



March 15-17, 2017: The **Marine Bio-Technologies Center of Innovation (MBCOI)** and the **University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW)** are pleased to announce their role as the official Regional Track Sponsors for the **Fish 2.0 South Atlantic and Gulf Coast Shellfish Workshop** to be held at MARBIONC in the **CREST Research Park, 5600 Marvin K. Moss Ln, Wilmington, North Carolina, 28409.**

About the Workshop

The workshop is open to start-ups and established businesses from any of 12 areas in the Southeast region of the US (DE, MD, Washington DC, VA, NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, MS, LA, and TX) that are involved in any aspect of the shellfish industry such as aquaculture, feed, wild harvest, food processing, transport, packaging, regulatory, etc. It is also open to transparency and traceability ventures and supply chain innovators. Participants will learn how to communicate effectively about their business and practice pitching to investors and buyers. The workshop will also prepare them for the Fish 2.0 2017 business competition, which culminates in the Global Forum and Competition Finals at Stanford University, CA in November. Information on how to apply can be found [here](#).

Participants are not charged a fee to attend the workshop or to apply to the Fish 2.0 competition. In addition, competitors may be eligible for need-based travel support to attend the workshop.

Why Fish 2.0?

Fish 2.0 is the premier global network that connects sustainable seafood businesses with investors. During the 7-month competition [process](#), competitors receive feedback from business and impact mentors to improve their business models and learn how to approach investors. In turn, participating investors gain early access to new deals and learn how sustainable seafood can help build their portfolios. The 2017 competition is structured with a series of regional tracks, as well as 2 global thematic tracks. Businesses compete within their track, and the top scorers from each track come together at the Global Finals. **More than 60% of the finalists in Fish 2.0 2015 gained investments, new partners or new customers from connections made during this event.** Read about the Fish 2.0 2015 competition and its success stories [here](#).

Fish 2.0 gives MBCOI, UNCW, its regional track [sponsors](#), and the participants a global platform to strengthen relationships among existing seafood industry stakeholders, raise the region's profile as a center of innovation in aquaculture and the marine sciences, and attract new financial and intellectual capital and economic growth to the region.

For further information, please contact Regional Sponsors:

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