## 2016 NSA Student Research Awards Presented

Student awards were announced during the Annual Business Meeting at  $108^{\text{th}}$  NSA Annual meeting in Las Vegas, NV. These competitive grants provide support funding earmarked for student research projects as well as for the best student paper published in the *JSR*.



The George R. Abbe Student Research Award in the area of crustacean biology and fisheries management was presented to Joseph Caracappa, Rutgers University, Department of Marine and Coastal Sciences, Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory. Joe's proposal, "Consequences of phenotype in blue crab (*Callinectes sapidus*) larvae" aims to test three hypotheses: (1) larval morphol-

ogy varies within broods reared under ideal conditions, (2) phenotype varies in response to salinity, and (3) a differential response to salinity occurs within broods. According to Joe, "the proposed experiments will be a fundamental first step in connecting the small-scale factors that influence individual larval survival to the large-scale factors influencing recruitment for an economically and ecologically important species."

The Melbourne R. Carriker Award supports a student's research project in any topic of shellfisheries. The 2016 Carriker Award was presented to Carrie Schuman, University of Florida for her proposal "Estimating *in situ* oyster filtration rates and subsequent control of primary production in the Guana Tolamato Matanzas Na-



tional Estuarine Research Reserve (GTM NERR), St. Augustine, FL". Carrie's work will focus on how height above the seafloor affects filtration rates of *C. virginica* and how aggregation of *C. virginica* into clumps affects filtration rate relative to isolated individuals.



The **Michael Castagna Award** for student research is an award devoted to the area of applied shellfisheries. Winning this year was Lillian Kuehl, Western Washington University for her proposal "The effect of diet on Pinto abalone (<u>Haliotis</u> <u>kamtschatkana</u>) postlarval survival, growth, and radula morphology". According to Lillian, her proposed research "addresses a

current need for improved postlarval survival in hatcheries, by examining the effect of diet on survival and growth of newly metamorphosed abalone, and by considering how an energy budget and radula morphology relate to optimal diets."

Judging of the Sandra E. Shumway Award for 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. Thirty-four manuscripts were in competition

for the prestigious award for 2016. A panel of nine judges deliberated, and the award was presented to Andrew M. Cathey, East Carolina University, Department of Biology for his manuscript:

Cathey, A. M., Miller, N.R., and Kimmel, D.G. 2014. Spatiotemporal stability of trace and minor elemental signatures in early larval shell of the northern quahog (hard clam) *Mercenaria mercenaria*. *Journal of Shellfish Research*, 33(1) 247-255.

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

Chris Davis Past-President

## JSR Wins Award



The *Journal of Shellfish Research* has been honored with a bronze level award in Scholarly/Technical/ Scientific Journal in *Association TRENDS*' 2015 All-Media Contest. It was one of nearly 400 entries in the association publications contest, and one of three awardees in the Scholarly/Technical/Scientific Journal category.