

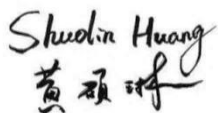
Message from the Past and Current AFS Presidents

The 11th Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum, held 3-7 August, 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand, included the 6th Global Symposium on Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries (GAF6). This was the eighth women/gender and fisheries Symposium of the Asian Fisheries Society (AFS). AFS also became the first fisheries and aquaculture professional body to move from talk to action by formally creating the new Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries Section.

We are pleased to note that GAF6 was the largest AFS GAF event yet, and attracted the largest number of papers of any theme at 11AFAF. GAF6 continued the pattern established in GAF5 in Lucknow, India, of varied session formats suited to the topics. In this regard, we commend the new GAF 101 training workshop on gender research methodology and the student's art event.

This volume is the fourth Special Issue on gender in aquaculture and fisheries published by the Asian Fisheries Science journal. In 2012, 2014 and 2016 we published Special Issues containing papers from GAF3, GAF4 and GAF5. The papers in the present Special Issue cover gender in the Voluntary Guidelines on Small Scale Fisheries, aquaculture development, fish value chains, climate change and disasters, and in social and fish sector norms.

We congratulate the Co-editors and the authors for producing this Special Issue. A special note of thanks to Nikita Gopal, the chief editor and the head of the Programme Sub-Committee for GAF6 for providing the leadership to produce this Special Issue on gender in aquaculture and fisheries, which we are pleased to commend to you.



Shuolin Huang
Past President (2013-16)
Asian Fisheries Society



Joykrushna Jena
President (2016-19)
Asian Fisheries Society