

Barbados October 04, 2020

GCFI Nominations Committee
GCFI
c/o Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Fish and Wildlife Research Institute
2796 Overseas Highway, Ste. 119
Marathon, FL 33050 USA

Dear Sir/Madam,

My interaction with the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) began in 2003 at the 56th GCFI at which I made my first oral presentation (Tortola GCFI 56). Since then I have authored and co-authored posters presented at the 58th GCFI (San Andres, 2004), 69th GCFI (Grand Cayman, 2016), 70th GCFI (Merida, Mexico, 2017) and 72nd GCFI (2018, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic). The co-authored posters were part of the GCFI Gender in Fisheries Special Poster Session.

Since 64th GCFI (2011, Puerto Morelos, Mexico) I have been voluntarily assisting in organizing the Fishers Forum and related activities, including the fishers field trip, acting initially as whisperer (Spanish/English) and rapporteur. Ultimately I have also assisted with co-organizing the entire Fishers for Fishers (F4F) activity which included the above activities as well as the selection of the Gladding Memorial Award (GMA) winner, and the production of the F4F report.

With the recent inclusion of the Gender and Fisheries Special Poster Session as part of GCFI, I have assisted Maria Pena with the planning and organization of each session since 2016, and have contributed posters on research being conducted by the GIFT on women and men in the fishing industry in Barbados and the Caribbean. I look forward to assisting with establishing a strategy that will contribute to enabling more participation within this session.

As part of the Board of Directors I aim to continue contributing to the GCFI in the manner mentioned above and in whatever capacity is required to the best of my abilities.

Best Regards,

Bertha Simmons