

Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to announce a new monthly online seminar series, launching on the **11th of January 2022**. This series is organised by a Special Topic Network called “**Integration of speciation research**” (**IOS**), funded by the European Society for Evolutionary Biology (ESEB). The network aims to establish a framework for integrative speciation research, by developing tools for comparative analyses (e.g. a publicly available speciation database) and organising activities (seminars, workshops) to facilitate discussion and knowledge exchange between all corners of speciation research. More information can be found on the [IOS network website](#).

The seminar series will centre around the broad aims of the network, which are:

- i) To understand the relative importance of different barriers to gene flow and outline best practises to measure them.
- ii) To survey the role of interactions and coupling between barriers in increasing RI.
- iii) To seek common genomic patterns underlying barriers as RI increases.
- iv) To bridge the knowledge gap between what is known of speciation mechanisms at a microevolutionary scale and the knowledge of speciation rates & their determinants at a macroevolutionary scale.

The first instalment of the IOS seminar series aims at bridging the gap between macroevolutionary patterns and microevolutionary mechanisms, with a focus on bigger questions in speciation research. We will welcome **Leonie Moyle** (Professor, Department of Biology, Indiana University) and **Daniel Matute** (Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, University of North Carolina) as speakers. The session will take place on **11th of January 2022 at 5 pm CET**, lasting 1.5 hours. The first hour is dedicated to talks and questions, and the final 30 minutes is dedicated to a discussion session. To attend the sessions live, please follow the links below.

**Webinar link for the talks:**

<https://istaustria.zoom.us/j/98592407342?pwd=NUJjeUthamREaDhNRWdhQzBEYkF5dz09>  
Webinar ID: 985 9240 7342  
Passcode: 577749

**Discussion session link:**

<https://istaustria.zoom.us/j/91522862933?pwd=VE1uZkNSU0xqMVVfXVCaIFBNzIQZz09>  
Meeting ID: 915 2286 2933  
Passcode: 088268

Talks (but not discussion sessions) will be recorded and made available on the IOS [website](#).

The IOS network does not only aim at scientific integration, but also integration of the community. A main objective on this front is to foster diversity and inclusion across the field. The seminar series and subsequent discussion is open to everyone, from students to established researchers and non-scientists alike. In order to maximise the geographic diversity of attendees, we will alternate between two time slots every other month: 5 pm CET (January) and 8 am CET (February) etc.. Please help us to circulate this email to anyone who may be interested, especially those in countries that are typically underrepresented in scientific discourse.

The seminar series programme will be announced by email, on Twitter (@Speciation\_net) and on the [IOS network website](#). People who wish to automatically receive the programme and other news from the network can sign up to the [IOS network mailing list](#).

We hope to see many of you on the 11th of January, and we wish you a very pleasant end to the year in the meantime. If you have questions, please contact [jonna.kulmuni@helsinki.fi](mailto:jonna.kulmuni@helsinki.fi).

The STN IOS organising committee,

Jonna Kulmuni  
Chris Cooney  
Sean Stankowski  
Carole Smadja  
Nick Barton  
Sonal Singhal  
Roger Butlin  
Joana Meier  
Richard Merrill  
Konrad Lohse  
Liz Scordato