

# NB aquaculture professor receives award from France

## Teaching and research honoured

**D**r. Thierry Chopin, Professor of Marine Biology at UNB Saint John, was inducted as Chevalier in the Order of the Palmes Académiques by the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Research of France.

One of the oldest Orders of the French Republic, the Order of the Palmes Académiques, or “purple Légion” as it is often called, was created on March 17, 1808, by the Emperor Napoléon to reward distinguished members of the University system for their eminent functions and services in teaching and research.

“Thierry Chopin’s commitment to his research and field of study has been of great benefit to this university and this province,” said Dr. Kathryn Hamer, Vice-President (UNB Saint John). “It is no surprise to us that the people of France would choose to honour him with the Order of the Palmes Académiques.”

Dr. Chopin was awarded this distinction for his influential scientific contributions and the excellence of his research. Born and educated in France, Dr. Chopin obtained his Doctorate from the University of Western Brittany, Brest, France before moving to Canada in 1989. He is presently a professor in the Biology Department at the University of New Brunswick Saint John.

Originally a seaweed ecophysiological and biochemist, he became interested in aquaculture when he realized inorganic nutrients and organic particles generated by finfish (salmon) aquaculture could be used to enhance the cultivation of extractive species like seaweeds (kelps) and shellfish (mussels). He is recognized as one of the world leaders in the development of integrated



**Thierry Chopin is recognized as one of the world leaders in the development of integrated multi-trophic aquaculture (IMTA).**

multi-trophic aquaculture (IMTA) systems for providing environmental sustainability, economic diversification and social acceptability for the aquaculture sector.