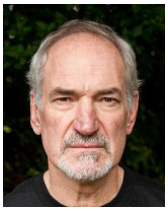
Prof. Kenton Morgan



Kenton Morgan was appointed to the first Chair of Epidemiology at a UK Veterinary School in 1996. He is a veterinary graduate from the University of Cambridge. After completing a PhD in Mucosal Immunology and postdoctoral training at the Tierarzliche Hochschule in Hanover, he took as three yeat career break cycling through West Africa, the Indian subcontinent, Myanmar, Thailand and China. On his return to the UK, he worked as a diagnostic pathologist at a busy Veterinary Investigation Centre in reading before being appointed as Lecturer in Small Ruminant Preventive Medicine at the University of Bristol. Here he developed the largest epidemiology group at a UK veterinary school. He was a Reader in Veterinary Epidemiology from 1993 and became Head of the Department on Animal Health and Husbandry in the same year. He was visiting professor to the University of Nagasaki between 2013-2016 where he developed an intensive 7-day course in basic epidemiology. He grew up seine net fishing on the Tywi Estuary in West Wales and was introduced to aquatic epidemiology by Prof. James Turnbull in 1998. He was President of the International Society for Aquatic Animal Epidemiology from 2007-12. He retired in 2016 after training over 30 postgraduate students in Epidemiology. He returned to university, graduating with an MA in Acting in 2019. He now divides his time between his passion for teaching epidemiology and that of professional acting.

Dr. Edgar Brun

Edgar Brun is a trained veterinarian with a background from field work in fish health practise. At the Norwegian Veterinary Institute where he started working in 1996, he has been engaged in epidemiology research, leading the section of epidemiology for 12 years before he was appointed Director for Aquatic Animal Health and Welfare in 2018. The Norwegian Veterinary Institute was approved WOAH collaborating center in Epidemiology and Risk Assessment of Aquatic Animal Diseases in 2010 which he was co-leading till 2018. He has been engaged himself and gained valuable experience from working with fish health in international aquaculture related to WOAH, FAO and projects funded through NORAD (Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation) as well as EU. He was co-founder of the first AquaEpi-conference in 2016, and just ended his period as vice president in the European Association of Fish Pathologists.

Dr. Flavio Corsin

Flavio Corsin has spent almost three decades working in responsible aquaculture globally for non-profit, intergovernmental, and for-profit organizations. After graduating with a M.Sc. in Aquaculture from the University of Stirling (UK), he initiated his career as an aquatic epidemiologist in 1997, when he conducted epidemiological research on White Spot Disease in Vietnam and India, through which he earned a Ph.D. in veterinary epidemiology from the University of Liverpool. He then continued his career in aquatic epidemiology at the North Carolina State University, from where among others, he worked as the Secretary of the International Society for Aquatic Animal Epidemiology (ISAAE). In 2003 Dr. Corsin moved to a more applied and development-oriented career by joining the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) during which he coordinated aquatic animal health management projects in Vietnam, Iran, Bangladesh, Indonesia and other Asia-Pacific countries. His work as an epidemiologist in Asia and globally continued after he established the International Collaborating Centre for Aquaculture and Fisheries Sustainability (ICAFIS), which included working as consultant for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and supporting the World Organization for Animal Health to develop standards and guidelines for aquatic animal surveillance. As the Director of the Aquaculture Program at IDH, the Sustainable Trade Initiative, Dr. Corsin supported the adoption of an epidemiological approach by aquaculture entrepreneurs. In 2020 Dr. Corsin joined Aqua-Spark, a global investment fund that makes investments in sustainable aquaculture businesses, where he leads partnerships with industry leaders and supports more than 20 aquaculture innovators to generate impact and competitive financial returns.

Dr. Krishna Thakur

Krishna Thakur is an Assistant Professor in Infectious Disease Epidemiology at the University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI) and is an emerging researcher focused on understanding the dynamics of aquatic animal diseases. He started his graduate training at Purdue University, USA as a Fulbright scholar and earned a Master's degree in Comparative Epidemiology in 2011, followed by the completion of Ph.D. degree in Epidemiology from UPEI in 2015. He furthered his training in Aquatic Epidemiology as a Post-Doctoral Fellow and led several projects applying quantitative methods to answer questions related to health, production, the interaction between wild and farmed aquatic animals, and sustainability for a number of aquatic species, including salmon, mussel, lobster, and shrimp. He has continued working with aquatic food animals as an independent researcher which involves epidemiological investigations of diseases of aquatic animals related to shifts in the microbial community, simulation of the spread of infectious diseases in the aquatic environment, development and validation of diagnostic tests, and development of algorithms for early detection of infectious shrimp diseases. He has extensive experience in collaborative transdisciplinary research involving government and aquaculture/fishery industry partners.

Dr. Fernando O. Mardones

Fernando O. Mardones is a Chilean veterinarian and Master in Preventive Veterinary Medicine (MPVM) and Ph.D. in veterinary epidemiology from the University of California, Davis. He was Undergraduate Chair and is assistant professor at the School of Veterinary Medicine at the Pontifical Catholic University (PUC) in Santiago, Chile. His research involves the design and conduct of epidemiological investigations to evaluate risk factors related to threats and infectious diseases affecting farmed species in aquaculture, including seaweed, shrimp, tilapia and salmonids. His work on aquatic epidemiology, surveillance, climate change and "One Health" is reflected in almost 50 publications and book chapters on the topics. He is part of International Meeting Oversight Committee of the Fish Health Section of the American Fish Society and member of the UC Global Health Institute (UCGHI) of the University of California. He was the chair of the 9th International Symposium on Aquatic Animal Health (ISAAH 9th), chief editor of the Planetary Health section at the Advances in Global Health journal and associate editor of Frontiers Journal on Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics. For 5 years, he has been part of the FAO team of experts in the epidemiological surveillance of diseases of aquatic organisms, carrying out activities in about twenty low- and middle-income countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Dr. Annette Boerlage

Annette Boerlage is an applied aquatic epidemiologist based in Inverness Scotland with Scotland's Rural College (SRUC), where she is involved in research and teaching. She uses statistical and mathematical models to obtain insight into the interactions between environment, host and pathogen in aquaculture systems and industries, and her research fits under the umbrella of the blue economy. Her area of expertise is gill health of Atlantic salmon. She is publication officer of the European Association of Fish Pathologists. Her research goals are to deliver evidence-based information that can improve health management on aquaculture farms, mitigate disease, production loss, and mortality of aquaculture stock, and improve sustainability of the aquaculture industry. She is involved in a broad range of subjects, including case definition development, diagnostic tests evaluations, sample sizes calculations (e.g. https://epidemiology.sruc.ac.uk/apps/), challenge experiments, risk factor analysis, development of decision support tools (e.g. https://decideproject.eu/) and AI. She has done most of her education in Wageningen University, where she has obtained a B.Sc. in Animal Sciences, M.Sc. in Aquaculture and Fisheries and a PhD in Fish-Borne Zoonotic Trematodes

Dr. Neeraj Sood

Neeraj Sood is working as Principal Scientist in Exotics and Aquatic Animal Health Division of ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources, Lucknow. He did his doctorate from Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana in Veterinary Pathology. He has about 25 years of experience of working in the area of aquatic animal health and has published over 90 research articles. He has been involved in preparing the national documents on exotic aquatic species and quarantine. He was also involved in studies on understanding host-pathogen interaction of Aphanomyces invadans and Tilapia Lake Virus. He is Consortium Principal Investigator of National Surveillance Programme for Aquatic Animal Diseases.

Dr. K.V. Rajendran

Rajendran Kooloth Valappil graduated from the University of Calicut. He joined ICAR-CIBA, Chennai, as Scientist in 1993. In 1998, he moved to ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai as Senior Scientist. Subsequently, he was a Post-doctoral Fellow at Yeosu National University, South Korea (2000-2001). Fish Pathologist at the Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO), Australia (2003-2006) and Fulbright-Nehru Senior Research Fellow at the Auburn University, USA (2011). Before moving to the Central University of Kerala as Professor, Dr Rajendran was Principal Scientist & Head, Division of Aquatic Environment & Health Management, ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai. Dr. Rajendran is one of the Editors of the journal Virus Disease (Springer) and Editorial Board Member, Fish & Shellfish Immunology Reports (Elsevier). His current research includes pathobiome approach to understand the disease process in shrimp and fish.

Dr. Ha Thanh Dong

Dong (or Dong Ha) is a dynamic researcher in the field of aquatic animal health, with a primary focus on identifying and characterizing emerging aquatic pathogens that impact important aquaculture species in Asia. He has made significant contributions to the understanding of infectious and emerging diseases, particularly in tilapia, Asian sea bass, catfish, snake skin gourami, Siamese fighting fish, and whiteleg shrimp. Dong's innovative work extends to the development of diagnostic technologies, fish vaccines development, nanobubble technology, and other disease control strategies as alternatives to antibiotics. He has authored/co-authored over 100 international peer-reviewed articles in this field and currently serves as an advisory board member and guest editor for several reputable journals in this domain.

Dr. Saraya Tavornpanich

Saraya Tavornpanich attained her veterinary medicine degree from Thailand's Khon Kaen University, followed by a master's in preventive veterinary medicine (MPVM) and a doctorate in veterinary epidemiology from the University of California, Davis. She presently holds the position of coordinator at the International Centre for Aquatic Animal Health Development at the Norwegian Veterinary Institute. Additionally, she has been leading the WOAH Collaborating Centre for Epidemiology and Risk Assessment for Aquatic Animal Diseases (Europe) since June 2018. Saraya's expertise primarily lies in quantitative epidemiology, focusing on infectious diseases. Her research focuses on employing epidemiological methods to develop risk-based strategies for the surveillance, monitoring, control, and prevention of aquatic animal diseases. Over the past sixteen years, Saraya has actively contributed to shaping and supporting research initiatives in aquaculture epidemiology, while also providing strategic coordination and advisory services to decision-makers. She has fulfilled roles such as project manager, work package leader, and project coordinator in various national and international research projects. Her ongoing endeavors encompass projects like Fish for Development in Ghana and Colombia, advisory contributions to GIS utilization in aquaculture for the WOAH-supported "Aquae Strength" project, participation in the technical working group for FAO's Progressive Management Pathway for Aquaculture Biosecurity (PMB/AB) project, and collaboration with WorldFish in Egypt. ORCID ID. 0000-0002-9713-688

Dr. Gaurav Rathore

Gaurav Rathore is a Principal Scientist in the Exotics and Aquatic Animal Health Management Division at ICAR-National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources (NBFGR) in Lucknow. He holds a veterinary degree from G.B. Pant University, and a Master's degree from ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute, specializing in Veterinary Microbiology. In 2008, he earned his Ph.D. in Biotechnology from U.P Technical University, Lucknow. Commencing his professional journey in 1993, Gaurav Rathore began as a Quality Control Officer for poultry vaccines in a private sector company before joining ICAR as a Scientist in 1997. He has more than 20 years research experience in aquatic animal health, and he served as the Head of the Fish Health Management division at ICAR-NBFGR from 2016 to 2022. His research interests encompass microbiology, hybridoma technology, cell culture, and antimicrobial resistance. Over the course of his career, Dr Rathore has supervised 4 Ph.D. students and over 20 post-graduate students. Additionally, he has contributed significantly to scientific literature, having published ninety research articles in peer-reviewed journals.

Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patil

P.K. Patil has his research interested in aquatic animal health management with special reference to development of prophylactic and therapeutic measures including, immune stimulating agents, probiotics and vaccines. Presently he is leading a program for development of guidelines for scientific use of veterinary medicinal products in Indian aquaculture. He is an active member of committees for preparation of policy documents for various departments of state and central governments. His other key interests are invertebrate immunology, bioremediaiton, aquatic animal health economics, development of healthcare products, entrepreneurship development and strengthening multi-institutional collaborations.

Dr. Thitiwan Patanasatienkul

Thitiwan Patanasatienkul is the Aquatic Animal Health Officer at the World Organisation for Animal Health Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific. She received her D.V.M and M.Sc. in Veterinary Epidemiology from Kasetsart University, Thailand, and completed her Ph.D. in Health Management, specialized in Aquatic Epidemiology, at the University of Prince Edward Island, Canada. Dr. Thitiwan is well versed in numerous epidemiological methods which she applied to a wide range of species, from terrestrial to aquatic animals. She adopts a research approach focused on collaboration among industry, regulatory agencies, and academic colleagues to produce insights to inform the aquaculture and fisheries industries in their decision-making. She believes Epidemiology research is a key element in the blue economy and aims to use her expertise to improve the stewardship of aquatic resources and the sustainability of aquaculture. The current work at WOAH allows Dr. Thitiwan to contribute to improving aquatic animal health in the Asia-Pacific region and support the implementation of WOAH's Aquatic Animal Health Strategy 2021-2025 and related activities in the region.