



NIMBioS

National Institute for Mathematical
and Biological Synthesis



NIMBioS Interdisciplinary Seminar 3:30 p.m.*, Tuesday, November 11, 2014

Dr. Hanna Kokko

**Institute of Evolutionary Biology and
Environmental Studies, Univ. of Zurich**

NIMBioS Postdoctoral Fellows Invited Distinguished Visitor

“Males exist. Does it matter?”

Natural selection is a shortsighted process: it acts far more strongly on the individual than the group, thus (to take species' long term persistence as an example of a group- or population-level benefit) selection is not expected to equip species with best possible long-term persistence or best possible population growth. Here I show that sexual reproduction in particular is prone to the 'tragedy of the commons', predicting unwise use of essential resources for reproduction. I will draw examples from birds as well as fish, as well as from fundamental issues about male and female evolution: why do individuals specialize in producing sperm and eggs, and is this a 'wise' way to organize reproduction?

***Location: Tom Hallam Auditorium, Room 206 at NIMBioS, Claxton Education Bldg,
1122 Volunteer Blvd.***

**Join us for refreshments at 3 p.m. in Room 205.*

For more information about this and other NIMBioS Seminars, visit
<http://www.nimbios.org/seminars>

The National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis (NIMBioS) brings together researchers from around the world to collaborate across disciplinary boundaries to investigate solutions to basic and applied problems in the life sciences. NIMBioS is sponsored by the National Science Foundation, with additional support from The University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

