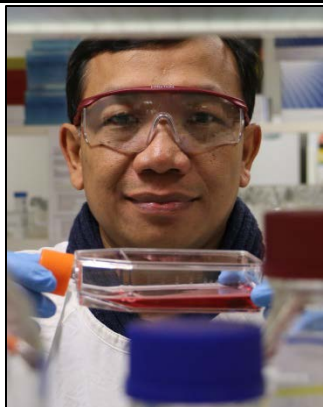


Profiles of Executive Committee

Fish Health Section - Asian Fisheries Society

2017-2020

Chairperson



Dr. Agus Sunarto (Indonesia/Australia)

*Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO),
Australian Animal Health Laboratory
Geelong, Victoria 3220, Australia*
e-mail: agus.sunarto@csiro.au

Dr. Agus Sunarto obtained his PhD in molecular virology from the University of Queensland was head of Fish Health Research Laboratory under the Indonesian Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries before joining the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO, Australia). Agus has developed a strong track record of working with regional and international organizations including ACIAR, AusVet, NACA, FAO and recently WorldFish. His research interests include promoting sustainable aquaculture by managing fish viral diseases and protecting aquatic environment by mitigating invasive species impacts. He works in Ken McColl's lab investigating koi herpesvirus (KHV) as a potential biocontrol agent for carp in Australia and in Tim Doran's genome engineering lab exploring the application of gene-editing technologies in aquaculture. Agus is also developing interest in surveillance systems using next-generation sequencing technologies and in managing tilapia as the aquatic chicken and as an invasive species.

Vice-Chairperson



Dr. Kua Beng Chu (Malaysia)

*Director
Fish Health Research Division
National Fish Health Research Division
(NaFish), Fisheries Research Institute,
Department of Fisheries, Batu Maung
11960 Penang, Malaysia*
e-mail: kuaben01@dof.gov.my

Dr. Kua Beng Chu has been a Research Officer since 1996 and is currently a Director of Fish Health Research Division with National Fish Health Research Division (NaFish) of Fisheries Research Institute under Department of Fisheries Malaysia. She obtained a Bachelor of Fisheries Science (Aquaculture) and Master of Science (Fish Health Management) from University Putra Malaysia (UPM) in 1993 and 1996 respectively. She completed her PhD in fish parasitology from University of Science, Malaysia (USM) in 2002.

Over the past 21 years, she has been involved in research on fish health, focusing in fish parasite, pathology, disease prevention and management. She has been a Project Leader for more than 10 grants and has written more than 40 technical papers. She has patented four innovations and one trademark to date. In addition, she has written a book on Ectoparasites in Aquaculture to assist farmers to overcome the ectoparasite problems, and a series of children books on diseases in fisheries with the purpose of creating awareness to the younger generation.

Secretary/Treasurer



Dr. Eduardo Leaño (Thailand/Philippines)

Coordinator

*Aquatic Animal Health Programme
Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-
Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand*

e-mail: eduardo@enaca.org

Dr. Eduardo Leaño is currently the Coordinator of Aquatic Animal Health Programme of NACA. His specialization is on Aquatic Animal Health and Marine and Freshwater Mycology. Before joining NACA in April 2010, he has worked at the Fish Health Section of SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department, Philippines (1989-2001), and as Research Fellow at Taiwan Fisheries Research Institute (2002-2003) and National Taiwan Ocean University (2004-2010) in Keelung, Taiwan. Dr. Leaño obtained his PhD degree (Applied Microbiology) at the City University of Hong Kong (1999), his MSc (Fisheries) at the University of the Philippines in the Visayas (1993) and his BSc (Inland Fisheries) at Central Luzon State University (1989). He has co-edited four books on aquaculture, and published more than 50 scientific papers on aquatic animal health and aquaculture.

Members:



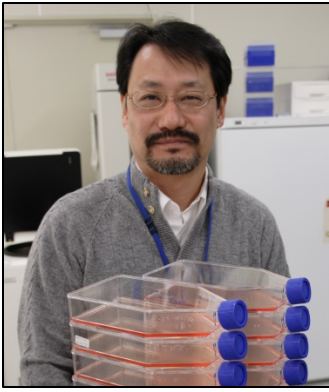
Dr. Phan Thi Van (Vietnam; Immediate Past Chairperson)

Director

*Research Institute for Aquaculture No. 1
(RIA 1), Dinh Bang, Tu Son, Bac Ninh,
Vietnam*

e-mail: phanvan@ria1.org

Ms Phan Thi Van is Director of Research Institute for Aquaculture No.1 under Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in Vietnam. She has a MSc degree in Aquaculture from Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand, and a PhD degree in Epidemiology and Food Safety from Copenhagen University, Denmark. She is an associate professor of Vietnam National University of Agriculture. Her main professional focus is on Aquatic Animal Health, Environment, Good Aquaculture Practices and Food safety in aquaculture. She is author/co-author of national and international per-reviewed papers, books and extension materials in addition to also being a reviewer herself for international peer-reviewed journals. She has been used as an expert by FAO, UNDP, OIE and others, both in Vietnam and outside (Asia, Europe, Africa and Caribbean).



Dr. Motohiko Sano (Japan)

Professor

*Department of Marine Biosciences
Tokyo University of Marine Science and
Technology, Konan 4-5-7, Minato-ku,
Tokyo 108-8477, Japan*

e-mail: msano00@kaiyodai.ac.jp

Dr. Motohiko Sano is currently a Professor at the Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology. His field of specialization is on fish virology and bacteriology. His laboratory is an OIE Reference Laboratory for Koi Herpesvirus (KHV). Dr. Sano obtained his PhD (1990), MSc (1987) and BSc (1985) in Fisheries degrees at Tokyo University of Fisheries. He previously worked as Director of the Center for Aquatic Genomics, National Research Institute of Fisheries Science (2010-2013), the Aquatic Animal Health Division, National Research Institute of Aquaculture (2008-2010), and Diagnosis and Training Center, National Research Institute of Aquaculture (2007-2008). He is also an active member of the Japanese Society of Fish Pathology (2015-: Editor-in-Chief), Japanese Society of Fisheries Science (2014-: Editor), Japanese Society of Aquaculture Science, Asian Fisheries Society, and European Association of Fish Pathologists



Dr. Pravata Pradhan (India)

Principal Scientist

*Management and Exotics Division, ICAR-
National Bureau of Fish Genetic
Resources, Lucknow, India.*

e-mail: pradhanpk1@gmail.com

Dr. Pravata K. Pradhan is currently working as a Principal Scientist in the Fish Health Management and Exotics Division of ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources at Lucknow, India. He has over 16 years of teaching and research experience. Prior to joining in the present position, he served as an Assistant Professor in the College of Fisheries under Central Agricultural University, Agartala, Tripura during 2002-2008. He received his Ph.D. in the area of Aquaculture with specialization on Fish Pathology in the year 2003 from College of Fisheries, Mangalore under Karnataka Veterinary Animal And Fisheries Sciences University, India. His current research areas include studying host-pathogen interaction in dynamic-disease situation, identifying virulence factors of the pathogens, innate and adaptive immune response against fish pathogens, ontogeny of immune system in finfishes investigation of disease outbreaks in aquatic animals. He is actively involved in implementing aquatic animal disease surveillance programme in India.



Dr. Han-Ching Wang (Taiwan)

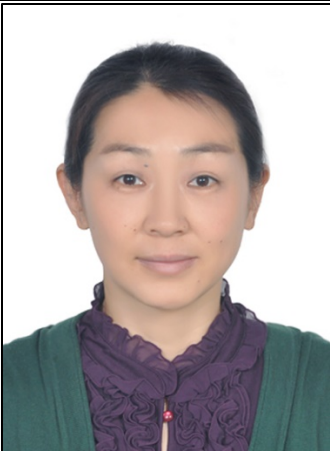
Professor

*National Cheng Kung University
No. 1, University Road, Taiwan*

e-mail: wanghc@mail.ncku.edu.tw

From the first year of her MSc in 2000 to the completion of her PhD at National Taiwan University in early 2007, Dr. Han-Ching Wang's research work has emphasized the use of proteomics and structural biology to study pathogenesis of a large, novel, dsDNA white spot syndrome virus (WSSV). In early 2007, she transferred to the Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology, where she switched her research field to shrimp immunity, using animal models and transcriptomics. In 2008, she became the youngest member of the faculty at National Cheng Kung University in Taiwan and established her own Laboratory of Translational Aquabiology (TLAB).

Dr. Wang's motivation is the threat of pathogenic diseases to cultured shrimps, including those caused by viruses (e.g. white spot disease; WSD) and bacteria, in particular, acute hepatopancreatic necrosis disease (AHPND). She uses an integrated systems-biology approach including metabolomics and lipidomics to study pathogenesis of WSD and AHPND. She also discovered Down syndrome cell adhesion molecule (Dscam), the first antibody-like molecule identified in shrimp, and she has a goal of using a science-based approach to optimize potential shrimp vaccine strategies. She believes that this is very important, both for science and also for the shrimp aquaculture industry.



Dr. Liang Yan (P.R. China)

Associate Researcher

*Yellow Sea Fisheries Research Institute
(YSFRI), Chinese Academy of Fishery
Sciences, Ministry of Agriculture of
People's Republic of China, Qingdao, P.R.
China*

e-mail: liangyan@ysfri.ac.cn

Dr. Liang Yan is an Associate Researcher at the Yellow Sea Fisheries Research Institute (YSFRI), and a Technical Expert of National Fisheries Technology Extension Center (NFTEC) of the Ministry of Agriculture of People's Republic of China. She works as backbone of scientific research of Maricultural Organism Disease Control and Molecular Pathology Division of YSFRI. She is engaged in epidemiology studies shrimp viral diseases. She also worked on the establishment of biosecurity technological system for aquaculture industry of China. At present, she is in-charge of National Surveillance Program on reportable aquatic animal diseases of China in NFTEC, and involved in the establishment of National Epidemic Prevention System for Aquatic Animals of China.

Dr. Yan obtained her PhD at the Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China. She was also a visiting scholar at Centex Shrimp, Mahidol University & National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (BIOTEC), Thailand (2008-2009), and visiting scholar of VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands (2013-2014).



Dr. Siow-Foong Chang (Singapore)
Agri-food and Veterinary Authority (AVA)
JEM Office Tower, 52 Jurong Gateway
Road, #14-01, Singapore
e-mail: siowfoongchang@yahoo.com

Dr. Siow-Foong Chang started work at the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) of Singapore where he served in various operational and strategic roles responsible for control of zoonotic diseases, disease surveillance, food safety and veterinary public health at national and regional levels. He was involved with control of major zoonotic disease outbreaks affecting the region, including Nipah virus, H5N1 avian influenza and H1N1 swine influenza. In 2010, he joined MSD as Site Lead for the MSD Animal Health aquatic animal disease research facility in Singapore, where he managed R&D activities focused on fish diseases and fish vaccine development for warm water aquaculture. After 7 years in MSD, he returned to AVA as Group Director overseeing the surveillance and regulation of animal and plant establishments.

Dr. Chang graduated from Glasgow University with a degree in Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, and a MSc degree in control of infectious disease in animals from the Royal Veterinary College in London. His professional interest is focused on disease control, epidemiology and aquatic animal health, with special interest in fish viral diseases.



Ms. Varinee Panyawachira (Thailand)
Aquatic Animal Health Research and
Development Division, Department of
Fisheries, Kasetsart University Campus,
Ladyao, Jatujak, Bangkok, Thailand
e-mail: ninee43@hotmail.com

Ms. Varinee Panyawachira is a Fishery Biologist of the Aquatic Animal Health Research and Development Division. She is the Head of the Histology and Mycology Laboratory since 2004. Ms. Varinee finished her MSc in Fisheries Science (2004) and BSc in Fisheries (1996) degrees at Kasetsart University.



Mr. Gerald Misol, Jr. (Malaysia)

Fisheries Officer

Biosecurity Division, Department of Fisheries Malaysia, Putrajaya, Malaysia

e-mail: gerald@dof.gov.my

Mr. Gerald Misol, Jr. is currently with the Department of Fisheries Malaysia as the Competent Authority (CA) for fish health management. He is involved directly in the creation and implementation of legislations, policies and programs regarding fish health and biosecurity including sanitary and phyto-sanitary requirements for international trade of fish. He is also been invited as speakers in various seminars, conferences and workshops for fish health. Currently, he is principally involved in the following: drafting and implementation of key legislations and policies for fish health management in Malaysia; national fish disease surveillance and domestic fish disease eradication programs including contingency plans; biosecurity certification for aquaculture farms and premises including quarantine protocols; antimicrobial resistance and seafood quality; and, research projects on probiotics.

Observers



Dr. Dang Thi Lua (Vietnam)

Vice Director, Center for Environment and Disease Monitoring in Aquaculture (CEDMA), Research Institute for Aquaculture No.1 (RIA1), Dinh Bang, Tu Son, Bac Ninh, Vietnam

e-mail: danglua@ria1.org

Dr. Dang Thi Lua is currently the Vice Director of Center for Environment and Disease Monitoring in Aquaculture (CEDMA), Research Institute for Aquaculture No. 1 (RIA1). She has been an aquatic animal health specialist for more than 18 years and currently responsible as the leader of research group on aquatic animal diseases at RIA1. She obtained Bachelor degree in Aquaculture from Nha Trang University of Fisheries, Vietnam and MSc and PhD degrees in Applied Marine Biosciences from Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology, Japan. She also undertook postdoctoral fellowship program at the Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology during 2008-2010 and involved in AHPND projects in shrimps in Vietnam. Dr. Lua has been an active manager and member of number of research and development projects funded by international and national authorities in Vietnam. Her interests and experiences are on aquatic animal disease research, including disease diagnosis, AMU, AMR, seafood HACCP and disease control. She is also involved in teaching and training.



Dr. Benjaporn Somridhivej (Thailand)
*Aquatic Animal Health Research and
Development Division, Department of
Fisheries, Kasetsart University Campus,
Ladyao, Jatujak, Bangkok, Thailand*
e-mail: somribe@gmail.com

Dr. Benjaporn Somridhivej is a Fisheries Biologist of the Aquatic Animal Health Research and Development Division (AHRDD) of the Department of Fisheries (DoF), Thailand. She is working under the Drug and Chemicals Control Research and Development Group, which is responsible for drug and chemical residue monitoring in aquaculture. She is also working on antimicrobial resistance in aquaculture. Dr. Benjaporn finished her PhD degree at Auburn University in 2015. She previously worked at the National Aquaculture Genetic Research Institute (NAGRI) of the DoF, Thailand.



Ms. Imelda Rantty (Malaysia)
Department of Fisheries Malaysia,
Fisheries Research Institute Sarawak,
Jalan Perbadanan, Bintawa,
PO Box 2243, 93744 Kuching, Sarawak,
Malaysia
e-mail: imeldarantty@gmail.com

Ms. Imelda Rantty is working as a Research Officer in Fisheries Research Institute Sarawak under the Department of Fisheries Malaysia. She took her Bachelor of Science (Hons) – Microbiology from University Putra Malaysia, Selangor and Masters in Biology (Aquaculture Biology) from University of Bergen, Norway. Her past and current work includes seafood safety and quality, aquaculture, fish health management in aquaculture and fish and shrimp disease diagnosis both in cultured and wild species.



Ms. Dewi Syahidah (Indonesia)
*Institute for Marine and Aquaculture
(IMRAD) in Gondol, Bali, Indonesia*
e-mail: dewi.syahidah@my.jcu.edu.au

Ms. Dewi Syahidah is a PhD student at Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences, James Cook University, Australia (2013-2017). She has been working as a research staff at Institute for Marine and Aquaculture (IMRAD) in Gondol, Bali, Indonesia since 1999 where she co-worked on several projects with different research groups (local and international). She has published around 30 papers in local and international journals/proceedings. Ms. Syahidah is a member of several national, regional and international organizations including Indonesian Aquaculture Society, Asian Fisheries Society and World Aquaculture Society among others.



Mr. Partho Pratim Debnath (Bangladesh)
*Laboratory Manager, USAID-AIN
WorldFish, Dhaka, Bangladesh*
e-mail: P.Debnath@cgiar.org

Mr. Partho Pratim Debnath is employed as a Laboratory Manager at WorldFish since 2007. He has started his career as a Scientific Officer at WorldFish. He has been involved working on shrimp and fish diseases diagnosis for 10 years. He has expertise on PCR laboratory operations for screening and diagnosis of shrimp, prawn and fish pathogens. He also has capability on other disease diagnostic methods like bacteriology, mycology, parasitology, and histopathology. He has 10 published papers on shrimp, prawn and fish diseases of Bangladesh in various international journals.