E&B Seminar Series





Harnessing eukaryotic fossils to constrain the timing of bacterial evolution





Haiwei Luo is an Associate Professor in the School of Life Sciences at CUHK. Having gained an MSc in Marine Microbiology and a PhD in Molecular Evolution at the University of South Carolina, his research focuses on the population genetic mechanisms giving rise to the genomic diversity among marine microbial lineages. Using genomic and bioinformatic approaches, his group investigates the role of selection, drift, mutation, and recombination in assembling genetic diversity at different timescales, with implications for climate change, paleo-oceanic processes, and marine conservation. In this talk, he will focus on molecular clocks and bacterial evolution, of which new methods can be used to analyse a potentially coevolutionary history between coral hosts, algal symbionts and diverse holobiont-associated bacterial lineages