



CAVEPS 2025 2nd Circular

You are invited to attend the **19th Conference on Australasian Vertebrate Evolution, Palaeontology and Systematics (CAVEPS)** will be held from **24th - 30th of Nov 2025** on Kaurna Yarta at the Flinders University Tonsley Campus in Adelaide, South Australia.

The conference will cover disciplines spanning all aspects of vertebrate palaeontology from sites spanning Australia, New Zealand, SE Asia and Antarctica.



Committee

The core organisers of CAVEPS 2025 are Alice Clement, Diana Fusco and Aaron Camens, supported by the Flinders University Palaeontology Group and many external contributors.

Website and Social Media

Website: <https://www.caveps.org>

Email address: caveps.palaeo@gmail.com

Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/418078698316877>



Conference program (subject to tweaking)

Friday 21st – Saturday 22nd November:

- Pre-Conference **field trip** (Naracoorte Caves)

Monday 24th November:

- A full day of various **workshop** offerings, to be held at the Flinders University Bedford Park Campus.
- **Welcome Function**

Tuesday 25th – 28th November:

- The **main conference** will consist of spoken presentations and poster sessions and will run for four full days. Rather than specific symposia, the spoken presentations will be combined into general sessions. The main conference sessions will be taking place in the 160-seat Theatre 1 at the Flinders University Tonsley Campus (this is 5 mins drive down the hill from the Bedford Park campus and is more accessible by public transport and shuttle bus). Thursday evening will be the **conference dinner**.

Saturday 29th November - ~5th December:

- Post-Conference **field trip** (Lake Pinpa and Ikara-Flinders Ranges)

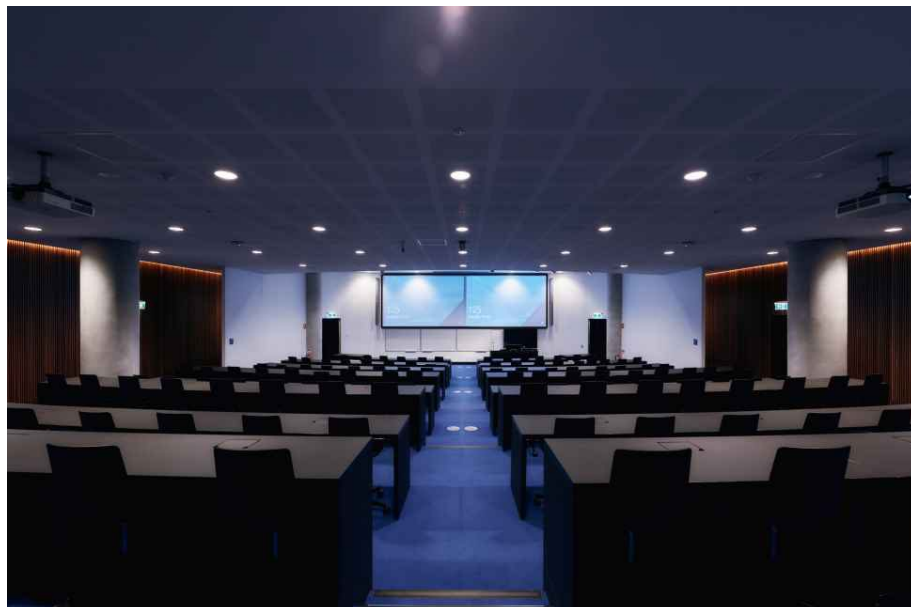


Image: Theatre 1 multipurpose presentation space, Tonsley Campus, Flinders University.



Workshop Sessions - Monday 24th of November

We are aiming to accommodate all those who have applied to run workshops. They will be taking place at a variety of venues across the Bedford Park Campus and range in duration between 90 minutes to 4 hours.

Workshop 1: Publishing in top journals (Mike Lee)

Workshop 2: Media training workshop (Adele Pentland and Sally Hurst)

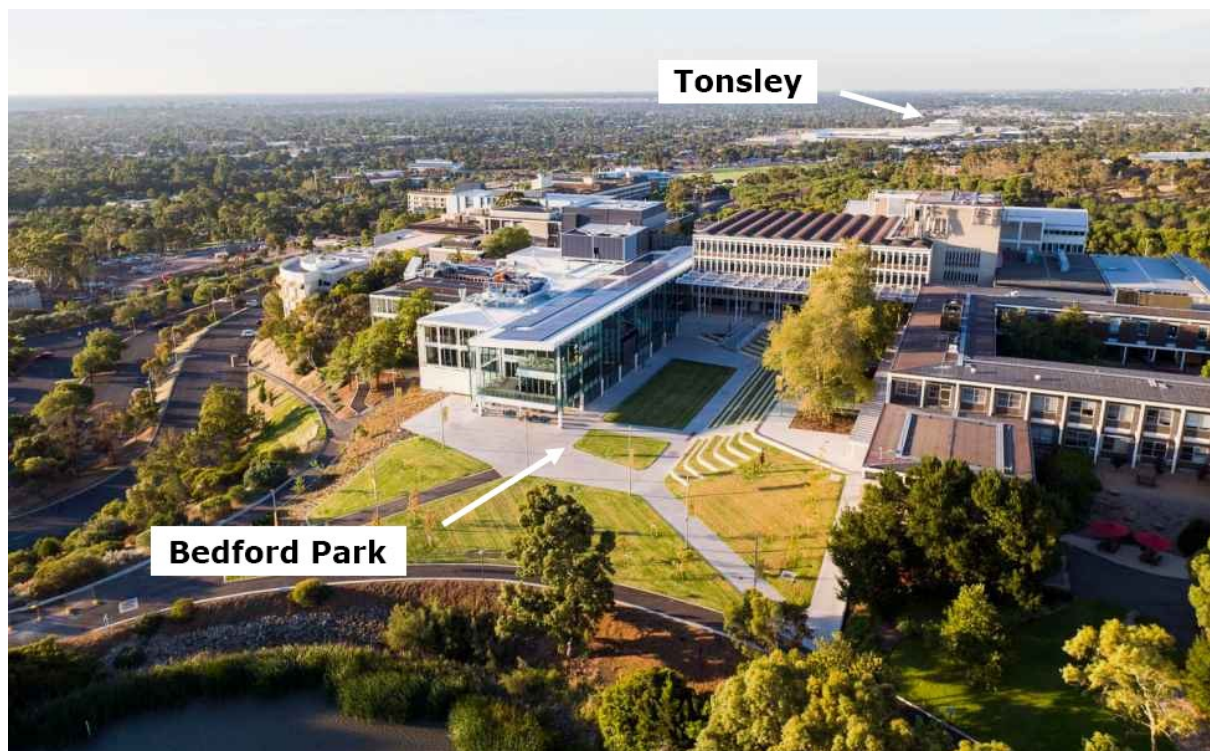
Workshop 3: Bibliometrics in Australasian vertebrate palaeontology (Gilbert Price)

Workshop 4: Musculoskeletal modelling and simulation (Peter Bishop)

Workshop 5: Fossil casting methods (Carey Burke)

Workshop 6: Constructive approaches for post-colonial palaeontology
(Decolonising Palaeontology Working Group)

Workshop 7: 3D Reconstruction and Animation (Astrid O'Connor)



Social Events

Monday 24th November

Evening: Welcome function with drinks and native bush foods and Mantra, Tonsley.

Thursday 27th November

Evening: Conference dinner (tickets sold separately) and CAVEPS fundraiser auction at Marion Hotel.

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The aim of the auction is to help raise funds as an ongoing contribution to the running of CAVEPS. This will aid us in continuing to maintain low registration fees for the conference and allow us to provide things such as **student travel scholarships**. If you have any items you'd like to donate to the auction they can be brought with you in November or posted to:

c/o Aaron Camens
Biological Sciences
College of Science and Engineering
Flinders University
Bedford Park, SA, 5042

Field trips

Pre-conference field trip: Naracoorte Caves, Friday 21st - Saturday 22nd November (max 50 people, leave and return from Adelaide)

The pre-conference field trip will involve an overnight visit to the World Heritage listed Naracoorte Caves where you'll be able to view a range of caves and fossil deposits as well as learn about the research being undertaken there.

Post-conference field trip: Lake Pinpa and Ikara-Flinders Ranges 29th Nov -~5th Dec, leave and return from Adelaide)

The post conference field trip will offer delegates the opportunity to visit a range of sites where fossils have been found from the late Oligocene Namba Formation. We'll then head up to the amazing Arkaroola geological preserve, with rocks up to 1.6 billion years old, and down through Brachina Gorge past the only Golden Spike in Australia. We'll finish the trip with a visit to Nilpena Station to view some Ediacaran localities dating back to the origin of complex life.

Accommodation

There are several accommodation options available. The Tonsley campus is on the Adelaide-Tonsley railway line so is easily accessible from the CBD.

- The Mantra Tonsley Adelaide (<https://www.mhtonsley.com.au>) is only 100m from the conference venue. Use code **TONS15** when booking to secure a %15 discount for CAVEPS attendees.
- Marion Hotel (<https://www.marionhotel.com.au>) is a 15 minute walk from the conference venue and is the location of the conference dinner. Use code **FLINDERSUNI** for a 10% discount when booking.
- Marion Holiday Park (<https://marionhp.com.au/>) are only a 15-minute walk from the venue. 10% discount if you mention that you are attending CAVEPS 2025 when you book.
- Bluinn Shortstay Apartments (<https://www.nearflinders.com.au/>). Located opposite the Flinders Medical Centre, a short bus or train ride to Tonsley.



Student Prizes

Prizes will be offered for best student talk and best student poster. Travel scholarships of \$300 will also be awarded to the top five student abstracts (please note that Adelaide-based students will not be eligible).

Conference Bag Inclusions

We are still seeking donations to be included in the conference bags. If you'd like to donate small items and/or are interested in becoming a CAVEPS 2025 sponsor then please contact diana.fusco@flinders.edu.au for details. Please note that brochures/business advertisements are for conference sponsors only.

Visits to the South Australian Museum Collections

Unfortunately the South Australian Museum is undertaking two separate collection relocation projects in late 2025 and so the collection managers will not be able to provide access to specimens for delegates during the conference.

Abstract Submissions

Abstract submission website: www.caveps.org

Abstract submission is now open and will close on the 31st of August.

Title

- Maximum of 150 characters
- The title of the paper should be in upper and lower case (so-called Sentence capitalization), centred and not bold.
- Names of genus- or species-group taxa or equivalent must be in italics.

Author names

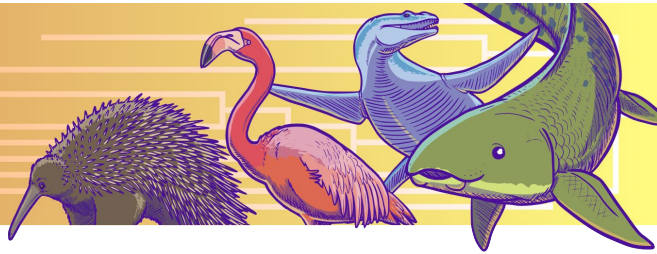
- The presenting author should be listed first
- Authors should be separated by commas, except the last author who should be preceded by the word 'and'
- Author names should be lower case (excepting first letters) and first names should be listed in full (not abbreviated)
- Email address and affiliation should be provided for the presenting author only

Abstract body

- Abstracts should be 200-300 words in length

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- Should be formatted in Times New Roman, 12 point font
- Should not include references or footnotes
- Should not include figures
- Should be written in clear, concise English
- Should be left-aligned
- Should be structured to provide background, clearly state the aim/s of the study and include relevant information on specimens and taxa examined, the methods used, results of the study, and any implications or significance of the results.

Abstracts should represent work on aspects of vertebrate evolution, palaeontology and systematics, including:

- taxonomy and phylogenetics
- reports on key fossils/fossil assemblages/fossil deposits
- molecular biology and evolution
- palaeoecology
- biogeography
- taphonomy
- ichnology
- stratigraphy and biochronology relating to vertebrate palaeontology
- comparative and functional morphology
- evolutionary developmental biology
- conservation palaeobiology
- palaeoanthropology
- zooarchaeology
- sedimentary geology, palaeoclimatology and palaeobotany relating to vertebrate palaeontology/evolution

Research specimens mentioned in your abstract and included in your presentation should be deposited, or scheduled for deposition, in an appropriate, publicly accessible collection (we encourage all authors to ensure that their studies adhere to the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology's ethics statement <https://vertpaleo.org/member-by-law-on-ethics-statement/>).

If you require an abstract acceptance in order to conform with your institution or funding body, please tick the 'Abstract Pre-approval' option in your submission.

More details regarding conference registration, workshop and field trip sign-ups to follow in next circular (coming soon!).