

SUMMARY OF AFAS2012

The sixth annual meeting of Asian Fisheries Acoustics Society, AFAS2012 entitled “The International Conference on Underwater Acoustics for Sustainable Fisheries in Asia” was held at Vistas Hotel, Pukyong National University, Busan, Korea from 26th to 27th of November, 2012 hosted by Pukyong National University. About 80 researchers from 27 countries/regions including Korea, Japan, China, Taiwan, Malaysia, and other countries attended the conference. The conference included Opening/Closing Sessions, Special session, 4 Technical sessions, Board meeting, General meeting, and Welcome/Farewell parties for two days.

Board meeting

The board meeting was held in the late evening on the day before the conference, at the lobby of Vistas Hotel. Eleven board members including K. Iida, Raja. H, D. Hwang, Y. Miyamoto, K. Miyashita, Y. Nishimori, Y. Tang, K. Abe, A. Hamano, K. Sawada, H. Lu and Prof. H.O. Shin, the chairman of LOC were attended the meeting. The board meeting was proceeded by the chairman of AFAS in accordance with the agenda. 1) Following to chairman’s greeting, activities in the special field were reported by the chair of Science Group. D. Hwang reported about organizing of AFAS2012, and local activities were reported by Laja. H, Y. Tang, H. Lu. 2) To reserve the post of vice chairman of AFAS and to revise the AFAS Statutes were discussed. 3) To create the awards for young researchers and students to encourage their further progress were approved. The awards included “Young Fisheries Acoustician Award” for under 40 and “Student Best Presentation Award“ for students. 4) The venue and the date of next annual meeting, AFAS2013 by joint hosting with Marine Acoustics Society of Japan to be held in Tokyo, Japan, in November of 2013 was recommended.

Opening Session

Opening session was held in the morning of the day one at the conference room in Vistas Hotel. Prof. Hyeon-Ok Shin, chairman of LOC of AFAS2012, Prof. Young-Soo Jang, dean of Pukyong National University, Dr. Woo Jeung Choi, the head of National Research and Development Institute, Prof. Hyeong Il Shin, chairman emeritus of AFAS2012, and Prof. Kohji Iida, the chairman of AFAS addressed to participants in AFAS2012 as opening remarks. After the ceremony, group photo with all participants was taken in conference room.

Special Session

In the morning of the day one, we had a special session named “Sustainable Fisheries in Asia”, and two keynote lectures were delivered. Prof. Sukgeun Jung of Jeju National University delivered under the title of “Comparison of anchovy abundances estimated by trawl, egg production methods and acoustic survey”, and Dr. Tomonari Akamatsu delivered Under “Applications of broadband acoustics in fisheries”. After special session,

the chairman gave them commemorative gifts with appreciation.

General Meeting

The 6th AFAS General Meeting was held in the afternoon of the day one in the conference room chaired by Prof. A. Hamano, advisor of AFAS. Following the chairman's greeting, 1) general report, working group activities and regional activities were reported by the board members. 2) Reservation of the post for vice chairman of AFAS and revision of AFAS Statutes were approved. 3) The venue and the date of next annual meeting, AFAS2013 by joint hosting with Marine Acoustics Society of Japan to be held in Tokyo, Japan, in November of 2013 were approved.

Technical Session

In the afternoon of the day one and all day of the day two, four technical sessions were held at the conference room. Each session were proceeded by the chair of WG. Four titles for WGAT, 3 titles for WGTS, 11 titles for WGES, and 9 titles for WGAA, with a total of 33 oral presentations were reported. Six posters were presented in the conference room. Also some exhibitions of acoustic products by donor companies were held outside the conference room.

Closing Session

Closing ceremony was held in the evening of the day two. Chairman Iida summarized that, 1) Several presentation concerning broadband techniques will contribute to species identification, and 2) Simple and low cost technology will also contribute to promote fisheries acoustics in Asia. These studies were welcomed to support of the purpose of AFAS. Lastly the winners of AFAS award were announced. "Young Fisheries Acoustician Award" was given to K. Amakasu for his presentation of "Verification of broadband echo processing to determine volume backscattering strength spectra" and "Student Best Presentation Award" were given to H. La for his presentation of "Ex situ target strength measurements of ice krill (*Euphausia crystallorophias*), Antarctic Ocean" and to H. Shao for her presentation of "Spatial estimation of the kelp forest (*Laminaria* spp.) distributions in coastal waters of Aomori, Japan, using acoustic method". The chairman presented the award certificates and trophies to the winners.

Parties

A welcome dinner hosted by Luky Susan Ltd., the sponsor of AFAS2012 was held at the banquet room in Vistas hotel on the first day evening and a farewell party hosted by AFAS was held at the banquet room on the second day evening in attendance of KOICA's interns from 20 countries.

Acknowledgements

AFAS appreciate the twelve sponsors who supported the conference and to Pukyong National University for hosting. Thanks are also due to the Local Organizing Committee for their preparing meeting and arranging attendance of KOICA's interns.