organization is only as strong as its members and it is empowered by their input and participation. I encourage members to become involved, volunteer on committees and send thoughts and comments to the USAS board.

Finally, it is vital that we continue working together to change the negative perception aquaculture has had to battle against to move forward. We must continue our efforts by having good educational information for the industry, consumers, bankers, doctors, educators and present science-based facts, the growing opportunities within the aquaculture industry and the future.

Again, thank you and I look forward to an exciting year of hard work alongside you to meet and exceed the goals of the USAS Chapter of the World Aquaculture Society to promote U.S. aquaculture through increased educational efforts. Thank you for your support and ideas and input because they are always welcome and appreciated. — Angela Caporelli, USAS President

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