

## **National University of Singapore**

The National University of Singapore (NUS) aspires to be a vital community of academics, researchers, staff, students and alumni working together in a spirit of innovation and enterprise for a better world. Our singular focus on talent is the cornerstone of a truly great university that is dedicated to quality education, influential research and visionary enterprise, in service of country and society.

Founded in 1905 as the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States Government Medical School, NUS is the oldest higher education institution in Singapore and consistently ranked within the top 20 universities in the world. At present, is considered the best university in the Asia-Pacific by the QS ranking. NUS is a comprehensive research university, offering a wide range of disciplines, including the sciences, medicine and dentistry, design and environment, law, arts and social sciences, engineering, business, computing and music at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

At NUS, we push boundaries to achieve research excellence through multiple disciplines. We have adopted an integrated approach that brings together researchers from diverse fields. Through the combined strength of our faculties, schools, research institutes and centres, we have built multiple integrative research clusters, these include ageing, Asian studies, biomedical science and translational medicine, finance and risk management, integrative sustainability solutions, maritime, and materials science.

We engage our researchers and work closely with national agencies and industry in collaborations to effect technology transfer, as well as market NUS technologies globally. We also create synergies by teaming up with the government and leading academic partners globally to ensure that our research consistently addresses real-world issues.

## **Department of Biological Sciences**

The Department of Biological Sciences evolved from the merger of two of the oldest departments in the Faculty of Science: the Department of Botany, founded in 1949 and the Department of Zoology, founded in 1950. Since then, it has been committed to providing the best education and research opportunities to students and to equip them with critical thinking, analytical and communication skills to be future-ready for the new economy. The Department also anchors a vibrant, diverse and dynamic research community that took the lead in addressing key life science questions in the areas of Human Health, Climate Change and Food Security.

## **Avian Evolutionary Laboratory**

The Avian Evolution Laboratory investigates biodiversity and its underlying evolutionary processes. With the on-going biodiversity crisis on our planet, we are also interested in how knowledge of evolutionary processes can inform conservation. Our main foci include conservation genomics, investigating genetic introgression, untangling complex species radiations, and understanding how biogeographic processes shape regional turnover across the region.

Most of our research activities focus on the mechanisms that lead to – or sometimes act against – the build-up of biodiversity, such as genetic differentiation and introgression. Birds are our main model organism because their well-known distribution and life-history render them a suitable object for evolutionary studies. However, our lab has branched out into a wide array of other animal groups, such as turtles, bats, crocodiles, and mosquitoes. Research in our lab usually involves the application of a variety of laboratory approaches and contemporary computational tools based on Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) technology. Fieldwork and bioacoustic analyses are often, but not always, an important component of our work.