



**SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS  
60<sup>th</sup> GULF AND CARIBBEAN FISHERIES INSTITUTE  
NOVEMBER 5 - 9, 2007 PUNTA CANA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

**Abstracts for the 60<sup>th</sup> GCFI have been extended to 1 September 2007.**

The 60<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute will be held at the [Ocean Blue Hotel](#) in Bovara, Dominican Republic. **Papers and posters are solicited in the following themes:**

- Biology, Ecology, and Assessment of Reef and Pelagic Fishes
- Biology, Ecology, and Assessment of Invertebrate Marine Fisheries
- Fish Spawning Aggregations
- Management and Socio-Economics of Marine Fisheries/Recreational Fisheries
- Marine Protected Areas Science and Management
- Marine Science Education
- Recreational Fisheries
- Marine Aquaculture
- GIS and Fisheries Science
- **Special Sessions/Symposia/Workshops:** Several symposia and special sessions are planned for the 60<sup>th</sup> GCFI:
  - *The Status of Goliath Grouper: Finding a Common Conservation and Management Solution through a Regional Scientific and Fisheries Framework* – A half-day special session dedicated to bring together researchers, managers and conservationists from the species' distributional range to identify immediate and future common priorities with a scientific and conservation focus. The symposium will consist of a mix of invited and contributed papers covering a range of topics that include population structure, life history, fisheries, traditional knowledge, and conservation and management. For more information, please visit the [Goliath Grouper web page](#) or contact Rachel Graham or Kevin Rhodes at [goliath@gcfi.org](mailto:goliath@gcfi.org).
  - *Responsible Use of the Caribbean Spiny Lobster Resource: Integrating Biology, Management, Marketing, Processing, and Trade* – A half-day session of invited and contributed papers dedicated to sharing and integrating current research on the biology and management of spiny lobsters with regulatory, marketing, trade, and processing practices to promote responsible and sustainable use of the resource. For more information, visit the [Spiny Lobster web page](#).

- *GCFI Special Session on the Nassau Grouper*: A half day special session dedicated to a small number of invited overviews on the biology, fishery, management and conservation of the species, including history and current status. These summaries will form the basis of a Panel discussion on possible activities and actions to improve the status of the species, including consideration of a pan-Caribbean strategy for its management. For more information, please visit the [Nassau grouper web page](#).
- *A Retrospective of Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries: 58 Years of Contributions to the GCFI Proceedings* – This special session will provide a broad overview of historic trends in fisheries research, management, technology, and conservation in Gulf and Caribbean fisheries based on 58 years of papers published in the Proceedings of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute. All presentations are invited.
- *The 31<sup>st</sup> annual meeting of the [Seafood Science and Technology Society of the Americas](#)* will be held in conjunction with the GCFI conference. This meeting will begin on Wednesday 7 November and will end on 9 November. More information about this conference can be found on the [SST](#) website.

The general poster session/reception will be on the evening of Tuesday 7 November.

#### Abstracts

**Abstracts for the 60<sup>th</sup> GCFI have been extended to 1 September 2007.**

ALL ENGLISH ABSTRACTS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED WITH SPANISH TRANSLATIONS. French and Spanish abstracts must also be accompanied by a title, abstract, and key words in English. Only 250 words (275 in Spanish) will be saved. Authors will be notified of the acceptance of their presentations and the date of their scheduled session after the abstract deadline.

To submit an abstract, you will need to use the online [GCFI User Portal](#). We are requiring this new procedure so that users can update their information (this is very important for mailing the Proceedings) and to simplify abstract submission and conference registration. It also allows you to edit your abstract online until the abstract deadline date and simplifies confusion when developing the Book of Abstracts.

Permission to present at an oral session requires submission of a full and complete abstract using the online abstract submission form and a full and complete manuscript in the proper format prior to presentation at the meeting. Poster presentations do not require submission of a manuscript (although they are enthusiastically accepted). Students wishing to compete for the student awards and requesting poster presentations are required to submit a manuscript for publication in the GCFI Proceedings at the meeting. Manuscript preparation guidelines are available at <http://www.gcfi.org/Conferences/RefMats/AuthorGuidelines.htm>

#### Student Awards

GCFI is offering two Student Achievement Awards.

GCFI will offer two Student Achievement Awards which will cover all expenses to the 60<sup>th</sup> GCFI conference. Students must meet the revised abstract deadline of 1 September 2007 to be eligible for the Student Achievement Awards. Students wishing to be considered for these awards must indicate their interest at the time of abstract submittal in the checkbox on the abstract submittal form. Eligibility criteria for the Student Achievement Awards can be found at: (<http://www.gcfi.org/StudentAwards/OutstandingAward.htm>). Note that a manuscript of the talk/poster must be submitted at the meeting to be eligible for this award. Students who applied for the award when submitting their abstract may withdraw from consideration of the award by the first day of the conference. Winners of these awards will be announced on Friday at the end of the conference.

Please check the website ([www.gcfi.org](http://www.gcfi.org)) for other Student Awards.

### Registrations

Registrations can be made online using the [GCFI User Portal](#). Early registration (until 15 September) for the meeting is US\$150 (\$75 for students); late registrations after 15 Sept are \$200 US (\$100 Student). Registrations at the door are \$225. Registrations for the Seafood Science and Technology conference are \$75 and restrictions apply to those registering for SST. Check the GCFI website ([www.gcfi.org](http://www.gcfi.org)) for more information.

Everyone registering automatically is a member of GCFI and will receive a copy of the GCFI Proceedings from the meeting when published. Registration is available online. Onsite registrations may be made with a credit card, check, money order, or US currency. Other arrangements may be made by contacting [registrations@gcfi.org](mailto:registrations@gcfi.org).

### The Venue

The meeting hotel will be at the [Ocean Blue Hotel](#) (**do not use this link for reservations**) in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. The hotel is all inclusive (this includes food and drinks.)

### Hotel Reservations

To reserve a room, please use this [reservation link](#) and click on corporate rates. Use the Corporate Access Code **group1**. GCFI has negotiated special rates at this all-inclusive (food and drinks) resort hotel. The rates are 125 \$US single occupancy, \$85 per person double occupancy, \$80 per person triple occupancy, and \$75 per person quadruple occupancy. Taxes and a \$3 per night booking fee are additional. Other room rates are available for children. Rooms must be booked by 15 October to receive the special rate.

### Travel

Please book your flights to Punta Cana. (If you book a flight to Sto. Domingo, you will have a 4 hour drive to the hotel.) There are many direct flights from throughout the region to Punta Cana.

Visas requirements for the Dominican Republic can be found at this web address: <http://www.domrep.org/consulates.html>.

For additional information about the 60<sup>th</sup> GCFI, please visit the [conference web page](#) on the GCFI website. Information includes hotel information, GCFI student awards, and guidelines for submitting abstracts and manuscripts. As the meeting comes closer, more information about the venue and program will be posted.

**We look forward to seeing you in the Dominican Republic in November for the 60<sup>th</sup> GCFI!**

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