



**Sustainable Aquaculture Systems Supporting Atlantic Salmon (SAS<sup>2</sup>)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Conference**

**Hosted by Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology (IMET),  
at the Living Classrooms Maritime Park in Fells Point**

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October 14<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> 2025

*Program:*

**Tuesday, October 14th**

5:00 – 7:30 PM: **Opening Reception at IMET**

**Wednesday, October 15th**

8:00 – 8:30 AM: **Coffee and Registration**

8:30 – 9:00 AM: **Welcome and Introductions**

Speakers: Dr. Karl Steiner (Vice President, Research and Creative Activities, UMBC), Dr. Jenn Burns (Executive Director, IMET), Dr. Debbie Bouchard (SAS<sup>2</sup> co-Project Director, UMaine ARI), and Dr. Yonathan Zohar (SAS<sup>2</sup> Project Director, IMET)

9:00 – 10:00 AM: **Reproductive Efficiency** - moderated by Erin Legacki (USDA-ARS, *tentatively*)

Panelists: Ten-Tsao Wong (UMBC), Jason Collins (Benchmark Genetics), Tyler Firkus (UWSP-NADF), Jonas Miller (UMBC)

10:00 – 11:00 AM: **Alternative and RAS Feeds** - moderated by Debbie Bouchard (UMaine)

Panelists: Sabine Mader (Skretting), Maksim Mironenka (BioMar), Allen Place (UMCES), Matt Hawkyard (UMaine)

11:00 – 11:30 AM: **Coffee Break**

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM: **Off-flavor - Understanding and Mitigation** - moderated by John Davidson (Freshwater Institute)

Panelists: Matthew Stromberg (UMBC), Bobby Harrington (UMaine), Ryan Ardoin (USDA, tentatively)

12:30 – 2:00 PM: **Lunch and Keynote Speaker** - Marianne Naess (Great Northern Salmon) presents “Lessons learned and way forward for RAS in the US.”

2:00 – 3:00 PM: **Education and Workforce Development** -moderated by Adam Frederick (MDSG)

Panelists: Amy Lang (UMD), Mark Kather (Baltimore County Public School), Laura O'Leary (Harford County Public School), Gal Harpaz (UMBC), Keyia Yalcin (Fishnet), Emily Fair (Carroll County Public School)

3:00 – 4:00 PM: **Presentations on Microbiology of RAS**

3:00-3:20: Abhinav Choudhury (Freshwater Institute) presents “Turning fish farm waste into energy: advances in anaerobic digestion of RAS effluents.”

3:20-3:40: Kevin Sowers (UMBC) presents “Desalination of salmon sludge for application as agricultural fertilizer.”

3:40-4:00: Anne Baldino (UMBC) presents “Microbial community structure and function in biofiltration compartments of an Atlantic salmon marine RAS.”

4:00 – 4:30 PM: **Alternative Funding Opportunities for R&D** - Timothy Minor (Vice Chancellor, University System of Maryland) presents “Strategic Partnerships.”

6:00 – 8:00 PM: **Evening Social at Phillips Seafood featuring salmon from Superior Fresh**

### **Thursday, October 16th**

8:30 – 10:00 AM: **Tours at IMET (will include coffee and pastries)**

10:30 – 11:30 AM: **Industry Priorities** - moderated by Steve Summerfelt (Superior Fresh)

Panelists: Dean Guest (Great Northern Salmon), Sannel Patel (Pinnacle Ozone), Brittany Peachey (Hudson Valley Fisheries), George Nardi (Innovasea)

11:30 – 12:30 PM: **Strategic Envisioning** - moderated by Erik Heim (XcelerateAqua)

Panelists: David Seeley (Skretting), David Kelly (Cuna del Mar), Max Holtzman (Ocean 14 Capital), Caird Rexroad (USDA-ARS, tentatively)

12:30 – 1:50 PM: **Lunch and Keynote Speaker**- Ragnar Jóhannsson (Marine and Freshwater Research Institute, Iceland) presents “Towards environmental compatibility and genetic containment: the Icelandic story of salmon on land.”

1:50 – 2:00 PM: **Closing Remarks** -Yonathan Zohar (SAS<sup>2</sup> Project Director, IMET)

## Acknowledgments & Gratitude

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*We thank this year's conference **sponsors** for their generosity:*



*We're also grateful to this year's **supporters** for their contributions:*



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