

University of Groningen

## Social modulation of ageing in termites

Lin, Silu

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## Propositions for PhD thesis

### **Social modulation of ageing in termites**

Silu Lin

1. In a society, those who work less can live longer.
2. Correlations between an individual's phenotypes are reflected in the co-regulation of genes (Chapter II).
3. Senescence is a signature of our evolutionary past which cannot be erased (this thesis).
4. Higher extrinsic mortality accelerates the rate of senescence when it reduces the chance of reproduction (Chapter IV).
5. It is almost hilarious to see that humans behave no differently than termites when resources are limited. We both give up cooperation and try to fly elsewhere (Chapter III).
6. Group-level benefits can be achieved without sacrificing individual benefits (Chapter III).
7. The quest for knowledge is a double-edged sword; it exhausts you first, then gives you pleasure (this PhD project).
8. It is time to realize that we, humans, never were, aren't, and never will be exempt from natural selection.
9. "Karl Marx was right, socialism works, it is just that he had the wrong species".

— Edward O. Wilson

10. We study animals, because we see ourselves in them.