



PRESS RELEASE

NAFC Marine Centre's 2005/06 Annual Report Published

Following the success of the first NAFC Marine Centre Annual Report last year the report for 2005/2006 is now available.

The report outlines the main activities of the centre over the last year highlighting the great diversity of activities carried out at the Centre in support of the Shetland fisheries industries, which are key components of the Shetland economy.

Some notable achievements during 2005/06 were the purchase of a new fishing vessel, the Atlantia II; the publication of the annual Shetland Shellfish Stock Survey; securing UKAS accreditation for the SSQC Microbiology laboratory; and more than 790 students were enrolled on over 130 courses (equivalent to 141 full time students). Student retention and success rates were excellent with 99% of students completing their course and 98% passing.

NAFC director Peter Dryburgh explained: *"I feel that after a period of consolidation, we are now in a position to move the NAFC up a level. The way I see our future is to continue to be a vocational training centre for fisheries, aquaculture, navigation and engineering; to strongly develop in the field of Marine Policy specialising in Inshore Water; to develop our aquaculture trials unit as a centre for local companies to refine research and development for local conditions; and to continue to provide and hopefully expand our high class commercial services for the Seafood Industry."*

Copies of the annual report are available for download on the NAFC Marine Centre web pages (<http://www.nafc.ac.uk>) or can be collected from the NAFC Main Reception Desk.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

In view of the increasing range and scope of the work being undertaken by NAFC, the decision was taken in September 2005 to change the institute's name from the North Atlantic Fisheries College to the NAFC Marine Centre.

Please note our correct title is now 'NAFC Marine Centre'. The 'NAFC' in our title identifies us with, and provides continuity from, our previous name – North Atlantic Fisheries College. In conversation 'NAFC' should be spelt out as 'N-A-F-C'. Similarly, we are no longer just a 'college', but a marine centre - providing education, research and commercial services to the marine sector.