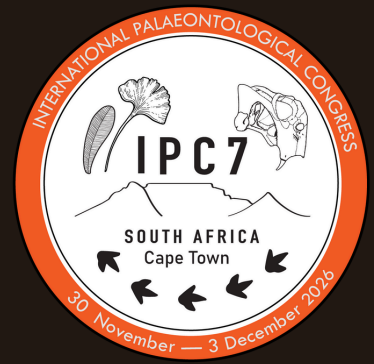


The 7th International Palaeontological Congress



The Afrotheria: Origins & Evolution of Africa's Iconic Mammals

Despite comprising fewer than 100 extant species, few mammalian lineages contain as high a degree of morphological and ecological disparity as do Afrotheria. So great is the disparity between extant armadillos, sengis, golden moles, tenrecs, otter shrews, hyraxes, sirenians, and elephants that they were not recognized as a monophyletic clade until the advent of molecular phylogenetics less than 30 years ago. The rich afrotherian fossil record includes not only members of extant families, but stem taxa and extinct orders such as embrithopods. This incredible diversity has inspired a corresponding variety of palaeontological and evolutionary questions. This symposium will showcase the diversity of research and researchers working on Afrotherians in areas that may include, but are not limited to the origin of the group, phylogenetics, systematics, major transitions, functional morphology, biomechanics, palaeoecology, biogeography, biostratigraphy, ichnology, and conservation palaeobiology.

Conveners:

- John Orcutt (orcutt@gonzaga.edu)

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