Dr Masaya Morita – Seminar / Seminarium Dr Masaya Morita 29.04.2025

**Dear All,**

We would like to invite you to the Scientific Seminar on Tuesday, April 29th, 2025,

at **10:30** AM in the SKANDA seminar room (Trylińskiego 18) (in-person/hybrid form\*)

where we will listen to a presentation by **Dr Masaya Morita,** the guest dr hab. inż. Radosław Kowalski.

During the seminar we will listen to a speech entitled:

"Reproduction and evolutionary history of the corals”

We encourage you to read the guest's biography below.

The meeting is expected to last 80 minutes.

The language of the meeting English.

We look forward to seeing you there!

**Dr Masaya Morita** is an Associate Professor at the Tropical Biosphere Research Center of the University of the Ryukyus. He earned his Ph.D. from The University of Tokyo.

Dr. Morita's research focuses on reproductive biology, molecular cell biology, and evolutionary biology, particularly in marine organisms. His work includes studies on gamete recognition mechanisms in corals and sea cucumbers, as well as the evolution of reproductive behaviors and sperm characteristics in cichlids from Lake Tanganyika.

In the Coral Reef Physiology Group at the University of the Ryukyus, Dr. Morita investigates how gametes of corals and sea cucumbers interact and fertilize in a species-specific manner. He also explores the evolutionary correlation between reproductive behaviors and sperm motility in cichlids.

Dr. Morita has contributed to research on coral speciation, including a study on how differences in spawning times drive cryptic speciation in the coral *Acropora.*

**His recent publications include:**

Furukawa, M., Kitanobo, S., Ohki, S., Teramoto, M. M., Hanahara, N., & **Morita, M.** (2024). Integrative taxonomic analyses reveal that rapid genetic divergence drives *Acropora* speciation. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, 195, 108063. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2024.108063>

**Morita, M.,** Hanahara, N., Teramoto, M. M., & Tarigan, A. I. (2024). Conservation of Protein Kinase A substrates in the cnidarian coral spermatozoa among animals and their molecular evolution. *Journal of Molecular Evolution*, 92, 217–257. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00239-024-10168-x>

Manullang, C., Hanahara, N., Tarigan, AI., Abe, Y., Furukawa, M., **Morita, M**(2025) Slight thermal stress exerts genetic diversity selection at coral (Acropora digitifera) larval stages BMC genomics, 26, 36. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12864-024-11194-1>

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**Szanowni Państwo,**

zapraszamy we **wtorek 29.04.2025** r. o godz. **10.30** do Sali seminaryjnej SKANDA (Trylińskiego 18) na Seminarium Naukowe dr Masaya Morita, gościa dr hab. inż. Radosława Kowalskiego.

Podczas seminarium wysłuchamy wystąpienia dr Masaya Morita:

"Reproduction and evolutionary history of the corals”

Zachęcamy do zapoznania się z sylwetką gościa zamieszczoną poniżej.

Forma spotkania stacjonarna/ hybrydowa.

Przewidywany czas spotkania ok 80 min.

Język spotkania angielski.

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