New perspectives on primate adaptations to complex environments and implications for early human evolution

Wenner-Gren Foundation Workshop at Gorongosa National Park, Mozambique, 23-25 July 2019 Organizers: Susana Carvalho, René Bobe, and Felipe Martínez











Workshop Program – Draft 4 June 2019



New perspectives on primate adaptations to complex environments and implications for early human evolution

Monday 22 July 2019

Evening welcoming reception

Tuesday 23 July 2019

Introduction to Gorongosa National Park: conservation, ecology, and primates

8.00 – 9.00am	Introduction to Gorongosa National Park Marc Stalmans
9.00 – 10.00am	The Paleo-Primate Project Gorongosa Susana Carvalho and PPPG team
10.00 – 10.30am	Discussion and coffee break
10.30 – 10.50am	Bones of Gorongosa: mammal distribution and abundance Jacinto Mathe
10.50 – 11.10am	Baboon movement and leadership on the Gorongosa floodplain Lynn Bevan-Lewis
11.10 – 11.30am	Vocalisations and vigilance: Monitoring habituation and indicators of risk perception in baboons (<i>Papio ursinus</i>) in Gorongosa, Mozambique Philippa Hammond
	Discussion
12.15 – 1.45pm	Lunch

Tuesday 23 July 2019 (continued)

Theme 1: What are the key behaviours that allow baboons (and primates generally) to adapt to highly complex and dynamic environments?

2.00 – 2.30pm	Birth and death in a changing environment: environmental influences and life history trade-offs in wild baboons Susan Alberts
2.30 – 3.00pm	Social learning in dynamic networks: is information transmission in chacma baboons robust to change? Alecia Carter
3.00 – 3.30pm	Primate responses to landscapes: managing the food versus predation risk trade-off in complex environments Russell Hill
3.30 – 4.00pm	Discussion and coffee break
4.00 – 4.30pm	Baboon group-differences in a benign forest-woodland mosaic at Gombe Anthony Collins
4.30 – 5.00pm	Charting the neglected West: the social system of Guinea baboons Julia Fischer
	Discussion
7.00pm	Dinner

Wednesday 24 July 2019

Morning visit to the Park: The vegetation of Gorongosa, with Tongai Castigo

12.15 – 1.45pm Lunch

Theme 2: What are the processes that result in population divergence and hybridization in baboons (and primates generally), and what are the implications for our understanding of human evolution?

2.00 – 2.30pm	Gorongosa baboon phenostructure Felipe Martínez and Thomas Püschel
2.30 – 3.00pm	Phylogeography of African savanna monkeys Dietmar Zinner
3.00 – 3.30pm	Discussion and coffee break
3.30 – 4.00pm	Genetic structure of Gorongosa baboons Maria Joana Ferreira da Silva, Cristian Capelli, Felipe Martínez
4.00 – 4.30pm	Genomic insights into the evolutionary relationships of Gorongosa baboons Cristian Capelli, Cindy Santander, Maria Joana Ferreira da Silva, Felipe Martínez
	Discussion
5.30 – 6.30pm	Keynote lecture: Analogy and contingency in the evolution of baboons and humans Clifford Jolly
7.00pm	Dinner

Thursday 25 July 2019

Theme 3: How can we best study ecological relationships in complex modern ecosystems to understand key variables relevant to early hominin evolution?

8.00 – 8.30am	The paleoecology of early hominins: key questions René Bobe
8.30 – 9.00am	The status of Australopithecus Zeresenay Alemseged
9.00 – 9.30am	Living together in complex environments – neutral and adaptive models in Plio-Pleistocene primate evolution and ecology Sarah Elton
9.30 – 10.00am	Primate technology in context: examining the broader ecological and foraging landscapes Katarina Almeida-Warren
10.00 – 10.30am	Discussion and coffee break
10.30 – 11.00am	Water: a critical resource that shaped hominin evolution Linda Marchant
11.00 – 11.30am	Comparison of wetland and dry savanna foraging productivity in the Okavango: significance for human evolution Richard Wrangham and Andrew Cunningham
11.30 – 12.00pm	Mozambique in Island Africa Jonathan Kingdon
	Discussion
12.15 – 1.45pm	Lunch
2.00 – 4.00pm	Roundtable: Answering the key questions, collaborations, and publication plans

Epilogue: Late afternoon and evening in the Park