

Wanted PhD student

Preliminary announcement

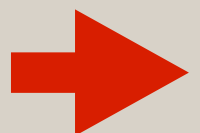


Project description: the fan-tailed gerygone (*Gerygone flavolateralis*) from New Caledonia produces short stereotyped songs and calls that are used for territorial displays and intra-pair communication. Both types of vocalisation vary among populations, even across relatively short distances, strongly suggesting the presence of geographic variation in vocalisation structure and the existence of dialects in this species. The PhD candidate will quantify the variation in song and call structures at the individual and population

levels and determine the ecological and behavioural factors underlying such variation. The main objectives of the research will be to 1) quantify the variation in vocalisation type across individuals and populations, 2) determine ecological and behavioural factors underlying song variation across populations and 3) conduct playback experiments to assess the behavioural responses of individual birds to vocalisations from same and other population.

Work description: the field season will last 4 months per year (until 2027) and overlaps with the breeding period of the fan-tailed gerygone in New Caledonia (September-January). The research will be conducted primarily at our two long-term research sites on the main island of Grande Terre, in habitats of tropical dry forest and tropical moist forest. However, short excursions on other smaller islands within the archipelago of New Caledonia to collect bioacoustics data are also possible. The candidate will also conduct

behavioural experiments in the field to quantify the response of individual birds to known and foreign vocalisations. Depending on the candidate interests, it will be also possible to develop molecular work to link genetics and song variation. Additionally, the candidate will have ample possibilities to develop complementary research according to their own interests.



Deadline for submitting applications is May 15, 2025!

Requirements:

- M.Sc. in Animal Behaviour, Biology, Zoology, Ecology or related field
- good knowledge of bioacoustics techniques, analysis and management of large bioacoustics datasets
- relevant ornithological fieldwork experience in mist-netting, bird handling and banding, blood sampling, behavioural observations, nest searching and nest monitoring

More details:

We are looking for a student who would like to participate in a hybrid research project involving two institutions. The field portion of the research in New Caledonia will be funded by Dr. Alfredo Attisano's project (Museum and Institute of Zoology, Polish Academy of Sciences), while the doctoral fellowship will be financed by the Doctoral School of Natural Sciences at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, under the supervision of Prof. Tomasz Osiejuk. AMU will also provide equipment and expertise for the bioacoustic aspect of the project.

Contact:

If you are interested, send to

Tomasz Osiejuk osiejuk@amu.edu.pl and

Alfredo Attisano aattisano@miiz.waw.pl

(1) a single page motivation letter;

(2) CV;

(3) statement of [EU General Data Protection Regulation](#) ;

(4) identify people (name, institution, email) who will be able to write an opinion about you (e.g., MSc thesis supervisor).

- good knowledge of methodologies for statistical analysis. Proficiency in R and/or Python will be considered an asset

- proficiency in English (spoken and written, level B2 and above), knowledge of French desirable

- physical fitness, resilience and ability to work under challenging conditions (heat and UV exposure)

- ability to withstand long-working hours (10-12 during the peak of the breeding season)

- ability to work independently or as part of a team

Based on the applications, we will select a student who will be prepared for recruitment at the Doctoral School, which will take place in **the second half of July 2025**.

After successful admission to the Doctoral School, the student must be able to complete all formalities in the 1st half of October and then join for 2 months of research in New Caledonia. The fieldwork will run from September to December in following years.

More details on us:

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