

International Conference on Ecosystem Evolution and Environmental Changes before and after Neoproterozoic Glaciations

First Circular

Neoproterozoic glaciations and their surrounding time intervals represent one of the most profound transitions in Earth's history, witnessing the shift from microbial-dominated ecosystems to eukaryote-dominated ecosystems, as well as extreme climate events exemplified by 'Snowball Earth' events. In recent years, the ecological and environmental evolution before and after these glaciations has become a major focus in the research on Proterozoic life and environments. In order to promote multi- and inter-disciplinary studies on these topics and to strengthen collaboration and communication among international researchers worldwide, the International Conference on Ecosystem Evolution and Environmental Changes before and after Neoproterozoic Glaciations will be held at Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology, Chinese Academy of Sciences from 4 July to 7 July 2026. The official language of this conference is English. We warmly welcome the participation of colleagues and students from related disciplines worldwide.

Organizer:

Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (NIGPAS)

Co-organizers:

State Key Laboratory of Palaeobiology and Stratigraphy;

State Key Laboratory of Critical Earth Material Cycling and Mineral Deposits;

Fossil Algae Subcommittee of the Palaeontological Society of China.

Organizing Committee:

Chairs: Xunlai Yuan (NIGPAS); Shuhai Xiao (Virginia Tech)

Executive Chairs: Ke Pang (NIGPAS); Qing Tang (Nanjing University)

Secretaries-General: Qing Ouyang; Guangjin Li (NIGPAS)

Scientific Programs include (but not limited to)

- (1) Ecosystem evolution across Neoproterozoic glaciations;
- (2) Environmental changes across Neoproterozoic glaciations;
- (3) Neoproterozoic palaeobiology and stratigraphy of North China and the Grand Canyon, USA;
- (4) Prokaryote-eukaryote transitions in the Proterozoic.

Preliminary Schedule

- 4 July 2026: All-day registration;
- 5 July 2026: Opening ceremony, oral and poster presentations;
- 6 July 2026: Visit to the Huangmei Repository, Jurong for Neoproterozoic drill-core and fossil observation and on-site discussion;
- 7 July 2026: End of the conference.

Presentations

The presentations in this conference include regular talks, lightning talks, and poster presentations.

The regular talk will be allocated 20 minutes in total. **Regular talks are by invitation only**; speakers should prepare their talks to allow for 5 minutes of questions and transition between speakers.

We welcome free abstract submissions for lightning talks and posters. Each lightning talk will be allocated 8 minutes in total; speakers should allow 2 minutes for brief questions. Poster boards will accommodate an A0 poster presented in portrait format.

Invited Speakers (in alphabetical order, to be updated)

Andrey Bekker — University of California, Riverside

Carol Dehler — Utah State University

Emily G. Mitchell — University of Cambridge

Kelly Tingle — McGill University

Marc Laflamme — University of Toronto Mississauga

Ross Mitchell — Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Shuhai Xiao — Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Susannah Porter — University of California at Santa Barbara

Tian Gan — Adelaide University

Zekun Wang — Natural History Museum, London

Conference Venues and Accommodation

NIGPAS, Nanjing — opening ceremony and presentations;

Huangmei Repository, Jurong — on-site examination of Neoproterozoic drill cores and fossil specimens;

Jiuhua Hotel, Nanjing — catering and accommodation.

Registration and Payment

Registration deadline: 27 June 2026.

The conference does not charge the participants for registration fees; participants need to pay their accommodation fees.

The number of participants for the visit to the Huangmei Repository, Jurong on 6 July 2026 is limited to 30 persons on a first-come, first-served basis.

Contact Information

Guangjin Li

Tel: +86 13256898657; Email: gjli@nigpas.ac.cn



Fossil Algae Subcommittee of

the Palaeontological Society of China

14-06-2026

Attachment 1:

Conference Registration Form

First Name		Family Name	
Title or Position		Gender	
Affiliation			
E-mail		Phone Number	
I plan to give (use ✓ to indicate)	Lightning talk		Poster
Title for lightning talk or poster			
I plan to visit the Huangmei Repository, Jurong (use ✓ to indicate)			