

7th International Palaeontological Congress

30 November — 3 December 2026

IPC7 Call for Symposia Proposals



Symposia may be on all aspects of palaeosciences and its connections to biology, earth and planetary science, from the Archean to the Holocene and cover work from all continents. Suggestions for interdisciplinary, 'cutting-edge' and new technology symposia are particularly welcome.

Conveners/co-conveners should provide a short description of the proposed symposium, and a list of confirmed speakers and their tentative presentation titles. We encourage diversity; race, gender and career stages should be considered when selecting speakers.

In each symposium, oral presentations are limited to 12 minutes with 3 minutes for questions, but keynote presentations could be 30-45mins. The duration of the symposium could ideally be two hours, two and a half hours, or four hours in duration, i.e., 8, 10 or 16 presentation slots. If necessary, longer symposia can be arranged. Posters could also be included as part of the symposium.

IPC7 does not have the funding to invite symposia presenters. In the symposium proposal, conveners should please specify if resources are available to invite keynote speakers and/other speakers to the symposium, or if speakers will be self-funded.

Symposium proposals, including both the description and the list of presenters and titles, should not exceed two single-spaced pages in length.

Deadline for detailed proposal submissions: **1 November 2024**. Please submit your detailed proposal to 2026ipc7capetown@gmail.com

Note that we currently have the following proposed symposia, but we are willing to consider other topics, especially regarding topics that have not yet been suggested, such as plant evolution, palynology, arthropods, Archaean and early Proterozoic life, etc.

1. Flight Evolution in Vertebrates.
2. Recent advances in Mongolian Cretaceous Palaeontology and Geology
3. Origins: work on Triassic and Early Jurassic dinosaurs
4. Continental ichnology - Inclusive of all studies related to trace fossils in the continental realm
5. Palaeohistology of vertebrate mineralised tissues.
6. Paleoneurology, cognition, and behaviour of vertebrates. This will host talks about the evolution of the vertebrate neurosensory system (brain, sense organs, etc.), from fish to hominins
7. Rocks and the Rise of Ordovician Life

8. Early Vertebrates
9. Devonian stratigraphy, environments and palaeontology with focus on Gondwana
10. Cenozoic mammals (including whales).
11. Current Directions in Human Evolution, Research in Africa
12. workshop on communicating with public audiences, including religious audiences, about evolution
13. Fossils from Himalaya: - Understanding the Tethys and time the India- Tibet Collision
14. ichthyosaur evolution and biology
15. Recent advances in vertebrate taphonomy
16. Quaternary micropalaeontology
17. Gondwana in crisis: life in the southern hemisphere during the Permian–Triassic
18. World Indigenous knowledge and history of science
19. Neogene primates and the origin and evolution of Hominidae
20. Disease in the fossil record
21. Evolution of brain and cranial anatomy through 5 major extinctions

Please visit our website and social media for more information regarding the **pre- and post-conference trips** are being planned: [The 7th International Palaeontological Congress \(ipc7.site\)](http://ipc7.site)

Preliminary registration for the conference: [The 7th International Palaeontological Congress \(ipc7.site\)](http://ipc7.site)

Future circulars will provide more details regarding abstract submission format and deadline, accommodation, etc. If you have any questions, you are welcome to contact us by email 2026ipc7capetown@gmail.com or on our [social media channels](#).



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Local Organising Committee: Prof. Anusuya Chinsamy-Turan, (Chair), Prof. Emese M. Bordy, Dr. Miengah Abrahams, Dr. Maria-Eugenia Pereyra, and Ms Caitlin Rabe (postgrad student) from the University of Cape Town; Prof. Marion Bamford, Prof. Jonah Choiniere, Prof. Julien Benoit, and Dr Cameron Penn-Clarke from the University of the Witwatersrand; Dr. Romala Govender, Iziko Museums of Cape Town; Dr. Mirriam Tawane, Ditsong Museum; Dr. Rob Gess, Albany Museum; Jonatan Dechamps, Website manager. **International members:** Profs. David Harper (ICS); Roger Thomas (IPA)