



UNIVERSITÉ  
DE NAMUR



# The University of Namur ([www.unamur.be](http://www.unamur.be))



- 110 000+ citizens ; lovely and peaceful city in the heart of Belgium ; political capital of the Walloon Region
- Well connected nationally and internationally
  - Brussels: 65 km
  - Paris: 300 km
  - London: 430 km
  - Amsterdam: 265 km
- Full program in biology with diverse research units (18 PIs)



# UNamur–UC Davis collaboration (2008–present)

Since 2008, the partnership has facilitated exchanges for **5 PIs** and **11 graduate students**.



Across 5 main leading **UC Davis** groups:

- Dietmar Kültz** > Stress-Induced Evolution of Fish and Marine Invertebrates
- Andrew Whitehead** > Environmental, Ecological, and Evolutionary Genomics
- Andy Sih** > Behavioural Ecology
- Richard Connon (Emeritus)** > Environmental Toxicology
- Amélie Segarra** > Ecological Toxicology and Diseases
- Anne Todgham** > Environmental Physiology in a Changing Climate





# Agreement of Cooperation



Agreement of Cooperation Number 2022-21

## AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION

BETWEEN

UNIVERSITY OF NAMUR  
Rue de Bruxelles 61, 5000 NAMUR  
BELGIUM

AND

THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,  
ON BEHALF OF THE DAVIS CAMPUS  
One Shields Avenue  
Davis, CA 95616  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



## Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility

### Handbook for Participating Organisations

**Each student receives 1500€ for travel expenses and 850€ per month**

*First phase ends in June 2026 > 1 student for 6 months or 2 students for 4 months total remaining*

## 4 Research Units

<https://www.unamur.be/en/science/biology/research>



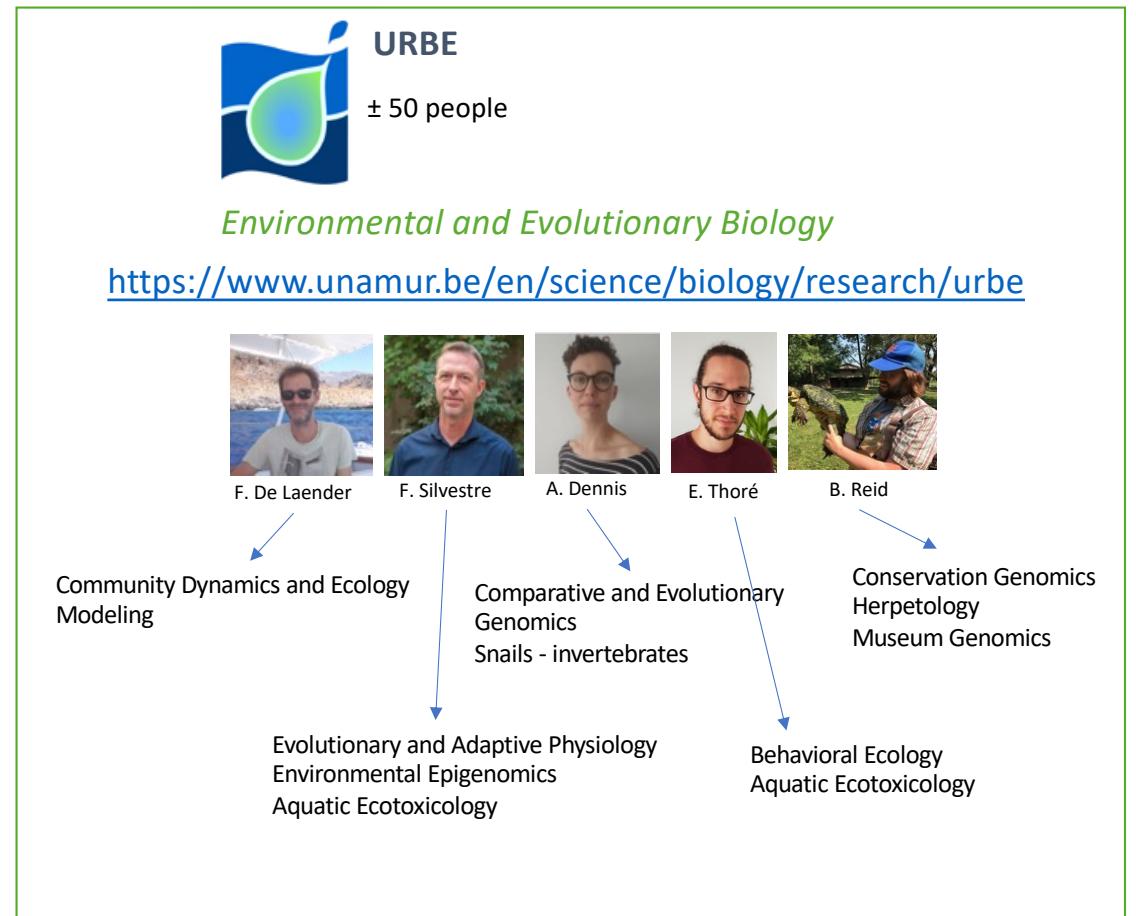
*Microbiology*



*Molecular and Cellular Biology*



*Biology Education Research*



The mangrove rivulus:  
*Kryptolebias marmoratus*

- Distinctive feature:** the only self-fertilizing vertebrate
- Interest:** to investigate the roles of epigenetics in adaptation and evolution

The turquoise killifish:  
*Nothobranchius furzeri*

- Distinctive feature:** the shortest lifespan among model vertebrates
- Interest:** ageing processes; interactions between neurotoxicant and ageing; models of neurodegenerative diseases (ND)

## Laboratory of Evolutionary and Adaptive Physiology - LEAP PI: Prof. Frédéric Silvestre

### Field biology



Evolution of natural populations with low genetic diversity ; conservation epigenetics

### Ecotoxicology



Long-term effects of pollutants (neurotoxicants, EDCs,...) ; epigenetic biomarkers



How organisms respond, adapt, and evolve under environmental change



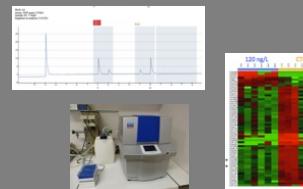
[www.evolution-physiology.be](http://www.evolution-physiology.be) [@fsilvestrelab](https://twitter.com/fsilvestrelab)

### Behavioral phenotyping



Behavioral individuality of personality traits

### Molecular mechanisms



Roles of epigenetics in adaptation and evolution



UQÀM  
Université du Québec à Montréal

University of Otago  
OTAKOU WHAKAIHUI WAKA



Beluga Whale from St. Laurent:  
*Delphinapterus leucas*



- Distinctive feature:** endangered species in the St. Laurent river
- Interest:** to develop epigenetic clock to assess the health status of the St Laurent population

Astroblepus fish from Ecuador:  
*Astroblepus sp.*



- Distinctive feature:** endemic species in Andes mountains
- Interest:** to develop population epigenetics in an altitudinal gradient

## Why to travel overseas ?

- To gain international experience for your CV
- To learn new techniques/workflows and work on new model species
- To think of new scientific questions
- To develop a personal international network
- To learn other languages
- To visit Europe



Contact:



**Frederic Silvestre**  
Full Professor  
University of Namur



[www.evolution-physiology.be](http://www.evolution-physiology.be)

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