

SEEWIESEN

LECTURE SERIES



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MAX PLANCK
GESELLSCHAFT



THURSDAY | February 25, 2021 | 15:00 | ONLINE

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'The medicine of life': Social life and survival in primates

Longitudinal studies of animal social behavior and demography allow us to understand how environments at one stage of life affect fitness outcomes at another stage of life. This question is important both in the biological sciences and in the human social sciences. Here, I briefly review evidence from the human social sciences that document, and raise important questions about, the profound links between early life, adult life, and longevity. Next, I draw parallels between those studies and biological studies of wild animal systems, where researchers have long studied these links. I argue that wild animal systems, by answering questions that are difficult or impossible to answer in human studies, shed light on the deep evolutionary roots of the human sensitivity to the social environment. They also provide insight into the mechanisms by which environments at one stage of life affect survival outcomes at a later stage of life. Most of the examples I discuss come from my long-term research project, the Amboseli Baboon Research Project.

WHO IS SUSAN ALBERTS?

1993 – 1999 Postdoctoral Fellow, three different positions:
NIH Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Chicago
Junior Fellow, Harvard Society of Fellows
Bunting Fellow, Bunting Institute of Radcliffe College
1998 – 2016 Assistant, then Associate, then Full Professor of Biology, Duke University
2015 – present The Robert F. Durden Distinguished Professor of Biology, Duke University
2016 – present Chair, Department of Evolutionary Anthropology, Duke University

SELECTED RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

- Social bonds, social status, and survival in wild baboons: A tale of two sexes. *Campos FA, *Villavicencio F, Archie EA, Colchero F, Alberts SC. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* 375: 20190621. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2019.0621>
- Intergenerational effects of early adversity on survival in wild baboons. Zippel MN, Archie EA, Tung J, Altmann J, Alberts SC. *eLife* 8:e47433. DOI: 10.7554/eLife.47433. <https://elifesciences.org/articles/47433>
- Cumulative early life adversity predicts longevity in wild baboons. *Nature Communications* 7:11181. Tung J, Archie EA, Altmann J, Alberts SC. <https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms11181>

LINK TO TALK

<https://gwdg.zoom.us/j/87858959963?pwd=QWIUK3NBeTVmQ3ZwRlpSdnRnMXJ1Zz09>
Meeting-ID: 878 5895 9963

For code please contact:

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