



ISBE Newsletter

Supplement to *Behavioral Ecology*
www.behavecol.com

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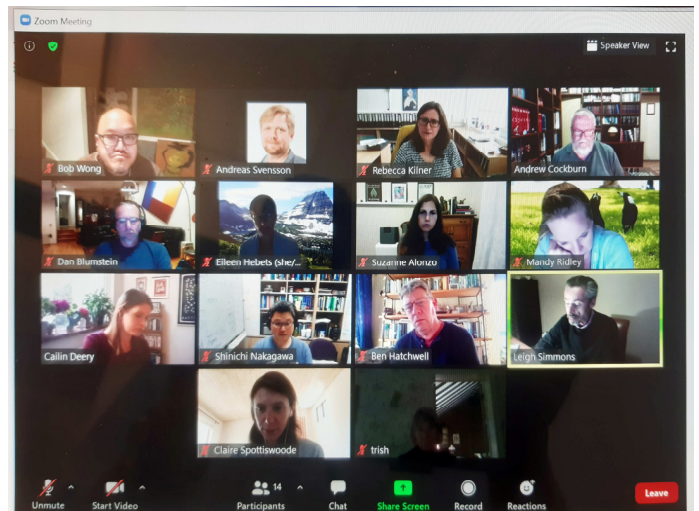
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FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

When Covid-restrictions forced many of us to work from home, I first thought it would lead to a boost in scientific output. "Finally some peace and quiet to write up unpublished data", I imagined. This was of course very naïve, and reality has turned out to be rather the opposite. Many of us who teach, have had to spend huge amounts of time re-fashioning courses into distance learning versions. Many have had to combine work-from-home with child care or homeschooling. Reports from scientific journals, including our own, now talk about a substantial decline in the number of submitted papers. In addition, women and younger scientist seems to have been affected the most. Most likely, increased parental duties due to the closing of schools is a major factor. Learning to work and communicate in new ways have also taken time away from research. The reduction in scientific submissions may be long-lasting, because the collection of new data has been hit as well: many have been unable to travel to field sites or to the labs of collaborators.

The most dramatic effect of Covid-19 on our Society was of course the postponement of the Melbourne conference until 2022. As a consequence, this year's Executive Council meeting happened on Zoom instead of at the conference.

Although there is no ISBE conference review in this issue, there are many other interesting contributions. I especially want to highlight Leigh Simmons' urgent request for more of us to accept requests to peer-review the manuscripts that are sent to our journal.



A new reality for many. Thanks to Zoom, the Executive Council could meet in September, despite being scattered across many continents.

We now have a new President, Becky Kilner, and two new council members. Read more about this on page four.

This Newsletter relies on your contributions. Please consider doing a book review, opinion piece, or some other contribution to the next issue (see page 2).

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CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

Your contribution is important!

The ISBE Newsletter publishes Book Reviews, Conference/Workshop Reviews, Job postings and other advertisements, as well as Commentary Articles of interest to the International Society for Behavioral Ecology. The ISBE Newsletter will only consider work that is not already published or intended to be submitted for publication elsewhere.

Book Reviews: Persons involved in the publishing of books who would like these to be considered for review in the Newsletter should contact the editor so that they can be added in the books-for-review list. Authors may submit a list of possible reviewers. Members who wish to review a particular book should contact the editor. The editor will provide reviewers with instructions. Reviews are typically 1500-2000 words. For a list of books currently available for review, see the end of this Newsletter.

Workshop/Conference Reviews: Workshop and/or Conference reviews can be prepared in one of the following formats: *Brief synopses* (around 1500 words) and *Longer reports* (around 3000 words). Graduate students and postdocs are strongly encouraged to consider contributing to writing these reports.

Cartoons: Cartoonists and other artists are encouraged to submit artwork, either in hardcopy, or as TIFF or high resolution (>300 dpi) gif or jpg files. All cartoons published in the Newsletter will be credited to the illustrator.

Spotlight on young scientists: Early career members (PhDs/ postdocs) are encouraged to participate in the section "Spotlight on"; please provide name, education, current address, research interests and selected papers in an email to the editor.

Upcoming conferences and events: Please submit information about events that are relevant to the Society. Do this by emailing the Newsletter editor so that it can be included in the "Conference calendar"

The deadline for contributions to the next issue is Feb 28, 2021

PEER REVIEW : A CALL TO ARMS

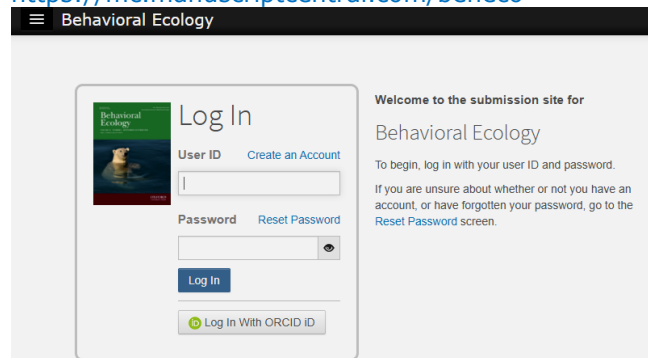
Peer review lies at the heart of open and transparent science. The system was introduced by the Royal Society in the early 1830s¹, and while not always perfect, it is effective in fostering open and honest reporting of science. The last few years has seen an increased push toward improving openness in scientific publication, a push that Behavioral Ecology fully endorses. As researchers, we all benefit from peer review in a multitude of ways. There is not a single paper that I have published that I can honestly say was not improved by the peer review process. As authors we often are too close to the work, and the writing, to see how it can be improved, and an outside eye can alert us to flaws in our logic, analysis, and presentation. Importantly, we want these flaws identified before our work becomes a permanent feature of the scientific record. As peer reviewers, there is much that we can learn from evaluating other people's research. We can learn new methods of analysis, consider new techniques to employ in our own research, and gain inspiration for our own research agendas, just as much as attending a conference and listening to talks. Early in my research career, it was by engaging in peer review that I learnt how to write a scientific article. Undertaking per review is also a privilege, as it gives us the unique opportunity of seeing research at the cutting edge, before anyone else gets to hear about it.

In the peer review system, authors and reviewers represent two sides of the one coin: each of us is both author and peer reviewer. That is how open science should work. The system relies on reciprocal altruism. However, over the last 5 years, we have noticed an increasing difficulty in engaging researchers in the peer review process. Understandably the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated this problem. Most of us are now struggling with everyday life, trying to balance the increased demands on our time for online teaching, home schooling, and research, with the concerns for friends and family foremost in our minds. This is taking an inevitable toll on the peer review system. Currently at Behavioral Ecology we must invite 5-10 reviewers before we obtain two peer reviews of a submitted manuscript. The reviewer invitation acceptance rate in 2020 is down to 44.6%. This means that the author in you can expect the handling of your manuscript to take considerably longer than it might otherwise have, especially when you factor in to the equation the fact that Editors are also subject to the same pressures of COVID life. But the peer reviewer in you can help, by offering alternative suggestions for reviews if you are unable to help, rather than simply declining or ignoring invitations, or by committing to review three reviews for every manuscript you submit. If you have published a paper this year you are indebted to two other authors and an Editor for the work they have invested in improving the quality of your work.

When assigning reviewers to submitted manuscripts we use a variety of sources including our ScholarOne database. If you already have a ScholarOne profile, please ensure your contact information and listed areas of expertise are up to date. If you do not yet

have an account and want to be considered as a peer reviewer, please register on the Behavioral Ecology submission web site:

<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/beheco>



Support our journal by registering as a reviewer!

We particularly encourage Early Career Researchers (ECRs) to register. Often it is our ECRs that provide us with the most thoughtful and thorough peer reviews. In part this is because they are often more on the ball with respect to the most recent literature, and more actively engaged in conducting full-time research. Additionally, it is ECRs that have the most to gain professionally from engaging in the peer review process, through the learning experience it offers and the reputational currency it attracts from established researchers. Engaging in peer review for the first time is somewhat daunting; I know it was a very nerve racking experience for me when I recieved my first paper to review! To empower ECRs to act confidently as peer reviewers, Emilie Snell-Rood has been trialling a Zoom-a-review program for Behavioral Ecology.

With the demise of face-to-face meetings, the aim of this program is to both facilitate communication among socially isolated academics, graduate students and early career researchers, and to offer training opportunities for our next cohort of peer reviewers. Interested behavioral ecologists should sign up as either a mentor or a mentee. Mentors and mentees are matched around papers of mutual interest. Each read the same paper and meet via zoom to discuss before writing their own review. An independent third review is also solicited to ensure pseudoreplication is avoided.

An initial run of 24 participants revealed that mentee confidence in reviewing rose by 65% and mentees write consistently thorough and high quality reviews. Mentors reported participation was little extra work and improved their own review. Both mentors and mentees said it was a fun social experience at a time when many conference networking opportunities have been lost. We are still recruiting participants (especially mentors!) and anyone interested in the program can contact Emilie Snell-Rood (emilies@umn.edu).

Sign up here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfthYT53rltUgoRiGtJ1w5WC0HJ_aeOncOXg4DqqCKmMz7rYA/view_form

Finally, it is important for peer review to receive the recognition it deserves. Peer review is critical for the scientific process. Therefore the Behavioral Ecology reviewing system has now been fully integrated with Publons so that our reviewers can opt to gain formal recognition of their work as peer reviewers.

Behavioral Ecology has a long and proud history of excellence in scientific publishing, and we strive to provide our research community with the best possible forum for disseminating their research. Importantly, as a member of ISBE this is your journal. All profits arising from its publication go directly back to you, primarily through travel awards to attend our biennial

Congress. Our ability to maintain the quality of the journal and its support of our society is in your hands, the author-peer reviewers, and the tireless efforts of those who offer their time as Editors and Editorial Board members so that we can publish your work.

Leigh W. Simmons
Editor-in-Chief

¹Refereeing: the evolution of trust in editorial practices. <https://royalsociety.org/blog/2020/09/refereeing-the-evolution-of-trust-in-editorial-practices>

FROM THE (EX) PRESIDENT

I am writing this just after I received an e-mail calendar alert reminding me that my flight to Melbourne for the 2020 ISBE Congress would have happened today. Sadly, Covid-19 put paid to that. However, the wheels of the Society continue to turn, and last week we held our biennial Executive meeting that would have taken place at the Congress, we had to use Zoom instead. Bob Wong, our Secretary had to schedule that meeting across seven time zones, and being altruistic, had the meeting start at 10pm Eastern Australian Time. I have rarely been so tired at the end of the meeting! Most of my news stems from that meeting. Of particular note is we have been lamenting the effort that our young members had put into the Abstracts that they had submitted for Travel Awards. We have decided to award the best of these a small cash prize, so some of you will receive a cheque in the mail. Congratulations to the lucky winners, who will be announced in a future Newsletter.

Elections

At the meeting we welcomed the new members elected by the membership earlier this year. Suzanne Alonzo became President-elect, and will become President at the 2022 meeting. We farewelled and thanked Mandy Ridley, and Eileen Hebets and Shinichi Nagakawa took up Councillor positions.

The Executive meeting also marks a transition in the Presidency, and Becky Kilner is now our President. Ben Hatchwell completed his term on the Executive after six years including the Presidency from the 2016 to 2018. We thanked him for his enormous contribution. I have become past-President.

The next election will be held in late 2021, and if any member of the Society is interested in serving on Council you are encouraged to contact Becky about the possibility.

Future meetings

Fortunately for the Society the team that had been organising the meeting have agreed to postpone the Congress and welcome us back to Melbourne in 2022. We also were able to view a short clip advertising the Congress planned for 2024, which will be held in the beautiful city of Stockholm.

Behavioral Ecology

Some of you will shortly receive a renewal notice for your society membership and subscription to the journal. A few years ago we moved to two-year subscriptions, and a small number of members have subscriptions starting in years out of kilter with the rest of us. Those of you in this situation will be offered a single-year subscription to bring you into line with the rest of us. This is designed to have everybody with same subscription base when we move to online only subscriptions to the journal in 2022.

Constitutional changes

In the last newsletter I foreshadowed we would be putting some constitutional changes to the Membership to modernise the language and smooth out some difficulties that were constraining our operations. You will receive an explanation and be able to vote electronically in the near future.

Best wishes, and I hope your pursuit of behavioral ecology hasn't been too badly affected by the pandemic

Andrew Cockburn
President, International Society for Behavioral Ecology

CONFERENCE CALENDAR

The conference circuit in a state of turmoil, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many meetings have been cancelled, others are postponed or have moved online. Please check the conferences' web sites for up-to-date information

American Genetic Association

Nov 15-20, 2020 Virtual Symposium: Indirect genetic effects (IGE) www.theaga.org/agatwentytwenty.htm

British Ornithology Union - Virtual Conference

Nov 24, 2020 BOU virtual conference: Climate change and birds: solutions to the crisis
www.bou.org.uk/bou-conferences/

ASAB Winter Meeting 2020 - Virtual

Dec 3-4, 2020. This year's ASAB Winter Meeting will now be held virtually on 3-4 December 2020!
www.asabvirtual.org/

Animal Behaviour Twitter Conference

Jan 26-27, 2021. The Animal Behavior Society (ABS) and the Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour (ASAB) have joined forces to host the first Global (#AnimBehav2021)! www.animbehav2021.org/

26th European Meeting of PhD Students in Evolutionary Biology

March 1-2, 2021 EMPSEB²⁶ will be held online
<https://sites.google.com/view/empseb26/home>

European Evolution and Human Behaviour

March 10-13 2021, in Krakow. Note: prelim. dates!
<https://ehbea2020.com/>

British Ornithology Union Annual Conference

March 30-April 1, 2021, Nottingham UK. BOU Annual Conference: Restoring bird populations
www.bou.org.uk/bou-conferences/

Human Behavior & Evolution Society

June 2-5, 2021 in Palm Springs, CA, USA
<http://www.hbes.com/conference/>

Society for the Study of Evolution meeting

June 25-29, 2021 in Albuquerque, NM, USA (ASN/SSB/SSE) <http://www.evolutionsociety.org/>

International Society for Applied Ethology

Aug 2-6, 2021, in Bangalore, India
<https://www.applied-ethology.org/Events.html>

Animal Behaviour society conference

Aug 3-7 2021 in Costa Rica
www.animalbehaviorsociety.org

European Society for Evolutionary Biology (ESEB)

August 22-27, 2021 in Prague, Czech Republic.
<https://www.eseb2021.cz/>

American Ornithological Society conference

Aug 23 - 28, London, Ontario, Canada. American Ornithological Society annual meeting
<https://americanornithology.org/meetings/>

European Ornithologists' Union Conference

Sep 2021, University of Giessen, Germany
<https://eounion.org/about/giessen-2021>

International Society for Applied Ethology (ISAE) Congress

6-10 September, 2021. Republic of North Macedonia
www.applied-ethology.org/Events.html

World Owl Conference

Sep 20 - 24, 2021. The World Owl Conference will be held in Onalaska/La Crosse, Wisconsin, USA.
www.internationalowlcenter.org/futureconferences

9th Internat. Conference of Poeciliid Biologists

Sep 15-17, 2021 which will take place from the 15th to 17th September 2021. Wageningen, the Netherlands

15th Pan-African Ornithological Congress

Nov 15-19 2021. Elephant Hills Conference Centre Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
www.paoc15.org

Society for the Study of Evolution meeting

June 24-28, 2022 in Cleveland, OH, USA (ASN/SSB/SSE) <http://www.evolutionsociety.org/>

International Society for Applied Ethology

Aug 2022, in the Republic of North Macedonia
<https://www.applied-ethology.org/Events.html>

International Ornithologists' Union (IOU)

Aug 14-20, 2022. Durban, South Africa The 2022 conference will be a hybrid conference encouraging virtual presentations and attendance,
<https://iocongress2022.com/>

International Union for Social Insects

XIX IUSSI International Congress 2022 San Diego, California, USA
www.iussi.org/meetings.html



www.isbe2022.com

2020 Report from the Editor-in-Chief

The last 2 years have been a period of stability for the journal. Submissions have remained stable suggesting that the journal is perceived as an attractive place to publish. *Behavioral Ecology* is currently delivered to 2,490 consortia customers with access to the journal via the OUP Collection, and over 5,500 institutions in developing nations access the journal through OUP's philanthropic initiatives. The renewal rate for 2019 was 114% indicative of sustained strength.

1. Editorial Team

There have been a number of changes to the Editorial team since my last report in 2018. Cailin Deery remains our publishing Editor at Oxford University Press and Jenny Fulford our Editorial assistant.

Some of our Editors have finished their terms of office, including Louise Barrett, Jonathan Pruitt, Luke Holman, John Skelhorn, Anna Lindholm, Michael Taborsky, Dan Papaj and Andrea Griffith. I would like to formally thank each of these individuals for their hard work and dedication to the journal. Accordingly, we have recruited 8 new Editors, Colette St Mary, Niels Dingemans, Marie Herberstein, Marc Naguib, Michael Jennions, Jan Komdeur, Emilie Snell-Rood and Noa Pinter-Wollman. I am extremely grateful to these individuals for agreeing to offer their time and expertise to build upon the strength of our journal over the coming years. And I am particularly grateful for all they have done in helping me to maintain the momentum of the journal over the last 6 months in the face of COVID-19. Most of our Editors have been working from home, many while caring and schooling young children, and my gratitude for their continued support of our journal and its authors cannot be overemphasised.

We have also seen changes to our Editorial Board. My thanks go to Devi Stuart-Fox, Julia Schroeder, Andres Lopez-Sepulcre, Paula Stockley, Tom Reader, Ron Ydenberg, Sigrunn Eliassen, Noa Pinter-Wollman and Lynne Snedden who have all completed terms on the Editorial Board, and I welcome new members Robin Tinghitella, Dustin Rubenstein, Kate Laskowski, Aimee Dunlap, Theodore Stankowich, Christina Painting, Xavier Harrison, Domhall Jennings, Jussie Lehtonen, Aliza le Roux and Alison Shaw. Our editorial board provide rapid reviews on up to 10 manuscripts per year, and serve as adjudicators when necessary. Domhall Jennings is our specialist animal ethics consultant and Christina Painting has assisted Kate Umbers in managing the *Behavioral Ecology* Twitter account. Our editorial structure aims to afford a broad area of expertise in behavioral ecology research, to be gender balanced and to represent the international community. We currently have 15 male and 14 female Editors from 11



Countries, that provide a broad coverage of research areas and taxonomic specialities.

2. Manuscript Submissions, Decisions, and production

During 2018 (2019) *Behavioral Ecology* received 641 (568) Original Articles. We also Invited 6 (5) Reviews with associated Commentaries, and 2 (4) Ideas. During the same periods decisions were made on 661 (614) submissions. Of these 70% (67%) were rejected (34% (39%) without review) and 30% (33%) were accepted for publication.

Decision times have remained steady, with the average time from submission to decision for new manuscripts being 49 (47) days and for revisions 19 (16) days.

The time from final acceptance to publication in advance of print is ~4.5 weeks.

3. Published Volumes

Volumes 29 and 30 of *Behavioral Ecology* appeared in 2018 and 2019 respectively. Volume 29 comprised a total of 1501 pages with 149 original articles and 6 Invited Reviews with associated Invited Commentaries. Volume 30 comprised a total of 1793 pages with 184 original articles, 4 Invited Review with associated Invited Commentaries, and 2 Invited Ideas. Collectively these articles have received 1126 citations, an average of 2.63 citations per article

There was one retraction in 2018, of a paper originally published in volume 24:

- Hamilton, David G.; Whiting, Martin J.; Pryke, Sarah R. (2013) Fiery frills: carotenoid-based coloration predicts contest success in frillneck lizards.

During a new study the authors found that they were unable to replicate their findings, and that their estimates of colour were erroneous.

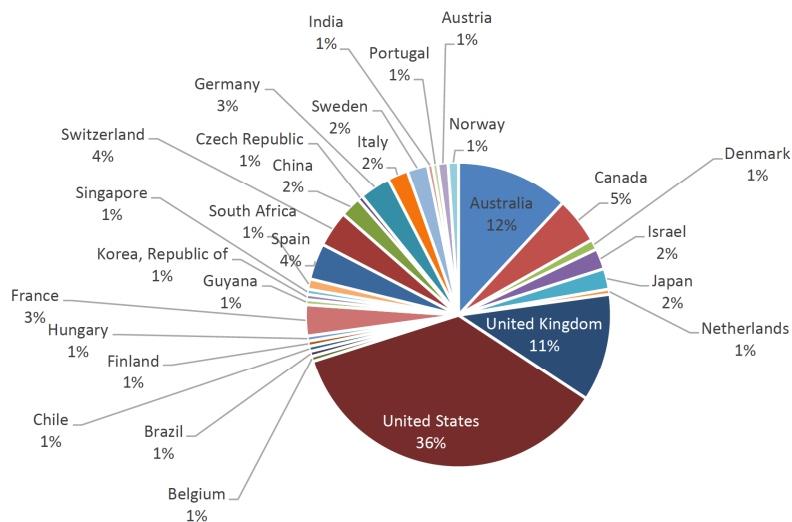
For each issue in 2018 and 2019, one article was made free to view and archived in a collection that can be accessed via the online journal homepage. Editor's Choice articles are also highlighted on the journal's Facebook page and the online journal home

highlighted as Editor's Choice. These articles were page, with a lay summary outlining their significance to the general public.

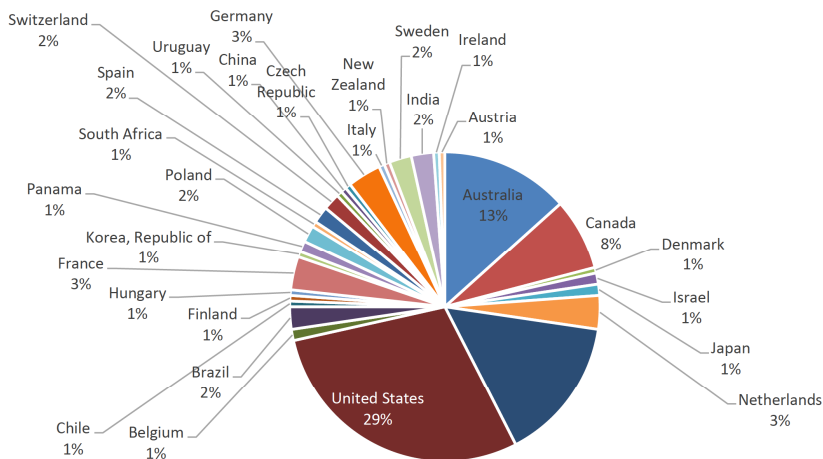
4. Geographic provenance of authors

Our authors come from over 30 countries, with the UK, the USA and Australia still the largest represented groups

• Volume 29 (2018)



• Volume 30 (2019)



5. Online Journal

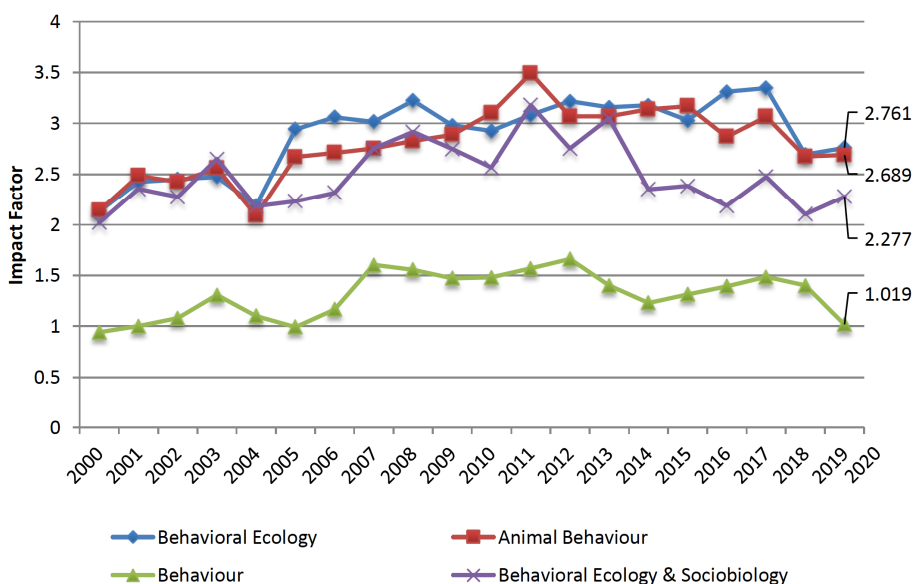
Full text downloads rose by 14% in 2018 (from 939,732 in 2017 to 1,075,381 in 2018) and then fell by just 2% (to 939,732) in 2019.

The journal currently has 6,683 email Table of Contents (eTOC) registrants, an increase of 8.3% on my previous report. *Behavioral Ecology* also has a further 1,816 individuals signed up to receive Advanced Access (AA) e-alerts, an increase of 5% on my previous report.

6. Journal Impact

The ISI Impact Factor for *Behavioral Ecology* fell from 3.347 in 2017 to 2.695 in 2018 and recovered slightly in 2019, rising to 2.761. The fall in IF in 2018 was experienced across the board for journals in ecology and evolution, illustrated by the comparisons with behavioural journals below. This is also reflected

in the fact that *Behavioral Ecology* has largely retained its relative position in journal rankings, remaining alongside *Animal Behaviour* a leading journal in our field. *Behavioral Ecology* is currently ranked 19/52 (top 36%) in Behavioral Sciences, 43/168 (top 25%) in Ecology and 10/168 (top 6%) in Zoology.



The top 10 cited papers include many of our invited reviews, illustrating their efficacy in elevating the IF of the journal.

First Author	Title	Year	Article Type	Citations in 2019	Total Citations
Houslay, TM	Avoiding the misuse of BLUP in behavioural ecology	2017	Invited Idea	27	42
Olsson, P	Chromatic and achromatic vision: parameter choice and limitations for reliable model predictions	2018	Invited Review	24	40
Bailey, NW	Indirect genetic effects in behavioral ecology: does behavior play a special role in evolution?	2018	Invited Review	13	24
Christensen, C	Dear enemies or nasty neighbors? Causes and consequences of variation in the responses of group-living species to territorial intrusions	2018	Invited Review	11	19
Tinghitella, RM	On the role of male competition in speciation: a review and research agenda	2018	Invited Review	10	19
Segev, U	Pace-of-life in a social insect: behavioral syndromes in ants shift along a climatic gradient	2017	Original Article	10	13
Royaute, R	When the mean no longer matters: developmental diet affects behavioral variation but not population averages in the house cricket (<i>Acheta domesticus</i>)	2017	Original Article	10	13
Beekman, M	Does the field of animal personality provide any new insights for behavioral ecology?	2017	Invited Review	9	20
Maia, R	Comparing colors using visual models	2018	Original Article	9	13
Lyons, J	Fat and happy in the city: Eastern chipmunks in urban environments	2017	Original Article	9	9

Indeed, four Invited Reviews from 2018 and 2019 are identified as ISI "Highly Cited in Field" which will hopefully support our 2019 IF.

- Christensen, Charlotte; Radford, Andrew N. Dear enemies or nasty neighbors? Causes and consequences of variation in the responses of group-living species to territorial intrusions.
- Olsson, Peter; Lind, Olle; Kelber, Almut. Chromatic and achromatic vision: parameter choice and limitations for reliable model predictions.
- Bailey, Nathan W.; Marie-Orleach, Lucas; Moore, Allen J. Indirect genetic effects in behavioral ecology: does behavior play a special role in evolution?
- Berger-Tal, Oded; Greggor, Alison L.; Macura, Biljana; et al. Systematic reviews and maps as tools for applying behavioral ecology to management and policy.

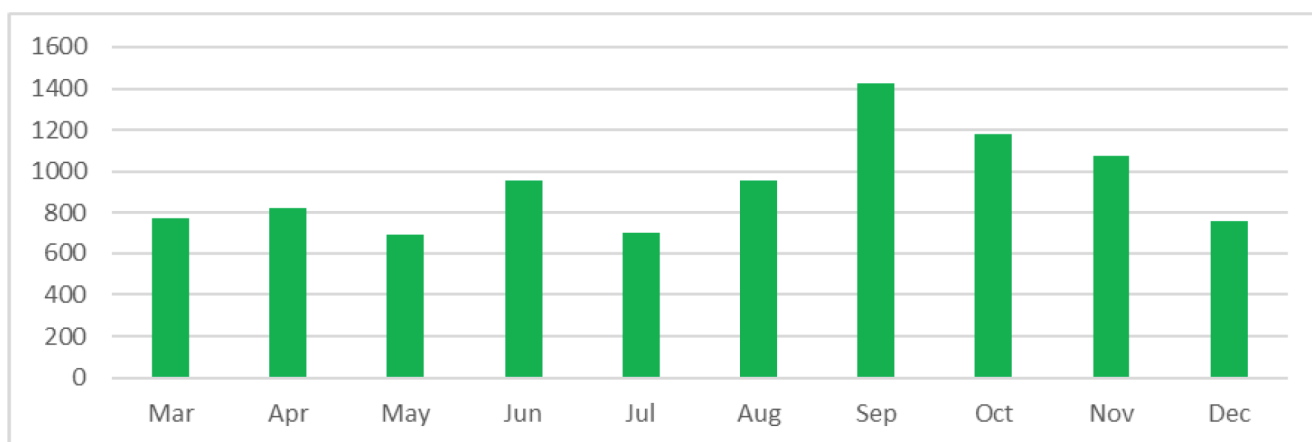
7. Virtual Issues

Behavioral Ecology also publishes Virtual Issues. In general these are built around one of our Invited Reviews, with a mix of older articles and articles published within the previous 2 years. They are

provided free to view, and the aim is that the increased usage of the more recent articles will feed through to increased rates of citation with consequences for the journal's impact factor. In 2018 we published *Behavioral Ecology of Color Vision* built around Olsson et al's review on chromatic and achromatic vision. In 2019 we published *Sexual Selection on Females* built around an older review by Rosvall on intrasexual competition in females and one of our Editor's Choice articles, and *Social Networks* built around Shizuka & Johnson's review on the effects of demographic processes on animal social networks.



Our virtual issues are highly effective in promoting research published in the main journal. For example, *Social Networks* published in August 2019 resulted in an increased usage of publications in the collection of 36.6%, which can be seen in the figure below. The review itself has become an ISI "Highly Cited" article.



The usage of publications featured in the Virtual Issue "Social Networks" in 2019

8. Impact

- **Facebook**

The journal's facebook page @behecol serves as our public face, and a mechanism with which to promote our research to the broader public so as to increase the impact of behavioral ecology research. The number of followers is currently 9,266, an increase of 14% over the last 2 years. The largest demographic of followers are in the age group 25-34 (45%), and the greatest number of followers are from the USA, followed by India, continental Europe, UK, Mexico, Brazil, Australia and Canada.

I use the page to highlight new articles in the journal that are particularly newsworthy. When each new **ISBE Newsletter Vol 32 (2)**

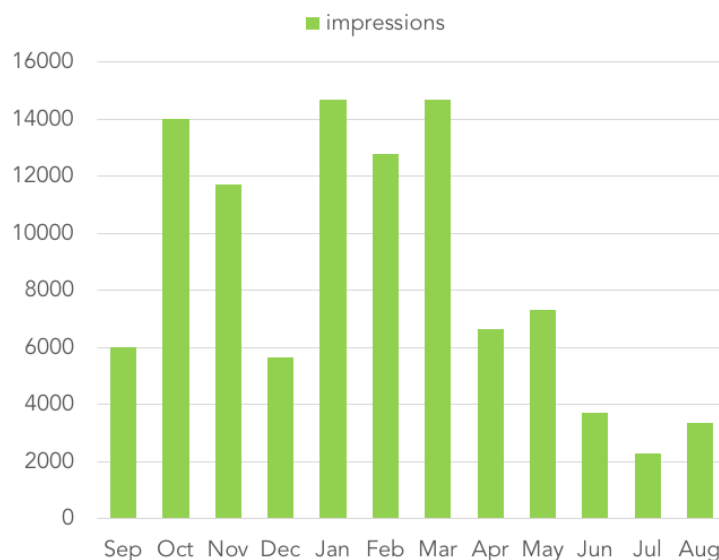
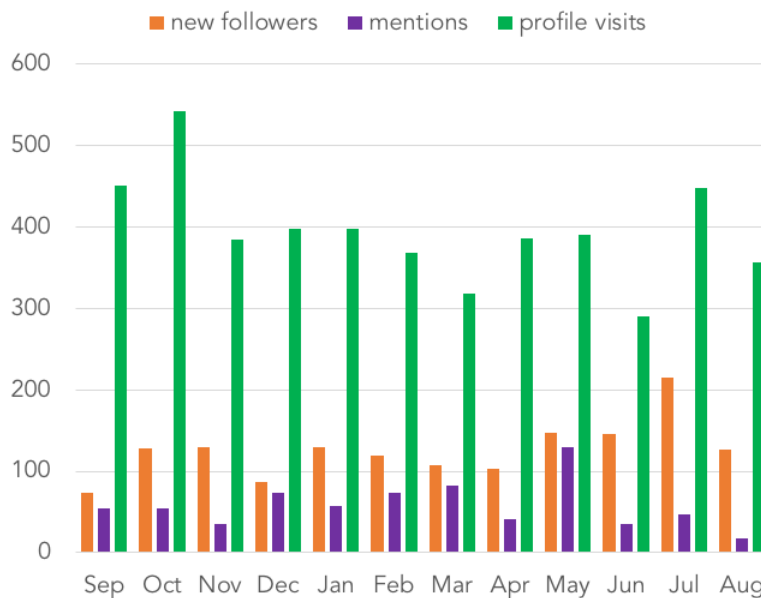
issue of the journal is released a lay summary of the Editor's Choice is posted, along with a "Focus on Issue" post with images accompanied by author provided lay summaries. Shares of second party blogs or news media on *Behavioral Ecology* articles typically reach an audience of ~1000 people of which 100-200 engage by clicking through to articles or shared posts. Our own posts, such as the Editor's Choice or announcements of new Virtual Issues generally attract greater attention. For example the post for our Virtual Issue *Social Networks* reached 6,945 people of which 726 engaged, and our most recent Editor's Choice post reached 1,418 people of which 109 engaged. The page is also used to post society information, such as ISBE conference announcements and the Newsletter.

- **Twitter**

The *Behavioral Ecology* twitter account is managed by Kate Umbers. Chrissie Painting stepped in from August 2018 – March 2019 while Kate was on maternity leave. During COVID Kate has been unable to keep up with the account as she did beforehand owing to carer’s responsibilities. It currently has 7641 followers up 69% from ~4500 last reporting period. In the past 12 months, the number of new followers has remained mostly stable, with a median of 127 new followers per month (range: 73 – 215). The number of mentions has also remained consistent at 55 per month (range: 18-130) as have the number of profile visits (median 394, range: 290 – 542). The impressions appear to have dropped as a result of inactivity on the account during COVID starting in March. Our tweets announcing the new issues seem to do well, with the May /June and July/August Issue tweets making ~1500 impressions each, leading to 17 and 10 clicks on the link to the issue webpage, respectively. One paper received 152 link clicks from 3405 impressions on a single tweet: “Towards a comparative approach to the structure of

animal personality variation #behavecol #personality <https://academic.oup.com/beheco/article/31/2/340/5643668>”. Oxford University Press has been promoting BE papers and mentioning @behavecol which we have been retweeting. We also retweet mentions by authors of our papers which is a win-win because it promotes the researchers as well as the journal, however these do not appear in our analytics. We are still looking into setting up a twitter bot that automatically tweets publications as they are published online and welcome input from members with relevant experience.

Oxford University Press are also actively engaged in promoting our journal material through their own twitter and Facebook channels, and through press releases and features on the OUPblog. Editors identify accepted articles of particular note and direct these to our marketing team who work with authors in preparing blog posts.



- **Altmetrics**

The impact and reach of research reported in *Behavioral Ecology* beyond traditional academic venues is captured by altmetric data. The altmetric score is a measure of the amount of attention an article has received online, in social media and news sites. Our highest scoring article between 2018 and 2019 was Rohan Brooker and colleagues paper, *Shelter availability mediates decorating in the majoid*

crab which has an altmetric score of 142. The article was picked up by 2 news outlets, 3 blogs, 167 tweets and 2 Facebook pages. To put these values into some perspective, altmetric scores of 20 or more are in general receiving significantly greater impact than other papers, being in the top 5% of all research outputs scored by altmetrics.

	Shelter availability mediates decorating in the majoid crab, <i>Camposcia retusa</i> RM Brooker Volume 29, Issue 1, January 2018, Pages 179–185
	Rate of intersexual interactions affects injury likelihood in Tasmanian devil contact networks DG Hamilton Volume 30, Issue 4, July 2019, Pages 1087–1095
	Senescent declines in elite tennis players are similar across the sexes A Sutter Volume 29, Issue 6, November 2018, Pages 1351–1358
	Juvenile socio-ecological environment shapes material technology in nest-building birds AJ Breen 30 April 2020, araa027
	Attractiveness is positively related to World Cup performance in male, but not female, biathletes NH Aranzamendi Volume 30, Issue 5, 10 July 2019, Pages 1436–1442

In summary I can report that the journal remains strong, and that we continue to offer the best possible platform for our authors and readers. *Behavioral Ecology* should be the journal of choice for researchers in our field, and I would like to take this opportunity once again of reminding authors of the benefits of publishing with a not-for-profit society journal such as *Behavioral Ecology*. The ISBE and OUP have an equal financial share in the journal and the ISBE returns its share in any surplus revenue to its members in the form of travel grants to attend the biennial ISBE Congress. Thus, unlike non-society journals, any revenue generated is used directly in promoting you our authors, and our scientific discipline. OUP are themselves a department of the University of Oxford, and their share of any surplus revenue is returned to education, research and other philanthropic activities. There is increasing interest in

open access publishing, and *Behavioral Ecology* offers this option at very competitive prices. The numbers of open access articles are increasing in the journal. OUP discounts online subscription prices based on OA uptake, so that the more OA content that is published in the journal, the lower the future online subscription prices will be. OUP have been praised for this approach, as it avoids 'double dipping' where publishers charge twice: once to the author for the OA charge, and once to the librarian for the subscription. Finally, we offer reduced rates for open access publishing to our members.

Leigh W. Simmons

Editor-in-Chief, *Behavioral Ecology*
leigh.simmons@uwa.edu.au

2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Society's financial transactions for 2019 are summarized below, along with information on our 12/31/2019 account balances. We had minimal expenses during the year, and our net worth increased by over \$260,000. Our main source of income was, once again, the profit share we receive from our journal. This income from Behavioral Ecology was about \$13,000 less than what we'd received in 2018, but our membership dues were up

by around \$6000. The Society's investments at Vanguard provided over \$22,000 in 2019 dividend and interest income, and share prices for our index funds rose substantially during the year.

Trish Schwagmeyer
ISBE Treasurer
pls@ou.edu

2018 Ending Balance (accounts)			\$721,306.36
	2019 Income	2019 Expense	
2018 travel awards		\$2,600.00	
ISBE2018 charter bus charge		\$190.94	
Postage		\$4.35	
2018 Pitelka award		\$1,000.00	
Website maintenance		\$410.46	
wire transfer fee		\$35.00	
2018 ISBE membership fees	\$16,281.00		
2018 BE profit share	\$157,986.00		
partial refund 2018 meeting	\$1,440.00		
VG dividend and interest income	\$22,592.60		
VG gains/losses in share prices	\$70,935.46		
2019 Ending Balance (transactions)	\$269,235.06	\$4,240.75	\$986,300.67
BOA checking account			\$25,480.56
VG Federal Money Market			\$189,403.70
VG Tot Int Bond Index			\$121,800.74
VG Int Stock Index			\$143,675.00
VG Tot Bond Market Index			\$287,453.24
VG Tot Stock Market Index			\$218,487.43
2019 Ending Balance (accounts)			\$986,300.67

PITELKA AWARD WINNER

Congratulations to Aneesh Bose, winner of the Pitelka Award 2020!

In 1996 the students of Frank Pitelka established the Frank A. Pitelka Award for Excellence in Research, administered through the International Society for Behavioral Ecology. The award is given biennially to coincide with the ISBE conference, and eligibility is limited to the sole or first authors of papers published in the previous two years in Behavioral Ecology who are predoctoral candidates or persons that have received their doctorate within five years of the date of the publication of their paper. This award has an associated cash prize of USD 500 plus economy airfare and registration fee for the next ISBE meeting. A short-list of eligible papers is reviewed by members of the ISBE Executive Council to find the most deserving winner.

Many congratulations to this year's winner of the Pitelka Award, Dr Aneesh Bose, for his outstanding paper:

Bose APH, Cogliati KM, Luymes N, Bass AH, Marchaterre MA, Sisneros JA, Bolker BM & Balshine S. 2018. Phenotypic traits and resource quality as factors affecting male reproductive success in a toadfish. *Behav. Ecol.* 29: 496-507.

Aneesh conducted the research described in this paper while studying for his PhD at McMaster University, Canada, with Sigal Balshine. He is now a postdoc in the Department of Collective Behaviour at the Max Planck Institute of Animal Behavior in Konstanz, Germany. Aneesh says he is "deeply appreciative and thrilled to have received this award. It means an incredible amount to me as an early career researcher, an ISBE member, and a passionate behavioural ecologist. This work was a collaborative effort, and I'm happy to share the recognition with all my co-authors and, of course, with our wonderful toadfish" We look forward to hearing more about his research at the Melbourne meeting in 2022.

Ben Hatchwell
Past President



Dr Aneesh Bose



Guarder and sneaker



Male midshipman in his nest

TENURE-TRACK POSITIONS

Two Tenure-track Faculty Positions in Evolutionary Biology

The Department of Biology at the University of Nebraska Omaha (UNO) invites applications for two tenure-track faculty positions at the rank of Assistant Professor starting August 2021. We seek candidates for two positions, one with a focus on Organismal Evolutionary Biology and the other with a focus on Molecular Evolutionary Biology. A Ph.D. in the life sciences at time of application is required. Postdoctoral research experience is preferred.

The successful candidates will establish active, externally-funded research programs and contribute to core courses in the undergraduate biology curriculum and senior/graduate level courses in the candidates' area of specialization. We anticipate that the person selected for the Organismal Evolutionary Biology will focus on the microevolutionary processes that shape organisms and populations. The specific area of research is open, but could include experimental approaches to the evolutionary ecology of wild populations, response to climate change or other human influences on natural populations, or other areas with a significant focus on studying evolution at the level of whole organisms. The person selected for the Molecular Evolutionary Biology position will employ molecular analytical techniques to address topics in evolutionary biology that might include, but are not limited to, the evolution of infectious disease agents, immune interactions, proteins or protein complexes, genomes, or microbiomes.

The Department comprises 26 faculty members serving over 950 undergraduate majors and approximately 25 graduate students. Field-based facilities support research and teaching programs in the department; these include a 212-ha prairie preserve with access to a local stream system. Shared facilities include two next-generation sequencing instruments, access to high performance computing resources, as well as a 1700 square foot greenhouse.

The university, college, and Department of Biology have a strong commitment to diversity in its varied forms and to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning environment where students, faculty and staff thrive and succeed. With a metropolitan mission, UNO serves a diverse student body with a large number of first-generation college students, and is also actively engaged with the community (<https://www.unomaha.edu/about-uno/mission.php>). UNO is both a metropolitan university of distinction and a Carnegie Doctoral Research institution. UNO transforms and improves the quality of life locally, nationally, and globally. The successful candidate will become part of a dynamic and growing program in the College of Arts and Sciences that is actively engaged with other colleges on the campus as well as community partners.

The campus is located in the heart of Omaha, a cosmopolitan city of more than 600,000 (1.2 million including the large Omaha metro area) that ranks highly for quality of life, affordability, and economic strength. Omaha is home to four Fortune 500 companies, several biomedical research institutions, and numerous government and non-profit organizations.

Inquiries about the position may be directed to Dr. John McCarty (jmccarty@unomaha.edu).

For more details about the positions and to apply go to

Molecular Evolutionary Biology:
<https://unomaha.peopleadmin.com/postings/11810>

Organismal Evolutionary Biology:
<http://unomaha.peopleadmin.com/postings/11813>

Review of applications will begin on November 20, 2020.

Dr. Ryan Y. Wong
University of Nebraska at Omaha, USA

POST DOC POSITION

Postdoctoral Research Associate in Neuroethology of Cognition in Zebrafish

The University of Nebraska Omaha invites applications for a Postdoctoral Research Associate to join Ryan Wong's laboratory (<https://sites.google.com/a/unomaha.edu/wonglab/>) in the Department of Biology. The Wong lab is interested in understanding the neural and molecular mechanisms underlying stress coping styles and related cognitive processes using zebrafish.

The Postdoc will take lead in the design, conduction, and publication of experiments investigating the proximate mechanisms of the interaction between stress coping styles and cognitive capabilities (e.g.

learning and memory) using zebrafish. There are opportunities to investigate fundamental questions that span multiple levels of biological organization ranging from behavior to neurobiology to genetics. The NSF-funded projects will utilize a variety of cognition assays, neurohistochemistry, transcriptomics, genome editing (e.g. CRISPR-Cas9), and bioinformatics. The Postdoc will also have opportunities to take lead and contribute to the lab's student mentorships and outreach activities.

The duration of this NSF-funded position is for 3 years. The candidate should be highly motivated with a fundamental interest in investigating mechanisms underlying animal cognition and personality. Successful candidates will have earned a Ph.D. in

neuroscience, biology, or related field prior to June 2021. The preferred start date is March 2021, but a start date prior to July 1, 2021 is negotiable. Candidates should have demonstrated success in conduction and dissemination of scientific research. Specifically, the applicant should have demonstrated experience in developing or conducting at least one of the following: behavioral assays (learning/memory), neurohistochemistry, transcriptomics, bioinformatics, and/or genome editing.

The University of Nebraska and I are dedicated to advancing the careers of trainees through personalized mentorship, providing opportunities for enhancement of both professional and technical skillsets, and offering collaboration opportunities with other scientists.

Your online application should include a (i) cover letter, (ii) curriculum vitae, (iii) research statement describing how the lab's research interests complements your own interests and experiences, (iv)

diversity statement describing the candidate's philosophy on diversity, including but not limited to addressing the needs of students from underrepresented groups, and (v) graduate transcripts. Please also include the name and contact information for two references, who will be requested to submit reference letters. Submit application materials at <http://unomaha.peopleadmin.com/postings/11096> starting November 1, 2020. Review of applications will begin on January 1, 2021 and continue until position is filled. All interested parties must apply through above website. Materials submitted by other means will not be considered. Prospective candidates are also highly encouraged to directly contact Dr. Wong to express interest and discuss position details well in advance of application submission.

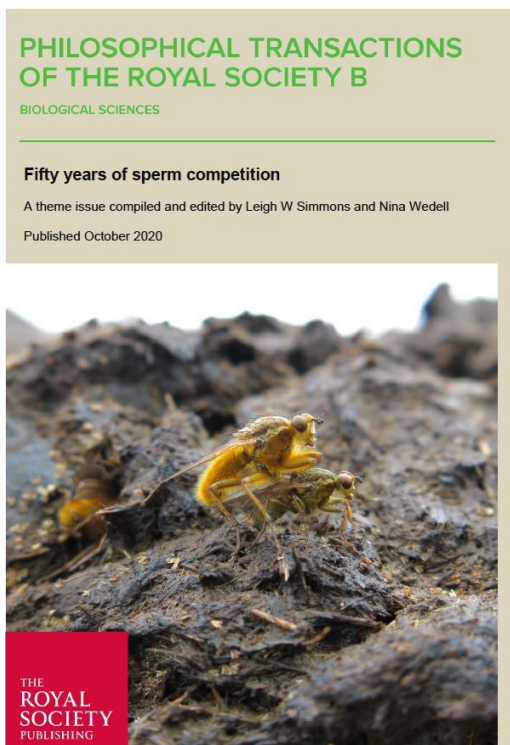
Ryan Wong,
rwong@unomaha.edu

SPERM COMPETITION THEME ISSUE

Royal Society Publishing has recently published a special issue from Philosophical Transactions B entitled:

Fifty years of sperm competition

It is compiled and edited by Leigh W Simmons and Nina Wedell. The articles can be accessed directly at www.bit.ly/PTB1813. Purchase the print issue at the reduced price by contacting Debbie.Vaughan@royalsociety.org



SIGNAL DETECTION THEME ISSUE

Royal Society Publishing has recently published a special issue of Philosophical Transactions B entitled

Signal detection theory in recognition systems: from evolving models to experimental tests

compiled and edited by Mark E Hauber, Hannah M Scharf, H Kern Reeve and Andrew V Suarez and the articles can be accessed directly at www.bit.ly/PTB1802

The issue is FREELY available online until further notice due to the Covid 19 pandemic!



CALL FOR THEME ISSUES

Collaboration in the COVID era

We all know that times are strange right now, and the lives of scientists very different from normal. For those who are missing conference travel, and the opportunity to discuss your work and build collaborations with other research groups, we would like to suggest a replacement project: why not edit a theme issue of **Philosophical Transactions B?**

Each issue is carefully planned out, so is more like a book than a standard collection of related papers. The broad scope means that you are not restricted in terms of subject area, and you can be inventive with different article types. As Guest Editor, you will have

the opportunity to build your network and gain editorial experience, with a high-profile Editorial Board and experienced staff to help you at every step of the way.

Read about the experience of former Guest Editors: <https://blogs.royalsociety.org/publishing/the-art-of-being-a-good-guest-editor-phil-trans-b/>

Also, see our flyer below. Then, if interested, feel free to contact the Commissioning Editor, Helen Eaton, helen.eaton@royalsociety.org, with your ideas.

Felicity Davie
Royal Society Publishing

PHILOSOPHICAL TRANSACTIONS B

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Dr Emily Shepard, Swansea University, UK.

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BOOKS FOR REVIEW

If you are interested in receiving **and** reviewing any of these books, **or some other book** suitable for this Newsletter, please email the newsletter editor: andreas.svensson@lnu.se. Please include your postal address. The due date for review in the next edition of the Newsletter is Feb 28, 2021.

Available from Oxford University Press

Book title

The Science of Animal Welfare - Understanding What Animals Want (2021)
Amphibians: A Very Short Introduction (2021)
Secret Worlds - The extraordinary senses of animals (2021)
Evolution - What Everyone Needs to Know (2020)
Essential Ornithology, Second Edition (2020)
Game Theory in Biology - concepts and frontiers (2020)
Smell: A Very Short Introduction (2020)
Perturbation, Behavioural Feedbacks, and Population Dynamics in Social Animals (2020)
Urban Evolutionary Biology (2020)
Animal Physiology: an environmental perspective (2020)
The Natural History of the Crustacea: Reproductive Biology, Volume VI
The Rules of the Flock: Self-Organization & Swarm Structure in Animal Societies (2020)
Islands and Snakes: Isolation and Adaptive Evolution (2019)
Animal Behavior: 11th edition (2019)
Anthrozoology - Human-Animal Interactions in Domesticated and Wild Animals (2019)
Behavioral Neurobiology - An integrative approach 3rd ed. (2019)

by

Stamp Dawkins
Kemp
Stevens
Dunbar
Graham Scott
McNamara & Leimar
Cobb
Oro
Szulkin *et al.*
Butler *et al.*
Cothran & Thiel
Satz
Lillywhite & Martins
Rubenstein & Alcock
Hosey & Melfi
Zupanc

Available from Cambridge University Press

Book title

Cooperation & Conflict - The Interaction of Opposites in Shaping Social Behav. (2021)
Spatial Analysis in Field Primatology - Applying GIS at Varying Scales (2021)
Barn Owls - Evolution and Ecology
Bears of the World - Ecology, Conservation and Management (2020)
The Kestrel - Ecology, Behaviour and Conservation of an Open-Land Predator (2020)
Biostatistics with R - An Introductory Guide for Field Biologists
Chimpanzee- Lessons from our Sister Species (2020)
Monkeys on the Edge - Ecology and Management of Long-Tailed Macaques (2020)
Primate Parasite Ecology: The Dynamics and Study of Host-Parasite Relationships
Mahale Chimpanzees - 50 Years of Research (2020)
Avian cognition (2020)
Biological Invasions and Animal Behaviour (2019)
The Study of Behavior - Organization, Methods, and Principles (2019)
Studying Primates (2019)
The Social Life of Greylag Geese (2019)
The Chimpanzees of the Tai Forest - 40 Years of Research (2019)

by

Wilczynski & Brosnan
Dolins *et al.*
Roulin
Penteriani & Melletti
Costantini & Dell'Omo
Lepš & Šmilauer
Hunt
Gumert *et al.*
Huffman & Chapman
Nakamura
ten Cate
Weis
Hogan
Setchell
Scheiber *et al.*
Boesch & Wittig

Available from Pelagic publishing

The Call of Carnivores - travels of a field biologist (2019), ny Kruuk

Available from Wiley

Genes and Behaviour: Beyond Nature-Nurture. (2019), by Hosken, Hunt & Wedell (Editors)

Available from Chicago University Press

Zebra Stripes (2017), by Caro

Available from Royal Society publishing

- Fifty years of the Price equation (2020) Eds: Lehtonen *et al.*

- What can animal communication teach us about human language? (2019) Eds: Fritz *et al.*

Available from CABI

Courtship and Mating in Butterflies (2019), by Cannon