

A. Title Page:

**Professional Development Grant Report
Arkansas Tech University**

**Travel Funds to the 2008 Annual Meeting of the
American Fisheries Society, Ottawa Canada:
A Fisheries In Flux: How Do We Ensure Our Sustainable Future?**

by

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B. Restatement of Problem Researched or Creativity:

The American Fisheries Society (AFS), founded in 1870, is the oldest and largest professional society representing fisheries scientists and managers. AFS promotes scientific research and enlightened management of resources for optimum use and enjoyment by the public. It also encourages a comprehensive education for fisheries scientists and continuing on-the-job training. Ottawa, Canada is the location for the 138th Annual Meeting of AFS with the meeting theme: “A Fisheries In Flux: How Do We Ensure Our Sustainable Future?” The meeting was held August 15th to 21st, 2008. Funding was provided through Arkansas Tech University: Professional Development Grant to attend and participate in this meeting.

C. and D. Brief Review of the Research Procedures and Summary:

I attended selected symposia, workshops, and other professional activities while at the meeting and provided the opportunity for me to gain important knowledge of current fisheries related issues. The international tone of the meeting was unique and I experienced new perspectives for other professionals that I would have not otherwise been exposed to. I also participated in the induction ceremony of incoming President Dr. Don Jackson (no relation, but former major advisor). This was a rewarding experience where I meet and exchanged ideas with the leadership of the American Fisheries Society.

E. Conclusions and Recommendations:

The interactions with other fisheries professionals and students through this meeting increased my motivation to conduct top quality research and provided me with current

information that I have since disseminated to my graduate and undergraduate students. This trip also provided opportunity for discussion of future collaboration with fisheries professionals at other universities and federal agencies.