

# SGD predavanje Dr. Carlosa Martinez-Pereza o konodontih

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V prihodnjem tednu Slovensko geološko društvo organizira še zadnje predavanje pred poletnim odmorom. Vabimo vas, da se ga udeležite! Predavanje bo potekalo v angleščini.

Predavatelj: **Dr. Carlos Martinez-Perez**, University of Valencia

Naslov predavanja: CONODONT ELEMENT FUNCTION: NEW DATA FROM THE EXCEPTIONAL MIDDLE TRIASSIC SLOVENIAN FOSSIL RECORD

Kratka vsebina predavanja: Conodonts are an extinct group of primitive vertebrates that are, perhaps, the earliest members of our evolutionary lineage to possess a mineralised skeleton. As such, the conodont skeleton is of great significance because of the insights it provides concerning the biology and function of the primitive vertebrate skeleton. Conodont apparatus architecture and function has been debated for a century and a half, but analysis has been limited to the available techniques. More recently, qualitative analytical approaches have been developed, facilitating the accurate reconstruction of the apparatus, but most interesting testing hypothesis of element function. In this talk, we show the usage of novel quantitative computational methods including Synchrotron Radiation X-ray Tomographic Microscopy or Finite Element Analyses together with microwear and occlusal analyses, have provided conclusive support for an occlusal tooth-like function for elements of many conodont species, allowing us to test hypothesis of structural adaptation within the crown tissue microstructure. Interestingly, based on the exceptional conodont fossil record of Slovenia, our results reveal that existing occlusal models are overly simplistic and perhaps over-generalised, hiding a greater diversity of occlusal styles and degrees of precision. Future works on this exceptional record will allow us a new insight on the conodont apparatus structure and function, allowing a new insights into the biology of this enigmatic animal.

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