

# Newsletter, December 2025



# SORTEE

Society for Open, Reliable, and Transparent  
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

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## Contents

SORTEE Leadership Updates for 2026

Explore the Highlights and Open Resources from the 2025 SORTEE conference

Education and Outreach in 2025

Member Engagement in 2025

Sign up for SORTEE Calendar Invites!

Add links to sortee.org on your website

SORTEE Commendation Awards

SORTEE Commendation Award Winners for 2025

Notices from outside SORTEE

Postdoc position on the project EcoOpen

Submit to the SORTEE Newsletter

2025 SORTEE leadership team - thanks everyone!

# SORTEE Leadership Updates for 2026

## **Joining the Board of Directors are:**

Juliette Tariel-Adam

Juliette has been on the conference committee since 2023, and chaired in 2025. She will continue as past conference chair in 2026 and also join the DEI committee.

Juliette is working as a postdoctoral researcher remotely with Macquarie University.

Ineta Kacergytė

Ineta has been volunteering at SORTEE since 2023. She is currently a postdoctoral researcher specialising in wetland conservation at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

Aidan Tan

Aidan is a paediatric doctor, governance leader and long-time advocate for open, reliable and transparent science who cares deeply about strengthening SORTEE's global community through principled, inclusive and accountable research culture.

## **The Executive Committee also will see new leadership:**

Marija Purgar

Marija (she/her) will serve as President of the Society in 2026 and is a current Board Member. She will soon begin a postdoctoral position at the University of Alberta in Canada, where she will work on meta-research and evidence synthesis in ecology and evolutionary biology.

Matthieu Paquet

Matthieu will be taking over as SORTEE secretary in 2026 and will stay on the board and as a member of the fundraising committee. He has been volunteering for SORTEE since 2021. He is a researcher at the SETE-CNRS in Moulis, France.

Christian John

Christian is SORTEE's new treasure for 2026 and he is also a member of the advocacy committee. He is currently a postdoctoral scholar in the Marine Science Institute at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Malgorzata (Losia) Lagisz

Losia (she/her) ([Website](#) and [Labwebsite](#)) will serve as the President-Elect in 2026 (and President in 2027). Losia is an Associate Professor at the University of Alberta in Canada, where she works on meta-research and evidence synthesis. At SORTEE, she will also continue as a board member and member of the Budget, Awards, Fundraising, and Member Engagement committees.

**Committee chairs for 2026 are as follows:**

Advocacy - Joel Pick (co-chair)

Joel has been volunteering with SORTEE since 2024, and has chaired the advocacy committee for the last two years. He is currently a postdoc at the University of Edinburgh, UK.

Advocacy - Ed Ivimey-Cook (co-chair)

Ed, former SORTEE board member and president, will join Joel as co-chair of Advocacy in 2026. Ed is a lecturer in Biological Sciences at the University of East Anglia.

Conference - Stephanie Flaman

Stephanie (she/her) will also continue in her role as a board member. She is finishing her MSc at the University of Regina, Canada, where her research focuses on using remote sensing to estimate agroforestry biomass.

DEI - Brooke Long-Fox (co-chair)

Brooke (she/her) will be serving her third year as Co-Chair of the DEI Committee and will also serve as a preprint moderator for EcoEvoRxiv. She works to advance a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive scientific community and to strengthen research practices grounded in FAIR and CARE principles, open data, and transparency.

DEI - Mark Young (co-chair)

Mark is a fellow at the University of Southampton, working on the evolution of fossil crocodiles, birds, and dinosaurs. He is also a member of the EcoEvoRxiv committee, and is also an ICZN Commissioner, Editor-in-Chief of Historical Biology, and a chartered biologist (registered with the Royal Society of Biology).

EcoEvoRxiv - Stefan Vriend

Stefan (he/him) has served on the EcoEvoRxiv committee since 2023, including as co-chair in 2024. He is a project coordinator for a digital ecological research platform in-development at the Netherlands Institute of Ecology.

Education and Outreach - Saoirse Kelleher

Saoirse continues her role as chair of the Education and Outreach committee.

Fundraising - Ruby Krasnow

Ruby ([website](#)) is a PhD student in Marine Biology at the University of Maine in the U.S.

Media - Oakleigh Wilson (co-chair)

Oak [[oakalice.github.io](https://oakalice.github.io)] (she/her) writes the SORTEE 'ECR Asks' series. She is undertaking her PhD at the University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia, researching standardisation of machine learning protocols for classifying animal behaviours from biologgers.

Media - Swastika Issar (co-chair)

Swastika has been serving as the SORTEE blog editor on the media committee for two years during which time she initiated the blog's journal club series. Swastika is a postdoctoral fellow at the National Centre for Biological Sciences, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in Bangalore, India.

Member Engagement - Natalie van Dis

Natalie will continue in her role as chair of the Member Engagement committee. She will start a fellowship at the Netherlands Institute of Ecology (NIOO-KNAW) in 2026, working on genetic adaptation to climate change in insects.

**Thanks to the SORTEE leaders who are stepping down after their terms of service:**

*Committee chairs or co-chairs stepping down from their roles include* Hannah Dugdale (Awards), Juliette Tariel-Adam (Conference), Friederike (freddy) Hillemann (DEI), Dan Noble (EcoEvoRxiv), Matthieu Paquet (Fundraising), and Tim Parker (Media)

*Board members whose terms are coming to end are* Ed Ivimey-Cook, Patrice Pottier, and Alfredo Sánchez Tójar

*Members of the Executive Committee who will be stepping down this year include:* Ed Ivimey-Cook (President) - Ed will remain on the executive committee as past-president this coming year. Ed has devoted substantial time to SORTEE, not only as president, but as a member of the board, as chair of the conference committee in 2022, secretary in 2023, and as someone willing to take on any task to further the success of SORTEE over many years.

Rose O'Dea (Past President) - SORTEE owes a deep debt to Rose's leadership during the formative years of the society. Rose brought vision, dedication, and exceptional organizational skills, and SORTEE exists in its current form thanks to her work.

Alexa Fredston (Treasurer) - Besides serving a three year term on the board, Alexa is SORTEE's longest serving treasurer, and has done substantial and important work establishing our existing financial functioning and policies.

Kaija Gahm (Secretary) - Kaija has been a stalwart contributor to SORTEE since early in our history, first on the membership committee, then joining the board for a three year term in 2022, and most recently serving in the essential role of secretary for two years.

# Explore the Highlights and Open Resources from the 2025 SORTEE conference

The SORTEE 2025 conference took place on Zoom on October 15–16 . It was an inspiring 27 hours of open science.

Catch up on conference highlights with **three blog posts** on SORTEE's website:

- 1) [Highlights from the SORTEE 2025 Conference](#): Check out the summary of the event, along with reflections from participants and committee members.
- 2) [Discover the Sessions of the SORTEE 2025 Conference \(Part 1\)](#): Dive into plenary talks, opening and closing remarks, introductions to open science, and workshops.
- 3) [Discover the Sessions of the SORTEE 2025 Conference \(Part 2\)](#): Learn about what came out of the hackathons and unconferences.

**Want to rewatch?** Plenary talks, opening and closing remarks are available on our [Youtube channel](#).

**Looking for the sessions' slides, materials and outputs?** All openly shared materials from session facilitators are available on the [conference OSF repository](#) (links to the materials appear in blog posts 2 and 3). In addition, the program app and information pack are permanently available [here](#) and [here](#). Materials from all previous SORTEE conferences are accessible at <https://sortee.org/past/>.

Whether you joined us live or are catching up now, we hope these resources help you revisit great discussions and the community spirit of the SORTEE 2025 conference.

## **What's next? SORTEE 2026 is on the horizon**

**Join the conference mailing list** to receive updates about the 2026 SORTEE conference by clicking [here](#). We send approximately 8 emails per year.

All information about the 2026 conference will also be posted on the SORTEE website: <https://sortee.org/upcoming/>.

**If you face barriers to attending SORTEE conferences**, please contact us at [conference@sortee.org](mailto:conference@sortee.org) or complete this [anonymous accessibility form](#) (only the

conference committee and board of directors can access the responses). Funding will be available to support accessibility requests.

We look forward to seeing you in 2026!

## Education and Outreach in 2025

Thank you SORTEE members for your attendance at the workshop & webinar series throughout 2025! We are gearing up for next year's program of sessions on open science topics, and we'd love to hear from you on what you'd like to see us focus on over the next year. If you are [interested in presenting a session to SORTEE's membership you can contact us here](#), and if you have any [requests for other topics or people you think we should invite for 2025 you can use this form](#).

In the meantime, we have recently uploaded a handful of sessions to the [SORTEE YouTube channel](#), including Ed Ivimey-Cook's session on reproducible code in R, our workshop on Quarto for reproducible analysis, and Tanya Strydom's webinar on LLM use in open scientific research - check them out!

Last but not least, we are currently gearing up to release SORTEE's new resource repository. If you have any teaching or learning resources relating to any aspect of open science that you would like to contribute, or if you are aware of any materials by others that we should be referring to, please [submit them at this link](#). Thank you!

## Member Engagement in 2025

Thanks to everyone that joined online and in-person SORTEE events this year! We got to know each other and SORTEE in 8 [virtual socials](#); learnt new OS skills in 9 [code club](#) sessions; came together in 6 in-person meetups at other conferences; organized ourselves into the first SORTEE [local chapter for Brazil](#); looked back on, made progress with, and started new [collaborations](#); and invited our colleagues to also join SORTEE via our new [Join page](#) and [outreach templates](#). Wishing you happy holidays and looking forward to meet you (again) in the new year!

## Sign up for SORTEE Calendar Invites!

Don't miss out on all the great upcoming events to learn and connect with other SORTEE members in 2026. Sign up to receive calendar invites about SORTEE events in your local time zone using [this google form](#).

## Add links to [sortee.org](https://sortee.org) on your website

If you have a website, please consider adding a link to [sortee.org](https://sortee.org). The more websites that link to [sortee.org](https://sortee.org), the higher our search engine rankings will be. This will help people searching on Google or other search engines find us more readily. Thanks!

## SORTEE Commendation Awards

*Do you have a project that exemplifies open science in ecology and evolution? If so nominate the project for a SORTEE Commendation Award*

The SORTEE Commendation Awards aim to highlight projects that align with the aims and values of society. A project is defined as any work that is an initiative benefiting the eco-evo community by fostering open science values or practices (e.g., journal clubs, workshops, seminar series, websites, repositories, tools, educational materials, public talks, podcasts, etc.). The SORTEE Commendation Awards recognise that projects are often team efforts. As such, the contributions of all project members, rather than individuals, will be highlighted. SORTEE warmly encourages diverse nominations in terms of team membership. Project nominations can be submitted year-round until two months before the SORTEE conference. For further information, see the [SORTEE awards website](#).

## SORTEE Commendation Award Winners for 2025

The 2025 SORTEE Commendation Awards received 10 nominations for the 'Commendation Award' and 6 nominations were judged eligible for the 'Commendation Award'. The 6 Award winners are:

EcoEvoApps - Flipping the script - JuliaPhylo - MacaqueNet - MorphoBank - VAMP



## Notices from outside SORTEE

### Postdoc position on the project EcoOpen

Dr. sc. Antica Culina will be opening a postdoc position on the project EcoOpen ([Empowering ecological research via open science and meta-research](#)).

Where: [Ruder Boskovic Institute](#), Zagreb, Croatia

When: The applications will likely open in January 2026, with the position starting in April 2026

For how long: 2 years

With whom: Currently there is a team of 4 (2 PhDs, one Postdoc, dr. Culina)

The project is highly interdisciplinary, so I am looking for a person with a combination of at least two of these skills/areas of expertise: evidence synthesis (particularly meta-analysis), ecology, evolutionary biology, open science (e.g., preregistration, open data, open software), meta-research, statistics, mathematics, information science, social science, computer science, LLMs or related.

You will be quite flexible in deciding on what exactly to work on.

Please email Dr. Culina ([aculina@irb.hr](mailto:aculina@irb.hr)) if you need more info, or are interested in the position.

## Submit to the SORTEE Newsletter

We welcome submissions to our newsletter. If you know of anything that SORTEE should or could announce (events, publications, announcements, ideas) in our newsletter, please let us know by sending an email to [sortee.media@gmail.com](mailto:sortee.media@gmail.com) (We do not advertise commercial services or products)

## 2025 SORTEE leadership team - thanks everyone!

Ed Ivimey-Cook (President, Board Member)

Kaija Gahm (Secretary)

Alexa Fredston (Treasurer)

Rose O'Dea (Past-President)

Marija Purgar (Board Member, President-elect)

Malgorzata (Losia) Lagisz (Board Member)

Matthieu Paquet (Board Member, Fundraising Committee Chair)

Patrice Pottier (Board Member)

Alfredo Sánchez-Tójar (Board Member)

Michael Bertram (Board Member)

Stephanie Flaman (Board Member)

Joel Pick (Advocacy Committee Chair)

Hannah Dugdale (Awards Committee Chair)

Juliette Tariel-Adam (Conference Committee Chair)

Brooke Long-Fox and Friederike (Freddy) Hilleman (DEI Committee Chairs)

Daniel Noble and Stefan Vriend (EcoEvoRxiv Committee Chairs)

Saoirse Kelleher (Education and Outreach Chair)

Tim Parker (Media Committee Chair)

Natalie van Dis (Member Engagement Committee Chair)