

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to acknowledge the Workshop Organizing Committee composed of Dr. Kay Briggs (U.S.G.S); Dr. Andy Bruckner (NOAA); Ms. Athline Clark (Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources); Dr. Sylvia B. Galloway; Ms Jennifer Kozlowski (NOAA); Dr. Jo-Ann Leong (HIMB, Univ. Hawaii); Ms. Betsy Mordecai (MorEvents); and Dr. Cheryl Woodley, Chair (NOAA) for their collective efforts in the weeks prior to the workshop. This team set the vision and goals for the workshop, developed the agenda and identified experts to represent key disciplines in the deliberations.

We would like to thank Ms. Athline Clark for her opening remarks that introduced us to the customs and traditions of the Pacific Islands which helped us understand a bit of the culture, their dependence on, yet love for coral reef ecosystems and their unique approach to stewardship of this resource.

We are grateful to Dr. Gary Ostrander for his time and welcome presentation. His candid insightful remarks called each of us in the coral disease community to action, action for change and action to work together as a cohesive research community that rallies around common goals and collaborating on common objectives. This moving presentation was transcribed and is the Forward to this document.

Background information that created a context for the workshop participants was generously provided by a series of 16 white papers and oral presentations.

Mr. Mike Gawel provided a context for the unique nature of the Pacific culture and biology in his presentation titled: *Overview of issues unique to the Pacific Biological & Social perspectives.*

Dr. Cheryl Woodley then provided an introduction for the Coral Disease and Health Consortium and shared some of the CDHC's progress over the last 4 years in her talk titled: *Introduction to the CDHC and Progress on the National Plan.*

Dr. Esti Winter provided introductory remarks that helped define the topic and scope for coral disease with her presentation titled: *Definition of Disease and Various Presentations of Disease in Coral.*

In his two white papers, Dr. Andy Bruckner provided insights from experiences with Caribbean coral diseases and a perspective of the global pervasiveness of coral disease. His presentations were titled: *Lessons learned in the Caribbean (Historical perspective)* and *Global perspective of Incidence & Prevalence of Coral Disease.*

Dr. Bette Willis updated the group on the international coral disease work of the Coral Reef Targeted Research & Capacity Building for Management Program, a partnership between the Global Environmental Facility, the World Bank, The University of Queensland, NOAA, research institutes and third-parties globally and she also provided a

report specifically addressing coral disease in the Western Pacific with her presentation titled: *Current knowledge of diseases in Western Pacific*.

Dr. Greta Aeby began focusing on the Pacific issues with her white paper and presentation: *Current knowledge of diseases in Hawaii & Northwest Hawaiian Islands*.

Dr. Thierry Work is a veterinary diagnostician that has worked on coral disease throughout the Pacific. His presentation and white papers were titled: *Current knowledge of diseases in U.S. Territories and Freely Assoc States*.

Dr. Gary Wobeser, a prominent wildlife veterinarian and professor of wildlife diseases provided the participants with a basic primer outlining fundamentals that need to be considered when studying diseases in wildlife. His presentation was entitled: *Basic Concepts in Diseases of Wildlife: The Diagnostic Method*.

Dr. Dave Jessup helped provide some practical guidelines responding to outbreaks of disease in the wild with his presentation: *Disease Outbreak Investigation: The Process - What elements are critical?*

Dr. Stephanie Venn-Watson is a veterinarian and wildlife epidemiologist. She shared with the group insights into preparing for diseases in corals with her talk: *Emerging Disease – How do we identify it?*

Dr. Bruce Wilcox is a leader in exploring human-ecosystem interactions as it relates to human health and environmental change. He provided context for coral disease and as an emerging issue with ocean health in his presentation: *Evolutionary Ecology, and Disease Emergence: The Big Picture*.

Dr. Jeffery Allen explored the inter-relatedness of good science with politicians and the public and the importance of these interactions to actually identify and make changes to save reefs in his presentation: *Scientists, the Public and the Politicians: How do we connect for reef's sake?*

Ms Melissa Bos shared with the group, advances in marine science technologies in her presentation: *Technologies for Disease Monitoring and Assessment* and asked the group for specific needs that with improved technology the field of coral disease research would be enhanced.

Mr. Eric Mathur presented a stimulating talk titled: *Technologies for Diagnostics: Leveraging Post Genomic Tools and Systems Biology to Accelerate the Understanding of Coral Disease and Effectively Monitor Tropical Reef Ecosystems*, in which he showed the power and possibilities provided with post-genomic information and new platforms for that information that could directly impact coral health and disease research.

We would like to thank all of the participants that served in working groups whose experience and knowledge laid the foundation for this document. We are especially

grateful to the Working Group Chairs and their Rapporteurs that not only presided over the deliberations during the workshop but also provided draft reports for each group that were used for preparing this document. The Cellular Physiology and Pathology group was chaired by Dr. JoAnn Leong and rapporteur, Dr. Sylvia Galloway. The Toxicology and Ecological Epidemiology was chaired by Dr. Stephanie Venn-Watson with rapporteur, Dr. Katie Tucker-Mohl. The Pathology of Infectious Disease working group was chaired by Dr. Thierry Work with Ms. Julie Higgins serving as rapporteur. The working group Preventing and Responding to Coral Disease in the Pacific: Management Perspectives was chaired by Ms. Jennifer Kozlowski with rapporteur, Ms. Amanda McLenon.

A special thanks go to members of the Woodley Lab that assisted in preparing the Workshop Briefing Book, in particular, Sara Polson for artwork and Julie Higgins and Amanda McLenon for copying and organizing the materials into the briefing book.

Many thanks go to the Alliance for Coastal Technologies and the Khaled bin Sultan-Living Oceans Foundation for hosting a reception for the meeting at the Waikiki Aquarium. We would also like to acknowledge our meeting organizer, MorEvents and give a special thanks to our onsite meeting liaison, Ms. Kay Luzaich who worked tirelessly to resolve problems from transportation to desserts so the organizer could focus on the science.

We very much appreciate the financial support for this workshop and this document which was provided by NOAA through the Coral Reef Conservation Program in support of the Coral Disease and Health Consortium project.