



## Exploring the evolutionary potential of thermo-regulation in ostriches

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Temperature has a crucial influence on the places where species can survive and reproduce. Past research has primarily focused on survival, making it unclear if temperature fluctuations constrain reproductive success. I used decades of data from a large experimental breeding programme of the common ostrich (*Struthio camelus*) in South Africa, to study their reproductive sensitivity to temperature fluctuations and how this sensitivity may evolve in a future with a more volatile climate. I am now initiating new projects aiming to understand the association between reproductive sensitivity and thermoregulation, as well as exploring how evolution of increased heat tolerance may compromise cold tolerance.



**Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 14.00 to 14.45 in the Zoophysiology Seminar Room (1131-127)**