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Expression of Interest

Contact Person/Scientist in Charge

- **Name and surname:** Juan F Asturiano
- **Email:** jfastu@dca.upv.es

Universitat Politècnica de València (UPV)

Department / Institute / Centre

- **Name:** Institute for Animal Science and Technology. Universitat Politècnica de València
- **Address:** Campus de Vera; Camino de Vera, s/n; Valencia (46022)
- **Province:** Valencia

Research Area

- Life Sciences (LIF)

Brief description of the institution:

Universitat Politècnica de València (UPV) is the single Spanish Technical University that features in the main University world rankings. It is within the top 5 Spanish Universities with the highest revenue from both public research and knowledge transfer activities, and a national leader in patent license income and start up creation. Constituted in 1971, it comprises nearly 30.000 students, over 2500 academics, and 17 university research centres of excellence.

UPV has a relevant experience in the participation in international research programmes, with over 100 FP7 projects and 60 H2020 projects in the period 2014-2016. UPV researchers are also actively involved in all H2020 life program stages, from workprogramme drafting discussions, to project coordination. It is also taking part in several major partnering initiatives (JTIs, PPPs, KICs...).

Brief description of the Centre/Research Group (including URL if applicable):

The Group of Aquaculture and Biodiversity (GAB) of the Institute for Animal Science and Technology ([ICTA](#)) at the Polytechnic University of Valencia ([UPV](#)) is formed by 5 lecturers, and a changing number of postdocs, predocs and technicians. Two of the lecturers, Drs. Juan F. Asturiano and Luz Pérez, are the responsible of the fish reproduction lines of research. An overview of the team and our activities and publications (in reproduction lines) is available in our blog: “Acuicultura, Fisiología y Reproducción” (<http://acuiculturaenvalencia.blogspot.com.es/>).

Our main lines of research are centred in the techniques for the control of the reproduction in captivity of the European eel (hormonal treatments, environmental parameters, endocrine control, reproductive physiology, gene expression, bioinformatics), the gametogenesis of female teleosts (oocyte development, vitellogenesis, induction of maturation and spawning, ovulation, IVF, oocyte quality, histology techniques), and spermatology (sperm physiology, sperm quality evaluation, CASA, ASMA, cryopreservation, role of ions on the sperm motility).

We are a group very well connected internationally, and having a good experience on national and international collaborations. Our recent participations in the project [PRO-EEL](http://www.pro-eel.eu/) (<http://www.pro-eel.eu/>) or the AQUAGAMETE COST Action (<http://aquagamete.webs.upv.es/>) chaired by Juan F. Asturiano and coordinating researchers from 28 countries, or the participation in the European Training Network IMPRESS (<http://www.impress-itn.eu/>) are good examples.

Project description:

Alternative methods for the control of European eel reproduction

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie postdoc researcher would arrive to our group coinciding with the end of the European Training Network “Improved production strategies for endangered freshwater species (IMPRESS)” (2015-2018; <http://www.impress-itn.eu/>), funded by Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (H2020).

After that, his/her tasks will be conditioned by the future running projects: for the moment, an application has been submitted to participate in a COST Action: “Solving bottlenecks in eel reproduction to support sustainable aquaculture (EEL SUPPORT)”.

Finally, a project proposal for the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness, having a similar subject, is under preparation.

Anyway, the intention of the group is continuing with the research, through basic and applied studies, on the use of pre-treatments using environmental parameters and the use of new recombinant gonadotropins or alternative treatments on the control of the maturation of European eels, trying to 1) improve the knowledge on the endocrine mechanisms controlling the gametogenesis of teleosts, and 2) improve the gamete quality.

Applications

- CV (highlighting similar previous experience, lab skills and publications, and including Skype)
- Letter of motivation

Deadline: July 1st, 2017