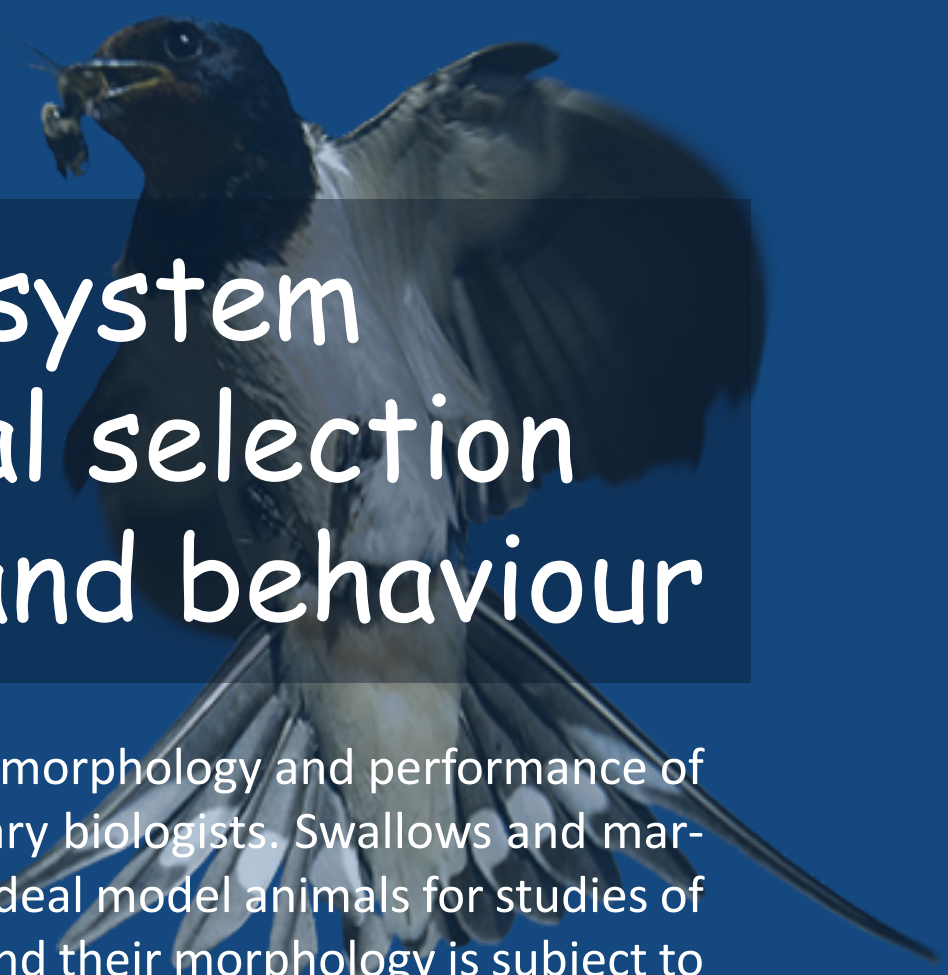
# Open Seminar

**School of Biological Sciences, SNU**



## Swallows as a model system in research on natural selection shaping morphology and behaviour

The question of how different selection forces shape morphology and performance of animals has long been of great interest to evolutionary biologists. Swallows and martins (family: Hirundinidae, order: Passeriformes) are ideal model animals for studies of this topic. These birds spent their life "on the wing" and their morphology is subject to strong natural selection for efficient flight performance, and in some species it is simultaneously subject to sexual selection through mate choice.

I will discuss the relative role of natural selection and sexual selection in shaping the barn swallow's (Hirundo rustica) flight morphology and flight performance. In particular, I will review the research on the evolution of long tail ornament in male swallows, which is subject to mate choice and to selection for flight performance. Second, I will present recent studies on how swallow flight morphology and flight performance are influenced by fecundity selection, survival selection and selection for migratory performance.

## Speaker

**Dr. Piotr Matyjasiak**

*Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski University*
*Warsaw, Poland*

## 2019 NOVEMBER 20

WED. 12:30 - 13:30

Room L-308, blg. 500