

2017 NSA Student Research Awards

The student research awards were announced during the Annual Business Meeting at 109th NSA Annual meeting in Knoxville, TN. These competitive grants provide \$1250 in support funding earmarked for student research projects as well as for the best student paper published in the *JSR*.



The **Melbourne R. Carriker Award** supports a student's research project in any topic of shellfisheries. The 2017 Carriker Award was presented to Laura Spencer, University of Washington Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, for her proposal entitled, "Transgenerational inheritance of epigenetic adaptability to dual climate stressors in oysters".

Laura's proposal examines the phenotypic plasticity via epigenetic modifications of three genetically distinct populations of the only native oyster of the Northeast Pacific Ocean, the Olympia oyster, in response to multiple environmental stressors and across multiple generations.



The **Michael Castagna Award** for student research is an award devoted to the area of applied shellfisheries. Winning this year was Evan Durland, Oregon State University, for his proposal entitled: "The genetic contribution to larval fitness in the Pacific oyster *Crassostrea gigas* and long term genomic response to domestication."

This work will compare the relative performance of selectively bred and wild oyster genotypes in ambient and acidified seawater and, specifically, the role that genetics plays in determining growth and survival in these conditions.



Judging of the **Sandra E. Shumway Award** for the Best Student Paper published in the *JSR* has specific selection and evaluation criteria: (1) The lead author must have been a student when the work was completed, (2) the paper must present the student's work, not that of a co-author, (3) it will be evaluated on the quality of science and

writing, and (4) the importance of the work to the field of shellfish research. Forty-two manuscripts were in competition for the prestigious award. A panel of judges deliberated, and the award was presented to Bianca Arney, University of British Columbia, for her manuscript:

Arney, B., Wenshan, L., Forster, I. McKinley, R.C., and Pearce, C. 2015. Temperature and food-ration optimization in the hatchery culture of juveniles of the Pacific geoduck *Panopea generosa*. *Journal of Shellfish Research*, 34(1): 39-53.

I wish to thank all the students for submitting their proposals as well as the reviewers for taking the time to evaluate each these proposals and student papers so thoughtfully.

Application deadline for 2017 is November 1st.

Start planning now! Details are available at www.shellfish.org.

Chris Davis
Past-President

FUCOBI Foundation Recognizes NSA Students

Congratulations to winners of the One Health Epigenomics and Microbiomes Award from the FUCOBI Foundation of Ecuador (www.fucobi.org).

The FUCOBI Foundation is an international collaboration of researchers and NGO focused on "One Health" - a program aimed at conserving healthy ecosystems to maintain biodiversity and healthy animals to protect human health. The first award was presented at the 108th Annual Conference (Aquaculture 2016) in Las Vegas to Melissa Pierce and the second award was presented at the recent 109th meeting in Knoxville to Amanda Zahorik for her presentation entitled: "The oyster microbiome: interrelationships among host genotype, microbiome composition, and disease resistance in



Crassostrea virginica". This award carries a cash prize and will be continued in 2018. Students are encouraged to submit their work on any aspect of microbiome and antibiotic resistance work on shellfish for consideration, special consideration will be given to papers that have a direct link to human health. Details will be made available on the NSA web page.

Congratulations to Melissa and Amanda!

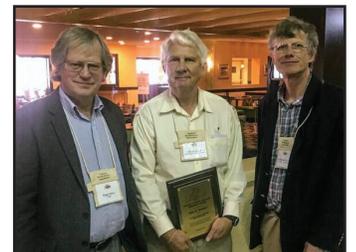
David H. Wallace and Honored Life Member Awards



Carter Newell, Aad Smaal, and Chris Davis

field of shellfisheries science. Dr. Powell was presented the **David H. Wallace Award** for his activities in shellfisheries, aquaculture and conservation that have promoted understanding, knowledge, and cooperation among industry members, the academic community, and government.

The National Shellfisheries Association acknowledged the career contributions of Dr. Aad Smaal, Wageningen University - the Netherlands, and Dr. Eric N. Powell, University of Southern Mississippi, at the 109th Annual Meeting in Knoxville, Tennessee. Dr. Smaal was presented the **Honored Life Member Award** for his contributions to the



Roger Mann, Eric Powell, and Chris Davis

Full biographies will be published in the next *Quarterly Newsletter* and a future issue of the *Journal of Shellfish Research*.