

# The 7th International Palaeontological Congress



## The Evolution and Diversification of Life in the Neoproterozoic and Cambrian

The Neoproterozoic Era and subsequent Cambrian Period encompass an extraordinary phase in Earth's history, marked by the emergence and diversification of major eukaryotic groups, including algae, fungi, protists, and animals. These evolutionary and ecological changes occurred against the backdrop of dramatic environmental upheavals, including the Snowball Earth glacials, increases (and decreases) in oxygen levels and temperature, and changes in nutrient availability.

These environmental shifts in turn affected pathways of fossilization and consequently how paleontologists reconstruct patterns of evolution during this time period. This symposium welcomes presentations on Neoproterozoic-Cambrian evolutionary records (how, when, and where different groups evolved), the changing ecological landscape across this interval, evolutionary responses to environmental change, and the taphonomic processes by which fossils were preserved. Our goal is to draw on multidisciplinary approaches to build an integrated understanding of the factors shaping the radiation and fossilization of eukaryotic life during this seminal interval of Earth's history.

### Conveners:

- Dr. Erik Sperling ([esper@stanford.edu](mailto:esper@stanford.edu))
- Dr. Scott Evans
- Dr. Lidya Tarhan

If you are interested in this symposium, please contact the conveners.