

Propositions belonging to the thesis entitled

Geese colonising New Land:
causes and mechanisms of range expansion
in an Arctic-breeding migrant

1. *Defence* is an ill-suited word for this ceremony, as questions are no attack but are in fact the motor of science towards a common goal: to understand the world around us.
2. Mensen hechten soms meer waarde aan een goed, niet kloppend verhaal, dan aan een slecht maar wél kloppend verhaal. (*Peter R. de Vries, 2011*)
3. Currently, Pink-footed geese can cope with environmental and climate change. (*Chapter 10*)
4. The effect of climate change on the fitness of geese can be negative in high-quality individuals, but positive in low-quality individuals. (*Chapter 4, 6*)
5. Although climate change likely exacerbates social inequality in people, it seems to alleviate social inequality in geese. (*Chapter 6*)
6. Learning from each other facilitates fast change in migratory behaviour. (*Chapter 5, Sutherland 1998 J. Avian Biol.*)
7. The social but competitive flock life of geese promotes year-round pair-bonding, in turn promoting genetic exchange between breeding populations (*Chapter 8, 9, 10, Black 2001 Behav. Ecol.*)
8. Field biologists have trained themselves to be continuously on the alert, since they know that seemingly irrelevant observations can turn out to be highly relevant.
9. Doing a BSc or MSc is mostly about learning what to do (and how), whereas doing a PhD is mostly about learning what *not* to do (and how) – much like the distinction between a tactic and a strategy.
10. De zogenaamde *natuurlijke verjonging*, die populair is in de huidige Nederlandse bosbouw, is alleen natuurlijk als deze het gevolg is van natuurlijke veroudering, en niet van boskap.
11. Vroeger was alles later.

Kees H.T. Schreven