

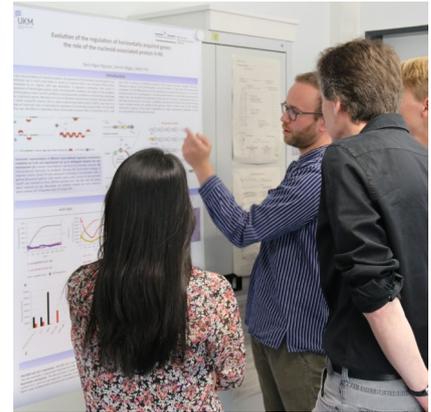
MGSE Newsletter 01/2015

Activities & accomplishments at the Münster Graduate School of Evolution

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Advanced module „Evolutionary Medicine“ took place with 16 students

This year's Advanced module „Evolutionary Medicine“ took place between 20 April and 15 May and was attended by the maximum number of 16 students. After preparing a lecture in small groups in the first week of the course, the students started with their work in the labs of Ulrich Dobrindt, Monika Stoll, Alexander Mellmann, Stephan Ludwig, and Jürgen Schmitz. The results of the project work were presented during a poster session at the Institute for Evolution and Biodiversity, where the students were on hand to answer questions and provide additional details to their supervisors and other interested guests. This year's topics included: Experimental analyses of transposons, Next-Generation Sequencing and data analysis, effects of phosphorylation on the M1 protein of 2009 pandemic H1N1, the evolution of the regulation of horizontally acquired genes, and MRSA outbreak investigation using Next-Generation Sequencing. The final evaluation of the course resulted in most of the students „recommending the course“ or „recommending it with enthusiasm“.



<http://www.wwu.de/Evolution/mgse/teaching/evolutionarymedicine.html>



New graduate student joined the MGSE

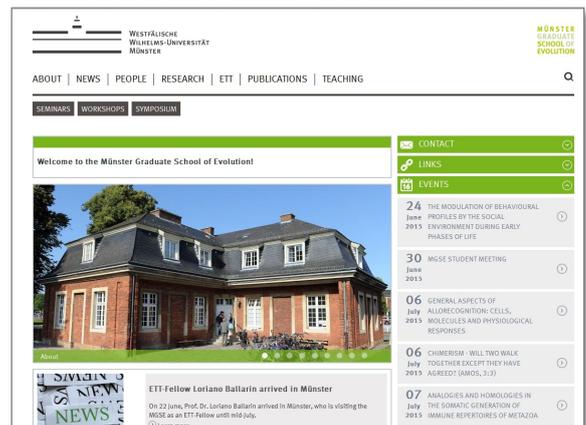
In May, Aaron Lecanda joined the MGSE as a graduate student. Aaron does his PhD in the research groups of Sebastian Leidel (RNA Biology) and Juanma Vaquerizas (Regulatory Genomics) at the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Biomedicine. In his doctoral project entitled "Translational control and regulation in vertebrates" he addresses the regulation of protein synthesis from a genomics point of view, using computational approaches to analyze data from different organisms with a strong evolutionary focus. *A warm welcome to our new member!*

<http://www.wwu.de/Evolution/mgse/people/aaronlecanda.html>

New MGSE website went online

At the end of May, the website of the MGSE has got a new look with a responsive layout. Responsive web design means that the site adapts its layout depending on what type of device it is being used on, be it a desktop PC, tablet or mobile device. In addition to the layout, also the content of the site was revised. MGSE members are encouraged to provide news and pictures to keep the site updated.

<http://www.wwu.de/Evolution/mgse/>



Mitchell Green visited the MGSE as ETT-Fellow



Prof. Dr. Mitchell Green visited the MGSE as a Fellow of the Evolution Think Tank from 16 May until 15 June 2015. Mitchell Green is a Professor at the Department of Philosophy at the University of Connecticut, USA, with a focus on the philosophy of language, philosophy of mind, and aesthetics. Currently he is conducting research in the areas of evolutionary biology of communication, speech acts and their role in conversation, empathy, self-knowledge, self-expression, and attitude ascription.

During his stay Prof. Green gave a public lecture on "Biological signaling sheds light on both the ontogeny and phylogeny of language" and was actively involved in a workshop on the "Evolution of Meaning". The workshop comprised keynote lectures as well as discussion groups and brought together philosophers and biologists to share basic concepts and hypotheses on, e.g., how and why do signals evolve or what role do intention, cognitive states, and normativity play in the evolution of communication. In addition to Mitchell Green himself, Nikola Kompa from the University of Osnabrück and Klaudia Witte from the University of Siegen provided insights into their latest work with lectures on language evolution and linguistic norms and the role of social information in sexual selection, respectively.

<http://www.wwu.de/Evolution/mgse/workshop/evolutionofmeaning.html>



ETT-Fellow Lorian Ballarin arrived in Münster

On 22 June, Prof. Dr. Lorian Ballarin arrived in Münster, who is visiting the MGSE as an Fellow of the Evolution Think Tank until 22 July 2015. Lorian Ballarin is an Associate Professor of Zoology at the Department of Biology at the University of Padova, Italy, where he teaches Zoology and Comparative Immunobiology. His research interests include Ascidian immunobiology, allorecognition, Tunicate haemocyte differentiation, apoptosis and recognition of apoptotic cells and corpses. During his stay Prof. Ballarin will organize a workshop on "Evolutionary Aspects of Allorecognition" on 6-7 July 2015 with Prof. Dr. Baruch Rinkevich (National Institute of Oceanography, Haifa, IL) and Prof. Dr. Louis Du Pasquier (University of Basel, CH) as invited guests. *We welcome Prof. Ballarin and look forward to an inspiring time in Münster!*

<http://www.wwu.de/Evolution/mgse/workshop/allorecognition.html>



Upcoming events

- 6– 7 July 2015** Workshop on „Evolutionary Aspects of Allorecognition” with ETT-Fellow Lorian Ballarin
- 4 August 2015** Introductory talk by ETT-Fellow Alexander Bolshoy
- 25—26 August 2015** Workshop on „Nonlinear Dynamics in Biology: From Time Series to Knowledge” with ETT-Fellow Chih-Hao Hsieh
- 20—21 October 2015** MGSE Symposium on „Evolutionary Medicine“

Up-to-date information can also be found on:

www.wwu.de/Evolution/mgse/

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