

William L. Michaels
Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI)
GCFI Board of Directors

Statement of Interest

I will devote my efforts to support the GCFI mission to build collaborations and mentor the next generation of professionals to address priorities on the sustainability living marine resources in the Gulf and Caribbean region. Since 2009, I have dedicated my efforts and provided impactful contributions to the GCFI community and mission, including supportive mentorship of early professionals to build scientific capacity in the Gulf of Mexico and wider Caribbean region. Based on surveys I've initiated with the GCFI community, I have targeted my GCFI presentations on a range of priority capability building topics (e.g., scientific capacity building in data-limited, improving survey monitoring programs using cost-effective emerging science and technology, optimizing fisheries dependent and independent sampling, data-limited assessment methods, and improving science quality assurance for fisheries management). I previously served on the GCFI Board of Directors during 2014-2017 to support the GCFI mission, and organized and convened several impactful GCFI special sessions and workshops (e.g., six published reports from recent GCFI workshop that I organized are listed in the Selected Publications of my enclosed CV). In addition to the importance of the GCFI mission, I value the GCFI community as my extended family with the common dedicated goal to protect our planet's greatest resource, our living ocean. For these reasons, I look forward to serving the GCFI Board of Directors, the GCFI mission, and the GCFI community.

Sincerely,

William L. Michaels