



**A Special Issue of
Aquaculture Genomics
Announcing
Aquaculture Genomics, Genetics and Breeding Workshop
March 24-25, 2016
Auburn, AL 36830**

- ❖ **Workshop purpose:** A workshop will be held March 24-25, 2016 in Auburn, Alabama focusing on genomics, genetics, and breeding of aquaculture species in the US. The workshop will bring researchers, government officials and industry leaders together to review the current status in aquaculture genomics, genetics, and breeding and discuss existing problems, future goals, gaps, and application of genome-based strategies for breeding. Some of the topics include traditional selective breeding, genome based breeding strategies such as marker-assisted selection, genome selection, genome editing, and analysis of associations of phenotypes and genotypes.
- ❖ **Meeting registration:** The registration is free, but you must register such that we can have a good assessment of the participants for the arrangement of the meetin. You can register at <https://cws.auburn.edu/ovpr/pm/aquacultureworkshop>
- ❖ **Transportation:** The best airport to use to come to Auburn is the Atlanta Hartfield International Airport. After arriving to Atlanta Airport, one can take the Groome Shuttle that runs once every 1.5 hours <http://auburn.groometransportation.com/auburn-shuttle-schedule/> or rent a car driving down Interstate 85 to Auburn.

The Workshop will be held March 24-25, 2016. For planning purposes, your travel day should be March 23, and the Workshop should end early afternoon on March 25. Returning back on March 25 is possible, but please consider that driving to Atlanta takes approximately two hours, and there is one hour time difference between Auburn (on central time) and Atlanta (on eastern time).

- ❖ **Hotel information:** A block of rooms are available at the Hilton Garden Inn, Auburn/Opelika, Alabama (phone: 334-502-3500) at a special rate of \$99 per night if reserved before March 9, 2016. Please reserve your room before this date. After March 9, 2016, the rate and availability may vary. Group Code for the special rate is: AGGBW. The web site for the special rate reservation is http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/A/AUOAPGI-AGGBW-20160323/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

- ❖ Meeting place: The workshop will be held in Room 109, Center for Advanced Science, Innovation and Commerce (CASIC building), 559 Devall Drive, Auburn University Research Park, Auburn, AL 36832.
- ❖ Local transportation from Hilton Garden Inn Auburn/Opelika to CASIC building: A shuttle bus will carry people from the Hilton Garden Inn at 7:45 am, and back to the hotel at 5:15 pm.
- ❖ Food: You will need to arrange your dinner and breakfast on your own. Working lunches will be provided for March 24-25. For detailed information for dining options and all other relevant information, please visit <https://cws.auburn.edu/ovpr/pm/aquacultureworkshop>
- ❖ Tentative program: The program is NOT finalized, but the tentative program description should give you a flavor of the workshop. As the program is finalized, it will be posted to the workshop website:

Day 1, March 24, 2016: Review of current status of genetics, genomics, and breeding programs with major US aquaculture species

Welcome

Objectives of the workshop

Current status of trout genome reference genome and other genome resources

Genotyping platforms for rainbow trout and progress with QTL analysis

Genome selection

Current status of catfish genome assembly

Genotyping platforms for catfish and progress with QTL analysis, and perspectives for application of genome-based technologies

Tilapia genome and perspectives for application of genome-based technologies

Current status of striped bass genome assembly, QTL work and other genome resources

Current status of oyster genome assembly and perspectives for application of genome-based technologies

Oyster breeding programs and issues

Report from other species?

Trends catfish culture, major problems for genomicists and geneticists to solve

Major issues in catfish breeding

Salmon genome and major issues in salmon breeding

Industry perspectives from different sectors of aquaculture industries

Day 2, March 25, 2016: Technologies, gaps, and priorities

Genome editing technologies and their potential application in aquaculture

Biotechnologies and their applications in aquaculture and regulatory issues

Breakout sessions, discussions of goals, obstacles, gaps, and priorities

Session report

Discussion of a White Paper for publication

For all suggestions and comments, please send them to Dr. John Liu (liuzhan@auburn.edu).