



The American Fisheries Society Genetics Section Newsletter

Volume 21, Issue 2
May 2008



In This Issue:

President's Message • Wright Award • Salmon Genetics Conference Announcement • Obituary •
Newsletter Submissions • Upcoming Events

President's Message

Dear Genetics Section Members,

I hope everybody is saving up their loonies and toonies for the **AFS Annual Meeting** in Ottawa. Program chair and soon to be section president **Kim Scribner** has participated in organizing two fine symposia: "Contributions of genetic principles and technology to sustainable fisheries: concepts, challenges, and case studies" organized by **Chris Wilson** and **Kim Scribner**, and "Cultured aquatic animals: Use and implications for stock enhancement, fisheries management and species diversity" co-sponsored with the Fish Culture Section. The first symposium will take place on Thursday August 21 while the second will take place over two days, Wednesday and Thursday August 20-21. Descriptions of the symposia can be found on the meeting web site at <http://www.fisheries.org/afs08/program.html>.

The section held a successful election with electronic ballots under the direction of past-president Jeff Hard. A total of 45 ballots were received (about 25% of section members voted) and we've elected a new Secretary-Treasurer and President-Elect. The results of the election will be announced at the section's annual business meeting in Ottawa. The **Genetics Section Business Meeting** is tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 16, in the Tudor Room of the Chateau Laurier from 5-6 PM, just prior to the trade show social. We'll also be announcing the winners of the 2008 James Wright Student Travel Award and the Stevan Phelps Memorial Award for the best genetic paper published in an AFS journal in 2007. Finally, at that meeting I'll be passing the gavel to **Kim Scribner**, who will be serving as section president for the next two years. It's been an honor to serve as the president of this section and I plan to be active and contribute to the section for many years to come.

The application deadline is rapidly approaching for the **James E. Wright Award** to support travel to the annual meeting. The section will also be supporting travel for two students to attend the Coastwide Salmonid Genetics Conference in Olympia, Washington, and is contributing \$100 to the AFS Equal Opportunity Section to support travel to the annual meeting for under-represented groups. I'm happy that the section spends as much as it does to support student travel and I hope we can do even more in the future.

Finally, I'll be attending the AFS Governor's Board meeting in Ottawa prior to the start of the meeting. As always, if you have any concerns about the section, including action items to be presented before the governing board on the section's behalf, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Ed Heist

AFS Genetics Section President

Deadline SOON for James E. Wright Graduate Award

The Genetics Section of the American Fisheries Society is pleased to announce the **James E. Wright Graduate Award**. The Genetics Section's graduate student award is given in the memory of Jim Wright, one of the founders of fish genetics research and education in North America. The work of Jim Wright and his students combined classical chromosome studies and allozyme inheritance and helped shape our understanding of the salmonid genome.

This award is presented annually at the Genetics Section meeting at the AFS Annual Meeting and is intended to recognize excellence in graduate-level work in fisheries genetics and to assist graduate students with travel to the national meeting. In 2007 the section awarded Jocelyn Lin of the University of Washington with a \$700 check to help attend the 2007 meeting in San Francisco. The section anticipates awarding two checks for \$500 each to attend the 2008 AFS annual meeting in Ottawa.

Selection will be based on the following criteria:

1. Potential for success in research in fisheries genetics (60%)
2. Anticipated contribution to upcoming annual meeting, e.g. paper, poster, or other contribution (20%)
3. Service to the Society, its Sections, or Chapters (10%)
4. Demonstrated need for travel assistance (10%)

Application Procedure:

The applicant must be a full or affiliate member of the Genetics Section at the time of application. The application package should include:

1. A brief curriculum vitae including anticipated degree, date of completion, and career goals
2. A statement of the thesis or dissertation and abstract of progress to date
3. The names and addresses of two references familiar with the applicant's background and abilities.
4. A statement of previous service to the Society, its Sections, or Chapters, and need for travel assistance.
5. A statement addressing anticipated contribution to the upcoming annual meeting.

Deadline for application is: **May 18, 2008**

All application materials should be addressed to: Jeffrey B. Olsen, Conservation Genetics Laboratory, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99503; ph (907) 786-3598; e-mail: jeffrey_olsen@fws.gov

Coastwide Salmonid Genetics Conference

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Molecular Genetics Laboratory will co-host the **Coastwide Salmonid Genetics Conference**, June 6 –7, 2008, at the Phoenix Inn & Suites in downtown Olympia, WA (see <http://wdfw.wa.gov/genetics/> for information) with the NPIC chapter of the AFS. Beginning in 1987, representatives from west coast genetic laboratories specializing in fish genetics have met biennially to present results and discuss technologies to foster collaboration and information sharing. The demands on genetic laboratories are increasing with the needs for greater amounts of genetic data at refined geographic scope and levels of precision. The objectives of the meeting are to improve communication among genetics laboratories and to highlight genetic research conducted on Pacific salmonid species. This meeting will provide a vehicle for needed debate and discussion of fisheries related topics.

Scott M. Blankenship

Biologist/Geneticist, Washington Department Fish and Wildlife

In Remembrance: George Ridgway

An era in the initial applications of genetic markers to identify and manage fish populations ended when **George Ridgway** passed away on February 16th at the age of 85. With a Ph.D. in microbiology, George initially joined the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Western Fish Nutrition Laboratory in Cook Washington in 1953. He transferred to the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Montlake Laboratory (then under the Fish and Wildlife Service) in Seattle in 1955. There he established an immunological research group intended to use heritable differences in blood groups and proteins to identify continental origins of salmon harvested in international waters under the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission. He transferred to the BCF Boothbay Harbor Laboratory in Maine in 1964 and ended his career at Woods Hole Laboratory. He initiated a continuity of management-related genetic research in the Pacific Northwest where his initial visions were perpetuated and ultimately fulfilled. He will be remembered for this achievement and for being a true scholar and a gentleman.

Fred M. Utter

How would Chuck Norris advertise HIS symposium?!?

He'd TELL his AFSGS editor to post it in the newsletter...THAT's what Chuck Norris would do! Let the membership know about your upcoming symposia, seminars, postdocs and internships by emailing the editor at jcarlin@gustavus.edu. Submissions are due the week following the AFS meeting on **August 28**.

Joel Carlin, Newsletter Editor

Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 2008

May 15 — Abstract submission deadline for **Coastwide Salmonid Genetics Conference**. Jun 6-7, Phoenix Inn & Suites, Olympia, Washington. See wdfw.wa.gov/genetics/coastwide_meeting.htm.

May 18 — Abstract submission deadline for 8th **International Congress on the Biology of Fish**. Jul 28 – Aug 1, Portland, Oregon. See fishbiologycongress8.usgs.gov.

May 24 — Application deadline for the AFS Genetics Wright Award. See this newsletter for details, or www.fisheries.org/units/genetics/awards/index.htm

May 31 — Abstract submission deadline for XX **International Congress of Zoology**. Aug 26-29, Jussieu Grand Campus, Paris France. See icz2008.snv.jussieu.fr/.

June

Jun 1 — Abstract submission deadline for **North American Lake Management Society Symposium**. Nov 11-14, Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada. See www.nalms.org/Conferences/2008LakeLouise/Default.aspx.

Jun 3-4 — 53rd Annual Meeting of the **Great Lakes Fishery Commission**. Wyndham Cleveland Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio. See www.glf.org.

Jun 4-7 — American Genetics Association special symposium: **Genetics and genomics of behavior**. North Carolina State University, Raleigh NC. See www.agasymposium2008.org.

Jun 5-8 — Annual Meeting of the Society for **Molecular Biology and Evolution**, Barcelona, Spain. See smbe2008.com/index.htm.

Jun 6-7 — Coastwide Salmonid Genetics Conference. Phoenix Inn & Suites, Olympia, Washington. See wdfw.wa.gov/genetics/coastwide_meeting.htm.

Jun 8-13 — 2008 **ASLO Summer Meeting**. St. John's Newfoundland Canada. See www.aslo.org/meetings/stjohns2008/.

Jun 13 — Travel funds application deadline for 2008 **ICES Annual Science Conference**. Sep 22-26, World Trade and Convention Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. See www.ices.dk/iceswork/asc/2008/index.asp.

Jun 19-24 — **Evolution 2008**. Joint meetings of the Society of Systematic Biology, Society for the Study of Evolution, and the American Society of Naturalists. University of Minnesota, Minneapolis MN. See www.evolution2008.org.

Jun 29-July 3 — 74th Annual **American Malacological Society** Meeting. SIUC Student Center, Carbondale Illinois. See www.dce.siu.edu/conferences/080204malacological.htm.

July

Jul 7-11 — 11th International **Coral Reef Symposium**, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. See www.nova.edu/ncri/11icrs.

Jul 13-18 — 22nd Annual Meeting of the **Society for Conservation Biology** and the **Freshwater Mollusc Conservation Society**, Chattanooga Convention Center, Chattanooga TN. See www.conbio.org/activities/meetings/2008/.

Jul 14 — Abstract deadline for 11th **Flatfish Biology Conference**. Dec 3-4, Water's Edge Resort and Spa, Westbrook, CT. See mi.nefsc.noaa.gov/flatfishbiologyworkshop

Jul 21-25 — Annual International Symposium of the **Fisheries Society of the British Isles**. Cardiff, United Kingdom www.Fsbi.org.uk/2008.

Jul 23-28 — **Ich's and Herp's '08**: Annual Meetings of American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists and the American Elasmobranch Society. Le Centre Sheraton Montréal Hotel, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. See www.dce.ksu.edu/conf/jointmeeting/.

Jul 28-Aug 1 — 8th **International Congress on the Biology of Fish**. Portland, Oregon, fishbiologycongress8.usgs.gov.

August

Aug 16 — **AFS Genetics Section Business Meeting**. Tudor Room of the Chateau Laurier from 5-6 PM (meeting time tentative).

Aug 17-21 — **American Fisheries Society 138th Annual Meeting**. Ottawa Congress Centre and Westin Hotel, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. See www.fisheries.org/afs08/.

Aug 28 — Submission deadline for the September **AFS Genetics Newsletter**. Email the editor at jcarlin@gustavus.edu.

Aug 26-29 — **XX International Congress of Zoology**. Jussieu Grand Campus, Paris France. See icz2008.snv.jussieu.fr/.

September-October

Sep 22-26 — 2008 **ICES Annual Science Conference**. World Trade and Convention Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. See www.ices.dk/iceswork/asc/2008/index.asp.

- Sep 25 — Early registration deadline for **IUCN World Conservation Congress**, Oct 5-14, Barcelona, Spain. See cms.iucn.org/news_events/events/congress/index.cfm.
- Oct 5-14 — **IUCN World Conservation Congress**. Barcelona, Spain. See cms.iucn.org/news_events/events/congress/index.cfm.
- Oct 12-15 — **SEAFWA 2008**: 62nd Annual Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Corpus Christi, Texas. See www.seafwa2008.org
- Oct 15 — Grant deadline for **Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research**. See www.sigmaxi.org/programs/giar/index.shtml
- Oct 15 — Student abstract submission deadline for **Sigma Xi Annual Meeting** and Student Research Conference. Nov 20-23, Marriott Renaissance Hotel, Washington DC. www.sigmaxi.org/meetings/annual/index.shtml
- Oct 20-24 — **Fifth World Fisheries Congress**. Pacifico Yokohama, Japan. See www.5thwfc2008.com

The American Fisheries Society Genetics Section May 2008 Newsletter

Volume 21, Issue 2

[President's Message](#) • [Wright Award](#) • [Salmon Genetics Conference Announcement](#) •
[Obituary](#) • [Newsletter Submissions](#) • [Upcoming Events](#)

[Return to Top](#)