Evolution, and Finches

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In the Origin of Species, Charles Darwin established the scientific basis for understanding how evolution occurs by natural selection. He showed characteristic insight by suggesting that investigations of what we now call “very young adaptive radiations” might provide windows through which we can view the processes involved in the formation of new species. Since Darwin’s time contributions from the fields of genetics, behavior, and ecology have continued to illuminate how and why species evolve.

Join Drs. Rosemary and Peter Grant as they discuss the progress that has been made in our understanding of speciation with special reference to the young radiation of Darwin’s Finches of the Galápagos Islands, drawing on the results of their long-term field study of finch populations spanning several decades, combined with laboratory investigations of the molecular genetic basis of beak development.

Wednesday, February 14, 2018 | 7 p.m.
Charles J. Dougherty Ballroom, Duquesne Power Center

Free and open to the public with a reception to follow.

Darwin Day is Duquesne’s annual international celebration of the life and work of Charles Darwin. The event emphasizes the importance of science education in today’s world, and the impact that evolutionary biology has on many aspects of our lives.

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