



NIMBioS

National Institute for Mathematical
and Biological Synthesis



Evolution and Warfare A NIMBioS Investigative Workshop

September 16-18, 2015

NIMBioS at the Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville

Warfare is a widespread and arguably universal trait of human societies. As a major source of mortality, warfare is potentially a powerful source of selection for both biological and cultural evolution. Given the availability of data from contemporary societies and the great damage caused by violent conflict, advancing our understanding of such conflict is both feasible and important. This workshop will begin working toward an integrated approach to the study of warfare, combining empirical data, evolutionary theory, and mathematical models. We envision developing working hypotheses to answer several key questions about between-group conflict in general, and the nature of “decentralized warfare” in particular. Informed by evolutionary theory and data from diverse conflict settings, our hypotheses will be articulated in a framework amenable to formal modeling that will point the way toward a multi-level predictive understanding of warfare.

Participation in the workshop is by application only. Individuals with a strong interest in the topic are encouraged to apply, and successful applicants will be notified within two weeks of the application deadline. If needed, financial support for travel, meals, and lodging is available for workshop attendees.

Application deadline: May 17, 2015

For more information about the workshop and a link to the online application form, go to http://www.nimbios.org/workshops/WS_warfare

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