Netherlands Ecological Research Network

NERN Messages

September 2017

HIGHLIGHT

1. Workshops / Meetings / Symposia

- **Seminar on Integrative Bioinformatics** (12 September 2017) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands.
- **Frontiers in resilience research** (18 September 2017) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands.
- **3rd Annual Flare meeting** (29 September – 2 October 2017) @ Stockholm, Sweden.
- **ECSA 2017, "Where Land Meets Ocean: The Vulnerable Interface"!** (16-20 October 2017) @ Shanghai, China.
- **Biodiversity and global change in the Tropics** (17 November 2017) @ Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- **Zoology 2017: 'Genotype-phenotype map: from model systems to ecosystems'** (23 November 2017) @ Wageningen, the Netherlands.
- **Joint Annual Meeting; Ecology Across Borders** (11-14 December 2017) @ Ghent, Belgium.
- **Student Conference on Conservation Science** (27-29 March 2018) @ University of Cambridge, United Kingdom.
- **6th Plant Genomics and Gene Editing Congress Europe** (14-15 May 2018) @ Rotterdam, the Netherlands.
- **ECSA 57: Changing estuaries, coasts and shelf systems – diverse threats and opportunities** (3-6 September 2018) @ Perth, Australia.

2. Courses

- **Quantitative Ecology (Module for Master students & PhD candidates)** (October 2017 – January 2018)
  The courses in this module are focused on both the ecological theory and the analysis and interpretation of ecological data using modern computational approaches (using CANOCO, R etc.).

- **R and Big Data** (5-6 October 2017)
  The main aims of this course are to introduce participants to Big Data and the similarities and differences between regular modelling approaches and big data modelling, to help them understand the possibilities and limitations of R in big data research, to introduce them to high performance computing and to reproducible research. This course is aimed at experienced R users and should not be seen as a course to learn R.
- **Multivariate Analysis** (16, 17, 18, 20, 24 October 2017)
  The course is mainly based on the book "Multivariate Analysis of Ecological Data Using CANOCO 5" by Petr Smilauer and Jan Leps (2014). Practical exercises, the use of Canoco for Windows (4.5) and GenStat for Windows and interpretation of the output are important elements of the course.
- **Introduction to R for Statistical Analysis** (23-24 October 2017)
  The aim of this course is to provide an introduction to R, a language and environment for statistical computing and graphics. Focus of the course will be on getting familiar with the R environment, to use R for manipulation and exploration of data, and to perform simple statistical analyses.
- **Bayesian Statistics** (25-26 October 2017)
  Nowadays, Bayesian statistics is becoming a powerful alternative for traditional Frequentistic statistics. Participants will be surprised how easy they can tackle problems that are quite complicated to handle with traditional Frequentistic statistics.
- **Linking Community and Ecosystem Dynamics** (12-17 November 2017)
  This course focuses on theoretical concepts and how these can be used to link communities to ecosystems in order to understand how environmental change affects community and ecosystem dynamics. We will develop conceptual ideas, using examples from many terrestrial, marine and aquatic ecosystems, like savannas, deserts, forests, soils, streams, oceans, etc..
- **Basic Statistics** (11, 12, 13 , 18, 19 December 2017)
  This is a refresher course (so it goes into category 2A of the PE&RC TSP). The level is that of a second course in Statistics. We will refresh basic knowledge of Probability, Statistical Inference (Estimation and Testing), t-tests, simple cases of Regression and ANOVA, Experimental Design, Non-parametric Tests, and Chi-square Tests. Some time is reserved to discuss statistical problems of the participants.
- **Statistical Uncertainty Analysis of Dynamic Models** (11-15 December 2017)
  The purpose of this course is to make the participants familiar with general statistical concepts describing uncertainty, and methods to compute prediction uncertainty coming from uncertain parameter values. We introduce dynamic input-state-output systems and methods to write your model in this format.
- **Geostatistics** (5-9 February 2018)
  Geostatistics is concerned with the analysis and modelling of spatial variability. It also addresses how quantified spatial variability can be used in optimal spatial interpolation and spatial stochastic simulation. Fields of application include hydrology, soil science, ecology, geology, agriculture, and forestry.

3. Position Announcements

- **For job openings, check** our website.

4. Other News

- **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.