

MÁXIMA BUTTERFLY NEWSLETTER

BUTTERFLIES ARE FLUTTERING

June 2025

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO!

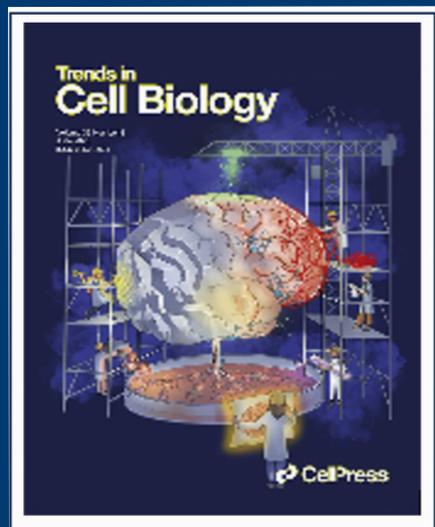
It's been a busy couple of months for the Butterflies. The winter school "shark tank" saw all Butterflies soar through the pitch session. Secondments are in full swing and we're celebrating 5 open access publications with many more in preparation. We journey with Sebastiaan van Heesch as he shares his path to becoming a group leader and we're spreading our wings as some students prepare to head into primary schools as part of their outreach journey. But first....time for our students to recharge over the summer!

WINTER SCHOOL - HIGHLIGHT



The highlight, a 3-minute pitch session, aka "shark tank" pitches, where PhD students shared their research with a review panel. Luckily all Butterflies survived, receiving constructive and thoughtful feedback from the "sharks."

EXPLORING NEW FRONTIERS



Butterfly student Lucia Bracesco's illustration made the cover of the June issue of Trends in Cell Biology! Lucia is sincerely grateful to Anna Pagliaro for trusting her to bring her brilliant ideas to life, and to Lucia's supervisors Benedetta Artegiani and Delilah Hendriks for the opportunity to illustrate her work on their review.

[Click here to access the review.](#)

PI IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The students unanimously selected Sebastiaan van Heesch as the third Butterfly group leader deserving of time in the spotlight.



In this interview, Sebastiaan shares his journey on becoming a group leader, his approach to mentoring, and even offers heartfelt advice to his younger PhD self, including how he handles impostor syndrome. Don't miss the full story on our website.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

The positive feedback from The Butterfly representatives at the June 11th meeting was encouraging. Of course, there's always room for improvement and their feedback on reducing stress and streamlining the legal paperwork for secondments will be addressed as we move forward.

SECONDMENTS

Eight students have already completed their first secondment, eight more are ongoing and 11 are preparing to take flight! A huge thank you to all of our partners for hosting our students.



We hope you have a relaxing and enjoyable summer vacation.



@MàximaButterfly



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