



NW European IUSSI Newsletter: August
2021

Mark your calendar: NWE-IUSSI Winter meeting in Oxford on the 17th of December!



We are very pleased to be able to announce that Chris Pull has offered to host the one-day NWE-IUSSI Winter meeting in Oxford on the 17th of December 2021.

Organisation of the meeting is in full swing - keep an eye out for registration information to come in future newsletters!

European Congress of the IUSSI (2020): virtual symposium series



The EU-IUSSI 2021 will take place in the form of a virtual symposium series in October and November 2021, every Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:00 to 15:00 (UK time).

Details about the preliminary program can be found here: <https://eu-iussi2020.sciencesconf.org/> and a brief program overview is below.

There are no registration fees. But please do not hesitate to register in the « my registration » page (name, email, affiliations) to make sure you receive the zoom links (these will also be shared through IUSSI sections' mailing lists).

We hope you will be many to join!

The Toulouse team, and the European IUSSI sections.

Program overview

05/10: When, why and how does sociality re-shape life history trade-offs?

Organisers: Alice Séguret, Boris Kramer, Romain Libbrecht, Judith Korb

07/10: Not just cogs in the machine: functional morphology and biomechanics of social insects

Organisers: Vincent Fourcassié, Roberto A Keller

12/10: Epigenetics and gene regulation in Social Insects

Organisers: Tali Reiner Brodetzki, Uli Ernst, Romain Libbrecht, Laurent Keller

14/10: Community ecology of social insects

Organizers: Xim Cerdá, Ioan Tausan

19/10: Diversity, plasticity and evolution of communication in insect societies (part I)

Organisers: Luca Pietro Casacci, Alessandro Cini, Volker Nehring

21/10: Developmental plasticity of holometabolous social insects

Organisers: Eva Schultner, Jan Oettler

26/10: Nest architecture and collective building in social insects

Organisers: Andréa Perna, Christian Jost, Guy Theraulaz

28/10: From genes to ecosystems: evolutionary biology of networks

Organisers: Claire Morandin, Pierre Nouhaud

02/11: Understanding social insect pollination: behavioural and genetic approaches

Organisers: Simon Tierney, Olivia Bernauer, Michael Garratt, Anders Nielsen

04/11: Symbionts of social insects

Organisers: Amélie Cabirol, Philipp Engel

11/11: Nutritional homeostasis in social insects

Organisers: Sara Arganda, Audrey Dussutour, Sara Leonhardt

11/11: Diversity, plasticity and evolution of communication in insect societies (part II)

Organisers: Luca Pietro Casacci, Alessandro Cini, Volker Nehring

International Remote Seminar on Frontiers in Social Evolution (FINE)



Many of you are likely aware of this initiative, but we thought to advertise it here nonetheless!

Find out more about The International Remote Seminar on Frontiers in Social Evolution (FINE) on their website

FINE is also on Twitter¹ and previous talks are available via YouTube²:

FINE is offering a certificate for student who are attending a minimum number of seminars – more information about the requirements on the website.

Looking for science communicators!



The NWE IUSSI Social Media Committee needs you! Would you be able to either step up and volunteer to tweet on behalf of the IUSSI?

We are looking for things like:

- Take-over by a student (Masters or PhD) about their research. They send several tweets on behalf of our IUSSI account, with the purpose to show what it is to be a social insect researcher.

¹https://twitter.com/fine_seminar?lang=en

²<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIXFO1pLpCTBy7vSwLWH-GA>

- Tales from the past. Anecdotes from previous meetings, or history. Maybe interview your VIP and share it via multiple tweets over the year?

- Regular retweeting of sister groups (the North American IUSSI, the Brazil section, etc).

Let us know your ideas!

Contact Liz (elizabeth.bates [at] cornwall.ac.uk) for details and if you wish to volunteer!

Get involved in the section extended committee



The extended committee works closely with the officers to improve our section activities and presence on SoMe platforms.

Being on the committee is a excellent networking opportunity, so we encourage PhD students and postdocs to consider joining the committee and getting engaged.

Contact Liz Bates (elizabeth.bates [at] cornwall.ac.uk) for more information.

The NWE IUSSI Twitter account



The NW IUSSI Twitter³ account already has almost 500 followers, which is a great step in order to increase the number of people we reach with news and achievements of our society. The aim is to use this platform to communicate events, recent publications and news from the society to a wider audience.

As this is still the beginning:

- 1) If you are a Twitter user, please follow us so that we can follow you back. This will allow us to re -post your research/outreach activities as the society. You can also tag us in your posts if you want us to see it. Use our twitter handle @IUSSI_NWES
- 2) Whether you use Twitter or not, feel free to send us material (such as an event or a recent publication on social insects) you would like to see posted on Twitter. To do this please email the social media team iussi.nwes.socialmedia@gmail.com⁴.

³https://twitter.com/iussi_nwes

⁴<mailto:iussi.nwes.socialmedia@gmail.com>

How to become a NWE IUSI member



Having a subscription to IUSI is a great way to support the world of social insect research. Membership is cheap (£10 for students, £20 for full members). One additional perk of being a member is that it provides large discounts when registering for IUSI conferences. Registrations can be done here: <http://www.iussi.org/NWEurope/subs.htm>.

Note that if you are a 2020 member, then your membership fee for 2021 is already covered!

Current job opportunities



Vacancies can be found on the section web site: <http://www.iussi.org/NWEurope/vacancies.htm>:

Do you have Ph.D. or Postdoc positions coming up? Email [mpoulsen \[at\] bio.ku.dk](mailto:mpoulsen@bio.ku.dk) and we will add them to the newsletter. We also run the INSECTSmal mailing list, which distributes information about job and studentship opportunities, meetings, courses, and calls for information about social insects. See more on the section website: <http://www.iussi.org/NWEurope/INSECTSmal.htm> and send any information to be included (or subscription requests) to [INSECTS \[at\] bio.ku.dk](mailto:INSECTS@bio.ku.dk).

Questions? Contact Us!

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please mail to [mpoulsen \[at\] bio.ku.dk](mailto:mpoulsen@bio.ku.dk).