

## NEWSFLASH – December – 2020

- NLSEB meeting 2021
  - NLSEB PhD/Post-doc meeting 2021
  - Origins meeting 2021
  - Predicting evolution workshops via the origins center
  - Evolution in the Top2000
- 

### > NLSEB meeting 2021

We had to cancel the NLSEB 2020 meeting unfortunately, but are now looking forward to the 2021 meeting!

It will be an online scientific event in the afternoons of Monday 19 April and Tuesday 20 April, followed by a social event on Wednesday 21 April.

We will explore the possibility of having the social event live in Utrecht or Ede. If this is possible, we may include live poster presentations!

For now: please save the dates!

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### > NLSEB PhD/Postdoc meeting 2021

Also this meeting will be an online scientific event, which will take place in the mornings of Monday 19 April and Tuesday 20 April.

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### >Origins meeting 2021

Origins 2021 online conference: JANUARY 27 & 28, 2021, 9.00 – 17.30 CET. At this conference, a multidisciplinary group of scientists, including geoscientists, evolutionary biologists, ecologists, chemists, physicists, mathematicians, and astronomers will update each other about recent developments in their fields. The goal is to mutually inspire one another and to start exciting new interdisciplinary collaborations. The topics of the meeting are aligned with the main research themes of the Origins Center. They are:

- The origin of habitable planets and life
- Predicting the evolution of life
- Building and steering life
- Finding extraterrestrial life
- Life as an emergent phenomenon

For more information and registration check:

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### > **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, for example, facilitate future collaborations.

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

**\*Importantly\***these are educational talks rather than seminars showing newest and coolest results. The goal is to learn **why** to use a certain approach (when is it useful and when is it not), and **how**.

The next workshop on February 16th will be: **“what do we talk about if we talk about networks”**. By Bas Teusink (metabolic networks) and Werner Daalman (protein-protein interaction networks).

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### > **Evolution song in the top 2000**

Colleagues at the [Laboratory of Genetics at Wageningen University](#) would like to get a song about evolution into the Top 2000! How? Well, with your help, of course! The song is already selected, [“Endless Forms Most Beautiful”](#) by Nightwish. So go to [NPOradio2.nl](http://NPOradio2.nl) before December 7th and cast your vote!

## NEWSFLASH – August – 2020

- **Cancellation** NLSEB meeting 2020
  - Save the date: NLSEB2021, April 19/20<sup>th</sup> 2021
  - NLSEB prize 2019: and the winner is..... **Langqing Liu**.
  - Call for nominations for the NLSEB prize 2020.
  - **Virtual seminar series** about evolution, you don't wanna miss....
  - Agenda
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### > **Cancellation NLSEB meeting September 2020**

We unfortunately have decided **to cancel the NLSEB2020 and NLSEB PhD/Postdoc meetings** that was scheduled to take place on 23 and 24 September 2020 at Akoesticum, Ede. The uncertainties and current restrictions due to COVID-19 make a physical meeting impossible. Participants of these canceled meetings who paid for registration are eligible for a refund. They are contacted by our treasurer.

We take this opportunity to sincerely thank the organizing committees. They spend a lot of time and effort to organize -what promised to be- a great meeting. So **THANKS** to:

**The PhD meeting organizers:** Melanie Lindner, Ben Auxier, Kathryn Stewart, Astrid Kruitwagen and Kiran Gurung.

**NLSEB2020 organizers:** Marian Bremer, Katja Peijnenburg, Sijmen Schoustra, Arjan de Visser and Jacintha Ellers.

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### > **Save the date for the NLSEB2021 meeting April 19/20<sup>th</sup> 2021!**

PhD/Postdoc meeting: **April 19<sup>th</sup> 2021**

NLSEB2021: **April 20<sup>th</sup> 2021**

We are looking forward to see you then – either live at Akoesticum (Ede) or online!

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> **Join the PhD/Postdoc meeting!** On April 20, the day before the NLSEB2020 meeting, the first PhD/Postdoc meeting takes place. The event provides early-career researchers an additional platform to connect, share their research, and brainstorm in an inspiring but casual environment. The event will conveniently be held at the venue of the NLSEB2020 meeting ([Akoesticum](#), Ede) and includes meals and an optional over-night stay.

For more information and registration – before March 6 – [visit the website](#).

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> **Netherlands Evolutionary Biology prize 2019, and the winner is....**

**Langqing Liu** The winner of the Netherlands Evolutionary Biology prize for the best publication in evolutionary biology published in 2019 is the paper by **Langqing Liu and coauthors: *Genomic analysis on pygmy hog reveals extensive interbreeding during wild boar expansion (Nature Communications 10, Article number: 1992 (2019))***. This paper analyzes the genomes of the endangered Pygmy hog, and compares them to the genomes of individuals from nine other wild pig species, to reconstruct the evolutionary history of pig species. This evolutionary history is characterized by the recent successful expansion of one species, Wild boar, across a large geographic range, which completely replaced other pig species from the area; the Pygmy hog is the only surviving pig species that has not gone extinct in the Wild boar expansion area. The paper demonstrates that the expanding Wild boar did not simply replace the existing species, but it 'absorbed' them: clear evidence is presented of admixture between Wild boar and other pig species that it encountered during colonization, including Pygmy hog, whereby Wild boar incorporated genetic information from these other species into its genome. The authors argue that such admixture can have contributed significantly to the colonizing success of Wild boar, as the incorporation of genetic information from other species can have provided a genetic basis for adaptation to local environments encountered during colonization. The paper is a well-written and exciting example of how new genomic information can be used to infer evolutionary histories of species, and moreover to address the role that admixture plays in successful colonization. The jury was impressed by the comprehensive population genomic analyses, which produced clear results. These results have broad impact on the question what makes some species successful colonizers, which is a question that is relevant in many taxa.

Prof. Paulien Hogeweg, Prof. Sander Tans and Dr. Koen Verhoeven

> **Call for nominations for the NLSEB prize 2020** NLSEB will award a prize for the best peer-reviewed paper in evolutionary biology published in 2020. This Netherlands Evolutionary Biology Prize will be awarded to the first or last author of the selected paper, who will receive €500 in recognition of her or his achievement. In addition, the winner will present their paper in a plenary lecture at the 2021 NLSEB meeting. For more information please check <http://nlseb.nl/the-netherlands-evolutionary-biology-prize/>

All NLSEB members are invited to submit nominations. In order to nominate a first or last author of a paper on evolutionary biology, please send a PDF of the manuscript and a brief motivation (no more than half a page) by e-mail to [prize@nlseb.nl](mailto:prize@nlseb.nl). Deadline for the submission of nominations is January 31, 2021. Prof. Paulien Hogeweg, Dr. Marjon de Vos and Dr. Koen Verhoeven will be in charge of selecting the winning paper.

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> **Virtual Seminar Series** Over the last months several interesting virtual seminars have been/are starting up.

Please share with us interesting seminar series you know about ([contact@nlseb.nl](mailto:contact@nlseb.nl)).

Two interesting seminar series are:

1) Every Wednesday at 18:00 (Dutch Time) the EcoEvo seminar takes place with spectacular speakers:

2) In the Netherlands the origins center (<https://www.origins-center.nl/>) will start a multidisciplinary seminar series on the origins of life in October 2020 (stay tuned).

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> **Mark your calendar**

Is your favorite event missing from this calendar?  
Please drop us a line at [contact@nlseb.nl](mailto:contact@nlseb.nl) and we'll add it!

September 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for registration for the 25th DZG Graduate Meeting Evolutionary Biology (aka the 1st DZG ONLINE Graduate Meeting) to be held on the 28-3 September is still open.

(<https://dzgevol.wordpress.com/2019/11/19/25th-dzg-graduate-meeting-evolutionary-biology/> )

October 15<sup>th</sup> deadline for submission of symposium proposals for ESEB 2021 <https://www.eseb2021.cz/> *Follow us on Twitter: @NLSEB\_evolution* You are receiving this email either because you are a member of NLSEB or because you have registered for the NLSEB 2019/2020 meeting. If you do not wish to receive these emails in the future, please let us know at [contact@nlseb.nl](mailto:contact@nlseb.nl).

## NEWSFLASH – March – 2020

Dear NLSEB members and meeting participants,

To our regret, we have to postpone the NLSEB 2020 and the NLSEB PhD/PostDoc 2020 meetings that were going to take place on 20 and 21 April. We have waited with this decision, perhaps against better judgement, to see how the corona crisis would develop. But two days ago the Dutch government has cancelled all meetings up to the first of June. We have already made a reservation for the Akoesticum for

**23 September:** NLSEB PhD/PostDoc meeting 2020

**24 September:** NLSEB 2020

We sincerely hope that in September things are back to normal and that the meetings can take place as planned. So, please reserve these dates!

We will try to retain the program as much as possible. As for registration fees: those of you who have registered but will not be able to attend the meeting(s) in September will get reimbursed. We will be in touch about this after the September meetings.

Note that we will have the NLSEB 2020 General Assembly in April, but that this will be in some digital form. We will inform you about this soon.

We hope that you are all well.

With best wishes,

On behalf of the board, Marcel Visser

On behalf of the NLSEB organising committee, Marian Bemer

On behalf of the NLSEB PhD/Post-doc meeting, Melanie Lindner

## NEWSFLASH – January – 2020

*Brief updates for evolutionary biologists in the Netherlands.*

### > The Netherlands Evolutionary Biology Prize: Call for nominations!

What is the best paper in evolutionary biology published in 2019 by an author affiliated with a Dutch research institute? Nominate a colleague – or yourself – for the Netherlands Evolutionary Biology Prize. The deadline has been extended to February 28.

The winner receives €500 in recognition of their achievement, plus a 20 minutes plenary lecture at the NLSEB 2020 meeting. For more information, [visit the webpage](#).

### > Register and submit your contribution to NLSEB2020

The deadline for abstract submission and registration for the Third Conference of the NLSEB is February 14. An [exciting program](#) has been lined up, with great plenary speakers, parallel sessions, poster pitches, round-table discussions, meet-the-editors, and a cultural intermezzo. [Register here!](#)

NLSEB 2020 will be held on April 21 at [Akoesticum](#) in Ede.





### > Join the PhD/Postdoc meeting!

On April 20, the day before the NLSEB2020 meeting, the first PhD/Postdoc meeting takes place. The event provides early-career researchers an additional platform to connect, share their research, and brainstorm in an inspiring but casual environment. The event will conveniently be held at the venue of the NLSEB2020 meeting ([Akoesticum](#), Ede) and includes meals and an optional over-night stay.

For more information and registration – before March 6 – [visit the website](#).

> **Present your work at Life2020: Networks in Life** Register now for [Life2020](#), the NWO Life Sciences congress to be held on 26 and 27 May 2020 in [Hotel Zuiderduin](#) at Egmond aan Zee. Check out the [preliminary program](#), including a beautiful line-up of top speakers.

Together we can make sure that Evolutionary Biology, like last year, is well represented in the parallel tracks. [Submission](#) deadlines are March 1 for oral presentations and April 1 for poster presentations.

Life is a unique annual congress covering all disciplines and scales in the Dutch Life Sciences, from femtometer to kilometer, from cell to planet. Life2020 stands for high quality science, inspiration, discussion, exploration, connection, networking and knowledge utilization under the heading Networks in Life. NWO organizes Life2020 together with a program committee consisting of researchers from many different disciplines in the Life Sciences, including a representative of NLSEB.

> **European Meeting of PhD Students in Evolutionary Biology** The 26th European Meeting of PhD Students in Evolutionary Biology (MPSEB26) is supported by ESEB to provide a platform for PhD students studying Evolutionary Biology to present their work and to meet their peers from all over Europe. The next edition will be held on April 19-24 2020 in Killarney, Ireland; participation is highly recommended. For more details, check the [webpage](#) and follow Twitter account @EMPSEB26.

> **Mark your calendar**

Is your favorite event missing from this calendar?  
Please drop us a line at [contact@nlseb.nl](mailto:contact@nlseb.nl) and we'll add it!

Feb. 6-7	Swiss <a href="#">Biology20conference</a> , Fribourg, Switzerland
Feb. 10-14	<a href="#">Evolutionary Systems Biology</a> , Wellcome Genome Campus, UK
March 6-10	<a href="#">Workshop on SLiM modeling</a> , Reykjavík, Iceland
March 10-20	<a href="#">Madrid Workshop in Statistical Phylogenetics</a> , Madrid, Spain
March 16	<a href="#">Speciation Genomics 2020 meeting</a> , Madrid, Spain
March 30-April 3	<a href="#">2nd Münster Evolution Meeting (MEM)</a>
April 15-19	<a href="#">7th EvoDemoSoc Annual Meeting</a> : Evolutionary Demography under Global Change
April 19-24	<a href="#">European Meeting of PhD Students in Evolutionary Biology</a> , Killarney, Ireland
April 27-30	<a href="#">Workshop: Evolving microbial communities</a> , Plön, Germany
April 20	<a href="#">NLSEB PhD and Posdoc Meeting</a>
April 21	<a href="#">NLSEB2020 in Ede</a>
April 22	<a href="#">Population, Evolutionary, and Quantitative Genetics (PEQG) 2020</a> , Washington (DC)
May 10-21	<a href="#">12th summer school on Computational Molecular Evolution</a> , Crete, Greece
May 25-27	<a href="#">Mathematical, inferential and computational phylogenomics (MIC-Phy)</a> , Vetmeduni Vienna, Austria
May 29	Great Lakes annual meeting in Evolutionary Genomics (GLAM-EvoGen), Rochester, NY
May 31-June 4	<a href="#">Taming the Beast</a> summerschool in computational evolution, Oberägeri, Switzerland
June 14-19	<a href="#">6th International Conference of Quantitative Genetics (ICQG6)</a> Brisbane, Australia
June 14-17	<a href="#">18th Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Disease meeting</a> , Montpellier, France
June 20-27	<a href="#">Guarda summer school in evolutionary biology 2020</a> , Guarda, Switzerland

June 28– July 2	<a href="#">SMBE 2020 Meeting</a> , Québec, Canada
July 15–17	<a href="#">Satellite meeting of the SMBE on Evolution of Reproduction</a> , Oeiras, Portugal
July 19–23	<a href="#">Conference on Species Ranges</a> , Ascona, Switzerland
July 19–24	<a href="#">Conference: Ecological implications of the recent huge increase in insect virus discovery</a> , Helsinki, Finland
Aug. 23– 30	<a href="#">Summer School on Mathematical Ecology and Evolution 2020</a> , Helsinki, Finland
Aug. 24– 28	Ecological Immunology workshop 2020: evolution of resistance, tolerance & symbionts, Kloster Lehnin, near Berlin, Germany
Sept. 20– 22	<a href="#">EMBL Symposium: The Molecular Basis and Evolution of Sexual Dimorphism</a> , Heidelberg, Germany
Sept. 22– 25	<a href="#">24th Evolutionary Biology Meeting</a> at Marseilles
Oct. 12– 15	<a href="#">Marine Evolution 2020</a> , Tavira, Portugal
Oct. 22	<a href="#">Kager Workshop in Evolutionary Neuroscience</a> , Washington DC, USA