



2nd Call

15th International Grouse Symposium 2023

POLAND Białystok, 11-15 September 2023

Dear Grouse Friends,

We cordially invite you to participate in the 15th International Grouse Symposium, which will be held in Poland, in Białystok on September 11-15, 2023.

The 15th International Grouse Symposium will be hosted by University of Białystok (UwB). The 15th IGS is co-organized by three institutions: University of Białystok, the Polish Academy of Sciences and Directorate of Polish State Forests in Białystok.

Białystok is the largest city of North-East Poland, with a convenient connection from Warsaw by car or a fast train (2.20 h. ride). The Symposium will be held at the brand-new Campus of University of Białystok.

We are pleased to introduce the invited speakers at the 15th International Grouse Symposium:

Agnieszka Kloch

Agnieszka Kloch is an Associate Professor on the Faculty of Biology at the University of Warsaw. Her main research interests are host-parasite co-evolution with a focus on the role of parasites in shaping host genetic variance, and the role of small, free-living mammals in spreading diseases. Professor Kloch is interested in applying new molecular methods in ecology and do it by active collaborate on several projects focused on population and conservation genetics of mammals and birds. Now, she is involved in the project of conservation of the endangered black grouse and try to identify threats to this species in the Tatra mountains.

the area of the lecture: host-parasite co-evolution with a focus on the role of parasites in shaping host genetic variance in birds

Robert Moss

Professionally, Robert Moss was associated with the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology in Scotland for many years. In research work, he focused on biology and conservation of local grouse species. His scientific interests broadly encompasses the effects of climate changes, habitat loss, predators, pests, disease and food shortages on grouse condition and abundance. As co-author of the book entitled Grouse: The Natural History of British and Irish Species, he offers a fascinating insight into the natural history and biology of these birds, including aspects of their behavior, the historical relevance of their names, the reasons behind population fluctuations and international conservation efforts.

the area of the lecture: climate change and human-grouse interactions

Sara Oyler-McCance

Dr. Sara J. Oyler-McCance is a research geneticist with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) at the Fort Collins Science Center (FORT). She applies genetic and genomic technologies to address a conservation issues facing the management of wildlife animals resources, including sage-grouse populations. Her scientific activity provides information to assess taxonomic boundaries, identify unique or genetically depauperate populations, estimate population size or survival rates, develop management or recovery plans, breed wildlife in captivity, relocate wildlife from one location to another, and assess the effects of environmental change.

the area of the lecture: conservation genetics and population management in grouse

Gail L. Patricelli

Gail L. Patricelli is a Professor in the Department Evolution and Ecology at the University of California. Her research interests broadly encompass behavioral ecology, bioacoustics and conservation in birds, with a focus on understanding the diversity and complexity in animals signals. Professor Patricelli's scientific projects address breeding behaviors, sexual selection, acoustic communication, and the effects of noise pollution on sage-grouse and other wildlife.

the area of the lecture: behavioral ecology and conservation in grouse

Robert Rutkowski

Robert Rutkowski is an Associate Professor at the Polish Academy of Science. He applies genetics as a tool in active protection of endangered animal species. In the area of his interest is also population genetics of urban populations of wild animal species, as well as population genetics and phylogeography of forest grouse and birds of prey in Poland.

the area of the lecture: biodiversity and conservation genetics of Tetraonidae in Poland

Ilse Storch

Ilse Storch is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Wildlife Ecology and Management at the University of Freiburg. Her scientific work focusses on the role of the spatial structure

and human use of habitats for wildlife populations and communities, as well as the development of concepts for the integration of human land use interests and the conservation of wildlife and biodiversity. The effects of anthropogenic habitat fragmentation on wildlife individuals, populations, and communities and their implications for conservation are the major focus of Professor Storch's team work. Their mission is to contribute to a sound scientific basis for the conservation and sustainable management of wildlife and its habitats.

the area of the lecture: grouse ecology and conservation, population management

We also would like to offer you workshops on the 11th September, 2023:

“Sound recording and analysis workshop”

For more information please visit the website:

www.igs2022.uwb.edu.pl

For enquires please contact the members of the Local Conference Committee of the 15th IGS: Aneta Książek and Dorota Ławreszuk:

igs2022@uwb.edu.pl

Please remember **IMPORTANT DATES:**

- 30/04/2023** – submission of the abstract of presentations or posters
- 31/05/2023** – final acceptance notification
- 30/06/2023** – registration of participants at Early Bird fees
- 30/08/2023** – completion of registration of participants – regular fees



Fot. W. Misiukiewicz