

A message from Will White, OCS President:

The **8th Indo-Pacific Fish Conference** (combined with the 2009 ASFB Workshop and Conference) will be held in Perth from the 31st May to 5 June.

The **Oceania Chondrichthyan Society (OCS, www.oceaniasharks.org.au)** will be hosting a General Chondrichthyan Symposium during this event. The symposium organisers are Bernard Séret, Dave Ebert, Peter Last and myself.

The Abstract deadline is fast approaching (31st January 2009) and to facilitate organisation of the symposium, we are asking if people could email Will White (william.white@csiro.au) whether you are definitely or possibly attending the conference and in which of the themes listed below you are aiming to present.

Themes:

- Systematics and biogeography
- Fisheries
- Conservation and management
- Feeding ecology
- Life history
- Age and growth
- Population genetics
- Physiology
- Movement and behaviour
- Other.... (e.g. captive biology, bycatch reduction, etc)

The conference proceedings are still being organised by the IPFC/ASFB conference committee, but please also let me know if you are planning on submitting a paper from within this symposium.

OCS will also aim to hold a separate dinner on one of the nights during the event. More information will be provided about this at a later date.

“Web Hot Special Registration” is now available at a discounted price.

<http://www.ipfc2009asfb.com/register.html>

Travel student awards are available through:

- The Australian Biological Resources Study (ABRS). The next round will be advertised in April 2009 for travel after 30 May 2009. Please follow the link below for more information. <http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/abrs/funding-and-research/bursaries/index.html>

- The Australian Society for Fish Biology (ASFB).
<http://www.asfb.org.au/awards/index.htm>

- The Oceania Chondrichthyan Society (OCS).
http://www.oceaniasharks.org.au/Prizes%20and%20awards/prizes_and_awards.html

Please send emails to Will White (william.white@csiro.au). However, if necessary you can also email Bernard Séret (seret@mnhn.fr), Dave Ebert (debert@mlml.calstate.edu) or Peter Last (peter.last@csiro.au).

Kind regards

Dr Will White

OCS President

Ichthyologist

CSIRO Marine & Atmospheric Research, Hobart

email: william.white@csiro.au