



Seewiesen Colloquia

Speaker invited by: Group Dingemanse

Thursday, January 15, 2015, 13:00 h, in House 4, Lecture Room

Understanding contributions to behavioral variation and correlations

Dr. Ned A. Dochtermann

North Dakota State University

Given increasing interest in “animal personalities” and “behavioral syndromes”, understanding how different factors contribute to the expression of among-individual variation and among-individual correlations has become of critical importance. Here I will discuss what we know about the components of among-individual variation and how additive genetic variation and permanent environmental variation contribute to this variation and can generate correlations among behaviors. I will also discuss some of the evolutionary implications of how genetic variation contributes to personality and behavioral syndromes. Finally I will discuss how the developmental environment might contribute to the expression of personality and syndromes and connections of behaviors with morphology and physiology.

Who is Ned Dochtermann?

2009 Ph.D. University of Nevada, Reno

2009-2012 Postdoctoral Research Fellow

2012-current Assistant Professor; North Dakota State University

Selected publications:

- Dochtermann NA, Dingemanse NJ, 2013. Behavioral syndromes as evolutionary constraints. **Behavioral Ecology** 24:806-811.
- Dochtermann NA, Schwab T, Sih A, 2015. The contribution of additive genetic variation to personality variation: heritability of personality. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences* 282:20142201.
- Dochtermann NA, Jenkins SH, Swartz M, Hargett AC, 2012. The roles of competition and environmental heterogeneity in the maintenance of behavioral variation. **Ecology** 93:1330-1339.
- Dochtermann NA, 2011. Testing Cheverud’s conjecture for behavioral correlations and behavioral syndromes. **Evolution** 65: 1814-1820.
- Dochtermann NA, Roff DA, 2010. Applying a quantitative genetics framework to behavioural syndrome research. **Philos Trans R Soc B-Biol Sci** 365:4013-4020.