

Principal Investigators of CTSA Subcontracts Highlight Project Accomplishments

Principal Investigators for eight CTSA-funded projects that ended between January 2008 and April 2009 gave PowerPoint presentations that reviewed their projects' objectives and accomplishments to an audience of 30 people at Oceanic Institute's Oceanic Learning Center on Thursday, May 14, 2009.

The half-day meeting, "Final Report of CTSA-Funded Projects," was the first attempt at improving information dissemination to the public, according to Executive Director Cheng-Sheng Lee, Ph.D. Dr. Harry Ako, Chairman of the Technical Committee, served as moderator for the presentations and the short question-and-answer periods that followed each presentation.

Ressie Darval, Procurement/Compliance Manager at OI, gave an overview of the new federal requirements for monitoring subcontracts at the start of the meeting, followed by Charles Laidley's report on "Intensive Microalgae Production, Year 2."

Ichiro Misumi presented the report on "Kahala Parasites and Shrimp Viruses of Concern to Pacific Aquaculture," by Teresa Lewis, who was unable to attend.

Dustin Moss covered the Year 1 accomplishments of the "Shrimp Production Demonstration Project and Aquaculture Training for Industry Stakeholders of the CNMI and Guam," and Kristen Anderson summarized the work completed and the impacts of the "Pacific Regional Aquaculture Information Service for Education (PRAISE)" project during the past year.

After a short break, the meeting resumed with Jinzeng Yang's report on the achievement of Year 1 objectives for the "Development of DNA Markers for Pacific Threadfin Aquaculture" project, and Clyde Tamaru gave his report on "Artificially Propagating the Feather-Duster Worm (*Sabellastarte spectabilis*) for the Marine Ornamental Trade."

Shaun Moss reported on the accomplishments and continuing challenges of Year 1 objectives for the project, "Culturing the Harlequin Shrimp (*Hymenocera picta*) for the Marine Aquarium Industry." Clyde Tamaru then gave his second report, on the accomplishment of Year 2 objectives for "Improving Outputs in the Commercial-Scale Production of Swordtails in Hawaii." The meeting concluded shortly after 12:30 p.m. with a final question-and-answer period.

This year, all of the projects reported on were located on Oahu. Executive Director Lee, who filmed the presentations, said that he plans to share the reports with PIs and interested groups in the more remote parts of the CTSA region, and to film their presentations to share with PIs on Oahu and its neighbor islands.

"I'd like to see this become an annual event for CTSA, after more input from the participants, with an even larger audience of people involved in the aquaculture industry," said Lee.

