

HILGENDORF LECTURE

winter term 2025/26



11 December 2025 at 16:15 in 3M07 at GUZ

Prof. Julia D. Sigwart

Senckenberg Research Institute & Natural History Museum Frankfurt

Adventures in Molluscs:

Species, Trees, and the Undiscovered Frontier



11 December 2025 at 17:30 in 3M07 at GUZ

Prof. Hinrich Schulenburg

University of Kiel, MPI for Evolutionary Biology, Germany

Evolution of C. elegans-microbe interactions



12 December 2025 at Alte Aula, Münzgasse 30

Dr. Wencke Krings

Leipzig University, Germany (Host: Oliver Betz)

Convergent Functions, Divergent Forms:

Radular Adaptations in Ecological Contexts



15 January 2026 at 16:15 in 3M07 at GUZ

Prof. Stephen Brusatte

University of Edinburgh, Scotland (Host: Hervé Bocherens)

The Rise and Fall of the Dinosaurs



The Hilgendorf Lecture series aims at promoting evolutionary thinking across disciplines. The lecture is named after Franz M. Hilgendorf (1834-1904), a palaeontologist from Tübingen who, in 1863, constructed the first empirical phylogenetic tree of fossil organisms using snail shells. He thus provided the first fossil proof of gradual evolution and speciation as proposed by Darwin's theory of evolution.