

# Fish Health Section



The official link to the FHS website is: <http://www.fisheries.org/units/fhs>

## FHS NEWS

### AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT 2011

The awards committee had a great year this year. Diane Elliott was presented with the past-president award, she was a wonderful president and we are thankful for all her help! Three Appreciation Awards were presented to: Vicki Blazer (for her 10 years of service as Editor for the Journal of Aquatic Animal Health), and Mark Higgins and Eva Jacob (for organizing the 2011 Fish Health Section meeting in Nanaimo). The Fish Health Section was also honored to be able to fully fund three students to attend the Nanaimo meeting. The winners of this year's Snieszko Student Travel Award were: Gordon "Derek" Gibbs (PhD Student, Mississippi State), Hasan Tekedar (PhD Candidate, Mississippi State University) and Heather Ellery (Masters Student, West Virginia University). We would love to stress for advisors to please encourage their students to submit application packages. This year we could have funded more students if they submitted applications. Another award that is not given out every year, the special achievement award was presented to Luke Iwanowicz for his work on the FHS website. We had two nominees again this year for the Snieszko Distinguished Service Award. Both nominees received 100% approval for the award. The two recipients this year were Andrew "Drew" J. Mitchell and Ray Brunson.

Congratulations to all for a great year!  
Deborah Iwanowicz, Awards Committee Chair  
David Powell  
Scott Weber

### LETTERS FROM THE SNIESZKO DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDEES

To the FHS members:

Ray Brunson and I were both greatly honored at the recent Western Fish Disease Workshop/FHS Annual Meeting when we jointly received the S.F. Snieszko Distinguished Service Award. For my part, I want to thank the FHS for bestowing on me this most significant honor and award. Anything associated with Doc's name is special by itself but a look at the list of past recipients makes the award even more special. I remember when two of my mentors and friends John Plumb (my major professor) and Glenn Hoffman (my first boss) received this award what an awesome occasion it was. With these two and with all the other past recipients in mind, I am truly humbled to even think that this award was given to me. Thank you all so very much. Know that I will always treasure the award but even more I'll treasure the thought that you my colleagues and friends thought me worthy to receive it. Again thank you and God bless you all.

Drew Mitchell

## A Letter of Thanks to the Section

As all of you may know, receiving this award is a deeply humbling and great honor. During my early years in this profession, I had the great fortune to meet and talk briefly with Dr. Snieszko during a training session at Leetown, and he was indeed a very special man, scientist, and educator. I have been inspired and mentored by many of the past recipients of this award and have held all of them in the highest regard. Some have been past coworkers and friends. At the moment of being named a recipient, I felt a mix of emotions...all of which stuck me speechless.

I want to thank, from the bottom of my heart, those who wrote letters of nomination and support. You know who you are, and I have been and will continue to work hard to live up to the actions and words of your letters. I want to greatly and humbly thank my past mentors and coworkers for THEIR contributions and support of the many ideas, training, conferences, and outcomes to the body of work that encompassed my career in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Without them, I would not have been what I have become. My deep thanks to Charlie Smith, one of my earliest supervisors and past recipient of this award. He and Bob Piper were and are a lifelong inspiration to "do good" with what you have to offer and to help others when you can. There are many more I would like to publicly and personally thank, but they are too numerous to list here...to all of you, I treasure knowing and working with you. Hopefully we will see you in the future!

Last, but not least, I wish to thank my family for enduring and understanding the motivation that caused frequent long hours and sometimes days away from them. They have been and continue to be, my emotional rock and now in retirement from active duty, will have to endure and understand my more constant presence and attention!

Sincerely,  
Ray Brunson

**MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS - FOR INFORMATION ON THESE AND OTHER  
UPCOMING MEETINGS GO TO THE WEBSITE:**

<http://www.fisheries.org/units/fhs/meeting.php>

**"HEALTH AND COLONY MANAGEMENT OF LABORATORY FISH"**

[http://www.mdibl.org/courses/Health\\_and\\_Colony\\_Management\\_of\\_Laboratory\\_Fish/182/](http://www.mdibl.org/courses/Health_and_Colony_Management_of_Laboratory_Fish/182/)

Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory Bar Harbor, Maine  
15 – 19 August 2011

Applications are being accepted for this 1-week educational opportunity for

individuals with maintenance, management or research responsibilities in which fish are used as laboratory animals.

**Significant tuition fellowships** are available to graduate students and trainees including residents in veterinary medicine or laboratory animal medicine, and postdoctoral fellows.

The course is offered at the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, Salisbury Cove, Maine during the period of 15 - 19 August 2011. Topics to be discussed will include general system design and water quality management, anatomy and histology of fish, general fish diseases and disease management strategies. Infectious and non-infectious diseases common to all fish as well as specific diseases of importance to laboratory-maintained zebrafish will be discussed. The course will consist of lecture, laboratory exercises and discussions. During the course there will be an opportunity for students to discuss unusual and/or unsolved diagnostic case experiences from their home laboratories as problem-solving exercises. The course should be particularly valuable to technical staff, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, junior faculty and investigators needing skills to monitor the health of a colony of aquatic organisms.

For more information on the course, please see the course web site at:

**3RD INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON CAGE AQUACULTURE IN ASIA'  
(CAA3)**

November 2011

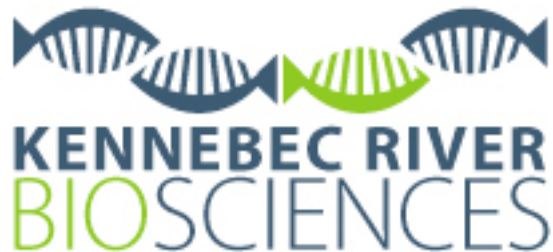
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

<http://www.asianfisheriessociety.org/caa3/>

**INDUSTRY**

**LEADING AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH  
COMPANY CHANGES NAME TO  
REFLECT  
EXPANDING BUSINESS**

RICHMOND, MAINE June 09, 2011 – Micro Technologies, Inc. announced today that the company's board of directors and shareholders approved a name change to [Kennebec River Biosciences](#). The change is a reflection of the company's heightened focus on emerging blue biotechnology opportunities and a tribute to its coastal Maine roots.



Over the past five years, Kennebec River Biosciences has implemented a diversification strategy to capitalize on emerging aquatic-focused industries, and thus, the new name more accurately reflects the company's offerings. Building on

its core competencies, the company has been able to capitalize on opportunities within the veterinary, pharmaceutical, and industrial fields.

As a leading aquatic animal health laboratory, Kennebec River Biosciences will continue to focus on providing comprehensive certification, diagnostic, and veterinary services to the aquaculture industry throughout North America. The company plans to expand its laboratory testing services in order to meet emerging animal health needs.

#### About Kennebec River Biosciences

Kennebec River Biosciences is an internationally recognized biosciences company providing innovative blue biotechnology solutions. The company has been a source of aquatic animal health products and services to industry, government, and academia for over 15 years.

For more information:

(207) 737-2637 or [info@kennebecriverbiosciences.com](mailto:info@kennebecriverbiosciences.com)