

Invited Speakers

Confirmed invited speakers at the 8th International Oyster Symposium

- Professor **Bernard Degnan**, School of Biological Sciences, The University of Queensland.

Prof. Degnan's primary research interest is on Genomes, evolution and development; and Marine biotechnology. More details about Prof. Degnan can be found: <https://biological-sciences.uq.edu.au/profile/429/bernard-degnan>

- Professor **Dennis Hedgecock**, College of Letters, Arts and Science, University of Southern California.

Prof. Hedgecock combines expertise in genetics with an understanding of the larger issues of marine organisms and ecosystems. His research focuses on the population, quantitative, evolutionary and conservation genetics of marine fish and shellfish, including Pacific oysters. A leading scientist in the field of oyster aquaculture and genetics, Prof. Hedgecock uses genetic mapping and functional genomics to study the genetic basis of hybrid vigor in Pacific oysters. He develops and improves crossbreeding techniques for farmed Pacific oysters, and has produced high-yield hybrid oyster varieties. More details: <https://dornsife.usc.edu/cf/faculty-and-staff/faculty.cfm?pid=1003344>.

- Professor **Guofan Zhang**, Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Prof. Zhang's research is focusing on Molluscan mariculture and Aquaculture genetics, who led the Oyster Genome Project. More details for him: http://english.qdio.cas.cn/pe/fas/201105/t20110519_70002.html.

- Professor **Ximing Guo**, Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory, Rutgers University

Prof. Guo's research is on the genetics and reproduction of marine molluscs. His research interest is in genetic mechanisms of molluscan development and reproduction, and their applications in the improvement of cultured molluscs.

- Professor **Christopher Langdon**, College of Agricultural Sciences, Oregon State University

Prof. Langdon's research is broadly interested in aquaculture of oysters and other bivalves. His work with the Molluscan Broodstock Program focuses on the genetic selection of oysters in order to improve all aspects of oyster production. He also studies ocean acidification and hypoxia and its effects on oyster production.