Over the last few months your Board of Directors has been busily moving forward on a number of new initiatives. Recently you should have received an email with a link (www.surveymonkey.com/s/BDMZV82) that takes you to our member satisfaction survey. Currently more than 10 percent of USAS members have already responded. We need to hear from as many members as possible. This is the only way we have to gauge your satisfaction and set direction for member needs that will help guide our agenda for the coming years.

We will also be launching a new website in the coming weeks that will better represent aquaculture in the United States. Aquaculture in the United States involves numerous species and our new site will change to reflect all aspects of US aquaculture including our suppliers and industry support. The screenshots you see here are just a sample of what is to come. The site was designed to be modern, clean and efficient and convey basic information about US aquaculture and our society. The site will also link to social media, provide information about our annual meeting and have new features that highlight Society members, student achievements, and upcoming US aquaculture related events and opportunities. It is constructed in a format for quick addition of features and we hope you will provide constructive feedback that allows us to optimize it for your needs.

There are a number of other initiatives underway to broaden USAS support of regional aquaculture meetings in the United States. Our Promotions and Membership Committee is working closely with the organizing committee of the 35th Fish Feed and Nutrition Workshop in Bozeman, MT, the 2016 North Central Regional Aquaculture Conference to provide financial support of these conferences as well as several other aquaculture and aquaculture-related organizations throughout the country. You will see e-blasts and web page notices for these meetings and, if you intend to be at the meeting, there will be opportunities for you to help promote our society by both distributing literature and answering questions.

The main focus of our mission is education, culminating in our annual meeting, which this year is the combined triennial meeting in Las Vegas with our great partners the National Aquaculture Association, the National Shellfisheries Association and the American Fisheries Society’s Fish Culture Section. There are a number of special sessions this year including Salmonids, Sea Ranching, Stock Enhancement, Conservation and Restoration Aquaculture, Climate Change and Aquaculture, and Food Additives for Health, just to name a few. Perhaps of particular interest to our student members is a session on “Career Development and Job Placement in Aquaculture.” The lineup of presenters represents producers, aquaculture suppliers, and state and federal government representatives involved in research and management. This will be a great opportunity for students to get pointers on how to get a job in US aquaculture once they graduate.

Over the last two years, student travel scholarships are at an abstracts, presentations, sessions, exhibitions, forums...farewell to World Aquaculture 2015 in Jeju! The Korean Chapter co-hosted World Aquaculture 2015 with WAS at the International Convention Center on the beautiful island of Jeju, Korea from 26 to 31 May. After the WAS annual conference held in Busan in 2008, this was the second time the meeting was held in Korea. More than 2,500 participants from 66 countries attended World Aquaculture 2015, where 449 oral and 414 poster presentations were made in 57 sessions. Along with the presentations, we also hosted an aquaculture industry exhibition of 94 companies and approximately 2,900 visitors toured the exhibition area.

During World Aquaculture 2015 in Jeju, an Aquaforum was also held for the first time, where seven outstanding lectures were given to participants involved in the aquaculture industry. The Aquaforum ran for three days and about 300 audience members enjoyed the talks and discussions. During the opening ceremony, WAS also honored Yoram Avnimelech, Professor Emeritus of Technion – Israel Institute of Technology and Abdel-Fattah M. El-Sayed, professor of Alexandria University Egypt by awarding the Honorary Life Award and Jeong-Yeol Lee, professor of Kun Kunsan National University, Korea was also honored by receiving the Fellow of WAS Award. Participants of World Aquaculture 2015 also enjoyed the farm tour at the end of the symposium, visiting flounder and abalone farms and a fish feed mill.

On behalf of the Korean Chapter, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the WAS members who attended the meeting and I also would like to extend my sincere thanks to members of the Steering, Industry and Program committees: Jay Parsons, Bill Danials, Ik-Kyo Chung, Roy Palmer, Sungchul Charles Bai, Jeong-Yeol Lee, You-Jin Jeon, Sukgeun Jung, Michael Schwarz and Craig Browdy, for their time and effort to organize the sessions and exhibition. I also would like acknowledge the ex officio members, John Cooksey and Mario Stael for promotion, registration and exhibition. This is my last report for the Korean chapter; Ik-Kyo Chung has been elected as the new Chapter President.

— Albert Kwang-Sik Choi, President