

## Ground shakers, ivory makers and fence breakers: Applications of behavioural ecology to the conservation of large mammals

**Date** 20<sup>th</sup> Nov (Fri.)

**Time** 16:00 (UTC+8)

**Venue** 3N01 & Zoom



You can also email us to require the Zoom link  
(check SBS website → NEWS & EVENTS)

Elephants are highly social, long-lived mammals with renowned spatial memory and olfactory capabilities. They're also threatened or endangered across their ranges in Africa and Asia. How do we do fundamental research on the former that can link to the latter, or should we sometimes not try to bring them together? I will address this using some of our core studies across the fundamental to applied continuum. First, social behaviour of African elephants (*Loxodonta africana*), then communication, specifically the variation in male elephant rumbles, and finally population genetics in elephants which occupy an area that relies on both tourism and trophy hunting for funding. Next, I will introduce our work on olfaction, preferences and personality in Asian elephants (*Elephas maximus*). Finally, I pivot from elephants to our study system on wild boar (*Sus scrofa*) in Hong Kong. Here, we approached the issues from the policy and human perspective side first, but have brought in behavioural, ecological and physiological data to inform the policy debates.

**All are welcome!**



### About speaker:

Hannah Mumby is an Assistant Professor in the School for Biological Science and Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Hong Kong. She leads the Applied Behavioural Ecology and Conservation Lab. Prior to this, she was based at the was a Branco Weiss Fellow at the Department of Zoology Cambridge University and Drapers' Company Fellow at Pembroke College, where she wrote her first popular book, *Elephants: birth, death and family in the lives of giants* (2020). She was a College for Life Sciences Fellow at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin and a Fulbright Scholar at Colorado State University. She is an Honorary Fellow at the Centre for African Ecology at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. In 2020, she was awarded the Christopher Barnard Award for outstanding new investigator in animal behaviour.