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	<p>Netherlands Ecological Research Network</p> <p>NERN Messages</p> <p>July 2018</p>

HIGHLIGHTS

International PhD Course | Conflicting demands in European Forests: a wicked problem?

24 June – 2 July 2018

More and more, we are confronted with conflicting demands when trying to develop sustainable land-use strategies, resulting in so-called wicked problems. Scientists working on such wicked problems need to be trained to work in trans-, multi- and interdisciplinary teams of experts with various scientific backgrounds, such as ecologists, economists, political, and social scientists. This course aims to teach them the skills they need for working in such diverse teams, by means of a real-life case. The course is focused around Gällivare, a small town in the north of Sweden, where one can find the "last wilderness of Boreal Europe", part of an UNESCO World Heritage Site with large nature reserves and national parks. At the same time, it has an active mining industry, forestry, reindeer herding and tourism. It is a perfect place for land use and land use change discussions. A travel subsidy is available for PE&RC PhD candidates. For more information click [here](#).

1. Workshops / Meetings / Symposia

- [ECSA 57: Changing estuaries, coasts and shelf systems – diverse threats and opportunities](#) (3-6 September 2018) @ Perth, Australia
- [Sfecologie 2018 – International Conference on Ecological Sciences](#) (22-25 October 2018) @ Rennes, France
- [International Soil Modeling Consortium \(ISMC\) Conference - New perspectives on soil models](#) (5 - 7 November 2018) @ Wageningen, The Netherlands
- [Symposium Dier of Ding \(in Dutch\)](#) (24 November 2018) @ Utrecht, The Netherlands

2. Courses

- [Introduction to Ecometabolomics for Ecologist](#) (27 August - 1 September 2018)

The course will provide an overview about the application of metabolomics in ecological and biodiversity research. We will explore the tools and approaches that are used to obtain, process and analyse metabolomics data.

- **Principles of Ecological and Evolutionary Genomics** (26 – 28 September 2018)

Ecological genomics is a quite new scientific discipline, which studies ecological complexity, nutrient cycles, life-history patterns and responses of organisms to environmental stress at the genomic level. Analysis of environmental genomes will improve our understanding of ecosystem functions and biodiversity and may help to define and measure environmental quality.

- **Matrix Approaches to Health Demography** (5 - 16 November 2018)
In this course, matrix methods will be used to analyze models based on prevalence and incidence data. The methods will go beyond the fixation on mean results and will incorporate variance and stochasticity. The class will introduce methods based on Markov chains, Markov chains with rewards, multistate matrix models, and matrix calculus. The new analyses will be compared, where possible, to traditional approaches.
- **Uncertainty Propagation in Modelling** (10 - 14 December 2018)
The purpose of this course is to familiarize participants with statistical methods to analyse uncertainty propagation in spatial modelling, such that they can apply these methods to their own models and data. Both attribute and positional errors are considered. Attention is also given to the effects of spatial auto- and cross-correlations on the results of an uncertainty propagation analysis. Computer practicals make use of the R language for statistical computing.
- **Global perspectives on adaptive wildlife management (application deadline 1 September 2018)** (5 - 20 January 2019)
An interdisciplinary course, comparing adaptive wildlife management in northern and southern hemisphere systems, including a 16-day field trip to South Africa (no course fee).

3. Position Announcements

- **For job openings, check [our website](#).**

4. Other News

- **NWO-FAPESP joint call 'Ecosystem restoration: the Brazilian Atlantic Forest as a case study'** (deadline: 13 September 2018)
The collaboration has been sought with the BIOTA program that has been supported by São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) since 1999. The program is a Virtual Biodiversity Institute bringing together more than 1200 scientists from leading universities, research institutes and non-governmental organizations in the state of São to participate in joint research projects.
- **NWO call 'Refugees in Science'** (deadline: 13 September 2018)
This is a new pilot programme. The aim is to fund one-year appointments for academics who have fled their home country and wish to continue their scientific career in the Netherlands. Candidates must hold a master's degree or a doctorate and must have been granted refugee status in the Netherlands. The pilot was developed in consultation with the Young Academy, KNAW and the Foundation for Refugee Students (UAF).
- **NWO Visitor's Travel Grants** (Continuous application)
Researchers in the Netherlands can apply for a visitor's grant for highly qualified senior researchers from abroad who hold a PhD. With this grant these researchers can stay in the Netherlands for a maximum of four months.

If you have information that you would like to have included in the NERN messages or on the NERN website, please send this information to Claudius.vandeVijver@wur.nl.