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## NEWSLETTER

June 2020



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### NEWS

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### BLACK LIVES MATTER

Black lives matter. After many years of fights and protests, how sad it is that we still have to be reminded of this simple fact. We are deeply moved by the horror of racist crimes, and we share the frustration and anger that they justly trigger. As evolutionary biologists and members of the European Society of Evolutionary Biology (ESEB), we wish to express solidarity with and support for victims of racism, in the US and all over the world. While the history of racism has distinct features in the US, much of it has European roots, and we should not overlook the sad fact that European history itself is soaked with the blood of the victims of racism – and that so many of our citizens and immigrants to Europe endure ongoing hardship, prejudice, violence, and uphill battles to succeed and develop as human beings only because of their skin colour or origin.

Evolutionary biology has contributed in a complex way to debates about race, some of which have unfortunately been used to justify racist attitudes. None of the knowledge that we produce can justify discriminating between people according to their origin or skin colour. It seems to us that antiracism is fundamentally a moral standpoint, not a scientific perspective. The outrage that so many of us feel over ongoing racial violence and discrimination in our world may nevertheless prompt us, as members of ESEB, an international learned society that brings diverse people together, to ask what we can do to combat these blights.

How can we make our scientific community more diverse and welcoming? Despite its international profile, ESEB membership remains unrepresentative of human diversity, globally or in Europe. Since its inception in 1987, ESEB has seen a steady increase in the contribution made by women to evolutionary biology and to the life of the society. However, non-Caucasians are severely underrepresented in our research community and in ESEB. We clearly need to maintain efforts to be more inclusive in our reach and activities as a Society, to be alert to the potential influences of unconscious bias to which we are all prone, to adopt and act on policies that increase diversity in many dimensions, and to combat all forms of racism. The [ESEB Equal Opportunity committee](#) welcomes suggestions from our members on what more we can do.

ESEB Executive Committee: Ophélie Ronce (President), John Pannell (Secretary), Koen Verhoeven (Executive Vice-President), Wolf Blankenhorn (Editor in Chief, JEB), Mike Ritchie (Evolution Letters Officer).

## JMS Prize 2020 - Dr. Camilo Barbosa

We are delighted to announce that **Dr. Camilo Barbosa** has been awarded the John Maynard Smith Prize in 2020. Camilo's prize will be celebrated at the ESEB congress in Prague, CZ, where he will give the John Maynard Smith Prize Lecture.



Camilo writes: "Bacteria have a remarkable potential for adaptation, often in directions that are detrimental to human health. Developing strategies to predict bacterial adaptation to human hosts and the therapies used to tackle them, has been my overarching research objective. I am generally focused on evaluating how bacteria evolve resistance against antibiotics and how treatment efficacy can be sustained by using therapies that are informed by evolutionary principles. I did my PhD with Prof. Hinrich Schulenburg at the University of Kiel and the International Max-Planck Research School (IMPRS) for evolutionary biology from 2013 to 2017. There, I tested how the hospital acquired pathogen *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* adapts to toxic environments in which antibiotics were deployed at increasing concentrations, in combination, or one after the other.

I used experimental evolution, genomics and genetics to identify systematic trade-offs in the form of increased sensitivity to previously unmet antibiotics (i.e. collateral sensitivity) and tested their stability over time. At the moment, I am a postdoctoral fellow of the German Science Foundation (DFG) working with Dr. med Robert Woods at the University of Michigan and Prof. Andrew Read at Penn State. I am mining clinical data on *Enterococcus* infections over the last 5-10 years to identify the most prevalent cases of resistance evolution, as well as potential patterns of collateral sensitivity. Then, I will put the identified patterns of collateral sensitivity to a test by using an available *Enterococcus* library and experimental evolution as a diagnostics tool. With this, my goal is to start including an evolutionary risk assessment plan into clinical decision making when treating bacterial infections, thus bringing evolution from the bench to the bedside."

## Stearns Prize 2019 - Thomas Keaney

We are also delighted to announce that **Thomas Keaney** has been awarded the Stearns Graduate Student Prize for his publication "*Mother's curse and indirect genetic effects: do males matter to mitochondrial genome evolution?*" (<https://doi.org/10.1111/jeb.13561>) published in the *Journal of Evolutionary Biology* in 2019.

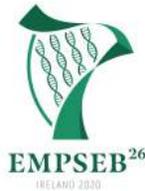
Tom will present a talk at the ESEB congress in Prague, CZ, next year.

Runners-up were Nadia S. Sloan for her paper on "*The evolution of female genitalia*" (<https://doi.org/10.1111/jeb.13503>) and Daniel Shane Wright for his paper on "*Testing sensory drive speciation in cichlid fish: Linking light conditions to opsin expression, opsin genotype and female mate preference*" (<https://doi.org/10.1111/jeb.13577>).



Tom finished his Masters of Bioscience at the University of Melbourne in 2018, under the supervision of Luke Holman and Theresa Jones. His thesis focused on mitochondrial genetic variation, and how this can potentially be shaped by kin selection acting on males, whose mitochondrial DNA were traditionally considered to be invisible to selection. In this paper he, along with his co-authors, demonstrate that mitochondria in male *Drosophila melanogaster* have an indirect genetic effect on female fitness during mating interactions. This, in principle, allows mitochondrial genes to respond to selection on males when there is relatedness between mating pairs. Tom is now in the first year of his PhD, continuing his work with Luke Holman and Theresa Jones. He is now exploring intragenomic conflict, sexual selection and their effects on population viability. Outside of his PhD, Tom is a keen bushwalker and sports fan.

## EMPSEB 2020 postponed to 2021!



The next European Meeting of PhD Students in Evolutionary Biology (EMPSEB) will be held in Ireland at the Muckross Park Hotel. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the organisers postponed the meeting to spring 2021.

More details will be available at <https://sites.google.com/view/empseb26> or follow us on Twitter [@Empseb26](https://twitter.com/Empseb26)

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## CONGRESSES

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### ESEB Congress 2021



The next ESEB congress will take place in 2021 in Prague, Czech Republic, from August 22 to 27, organized by Lukáš Kratochvíl and his team.

**THE CALL FOR SYMPOSIA SUBMISSIONS WILL OPEN SOON!**

Visit the ESEB 2021 congress website at <https://www.eseb2021.cz/> for further details.

# ESEB Congress 2023

We are excited to report that the 2023 ESEB congress will be held in Barcelona, Spain. More details will be available in due course at the ESEB website.

## Bids for Future ESEB Congresses

ESEB welcomes proposals for future ESEB congresses from 2025 on. Proposals must be made by scientist (as the main organizer) working in evolutionary biology, with support from the local scientific community. Bids solely submitted by professional-event organizations will not be considered. Written proposals for the 2025 congress will be accepted until mid-July 2021 and should contain the preliminary budget as well as detailed information about the venue. The proposals should be sent by email to the ESEB office ([office@eseb.org](mailto:office@eseb.org)). For further information, please contact the ESEB Secretary, John Pannell ([john.pannell@unil.ch](mailto:john.pannell@unil.ch)).

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## ESEB'S JOURNALS

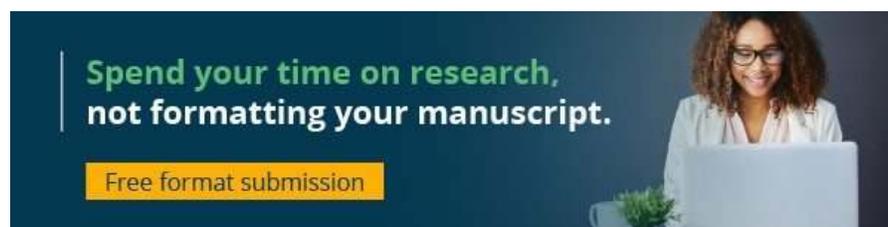
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### *Journal of Evolutionary Biology*



**JEB Editorial Manager  
- Dr Nicola Cook**

We are excited to welcome Dr. Nicola Cook as JEB Managing Editor and ESEB Publicity Officer. Nicki, an evolutionary biologist herself, takes over the editorial office of the *Journal of Evolutionary Biology*, working closely with our Editor-in-Chief, Wolf Blanckenhorn, and his team of deciding editors. She will also be working closely with the ESEB office manager, Ute Moniatte, to help promote ESEB and its activities. If you need any information or help in journal matters, please contact Nicki at [jeb.office@eseb.org](mailto:jeb.office@eseb.org)



For more information on free format submissions check out the journal's Author Guidelines: The *Journal of Evolutionary Biology* now offers free format submissions for a simplified and streamlined submission process. You can now submit your next manuscript to the *Journal of Evolutionary Biology* in the formatting style you prefer. We want to reduce the formatting requirements at initial submission to the bare minimum, making it easier for authors to submit their manuscripts to the journal. Formatting in the *Journal of Evolutionary Biology* won't be required until revision.

For more information on free format submissions check out the journal's Author Guidelines: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/14209101/homepage/forauthors.html>



### **Publish your next paper open access in the *Journal of Evolutionary Biology***

A new agreement between our publisher Wiley and Jisc means that if you're a UK-based researcher at a participating institution you may now be able to publish open access in the *Journal of Evolutionary Biology* at no direct cost to you.

The agreement aims to support and accelerate open access publishing in the UK and is the most extensive UK-based transitional agreement, covering 138 Jisc member institutions. If you are based at a participating institution, you can now also browse and read the entire Wiley portfolio of journals available on Wiley Online Library.

To find out more and see if you are eligible to have your publishing fees covered, go to [wileyauthors.com/Jisc](http://wileyauthors.com/Jisc)

For more information about the agreement, you can read the press release here: <https://newsroom.wiley.com/press-release/all-corporate-news/jisc-uk-institutions-and-wiley-agree-ground-breaking-deal>

Wiley now has agreements covering open access publishing fees for researchers in a number of countries. You can read more and find out if you're eligible [here](#).

## *Evolution Letters*

# Evolution Letters



**eseb**

Open Access



## Online Summer Talks

*Evolution Letters* presents the "Evolution Letters Online Summer Talks" – an exciting week of short online talks by researchers who have published with *Evolution Letters* in the past year. The talks will be released throughout the week commencing 08 June 2020, and will remain freely available for all to watch via the *Evolution Letters* YouTube channel.

The Summer Talks series provides a platform for evolutionary biologists who have missed the opportunity to present at conferences this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and will showcase a broad range of fascinating new research in the field.

You can find full details and links to the talks on the *Evolution Letters* blog:

<https://evolutionletters.wordpress.com/online-summer-talks/>

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## ESEB INITIATIVES

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### ESEB EO Funds

Next deadline Oct 31, 2020

Open call for proposals for activities that increase awareness of the problem and possible solutions. Such proposals can include, but are not limited to, short workshops (for instance, on unconscious bias) and/or seminars (with invited speakers) at your home organization, data collection, publication activities and similar events. It must be clear from the proposal how the activity will improve our knowledge and awareness of unequal opportunities, or how the activity will improve equal opportunities directly, in the ESEB specifically, or Evolutionary Biology as a field in general.

[Go to website](#)

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## ESEB Conference Travel Award

Next deadline to be announced in autumn 2020

In 2021, the travel stipends will be for young scientists based in countries with a low GDP wishing to attend the ESEB congress in Prague, CZ or the Evolution meeting of ASN, SSB, and SSE in Albuquerque, NM, USA. Follow this link for more detailed information:

[Go to website](#)

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## ESEB EO Congress Attendance Aid Grants

Next deadline to be announced in autumn 2020

In 2020, the congress attendance aid grants will be for scientists wishing to attend the EMPSEB meeting or the ESEB congress in Prague, CZ. Follow this link for more detailed information:

[Go to website](#)

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## ESEB Godfrey Hewitt Mobility Award

Next deadline to be announced in autumn 2020

This ESEB award is in memory of past president Godfrey Hewitt. It aims to help early career researchers, who lack funding opportunities from other sources, to complete fieldwork or a period of research at a laboratory that they have not previously visited. The priority is to help researchers explore and establish new research projects to widen their experience, so embellishment of a current project is not encouraged. We seek projects that are based on the applicant's own initiative, are likely to be completed within the award period and most importantly, have the potential to lead to future projects and enhance the applicant's career in evolutionary biology.

Full application details, past awards, and information about Godfrey Hewitt, are available on the website <https://eseb.org/prizes-funding/godfrey-hewitt-mobility-award/>

[Go to website](#)

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## ESEB John Maynard Smith Prize 2020

Next deadline to be announced in autumn 2020

The JMS Prize is awarded annually to an outstanding young evolutionary biologist in the field of evolutionary biology. Nominations and self-nominations are accepted. Follow this link for more detailed information:

[Go to website](#)

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## ESEB Outreach Initiative Funds

Next deadline to be announced in autumn 2020

The ESEB outreach initiative has recently funded ten new projects with a total budget of 20,000€. In 2021, we will continue to fund initiatives that aim at improving public knowledge of evolution globally. There will be a single call with the possibility to fund individual projects with up to 4,000 €. Projects with smaller budgets are welcome. To learn more about past and running projects, the current members of the ESEB outreach initiative committee, and for details on how to apply for the 2021 call, please visit our website at <https://eseb.org/prizes-funding/outreach-fund/>.

[Go to website](https://eseb.org/prizes-funding/outreach-fund/)

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## ESEB Progress Meeting in Evolutionary Biology

Next deadline to be announced in summer 2020

This is our most recent initiative to support short meetings on focused topics in the field of evolutionary biology, with the objective to produce either a Special Issue or a Target Review for the *Journal of Evolutionary Biology*. More information: <https://eseb.org/prizes-funding/progress-meetings-in-evol-biol/>

[Go to website](https://eseb.org/prizes-funding/progress-meetings-in-evol-biol/)

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## ESEB Special Topics Networks

Next deadline to be announced in autumn 2020

The aim of the ESEB Special Topic Networks is to establish a small consortium of researchers that organize a wide range of activities in specialist areas relevant to current Evolutionary Biology in Europe. So far, these have mainly been small symposia and workshops in various formats. In 2019, two networks were granted by an anonymous selection panel. The topics "The Evolutionary Ecology of Thermal Fertility Limit" and "Synthesizing Micro- and Macro-Evolutionary Processes Shaping Prokaryotic Genomes" were selected.

For a full list of the running networks, see <https://eseb.org/prizes-funding/special-topic-networks/>. Next call for the STNs is expected in autumn 2020. Follow this link for more detailed information:

[Go to website](https://eseb.org/prizes-funding/special-topic-networks/)

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## SUNDRIES

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### ESEB Membership

#### ESEB membership fees in 2020

*Members based in Europe, excluding VAT*

Member, 2-year, *JEB* online access: € 54

PhD Student Member, 2-year, *JEB* online access: € 36



[JOIN / RENEW NOW!](#)

## ESEB Membership Discounts

Are you still aware of the discounts from which you might benefit as an ESEB member?

- 50% discount on the Open Access publication fee of our Society's *Journal of Evolutionary Biology* (*JEB*). Visit the [JEB website](#) to find out more.
- 28% discount on the article publication charge for *Evolution Letters*. Visit the [Evolution Letters website](#) to find out more.
- 20% discount on the article publication charge for *Evolutionary Applications* (direct submissions). Visit the [Evolutionary Applications website](#) to find out more.
- 10% discount on the article publication charge for [Ecology and Evolution](#) (direct submissions).
- 25% discount on all books published by Wiley-Blackwell.
- 20% discount on Ecology & Evolution books from Oxford University Press.
- Reduced subscription fees for selected Wiley journals such as *Acta Zoologica*, *New Phytologist*, and *Zoologica Scripta*.

Detailed information on how to get these discounts is available at the ESEB website [eseb.org/society/discounts/](http://eseb.org/society/discounts/)

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