

NEWSFLASH – December – 2021

- NLSEB 2022 meeting – new date
 - NLSEB 2022 meeting – the committee
 - NLSEB financial committee
 - Netherlands Evolutionary Biology 2021 Prize: Call for nominations!
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> NLSEB 2022 meeting – new date

The 2022 NLSEB meeting will be held on **28 June 2022** at the Akoesticum, Ede (and not in April, as previously announced). We hope to welcome you in person then! We have three exciting keynote speakers: Eric Snijder (LUMC), Jaap Kaandorp (UvA) en Katja Peijnenburg (Naturalis). Registration and abstract submission will open in 2022, so keep an eye on the website and emails from NLSEB.

> NLSEB 2022 meeting – the committee

This year's NLSEB meeting consists of Sijmen Schoustra (WUR, chair), Marjon de Vos (RUG), Jeroen Meijer (UU) en Koen Verhoeven (NIOO).

> NLSEB financial committee

We are seeking candidates for the NLSEB financial committee. This will be a small (2 person) committee with the task to check the yearly financial report of our treasurer. Please, email the NLSEB chair (arjan.devisser@wur.nl) if you want to help us with this small, but important task!

>Netherlands Evolutionary Biology 2021 Prize: Call for nominations!

What is the best paper in evolutionary biology published in 2021 by an author affiliated with a Dutch research institution? NLSEB members can nominate a colleague – or themselves – for the Netherlands Evolutionary Biology Prize. The deadline for nominations is January 31, 2022. The winner receives €500 in

recognition of their achievement, plus a 20 minutes plenary lecture at the NLSEB 2022 meeting. For more information, [visit the webpage](#).

NEWSFLASH – November – 2021

- Meet the **Junior Board**, upcoming PhD/Post-doc meeting
 - NLSEB meeting 2022: save the date
 - Predicting evolution workshops via the origins center
-

> Meet the junior board

Earlier this month the first NLSEB Junior Board was founded. The current members are Melanie Lindner (chair, NIOO-KNAW & GELIFES), Yumi Nakadera (VU), Nadja Brait (GELIFES), Alanna Leale (WUR) and Sam von der Dunk (UU). The Junior Board aims to connect junior members (PhDs/Postdocs) of the NLSEB community through a wide range of academic activities and events. One of these events is the upcoming **NLSEB PhD/Postdoc meeting on April 25 2022** (save the date!). Stay tuned for further announcements and keep an eye on our new twitter hashtag #NLSEB_JB.

The NLSEB Junior board members are very excited to take on this task and encourage PhDs/Postdocs to get in touch with any ideas for additional activities and events that might help connect junior members of the NLSEB.

> NLSEB 2022 meeting – save the date!

We are planning for an in-person NLSEB 2022 meeting on **26 April 2022** in the Akoesticum, Ede. After having to postpone the 2020 meeting and having an online meeting in 2021, we hope to welcome you in person again in Ede in April 2022. We have three exciting keynote speakers: Eric Snijder (LUMC), Jaap Kaandorp (UvA) en Katja Peijnenburg (Naturalis). Registration and abstract submission will open later this year, so keep an eye on the website and emails from NLSEB.



[Eric Snijder](#)
[\(LUMC\)Jaap](#)
[\(UvA\)](#)



[Kaandorp](#)



[Katja Peijnenburg \(Naturalis\)](#)

> Predicting evolution workshops by the origins center

A subgroup of the **Origins Center** focusing on **predicting evolution** is organizing a series of (online) workshops for the Dutch predicting-evolution community. The goal of this workshop series is to teach each other techniques and “languages” used in different subfields of evolution to facilitate future collaborations.

(info: <https://www.originscenter.nl/network/predicting-evolution-of-life/>)!

The next workshop is **November 9th 2021** and it is about: “**Fitness landscapes**”. By Arjan de Visser and Marjon de Vos.

The meeting takes place via Zoom, from 16:00-17:30, you can register here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjKR0gRcgXbCxDznwUyue8D734CmWqzylcwF-DjJZkq_RZcw/viewform?usp=pp_url

NEWSFLASH – July – 2021

- meet the new chair
 - NLSEB PhD/Post-doc meeting 2021
 - Predicting evolution workshops via the origins center
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> News from our new chair: Arjan de Visser

“I thank all members for supporting my election as president of NLSEB. My intention is to help build a vibrant community of scientists and teachers of evolutionary biology from diverse backgrounds. The time is certainly right to do so. Evolutionary biology is rapidly changing from a historic and descriptive discipline explaining the past, into an experimental and quantitative science with the ambition to predict the future. There is also growing awareness that evolutionary biology is not only relevant for our understanding of life, but also for our health, food and relation to nature. These developments motivate my personal work in microbial experimental evolution, but I also see a bright future of evolutionary biology in the Netherlands, to which I hope to contribute!”

> NLSEB PhD/Postdoc meeting 2021

The NLSEB2021 and NLSEB PhD/postdoc meetings were a great success. We welcomed a record number of 259 registered participants on April 19 and 20!

The first NLSEB PhD/postdoc meeting took place on the mornings, with about 80 registrations and 35 active participants presenting themselves and their work. The meeting had the format of a workshop, and three participants won prizes for their introduction pitch.

The NLSEB 2021 took place in the afternoons and included a mix of stimulating plenaries, contributing talks, posters and roundtable discussions. Besides invited speakers **Toby Kiers**, **Thijs Ettema** and **Mark van Vugt**, the [Netherlands Evolutionary Biology prize winners](#) of 2019 (**Langqing Liu**) and 2020 (**Zheren Zang**) gave excellent plenary talks. Also 2 poster prize winners were selected: **Elise Fruitet** and **Lennart v/d Peppel**.

The success of the meetings was further due to the excellent online organization by Kim Ferguson (www.kimbferguson.com/KBF-consulting) and financial support from NWO and research schools EPS, PE&RC and GELIFES.

> **Best practises online teaching afternoon (BOTA)**

On June 7, **Maurijn van der Zee** and **Bart Pannebakker** organized a roundtable to share *best practices in online teaching* in evolutionary biology. Ten participants engaged in lively discussions and shared useful teaching formats, online platforms and resources for online teaching. These will be made accessible to everyone on the NLSEB website.

> **NLSEB prize winner 2020, jury report**

The Netherlands Evolutionary Biology prize for the best 2020 publication in evolutionary biology from a Dutch group was awarded to Zheren Zang, from Leiden University, for his paper 'Antibiotic production in *Streptomyces* is organized by a division of labor through terminal genomic differentiation' (Science Advances 6: eaay5781). The paper describes a fascinating mechanism of labor division in *Streptomyces coelicolor*. Colonies produce hypermutant cell types that show frequent genomic deletions, rearrangements and amplifications, rendering them effectively sterile but producing more and a broader diversity of antibiotic compounds. At the individual cell level there is a trade-off between fertility and antibiotics production, but at the colony level there is a competitive advantage due to the antibiotics, but no reduction in spore production, as long as the mutant cell types remain a minority in the colony. This work highlights the sophisticated social strategies that can evolve in microbes, and we congratulate Zheren with this prize!

> **Predicting evolution workshops by the origins center**

A subgroup of the **Origins Center** focusing on **predicting evolution** is organizing a series of (online) workshops for the Dutch predicting-evolution community. The goal of this workshop series is to teach each other techniques and "languages" used in different subfields of evolution to facilitate future collaborations.

(info: <https://www.originscenter.nl/network/predicting-evolution-of-life/>)!

The next workshop is **August 24th** about: **“Genotype-phenotype mapping from proteins to networks”**. By Berend Snel and Liedewij Laan.

NEWSFLASH – March – 2021

- NLSEB meeting 2021
 - NLSEB PhD/Post-doc meeting 2021
 - Predicting evolution workshops via the origins center
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> NLSEB meeting 2021

The NLSEB meeting 2021 will take place on Monday 19 April and Tuesday 20 April. Registration is **open** till April 12th.

We have three exciting keynote speakers (Thijs Ettema, Toby Kiers, Mark van Vugt), two NLSEB prizes will be awarded and there will be two parallel sessions with contributed presentations. The programme includes plenty of time for poster sessions and there will be the possibility to reconnect with your fellow evolutionary biologists through online socializing and networking opportunities

Check out the website for more information: <http://nlseb.nl/nlseb2021-nlseb-phd-postdoc-meeting/>

> NLSEB PhD/Postdoc meeting 2021

Registration for the meeting, which will take place in the mornings of Monday 19 April and Tuesday 20 April, is now open! We offer a number of workshops to improve both transferable and specialised skills as well as a session in which participants pitch their research interests to facilitate the interaction between early-career researchers. Don't miss it!

Go to <http://nlseb.nl/nlseb2021-phd-postdoc-meeting/> for more detailed information on the program and link to the registration form.

> Predicting evolution workshops by the origins center

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and “languages” used in different subfields of evolution, to, for example, facilitate future collaborations.

(info: <https://www.originscenter.nl/network/predicting-evolution-of-life/>)!

The next workshop is **May 18th** about: “**Modeling the evolution of regulatory networks**”. By Sander van Doorn and Franjo Weissing.