

Alfonso Marzal

After being a council member of EOU for several years and to help in organization of the 10th EOU Conference in Badajoz in 2015, I am willing to serve EOU again. Therefore, I would be very happy if you consider my nomination for new President Elect.

Susi Jenni-Eiermann

After 4 years being a secretary I still feel enthusiastic about working for the EOU and I would like to offer my experience for another turn of 4 years. Therefore, I would be very grateful, if you would consider my nomination.

Alexandre Roulin

I would be pleased to belong to the EOU Council.

András Liker

I would be happy to participate in the work of the Council in the next few years. I conduct research and supervise students in the field of ornithology for more than two decades. Membership in the Council would provide an opportunity to learn how the EOU works, to connect Hungarian ornithologist with the EOU, to contribute to organization of future EOU conferences, and also to establish new links with other ornithologists. I think these opportunities and experiences are very valuable and worth the work expected from a Council member.

Blandine Doligez

As a field behavioural ecologist, I have worked with different bird species over the past 20 years (collared flycatchers, great tits, white storks, white-throated dippers) to study evolutionary questions linked in particular to dispersal and habitat selection, information use, cognition, adaptation to environmental variation and life-history strategies. This work allowed me to combine a personal passion for birds and topical questions in evolutionary ecology on biological models that are highly suitable for such research due to their high mobility capacities, their high cognitive capacities, and the facility to monitor large numbers of pairs on the long term and to perform experiments, compared to many other vertebrate and invertebrate models. This has in particular led me to participate recently to several large-scale studies at the European scale taking advantage of the many study populations monitored in some study models (titmice, flycatchers) to investigate refined evolutionary questions (among others: the evolution of plumage color in a two sister species system,

the evolution of clutch size in response to nest size and competition, interspecific information use, dispersal and the evolution of host-parasite interactions). These studies in particular made me realise that birds more than other study models offer unique opportunities to study such questions, requiring collaborations at large scales, something that is very precious, that has a great potential to advance our understanding of major evolutionary questions but also conservation issues in times of large environmental changes, and that may be encouraged by an institution such as the EOU, in particular through direct contacts between members and the organisation of regular conferences where ornithologists can meet and discuss together to plan such work. Although I have not been able to attend a lot of EOU conferences (due to family reasons in most cases), I have always found that their scientific quality was very high and inspiring. For these reasons, I would like to apply to become a member of the EOU council. I found it a great opportunity to try and bring my help to the EOU, which is the reason why I am applying today.

Grzegorz Neubauer

With my wide interests and expertise in ornithology I believe I could engage in actions related to purely scientific and protection issues undertaken by EOU. I am also rather well prepared to cooperate and work in teams and could help EOU in popularizing scientific knowledge on both birds' life and conservation to a broader audience. Besides, given I speak Russian and have active contacts with ornithologists in both Russia and Ukraine, that stem from leading international projects and cooperation for the last 10 years, I hope I could also serve to help linking the 'west-east' activities of the EOU go get better coverage of any actions in the eastern part of the continent.

I am co-organising a symposium at the forthcoming conference in Turku entitled "The form and function of birds' nests" and would relish the opportunity to further contribute to the work of the European Ornithologists' Union in the future. This is because I believe that ornithology should be a prominent field of scientific research and we need such organisations to advance ornithology in a responsible and sustainable, yet exiting, manner. I therefore feel that I have both the experience and enthusiasm to serve on the council of the European Ornithologists' Union.

Mark Mainwaring

I would like to express my wish to become a Council member of the European Ornithologists' Union. I believe that the range of ornithological knowledge and experience I have acquired whilst studying birds in Europe, Australia and Africa will enable me to serve on the council in an effective manner and in a way that benefits those ornithologists that the Union represents in Europe and elsewhere. Since completing my doctoral research examining the consequences of hatching asynchrony for blue

tit nestlings at Lancaster University, UK, I have since performed post-doctoral research both at Lancaster University, UK, and at Macquarie University, Australia, where I examined the extent to which reproductive plasticity enables birds to adapt to changing environmental conditions. I have acquired a broad range of ornithological research interests that largely involve (1) the form and function of birds' nests, (2) parental care and offspring begging / growth and (3) the ecology and conservation of endangered birds. These studies have largely been performed in Europe and Australia, but I am also studying sociable weavers in South Africa (with Robert Thomson, Cape Town University, South Africa) and critically endangered raso larks in the Cape Verde archipelago (with Mike Brooke, Cambridge University, UK) and consequently, I believe that I have acquired a broad range of ornithological experience that enables me to serve the Union in an effective manner. I have published 45 papers in journals such as the *Journal of Animal Ecology*, *Animal Behaviour*, *Journal of Avian Biology*, *Journal of Evolutionary Biology*, *Ibis* and *Animal Conservation*, and four book chapters. I contribute to the ornithological community in several ways as I am a Review Editor for Elsevier's *Encyclopedia of Animal Behaviour* (2016-2018), a member of the British Ecological Society Books Task and Finish Group (2016-present), a member of the Scientific Reports Editorial Board (2013-present) and a member of the British Ecological Society Review College (2012-present). I have also reviewed 120 manuscripts for 35 journals on an ad-hoc basis and these activities show that I am passionate about advancing ornithology as a scientific discipline.

Matteo Griggio

It would be a great honor for me to be a member of the EOU Council for the period 2017-2021, so please consider my possible nomination. I am already a member of the Italian Council for Ornithology (Centro Italiano Studi Ornitologici, CISO) where I am trying to do my best to keep the Behavioral ecology perspective and to involve young ornithologists in the CISO as the "fledglings" in the EOU. I really would like to use my expertise to help the EOU. Unfortunately, I can't attend the next EOU Conference in Turku, I hope this is not a problem.

Petra Sumasgutner

I have been part of the EOU family since my first conference in 2011 in Riga, and have attended every biannual meeting ever since. I made many connections for life during these meetings, collaboration partners, colleagues and friends. This underlines the importance of international conferences in a familiar setting, especially for young scientists. Providing the opportunity to meet fellow peers and develop first independent research projects. For the same reason I am involved with the *EOU fledglings*, and was asked by Jan Engler to give a talk about women in science during this year's early

career research event in Turku, Finland. Beside my own broad research interests that are at my current position at the FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology, Cape Town, focused on urban ecology and color polymorphism, I am also keen to help improving the peer-review process. I acted as 'author ambassador' for *Peerage of Science*, to spread the word about alternative submission systems that can improve the quality of the review process and speed up the publication process. Additionally I am associated editor for *Ibis*. Despite working in South Africa, I still lead the *Vienesse Kestrel Project* and am supervising students at my old home institutions, the University of Vienna and the Natural History Museum of Vienna. With this background I feel well prepared to be a council member of the EOU, and would like to submit my name to be considered as candidate from Austria.

Sara Lupi

Since I started my biological studies, I was strongly motivated to attend ornithological conferences and had the opportunity to join many Italian, European and International congresses. I am convinced that meeting other researchers, speaking in front of them, and exchanging ideas have broadened my horizons and helped me improve my social and scientific skills. For this reason, I would be honored to serve on the EOU Council. Although my relative youth within the ornithological community, working for several years in international environments and attending many conferences made me realize the importance of working synergically with other scientists to maximize the quality of research and stimulate interdisciplinarity. Therefore, I am ready to put all my effort into contributing to the organization and further improvement of the EOU and thereby helping to create an even better European ornithological research community.

Wieland Heim

I herewith want to express my interest in becoming a member of the EOU Council. As a PhD-Student I want to represent the interests and needs of the EOU „fledglings“. I enjoyed the EOU fledglings program during the past meeting in Badajoz a lot, and I would like to contribute to future beneficial events of that kind. I gathered a lot of organizational experience through my work in Russia during the past seven years, where I have founded the Amur Bird Project. International exchange among researchers has a high priority for me, not only because I´m working with migratory birds that know no borders alike. It would be an honour for me to be become an active member of the EOU and to get the chance to facilitate ornithological exchange on a European level.