

## Editorial

The first involvement of the Aquatic Ecosystem Health & Management Society (AEHMS) in China's environmental research was 15 years ago, when the Society initiated and published the book "*Aquatic Ecosystems of China: Environmental and toxicological assessment*" (Munawar et al., 1995). The second opportunity arose in 2000 when the AEHMS organized the "*Fourth Sediment Quality symposium*" in Japan in which many Chinese scientists actively participated (Munawar, 2003). The most recent exposure to Chinese research occurred last year when the Society was invited by the organizers to participate in the "*Second International Conference on Environmental Concerns (ICEC, 2004): Innovative Technologies and Management Options*" in Xiamen. The Society was invited to publish a special issue of their primary journal-Aquatic Ecosystem Health & Management, devoted to the Xiamen conference.

The manuscripts included in this compendium originate from the Xiamen Conference. Approximately 28 papers were submitted to the Journal. An editorial committee consisting of the following people was established for the assessment and review of papers submitted: T. Edsall, S. Doka, R. Baudo, G. Dave, N. Mandrak, and S. Lawrence. Accepted papers underwent revisions, and technical and linguistic editing. The papers have been arranged into three sections:

- X Resolving agricultural nutrient imbalances
- X Biotic responses to aquatic toxins
- X Socio-economic policy and aquatic management

The content of this special issue provides a nice overview of current aquatic research and how China is serious about resolving its aquatic problems. The issue also points out how international researchers have facilitated the work of Chinese researchers in an effort to support China's efforts to come to terms with aquatic problems.

We hope that this special issue will be useful in enhancing our knowledge and understanding about Chinese aquatic ecosystems and their management.

We would like to sincerely thank Dr. Kees van de Guchte and the organizers of the ICEC, 2004 for inviting the Aquatic Ecosystem Health and Management Society to organize this special issue.

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Munawar, M., Chang, P., Dave, G., Malley, D., Munawar, S., Xiu, R. (Eds.), 1995. *Aquatic Ecosystems of China: Environmental and Toxicological Assessment*. SPB Academic Publishing bv, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Munawar, M. (Ed.), 2003. *Sediment Quality Assessment and Management: Insight and Progress*. Ecovision World Monograph Series, Aquatic Ecosystem Health and Management, Burlington, Canada.

ICEC, 2004. *Second International Conference on Environmental Concerns (ICEC, 2004): Innovative Technologies and Management Options*, October 12-15, 2004, Xiamen, China. State Environmental Protection Administration of China (SEPA), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and Municipal Government of Xiamen, People's Republic of China.