

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Last name, First names: Duc, Mélanie Yvonne Ludivine

ORCID: 0000-0001-5468-2594

Languages: French (Native speaker); English (Upper intermediate)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

09/2023-Present. **Researcher**, P. B. Šivickis Laboratory of Parasitology, Nature Research Centre, Lithuania.

01/2022-09/2023. **Senior specialist**, P. B. Šivickis Laboratory of Parasitology, Nature Research Centre, Lithuania. Histology procedures, including blocking, histological sections, Haematoxylin & eosin staining, chromogenic in situ hybridization (CISH).

11/2019-12/2021. **Biologist**, P. B. Šivickis Laboratory of Parasitology, Nature Research Centre, Lithuania. Histology procedures, including blocking, histological sections, and Haematoxylin & eosin staining.

06/2019-10/2019. **Employed** for various projects. Department of Biology, Lund University, Sweden. 1) DNA extraction from blood samples using ammonium acetate method, nested PCR and Sanger sequencing to determine the presence of avian malaria parasites, 2) Sequence capture on Plasmodium and Haemoproteus using respectively Agilent and Swift with MyBait protocols, 3) DNA extraction from blood samples using phenol-chloroform method.

EDUCATION

2019-2023. **PhD** in Zoology, P. B. Šivickis Laboratory of Parasitology, Nature Research Centre, and Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania. PhD dissertation: Exo-erythrocytic stages of *Haemoproteus* (Apicomplexa, Haemosporida) parasites in wild birds: insights into developmental patterns. Supervisor: Gediminas Valkiūnas. PhD award: 08/09/2023.

2017-2019. **MSc degree** in Biology option Animal Ecology, Lund University, Sweden. Master thesis: Whole mitochondrial genome phylogeny of a community of *Haemoproteus* parasites – evolutionary patterns of host specificity and transmission. Supervisors: Prof. Staffan Bensch and Dr. Vincenzo Ellis.

2016-2017. **BSc degree** in Ecology, Biology of Organisms (Licence EBO, Ecologie, Biologie des Organismes), Montpellier University, France.

2015-2016. **Higher National Diploma** graduation option environmental engineering (IUT Génie de l'Environnement), Brest University, France. Final year internship (04-07/22016): Liens entre traits de personnalité et utilisation de l'information sociale: approches expérimentales chez un passereau (*Ficedula albicollis*). Daily checking of nest boxes for population of great tit (*Parus major*) and collared flycatcher (*Ficedula albicollis*); participation in experiments. Supervisors: Prof. Lars Gustafsson (University of Uppsala, Sweden) and Blandine Doligez (CNRS of Lyon, France).

2013-2015. **Higher School Preparatory Class** (BCPST: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth' Sciences), Chateaubriand High school in Rennes, France.

INTERNSHIPS

09/10/2023-27/10/2023. *Department of Biology, San Francisco State University (San Francisco, USA).* Learnt on how to detect RNA viruses (Matryoshka): to learn and perform RNA extraction, purification and DNase treatment, transformation into cDNA, analyses of RNA with a Bioanalyzer. Attendance to Bioinformatics and Parasitology classes. Funded by project no. S-MIP-23-2. Host: Dr. Ravinder Sehgal.

08/01/2023-27/01/2023. *Musée National d'Histoire Naturelle (MNHN, Paris, France).* EU SYNTHESYS+ grant to access the haemosporidians collection (Protists) with the application titled "Comparative research on exo-erythrocytic development of wildlife haemosporidian parasites" (FR-TAF_Call4_062). Host: Dr. Philippe Grellier.

20/11/2022-10/12-2022. *Natural History Museum (NHM, London, United Kingdom)*. EU SYNTHESYS+ grant to access the haemosporidians collection (Protists) with the application titled “Comparative research on exo-erythrocytic development of wildlife haemosporidian parasites” (GB-TAF-TA4-005). Host: Emma Sherlock.

12/10/2021-10/12/2021. *Institute of Pathology, University of Veterinary Medicine (Vienna, Austria)*. To learn and perform the chromogenic in situ hybridization, and further study histological procedures. Supervisor: Prof. Dr. med. vet. Herbert Weissenböck.

06-07/2017. *Parc de Lunaret - Zoo de Montpellier (Montpellier, France)*. Co-organisation and realization of animations for event-days. Supervisor: Cyndie Mejean.

PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS

2025

Marza, A., Bodawatta, K., R. F. Chagas, C. R. F., Chakarov, N., **Duc, M.**, Emmenegger, T., Ferraguti, M., Garcia-Longoria, L., Gutierrez-Lopez, R., Lopes, R. J., Martinez-De La Puente, J., Renner, S., Santiago-Alarcon, D., N. M. Sehgal, R., Stanković, D. Dunn, J. C. (2025). WIMANET: The power of a network in wildlife malaria research. *Integrative Zoology*. DOI: 10.1111/1749-4877.12983

Duc, M., Esperanza, C., Chagas, C. R. F., Iezhova, T., Sehgal S. N. M., & Valkiūnas, G. (2025). First report of Matryoshka RNA virus in an African-European migrant bird. *PLoSOne*. 20(3), e0319395. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0319395

Liberato G. A. G., **Duc M.**, Eigirdas V., Chagas C. R. F. *Leucocytozoon* infections in Paridae birds: blood and tissue stages investigated using an integrative approach. *Parasite*.

Ellis, V. A. **Duc M.**, Ciloglu A., Hellgren O., Bensch S. A generalist vector-transmitted parasite exhibits population genetic structure among host genera. *Parasitology*. vol. 00, 1-33. DOI: 10.1017/S0031182024001641

Tchoumbou M., Iezhova T., Hernández-Lara C., **Duc M.**, Valkiūnas G. Unravelling the patterns of exo-erythrocytic development of *Haemoproteus* parasites (Haemoproteidae, Haemosporida), with first documentation of abortive tissue stages in naturally infected birds. *International Journal for Parasitology*. 55(1), 15-26. DOI: 10.1016/j.ijpara.2024.10.002

2024

Bukauskaitė D., Chagas C. R. F., **Duc M.**, Kazak M., Treinys R. Prevalence and local transmission of haemosporidian (Haemosporida) parasites in nestlings of birds of prey (Aves, Accipitriformes) in the temperate forests in Lithuania. *International journal for parasitology: Parasites and wildlife*. 25, 1-8. DOI: 10.1016/j.ijppaw.2024.101013

Gutiérrez-López R., Ferraguti M., Bodawatta K. H., Chagas C. R. F., Chakarov N., **Duc M.**, Emmenegger T., García-Longoria L., Lopes R. J., Martínez-de la Puente J., Renner J. C., Santiago-Alarcon D., Sehgal R. N. M., Stankovic D., Marzal A., Dunn J. C. The Wildlife Malaria Research network (WIMANET): Meeting report on the 1st WIMANET workshop. *International Journal for Parasitology: Parasites and wildlife*. 25, 1-4. DOI: 10.1016/j.ijppaw.2024.100989.

Valkiūnas G., Iezhova, T., **Duc M.**, Dunn J. C., Bensch S. A new blood parasite of the accentor birds: description, molecular characterization, phylogenetic relationship, and distribution. *Parasitology*. DOI: 10.1017/S0031182024000878.

Binkienė R., Vanstreels R. E. T., **Duc M.**, Bernotienė R. Description and circadian rhythms of *Chandlerella sinensis* Li, 1933 (Nematoda; Onchocercidae), with remarks of microfilariae effects on the host health. *Parasitology*. DOI: 10.1017/S0031182024000738.

Kazak M., Valavičiūtė-Pocienė K., Kondrotaitė S., **Duc M.**, Bukauskaitė D., Hernández-Lara C., Bernotienė R., Chagas R. F. C. *Culicoides* biting midges feeding behaviour as a key for understanding avian *Haemoproteus* transmission in Lithuania. *Medical and Veterinary Entomology*. DOI: 10.1111/mve.12752

Bensch S., **Duc M.**, Valkiūnas G. Brain parasites and misorientation of migratory birds. *Trends in Parasitology*. p. 1-3. DOI: 10.1016/j.pt.2024.02.008

Valkiūnas G., Ilgūnas M., Hernández-Lara C., **Duc M.**, Iezhova T. First experimental observation on biology of the avian malaria parasite *Plasmodium* (Novyella) *homonucleophilum* (lineage pSW2), with remarks on virulence and distribution. *Acta Tropica*. 253: 107174, p. 1-9. DOI: 10.1016/j.actatropica.2024.107174

Chagas R. F. C., **Duc M.**, Kazak M., Valavičiūtė-Pocienė K., Bukauskaitė D., Hernández-Lara C., Bernotienė R. High abundance of *Haemoproteus* parasites in *Culicoides* (Diptera, Ceratopogonidae), with a confirmation of *Culicoides reconditus* as a new vector of these avian blood parasites. *Insects*. 15(3): 157, p. 1-19. DOI: 10.3390/insects15030157.

Valkiūnas G., Iezhova, T., Ilgūnas M.; Tchoumbou M., **Duc M.**, Bukauskaitė D., Himmel T., Harl J., Weissenböck H. Unexpected absence of exo-erythrocytic merogony during high gametocytaemia in two species of *Haemoproteus* (Haemosporida: Haemoproteidae), including description of *Haemoproteus angustus* n. sp. (lineage hCWT7) and a report of previously unknown residual bodies during in vitro gametogenesis. *International journal for parasitology: Parasites and wildlife*. 23, p. 1-14. DOI: 10.1016/j.ijppaw.2024.100905.

2023

Chagas R. F. C., **Duc M.**, Himmel T., Eigirdas V., Weissenböck H., Valkiūnas G. Exo-erythrocytic development of *Leucocytozoon* parasites (Haemosporida, Leucocytozoidae) in song thrushes *Turdus philomelos*. *International journal for parasitology: Parasites and wildlife*. 22, p. 60-68. DOI: 10.1016/j.ijppaw.2023.08.008.

Duc M., Himmel T., Harl J., Iezhova T., Nedorost N., Matt J., Ilgūnas M., Weissenböck H., Valkiūnas G. Comparative analysis of the exo-erythrocytic development of five lineages of *Haemoproteus majoris*, a common haemosporidian parasite of European passeriform birds. *Pathogens*. 12(7): 898, p. 1-16. DOI: 10.3390/pathogens12070898.

Duc M., Himmel T., Ilgūnas M., Eigirdas V., Weissenböck H., Valkiūnas G. Exo-erythrocytic development of two *Haemoproteus* species (Haemosporida, Haemoproteidae), with description of *Haemoproteus dumbbellus*, a new blood parasite of bunting birds (Emberizidae). *International journal for parasitology*. 53(10), p. 531-543. DOI: 10.1016/j.ijpara.2023.02.009.

Chagas R. F. C., **Duc M.**, Gutierrez-Liberato G. A., Valkiūnas G. Host cells of *Leucocytozoon* (Haemosporida, Leucocytozoidae) gametocytes, with remarks on the phylogenetic importance of this character. *Pathogens*. 12(5): 712, p. 1-14. DOI: 10.3390/pathogens12050712.

2022

Chagas R. F. C., Hernández-Lara C., **Duc M.**, Valavičiūtė-Pocienė K., Bernotienė R. What can haemosporidian lineages found in *Culicoides* biting midges tell us about their feeding preferences? *Diversity*. 14(11): 957, p. 1-12. DOI: 10.3390/d14110957

Valkiūnas G., **Duc M.**, Iezhova T. A. Increase of avian *Plasmodium circumflexum* prevalence, but not of other malaria parasites and related haemosporidians in northern Europe during the past 40 years. *Malaria journal*. 21(1): 105, p. 1-11. DOI: 10.1186/s12936-022-04116-7.

Ellis V. A., Kalbskopf V., Ciloglu A., **Duc M.**, Huang X., Inci A., Bensch S., Hellgren O., Palinauskas V. Genomic sequence capture of *Plasmodium relictum* in experimentally infected birds. *Parasites & vectors*. 15(1): 267, p. 1-12. DOI: 10.1186/s13071-022-05373-w.

2021

Hernández-Lara C., **Duc M.**, Ilgūnas M., Valkiūnas G. Massive infection of lungs with exo-erythrocytic meronts in European robin *Erithacus rubecula* during natural *Haemoproteus attenuatus* haemoproteosis. *Animals*. 11(11): 3273, p. 1-15. DOI: 10.3390/ani11113273.

Duc M., Ilgūnas M., Kubiliūnaitė M., Valkiūnas G. First report of *Haemoproteus* (Haemosporida, Haemoproteidae) megalomeronts in the brain of an avian host, with description of megalomerogony of *Haemoproteus pastoris*, the blood parasite of the common starling. *Animals*. 11(10): 2824, p. 1-17. DOI: 10.3390/ani11102824.

Valkiūnas G., Ilgūnas M., Bukauskaitė D., **Duc M.**, Iezhova T. A. Description of *Haemoproteus asymmetricus* n. sp. (Haemoproteidae), with remarks on predictability of the DNA haplotype networks in haemosporidian parasite taxonomy research. *Acta Tropica*. 218: 105905, p. 1-16. DOI: 10.1016/j.actatropica.2021.105905.

Hellgren O., Kelbskopf V., Ellis V. A., Ciloglu A., **Duc M.**, Huang X., Lopes R. J., Mata V. A., Aghayan S. A., Inci A., Drovetski S. V. Low MSP-1 haplotype diversity in the West Palearctic population of the avian

malaria parasite *Plasmodium relictum*. Malaria journal. 20(1): 265, p. 1-9. DOI: 10.1186/s12936-021-03799-8.

2020

Duc M., Ilgūnas M., Valkiūnas G. Patterns of *Haemoproteus majoris* (Haemosporida, Haemoproteidae) megalomeront development. Acta Tropica. 212: 105706, p. 1-7. DOI: 10.1016/j.actatropica.2020.105706.

Ciloglu A., Ellis V. A., **Duc M.**, Downing P. A., Inci A., Bensch S. Evolution of vector transmitted parasites by host switching revealed through sequencing of *Haemoproteus* parasite mitochondrial genomes. Molecular phylogenetics and evolution. 153: 106947, p. 400-410. DOI: 10.1016/j.ympev.2020.106947.

SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS / CONFERENCES WITH ABSTRACTS AND TALKS PRESENTED

11/08/2025-15/08/2025. AOS (*American Ornithological Society*) Annual Meeting. St. Louis, Missouri, USA.

- **Ellis V.**, **Duc M.**, Ciloglu A., Hellgren O., Bensch S. The avian haemosporidian parasite *Haemoproteus majoris* (lineage WW2) exhibits population genetic structure among host genera. Oral presentation.

26/11/2024-29/11/2024. VI International Conference on Malaria and Other Blood Parasites of Wildlife & III International Symposium of the Wildlife Diseases Research Network. Medellín, Colombia.

- **Duc M.**, Duval L., Harl J., Hernandez-Orts J., Iezhova T., Landau I., Pakeltytė G., Tumaitė d., Valkiūnas G. Linking past and present: treasure chest in museums. Oral presentation.

- **Duc M.**, Chagas C. R. F., Esperanza C., Iezhova T., Sehgal R., Valkiūnas G. Matryoshka viruses and avian haemosporidians in Europe: finding a needle in a haystack. Poster presentation.

- **Liberato G. A. G.**, **Duc M.**, Eigirdas V., Chagas C. R. F. An integrative approach to understand *Leucocytozoon* infections in Paridae birds. Oral presentation.

- **Bukauskaitė D.**, Treinys R., Chagas R. F. C., **Duc M.**, Kazak M., Bernotienė R. Haemosporidian parasites in nestlings of birds of prey in Lithuania: prevalence, diversity, and vectors. Oral presentation

- **Palinauskas V.**, Aželytė J., Bernotienė R., Binkienė R., Bukauskaitė D., Chagas C.R.F., **Duc M.**, Hasselquist D., Iezhova T., Ilgūnas M., Platonova E., Tobler M., Žiegytė R., Valkiūnas G. Long-term efficacy of Malarone™ treatment against avian malaria: insights from a study on *Plasmodium relictum* in canaries. Oral presentation

- **Tchoumbou M.**, Iezhova T., Hernández-Lara C., **Duc M.**, Valkiūnas G. Abortive development of *Haemoproteus* parasites in the Thrush nightingale *Luscinia Luscinia*, with presence of exo-erythrocytic stages. Oral presentation.

23/11/2024-25/11/2024. Workshop: on bird/bar methods and hematology. Reserva natural Río Claro, Medellín, Colombia.

11/11/2024-15/11/2024. Course: introductory data analysis in R: A language and environment for statistical computing, Vilnius, Lithuania.

01/09/2024-07/09/2024. First Summer Training School of WIMANET-COST CA22108. Mohelno, Czechia.

25/08/2024-31/08/2021. 14th European Multicolloquium of Parasitology, EMOP. Wrocław, Poland.

- **Tchoumbou M.**, Iezhova T., Hernández-Lara C., **Duc M.**, Valkiūnas G. Unravelling the patterns of exo-erythrocytic development of *Haemoproteus* parasites (Haemoproteidae, Haemosporida), with first case of abortive tissue stages in a naturally infected bird.

13/05/2024-17/05/2024. XV Slovak and Czech parasitological days, PARADNI24. Tesary, Slovakia.

- **Chagas C. R. F.**, Valavičiūtė-Pocienė K., Kazak M., **Duc M.**, Bukauskaitė D., Hernández-Lara C., Bernotienė R. *Haemoproteus* parasites and *Culicoides* biting midges, complex interactions still to be unravelled. Oral Presentation.

20/02/2024-23/02/2024. Second WIMANET-COST CA22108 workshop. Cluj-Napoca, Romania

06/12/2023-08/12/2023. First WIMANET-COST CA22108 workshop. Online.

23/11/2023. 16-oji Lietuvos jaunųjų mokslininkų konferencija. Bioateitis: gamtos ir gyvybės mokslų perspektyvos. Vilnius, Lithuania.

- **Duc M.**, Himmel T., Ilgūnas M., Harl J., Nedorost N., Matt J., Eigirdas V., Weissenböck H., Valkiūnas G. Molecular diagnostic tools unrevealing formerly unknown pathologies caused by neglected cosmopolitan malaria-like *Haemoproteus* blood parasites. Oral presentation.

05/06/2023-07/06/2023. 10th Conference of the Scandinavian-Baltic Society for Parasitology (SBSP). Tartu, Estonia.

- **Duc M.**, Himmel T., Ilgūnas M., Weissenböck H., Valkiūnas G. *Haemoproteus majoris* exo-erythrocytic stages across its different lineages and avian hosts. Oral presentation.

- **Bukauskaitė D.**, Valavičiūtė-Pocienė K., Kazak M., Hernández-Lara C., **Duc M.**, Bernotienė R., Chagas C.R.F. Prevalence of blood parasites in their potential *Culicoides* vectors. Poster presentation.

- **Chagas C.R.F.**, **Duc M.**, Liberato G.A.G., Valkiūnas G. Host cells inhabited by *Leucocytozoon* parasites: are they phylogenetically predictable? Poster presentation.

24/04/2023-27/04/2023. The Coins 2023. Vilnius, Lithuania.

- **Duc M.**, Himmel T., Ilgūnas M., Vytautas E., Weissenböck H., Valkiūnas G. Chromogenic in situ hybridization in avian haemosporidian research: how it further strengthens the research on tissue stages. Oral presentation.

01/12/2022-02/12-2022. Protistology-UK autumn meeting. Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom.

- **Duc M.**, Valkiūnas G. Exo-erythrocytic stages of avian *Parahaemoproteus* (Haemosporida, Apicomplexa) protists: how we study their diversity. Oral presentation.

11/09/2022-15/09/2022. 4th International Congress on Parasites of Wildlife (ICPOW). Kruger National Park, South Africa.

- **Duc M.**, Himmel T., Hernández-Lara C., Ilgūnas M., Weissenböck H., Valkiūnas G. Data on neglected avian haemoproteosis: exo-erythrocytic development of *Haemoproteus* species in naturally infected birds. Oral presentation.

05/09/2022-08/09/2022. 5th International Conference on Malaria and Related Haemosporidian Parasites of Wildlife. Bielefeld, Germany.

- **Duc M.**, Ilgūnas M., Weissenböck H., Valkiūnas G. Meronts and megalomeronts in avian *Parahaemoproteus* species, which is which and where do they develop? Poster presentation.

- **Hernandez-Lara C.**, **Duc M.**, Ilgūnas M., Valkiūnas G. Lung merogony during exo-erythrocytic development of *Haemoproteus attenuatus* and *H. balmorali* in Old World flycatchers (Muscicapidae). Poster presentation.

- **Chagas C. R. F.**, **Duc M.**, Ilgūnas M., Weissenböck H., Valkiūnas G. Exo-erythrocytic stages of *Leucocytozoon* species in *Turdus philomelos*. Poster presentation.

21/08/2022-26/08/2022. 15th International Congress of Parasitology (ICOPA). Copenhagen, Denmark.

- **Duc M.**, Himmel T., Weissenböck H., Valkiūnas G. New data on exo-erythrocytic development of neglected avian *Haemoproteus* blood parasites (Haemoproteidae, Apicomplexa). Oral presentation.

- **Duc M.**, Treinys R., Bernotienė R., Kazak M., Chagas C. R. F., **Bukauskaitė D.** Identified vectors transmitting haemoproteid parasites of diurnal raptors. Poster presentation.

21/04/2021-23/04/2021. 9th Conference of the Scandinavian – Baltic Society for Parasitology (SBSP); online.

- **Duc M.**, Ilgūnas M., Valkiūnas G. Formerly neglected avian haemoproteosis: megalomeronts of *Haemoproteus majoris* develop in different bird species over different seasons. Oral presentation.

- **Hernández-Lara C.**, **Duc M.**, Ilgūnas M., Valkiūnas G. Massive damage of lungs during natural *Haemoproteus attenuatus* (Haemosporida, Haemoproteidae) infection in European robins

14/09/2020-15/09/2020. International Online Conference on Blood Parasites of Wildlife.

- **Duc M.**, Ilgūnas M., Valkiūnas G. Patterns of *Haemoproteus majoris* (Haemosporida, Haemoproteidae) megalomeronts development. Oral presentation.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

03/2024. 2023 Winner of the LMA Young Scientists and Doctoral students research papers competition, in the department of Biology, Medicine and Geosciences, Vilnius, Lithuania.

12/2023. “I vieta už geriausią 2023 m. 16-oji Lietuvos jaunųjų mokslininkų konferencija. Bioateitis: gamtos ir gyvybės mokslų perspektyvos”, Vilnius, Lithuania.

04/2023. “1st place for the best Oral presentation at The Coins 2023 conference”, Vilnius, Lithuania.

01/2023. Research Council of Lithuania. no. P-DAP-23-164. Scholarship for academic achievements.

12/2022. International Society of Protistology (ISOP) financial support to attend the conference *Protistology-UK autumn meeting* at the Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom.

09/2022. Research Council of Lithuania. no. S-DAK-22-40. Financial support to attend the 4th *International Congress on Parasites of Wildlife (ICPOW)* in the Kruger National Park, South Africa.

09/2022. Travel grant to attend the 5th *International Conference on Malaria and Related Haemosporidian Parasites of Wildlife*. Bielefeld, Germany.

04/2021. Scandinavian – Baltic Society for Parasitology (SBSP) Student Participation Grant to attend the 9th Conference of SBSP.

PROJECTS

2023-2027. COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) Action CA22108 – *Wildlife Malaria Network (WIMANET)*. Action Chair: Dr. Jenny Dunn. M. Duc is a secondary proposer and leader of the WG2 – Incorporating molecular markers and morphology to assign wildlife malaria lineages to species.

2023-2025. Lithuanian Research Council. Project no. S-MIP-23-2. *New insights into the biology of haemosporidian parasites*. Principal investigator: habil. dr. Gediminas Valkiūnas. M. Duc worked as junior researcher as project implementer.

2021-2024. Lithuanian Research Council. Grant no. P-MIP-21-76. *Mechanisms of transmission of avian haemoproteosis*. Principal investigator: dr. Carolina R. F. Chagas. M. Duc worked as junior researcher as primary project implementer.

2020-2022. Lithuanian Research Council. Grant no. P-MIP-20-217. *Determination of vectors transmitting haemoproteid parasites of diurnal raptors*. Project principal investigator: dr. Bukauskaitė Dvilė. M. Duc worked as junior researcher.

2019-2022. European Research Council, Advanced Grant (HORIZON). Grant no. 742646. *Immunity in ecology and evolution: Hidden costs of disease, immune function, and their consequences for Darwinian fitness*. Project principal investigator: Prof. Dennis Lennart Hasselquist. Subcontract implementor in Lithuania.

STUDENT SUPERVISION

2025- present. Monika Montvidaitė – bachelor student, Microbiology program.

2020-2021. Monika Kubilinaite – bachelor student, Biology program (defended).

OTHER ACTIVITIES

2025. Member of the European Wildlife Disease Association (EWDA).

2023. Member of International Society of Protistologists (ISOP).

2022-2023. Member of Parasitological Society of Southern Africa (PARSA).

2021-present. Member of Scandinavian-Baltic Society for Parasitology (SBSP).