

Russell Scott Lande

Royal Society Research Professor at Imperial College London

2011 Balzan Prize for Theoretical Biology or Bioinformatics

For pioneering contributions to the development and application of theoretical population biology, including the modern development of the theory of quantitative genetics, and the study of stochastic population dynamics.

Institution Administering Research Funds: Imperial College London

Adviser for the Balzan General Prize Committee: H. Charles J. Godfray

Theories of Quantitative Character Evolution and Stochastic Population Dynamics

With the second part of his Balzan Prize Russell Lande will support young researchers at the postdoctoral and graduate student levels. Two experienced postdoctoral researchers will be employed through Imperial College London, Silwood Park Campus, modeling the joint evolution of mating systems, flowering phenology, and inbreeding depression in plants. Both will be based at their home institutions in France, Dr. Emmanuelle Porcher at the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle and Dr. Céline Devaux at Université Montpellier 2, doing collaborative research supervised by Professor Lande, with frequent visits to Silwood Park by them and to their home institutions by Professor Lande.

In addition, Russell Lande, together with his Norwegian colleagues Steinar Engen and Bernt-Erik Sæther, conducted in April 2012 a one-week workshop on stochastic demography in Norway for about 35 graduate students and postdocs from around the world. A major component of the workshop consisted of lectures by Professors Lande, Engen and Sæther on theory and applications of stochastic demography and stochastic population dynamics in basic ecology and applied conservation.