

The 7th International Palaeontological Congress



Devonian stratigraphy, environments and palaeontology with focus on Gondwana

The Devonian Period marks a crucial point in Earth history marked by major evolutionary and ecological innovations that would indelibly change both terrestrial and aquatic environments; setting the foundations for our current biosphere. In the terrestrial realm, Devonian witnessed (among others) the afforestation of land as well as its concomitant invasion by animals, whilst in the aquatic realm jawed fish, ammonoids and reef-forming organisms (corals, brachiopods, bryozoans) arguably reached a pinnacle in their ordinal diversity. Interspersed among these major evolutionary events are a multitude of biocrises of varying intensity of which the Late Devonian mass extinctions are perhaps best known. Although much is known about the Devonian Period, the vast majority of knowledge from this time period is derived from former Laurussian regions. Over the last two-to-three decades, great strides have been made by researchers in the former Gondwanan regions of Africa, South America, Antarctica and Australia, revealing the importance of Devonian-aged strata and fossils from these areas. This has provided a far more complete global picture of this pivotal time period. This symposium covers a broad array of topics pertaining to Devonian stratigraphy, palaeoenvironments, and palaeontology with a special focus on former Gondwanan regions, however, presentations from other geographic areas are welcome. This symposium will be followed by a business meeting of the Subcommittee on Devonian Stratigraphy.

Conveners:

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