

# ***Fish Toxicology***

SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS

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## PREFACE

Freshwater and marine systems are the ultimate sinks of both natural and anthropogenic inputs of contaminants into the environment and evidence suggests that releases of toxic substances have had dramatic impacts on fish and fisheries via direct and indirect mechanisms. Releases of toxic substances by either human activity or natural causes have resulted in dramatic fish kills, however, it is now known that exposure to sublethal concentrations of toxicants may prove to be equally devastating to fish populations. Research into both the fate and effects of xenobiotics on fish and fish populations has made great advances in recent years. This symposium brings together experts in various aspects of piscine toxicology to highlight and communicate recent research findings in this important area. Toxicology is multidisciplinary, and therefore this symposium will be comprehensive in nature and will examine this topic at several levels of biological organization from the molecular to the ecosystem level. As well, with the number of chemicals used in modern society numbering greater than 100,000, and the further discovery of novel toxins produced by nature, this symposium will address the fate and effects of a wide variety of xenobiotics of both origins including environmental pollutants such as endocrine disrupters, nitrogenous pollutants, metals, pesticides and a myriad of chemical mixtures found in real world situations. It is the goal of this symposium to highlight specific aspects of the current state of research in this large and diverse area in aquatic toxicology to further our scientific understanding of basic toxicological processes as well as to communicate its more applied aspects. An additional objective of this symposium is to emphasize the newest endeavors in the understanding of the relationship between fish and their chemical environment.

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Don MacKinlay  
Congress Chair

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