



## **Graduate Program in Aquaculture - Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil**

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The Graduate Program in Aquaculture of the Federal University of Santa Catarina is the oldest Graduate Program in Aquaculture in Brazil. The activities were established in 1988, offering the Program at Master level, and since 2005, at PhD level. Eight years later, the Program was classified by CAPES, the Brazilian Institution that regulates the Graduate Programs in Brazil, as a Program of Excellence, for which a special funding is available. During these 30's years of existence, 436 master students and 85 PhD students were formed and currently 104 students are enrolled (56 Master, 41 PhD and 7 Post-Docs), supervised by 19 Professors. The Program develops five lines of research: a) technology and production systems of aquatic organisms, including freshwater, marine and ornamental fishes, marine shrimp, mollusks, seaweeds and microalgae; b) reproduction and larviculture; c) nutrition and feeding; d) health management and pathology and e) management and conservation of aquatic ecosystem. The Program did not charge fees and most of the students are granted with scholarship. Since the Graduate Program in Aquaculture joined the CAPES Program of Excellent, one of the main goals is the expansion of its internationalization. Currently, the Program have several agreements with different countries, such as Australia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Italy, Norway, Peru, Portugal and United States. In the window of the next five years our goals are: increase the international networking participation of advisors and students; increase the offering of summer and winter courses in English and Spanish languages; look for international financial support for research and students exchange; promote international conferences and workshops; improve the strategies to attract foreign students to Brazil and establish the co-tuition among the Federal University of Santa Catarina and other International Partners.