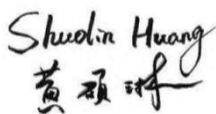


Message from the Past and Current AFS Presidents

The 10th Indian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forum held during November 12-15, 2014 at Lucknow, India, was also the host to the 5th Global Symposium on Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries (GAF5). This event continued the women/gender and fisheries Symposia held by the Asian Fisheries Society (AFS) in the previous six triennial Asian Fisheries and Aquaculture Forums, starting in 1998 with the 5th Forum. The Society is the only fisheries and aquaculture professional body to regularly conduct gender themed symposia. Through its active Indian Branch, AFS provided GAF5 with the platform for fisheries and gender researchers, development specialists and advocates to share their knowledge and network. We are pleased to note that GAF5, attracted many new participants, especially young students and researchers, as well as experienced experts. GAF5 session formats were varied to suit their topics, and included oral and poster presentations, award winning documentaries and videos, and dedicated workshops and panel discussions. The presenters and audiences engaged actively, in the formal sessions and informally during the breaks.

This is the third Special Issue on gender in aquaculture and fisheries published by the Asian Fisheries Science journal. In 2012 and 2014, we published Special Issues containing papers from GAF3 and GAF4. The themes captured in the present Special Issue cover gender in aquaculture development, the conduct of small scale fisheries and global policy developments affecting them, in post-harvest activities, and in fisheries and aquaculture institutions.

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 GAF5 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