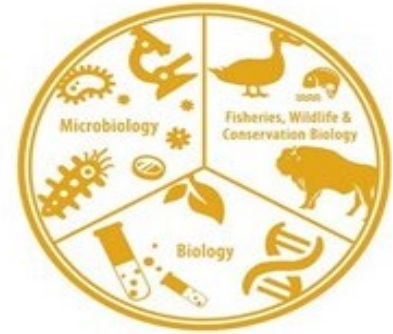




KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY
Division of Biology
presents:



Mechanisms of Behavioral Innovation in Birds

Friday, February 22, 2019 • 4:00 • Ackert 221



Chris Balakrishnan

Associate Professor

Department of Biology, East Carolina University

Birds have captured the interest of evolutionary biologists, since Darwin, of course. Yet, as a study system birds can be challenging because they are not yet readily amenable to functional genetic manipulation, they have relatively long generation times, and many species are difficult to breed in the lab. Where birds offer a lot of power, however, is in their striking diversity and complexity of behavior. Drawing insights from ongoing genomic studies, this talk will highlight how this inter- and intraspecific diversity of interesting behavior, including variation in parental care and courtship displays, provides unique opportunity for studying the evolution and mechanisms of behavior.

Dr. Balakrishnan will also be presenting a *KSCI Works!* noon-hour presentation on his Science Communication efforts on Friday 22 Feb in AK 342. As a graduate student, he founded Nerd Nite (www.nerdnite.com) which has spread across 100 cities across the globe.

If you would like to visit with Dr. Balakrishnan, please contact Alice Boyle at aboyle@ksu.edu.

Coffee & cookies served preceding the seminar in Ackert Hall, Room 225