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# Fish and Shellfish Immunology

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## Editorial

### Welcome to ISFSI2019



Fish and seafood are currently presented as one of the star products to supply the growing world population with food sources from the sea. This intensification causes the increase of pathologies that threaten world food security. Knowledge of the health of aquatic animals is of vital importance to counteract this effect of intensification. Aquatic animal health professionals and researchers from around the world are playing a crucial role in protecting the health status of aquatic animals. Basic and applied research in fish and shellfish immunology is important, and supports the management and response to infectious pathogens, and prevents the spread of aquatic animal diseases.

The history of the one that precedes this current version of the Society dates back to 1990 where fish immunologists from all the Nordic countries started a collaboration to reduce diseases in aquaculture. The first meeting of this immunology group was held in Copenhagen in 1990. This group was called The Nordic Society of Fish Immunology (NOFFI). After that, the NOFFI meetings took place in Tromsø, Norway (1991), Lysekil, Sweden (1993), Reykjavik, Iceland (1995), Hirtshals, Denmark (1998), Oslo, Norway (2001) and Turku, Finland (2004). In 2007, the NOFFI company decided to change its name to the European Fish Immunology Organization (EOFFI) to extend its activities to other countries besides the Nordic territory. The change led to meetings that take place outside the Nordic countries: Scotland (2007) and Viterbo, Italy (2010), where it was decided to establish a new International Society of Fish Immunology and Seafood (ISFSI). In this new society, the immunology of shellfish was included for the first time. ISFSI was established in 2010, and the first meeting with this name was held in Vigo (Spain) in 2013 and its last edition was in 2016 in Maine (USA).

In the last 20 years, advances in understanding the immune responses of a wide variety of fish and shellfish species have been many.

The rapid development of research in mucosal immunology, the massive increase in the understanding of host-pathogen interactions and the incredible knowledge gained from research in functional genomics, the application of functional diets to modulate the immune system are just some of the progress achieved. On this occasion, the University Institute of Aquaculture and Sustainable Marine Ecosystems (IU-ECOQUA), attached to the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, is proud to host the 3rd ISFSI Conference, in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain, from June 16 to 20, 2019. With more than 200 abstracts to be presented, 300 anticipated attendees and sessions that include vaccines and vaccinations, shellfish immunology, crustacean immunology, fish immunology, effect of diet on the immune system, functional genomics and host pathogen interactions. (Viral, bacterial and parasite), this conference promises to be an excellent experience to share knowledge. On behalf of the Organizing Committee, the Scientific Committee and the Canary Islands aquaculture community, welcome to Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, and enjoy ISFSI 2019! Attentively!

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