

## **Minutes for the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual UJNR Aquaculture Panel Meeting**

The 36<sup>th</sup> Joint Meeting of the UJNR Aquaculture Panel was conducted from October 29-November 2 at the University of New Hampshire, Cape Cod (Massachusetts), and Milford (Connecticut). The business meeting and symposium were held The New England Center, on the University of New Hampshire campus, on October 29-30<sup>th</sup> with a mini symposium held at NOAA's Northeast Fisheries Science Center's Milford Laboratory on November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2007. The theme of the symposium was "Aquaculture Technologies for Invertebrates".

### **Opening Remarks**

Dr. Robert Iwamoto, chairman of the US panel, opened the meeting and welcomed, Dr. Hiroshi Nakano, chairman of the Japanese panel and the Japanese delegation. Dr. R. Iwamoto expressed his gratitude, on behalf of the US panel, to Dr. H. Nakano and members of Japanese delegation for traveling so far to the meeting. He also emphasized the significance of the UJNR Aquaculture Panel and noted that the past 36 years of cooperation and collaboration between Japan and the US have been of extraordinary benefit to the US. He also commented on the important role scientific exchanges have played in the success of the UJNR Aquaculture Panel and in serving as a bridge for technical and cultural exchange, particularly for our younger colleagues in both nations.

Dr. H. Nakano expressed his interest in this year's theme and indicated that the UJNR Aquaculture Panel was a very important and active panel under the UJNR framework. Dr. H. Nakano expressed his gratitude, on behalf of the Japanese panel, to the US delegation for hosting the meeting. Finally he indicated that he looked forward to having a very productive meeting.

### **Procedural Matters**

Panel members and visitors introduced themselves. Dr. R. Iwamoto requested the agenda for this meeting to be adopted and all parties agreed.

### **Scientist Exchange and Literature Exchange**

Dr. Kazumasa Ikuta, Deputy Secretary General of the Japanese panel reported that 6 Japanese individuals had traveled to the U.S. for collaborative research since the previous UJNR meeting. Dr. Michael Rust, Vice-Chairman of the US panel reported three additional collaborations during the period, bringing the total to 9 for the year. Topics of the exchanges included biotechnology, offshore aquaculture, abalone life history, physiology and genetics. Dr. K. Ikuta also pointed out that there had been 18 scientists traveling to the US for 4 different symposia, meetings or workshops. This included meetings on stock enhancement, salmon management, and fish health.

Dr. K. Ikuta reported that the current literature from Japan included 123 citations. Dr. M. Rust reported the number of the reports from the U.S. side was 45. The US documents

were prepared by Eileen McVey at the NOAA library and were being shipped by her to Dr. K. Ikuta at his address in Mie.

In other business, Dr. K. Ikuta reported that there were 6 additional opportunities being arranged for future scientific exchanges or for management issues relating to UJNR. These include opportunities for he and other Japanese scientists to visit US offshore aquaculture sites (Hawaii) and an offshore site in Korea that was started with US assistance. Dr. M. Rust thanked him for the report.

### **Status of proceedings**

Dr. R. Iwamoto reported that the proceedings of the 34<sup>th</sup> UJNR were published and copies were available in the panel member's packets. In addition 150 copies had been sent to Dr. K. Ikuta's office in Mie. The proceedings is also available for download as a pdf file at the UJNR home page or the home page of the Northwest Fisheries Science Center.

Dr. K. Ikuta mentioned that the papers for the proceedings of the 35<sup>th</sup> UJNR Symposium will be sent to Dr. M. Rust for editing before being published in a supplement to the Bulletin of the Japanese Fisheries Agency. Dr. Ikuta requested that this be done quickly so it can be published before the next UJNR meeting. Dr. M. Rust agreed that it was important. Dr. M. Rust and Dr. Robert Stickney, panel member, will start editing as soon as the papers are available.

### **Pending Issues**

Dr. M. Rust introduced the proposal to change the literature exchange. At the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual UJNR panel meeting, Dr. M. Rust proposed examination of the current literature exchange conducted as a UJNR function. The US side prepared a written proposal during the year for the Japanese panel to consider.

Current computer based searching capabilities has reduced the need to provide selected literature reviews on the broad topics of aquaculture. At the same time much of the Japanese literature written in Japanese remains difficult for US researcher to access. The US proposes consideration of several options, including any other ideas coming from the Japanese side as potential changes to the literature exchange program.

The suggested options are:

- 1) Keep the exchange as is with no change
- 2) Do away with the literature exchange with no replacement
- 3) Focus the exchange on the topic of the science symposium generally either
  - a. With a synopsis of the key findings of each of the papers (annotated literature exchange)

- b. Without a synopsis of the key findings of the papers
- 4) Focus the exchange on the topic of the science symposium and request each presenter to provide a list and brief synopsis of 3-5 key papers in his field and relating to the topic of his presentation. This list to be assembled prior to the meeting by each side.
- 5) Other possibilities to be suggested

Dr K. Ikuta responded that the Japanese Panel thinks suggestion #4 is the most efficient way in order to reduce efforts and improve the exchange. Japan will also provide the table of contents from the annual technical reports of prefecture fisheries research stations. The Japanese panel also concluded that we should utilize Aquatic Science and Fisheries Abstracts (ASFA) more. The new policy should be applied starting with the 37th meeting. Details on the exact format and instructions to speakers can be worked out by the secretariats by email after the 36<sup>th</sup> UJNR to be ready for the 37<sup>th</sup> UJNR. Speakers should provide reprints for the exchange if possible.

Dr. R. Iwamoto brought up the proposal first made at the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual UJNR panel meeting, to form a working group to produce a history of UJNR accomplishments. The US panel prepared a written proposal which the Japanese side to considered during the time between meetings.

The US proposed that a small working group formed of 2-3 long standing members or emeritus members from each side produce a document focused on accomplishments made by UJNR over the past 35 years. This document will be used as a historical background document for those interested in UJNR and, more importantly, for each side to document to their respective agencies the value of a robust UJNR aquaculture panel.

The specific objectives of this working group are:

- 1) Describe, in text, charts, tables and photos a brief history of UJNR
- 2) Document, to the greatest extent possible, specific advancements made by collaborative studies, scientific exchanges, student exchanges, meetings and literature exchanges.
- 3) Produce a presentation on these accomplishments for the 37<sup>th</sup> UJNR panel.
- 4) Produce a written document suitable for publication by UJNR as a NOAA Technical Memo or other format to be delivered to the UJNR panel no later than at the 37<sup>th</sup> panel meeting.

The US nominates the following individuals to the working group if approved by Japan: Dr. Conrad Mahnken, (Emeritus Member and former US Chair), Dr. James McVey, (Emeritus Member and former US Chair) and Dr. Charles Helsley, (Emeritus Member)

Dr. K. Ikuta responded that the Japanese panel agrees with the US's suggestion of the working group. The Japanese panel nominates Dr. Toshihiko Matsusato (Emeritus

Member and former Japanese Chair), Dr. Masaru Fujiya (Emeritus Member and former Japanese Chair), and Dr. Kunihiro Fukusho (Emeritus Member) to the working group on the Japan side. In addition, we would like to ask Dr. Atsushi Furukawa (Emeritus Chair) to contribute a brief article. Japan Panel Board Member suggested that this work is very important for both US and Japan to appeal the achievement of UJNR activities and exhibit the direction of R&D of aquaculture toward the future. Therefore UJNR secretariats should strongly support this task. The Japan panel suggests that the US work group members draft the report and ask the Japanese work group members to add to the US draft.

Dr. R. Iwamoto agreed with Dr. K. Ikuta's comments and further commented that although the task may be a challenging one to complete in a year, it is extremely important that we endeavor to accomplish that goal.

### **New Business**

Dr. K. Ikuta reported that a participant of the past UJNR symposium claimed that he has received much more spam emails from the US after he attended UJNR. He thinks that his e-mail address in the proceedings placed on UJNR home page was searched by some spam companies. FRA is managing it's home page using Java Scripts to avoid this kind of problem. However, proceedings and abstracts are pasted as pdf text files on the UJNR home page. Dr. K. Ikuta suggested that the simplest measure is to change the character of "@" in all email addresses to a different character. The measure could be applied after the 36<sup>th</sup> meeting when we place the abstracts and other materials on the home page.

Dr. M. Rust reported that, starting with the abstracts from the current meeting we will substitute the word "at" with a space before and after in place of the symbol "@" in all email addresses to try and foil the auto-harvester technology used by spammers. A notice to this effect will be placed in the front of publications so the intent is clear to the readers and those with a legitimate need for the email addresses.

Dr. K. Ikuta asked if the presentations would be placed on the homepage. After some discussion, it was agreed that the presentations would only be placed on the home page if the author requested it.

Dr. K. Ikuta announced two international symposia to be held by FRA in Japan in association with the World Fisheries Congress. One is The First International Symposium on Asari Clam Stock Enhancement and Management and the other is the International Symposium on Current Status and Future Development of Tuna Aquaculture. Both will be held October 25-26, 2008 in Yokohama immediately after the World Fish Congress. Dr. K. Ikuta provided some flyers announcing the meetings which were made available at the UJNR science symposium. Dr. M. Rust responded that the flyers had also been included in the business meeting agenda and science symposium documents.

Dr. M. Rust reported an initiative by NOAA to address the future of feeds for farmed fish. The US proposed a panel of international experts be formed to address fish feed issues. The intention would be to have the expert panel meet in January to develop a document with a public report of the findings in late spring 2008. The objective is to address the misconceptions surrounding fish feeds and to guide future research and development efforts. Dr. K. Ikuta responded that the Japanese panel is very interested in this effort and they've agreed to provide two scientists to join the panel. Dr. M. Rust will provide information and details to Dr. Takao Yoshimatsu, Secretary of the Japanese Panel.

#### Plans for the 37<sup>th</sup> UJNR meeting

Dr. K. Ikuta announced that the Japanese Panel is planning to have the 37<sup>th</sup> UJNR meeting in association with the World Fisheries Conference held in Yokohama on Oct. 20-24, 2008 and the two satellite symposia previously discussed on Oct. 25-26. Therefore, the 37<sup>th</sup> UJNR Meeting will be held on Oct. 27- Nov. 1 around Yokohama. There will likely be a field trip to the National Research Institute of Fisheries Engineering in Ibaraki. Dr. R. Iwamoto thanked the Japanese panel for such interesting plans and looks forward to the meeting next year.

#### Plans for the 36<sup>th</sup> UJNR science symposium

Dr. Richard Langan, science symposium organizer, reported on the details and schedule for the science symposium.

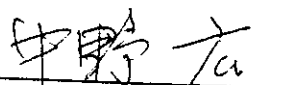
Dr. M. Rust explained the itinerary for the field trip.

#### Acknowledgements

Dr. R. Iwamoto expressed his gratitude to the panel members and visitors involved in this meeting for their efforts. He also thanked the interpreter for her contribution. Dr. Nakano also added his gratitude to all the participants.

#### Conclusion

Since the business had been concluded, the 36<sup>th</sup> UJNR business meeting was adjourned. These minutes were signed on November 2, 2007 in Milford, Connecticut.



Dr. Hiroshi Nakano  
Japan Chairman



Dr. Robert Iwamoto  
U.S. Chairman