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Genetic variation in parasitoid resistance in natural populations of *Drosophila melanogaster*

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Propositions accompanying the PhD thesis:

Genetic variation in parasitoid resistance in natural populations of *Drosophila melanogaster*

Sylvia Gerritsma

1. Local adaptation is highly dependent on environmental and genetic context, which implies that consistent associations of any particular genotype to an adaptive trait is implausible. (*This thesis, Chapter 3*)
2. Frequency dependent selection is a peculiar case of selection, because nearly anything can happen. (*Hartl & Clark, 2007, Principles of population genetics 4th ed.*)
3. The power of the GAL4/UAS system to characterize the functionality of a particular gene for a particular trait is dependent on the complexity of that trait.
4. Genetic diversity is the hosts' resource in its coevolution with its parasites, it is what fuels Red Queen dynamics. (*Decaestecker et al., 2013, Ecology Letters 16: 1455–1462*)
5. Ignoring the total bacterial community change after antibiotic treatment, and assuming that one bacteria alone is the cause of the change in the host phenotype, is not justified. (*This thesis, Chapter 5*)
6. The initial immune reaction of *Drosophila melanogaster* larvae to parasitoid attack does not require the presence of the parasitoid egg. (*Gerritsma et al., 2013, Journal of Insect Physiology 59: 148–158; this thesis, Chapter 2*)
7. The outcome of a pilot study is often more close to the experimenter's expectation than that of the actual experiment.
8. The statistical term "significant" is full of sound and fury and is signifying nothing. (*After Shakespeare*)
9. Last minute decisions are the best decisions.
10. The climate rooms in the Linnaeusborg are ideal for studying genotypes in a fluctuating environment.
11. Women do not leave academia after their PhD because they are not suited for science, but they leave it because academia is not suited for this phase in their life.