



Annual meeting 2026

Göttingen, September 29th – October 2nd 2026

<https://madland-meeting.de>

DFG Priority Programme 2237

<http://madland.science>



Programme committee

Till Ischebeck	Münster
Andreas Hiltbrunner	Freiburg
Susann Wicke	Münster
Jan de Vries	Göttingen (coordinator 2 st round)
Sabine Zachgo	Osnabrück

Scientific advisory board

Pierre-Marc Delaux	Toulouse, France
Liam Dolan	GMI, Vienna, Austria
Katie Field	Sheffield, UK (2 nd round)
Jill Harrison	Bristol, UK



@watertoland.bsky.social

#MAdLand2026

Programme

- All talks take place in the Adam-von-Trott Saal
- Coffee breaks are in the foyer
- TAC meetings can be held in the Taberna
- The Poster sessions take place in the Emmy-Noether-Saal
- Lunch and supper are located in the Hannah-Vogt-Saal and Emmy-Noether-Saal
- Best talk evaluations take place for ● PhDs and ● PostDocs.
- MAdLand members ○
- MAdLand labs marked in green

Tuesday, September 29th

Approx. 16:00

Excursions: Forum Wissen or Algal Culture Collection or Old botanical garden

18:00

Welcome reception (Forum Wissen)

Wednesday, September 30th

7:30 – 8:30

Breakfast at hotels

08:30

Registration open (Alte Mensa)

09:15

Welcome remarks (Jan de Vries)

Session 1 (**09:30 – 10:30**)

Session 1; Chair:

Jan de Vries

09:30 – 10:00

Invited Talk 1: Sekimoto (Tokyo, Japan), 20+10 min

Introduction of the model unicellular zygnematophycean alga, Closterium peracerosum-strigosum-littorale complex

Short talk presentations, 12 + 3 min

10:00

● Talk 1: James Walker (Ecker Lab, San Diego, US) – *Linking live-cell dynamics to single-cell molecular states across plant evolution*

10:15

● Talk 2: Gisela Jinthana Hartmann (Schuller lab, Marburg) – *Cryo-Electron Tomography of streptophyte algae*

10:30

Coffee break

Session 2 (**11:00 – 12:30**)

Session 2; Chair:

Deren Büyüktas

11:00

● Talk 3: Maria Dolores Lopez Bueno (Denninger lab, Munich) – *Evolution of novel RHO OF PLANTS signalling activators during the adaptation from water to land*

11:15

● Talk 4: Zahin Mohd Ali (de Vries lab, Göttingen) – *Phytochrome mediated light signalling of Physcomitrium patens*

11:30

● Talk 5: Alisha Alisha (Hiltbrunner lab, Freiburg) – *Investigating the role of FHY1 in phytochrome signaling in the moss Physcomitrium patens*

11:45

● Talk 6: Daniel Heß (Hess lab, Freiburg) – *Inositol phosphates, pyrophosphates and the genes involved in their turnover in the streptophyte green alga Chara braunii*

12:00

● Talk 7: Carolin Apel (Naumann/Abel lab, Halle) – *Terraphos – Exploring the Evolution of Phosphate Scouting During Plant Terrestrialization*

12:15

● Talk 8: Cäcilia Kunz (de Vries lab, Göttingen) – *Conserved and divergent UV responses in Mesotaenium*

12:30

Lunch

Session 3 (**13:30 – 15:00**)

Session 3; Chair:

Christin Naumann

13:30 – 15:00

Workshop: Rise of fascism - Implications to our work (factor-D Diversity Consulting GmbH, Vienna) 90 min

15:00

Coffee break

Session 4 (15:30 – 18:00)

Session 4; Chair: Alisha Alisha

15:30 – 16:00 **Invited Talk 2: Elvira Hörandl (Göttingen, Germany), 20+10 min**

The paradox of sex in plants

16:00 – 16:30 **Invited Talk 3: Miguel Blázquez (Valencia, Spain), 20+10 min**

Before gibberellins: the ancestral environmental regulation of DELLA activity

Short talk presentations, 12 + 3 min

16:30 ○ Talk 9: Peter Szoevenyi ([Szoevenyi lab](#), Zurich) – *Functional evidence suggests that the algal and hornwort carbon-concentrating mechanisms rely on functionally homologous set of genes*

16:45 ● Talk 10: Deren Büyüktas ([de Vries lab](#), Göttingen) – *Hornwort Abiotic Stress Responses and Their Evolutionary Link to Cyanobacteria*

17:00 Talk 11: Fay-Wei Li (Li lab, Durham NA, US) – *A plant-derived diterpenoid initiates symbiosis with N₂-fixing cyanobacteria*

Optional 5 min break

17:15 ● Talk 12: Kim-Kristine Müller ([Classen lab](#), Kiel) – *The evolution of pectins in cell walls of streptophytes – highly diverse or strongly conserved polysaccharides?*

17:30 Talk 13: Takashi Murata ([Murata lab](#), Atsugi, Japan) – *Microtubules mediate post-cytokinetic cell wall synthesis in Closterium*

17:45 ● Talk 14: Barış Ballık ([Herburger lab](#), Rostock) – *Tracing Cell Wall Polysaccharide Footprints during Desiccation in Zygnematophyceae and Marchantia*

18:00 – 19:30 *Dinner*

19:30 *Poster session*

21:00 *Get together*

Thursday, October 1st

7:30 – 9:00 *Breakfast at hotels*

Session 5 (09:00 – 10:30)

Session 5; Chair: Hengchi Chen

09:00 – 09:30 **Invited Talk 4: Laura Moody (Oxford, UK), 20+10 min**

Unravelling the origins of multidimensional growth in plants

Short talk presentations, 12 + 3 min

09:30 ● Talk 15: Deepti Varshney ([Rensing lab](#), Freiburg) – *Inferring the Nature of the Most Recent Common Ancestor of Land Plants Through Gene Family Evolution and Reproducible Galaxy Workflow*

09:45 ● Talk 16: Merve Nida Bastürk ([de Vries lab](#), Göttingen) – *Tracing endosymbiotic gene transfer (EGT) across photosynthetic eukaryotes*

10:00 ● Talk 17: Elena Sturm ([Bucher & Becker lab](#), Cologne) – *Evolutionary links between nutrient starvation responses and arbuscular mycorrhizal symbiosis during plant terrestrialization*

10:15 ● Talk 18: Saskia Hiltmann ([Rensing lab](#), Freiburg) – *DataPLANT ARCs: Towards FAIR Data Publications*

10:30 *Coffee break*

Session 6 (11:00 – 12:30)

Session 6; Chair: Kim-Kristine Müller

Short talk presentations, 12 + 3 min

11:00 ● Talk 19: Lea Marie Preuß ([Ischebeck lab](#), Münster) – *Evolution of lipid droplet-associated proteins and their role in drought resistance*

- 11:15 ● Talk 20: Clinton Asare (**Nakagami lab**, Cologne) – *Unraveling the evolution of SA signaling pathway and NPR protein function using Marchantia polymorpha and Physcomitrium patens as research models*
- 11:30 ● Talk 21: Christine Kühn (Richter lab, Rostock) – *Metabolic sensing and high-light acclimation across the streptophyte lineage*
- 11:45 ● Talk 22: Linus Börnke (**Fichtner lab**, Düsseldorf) – *Sugar signalling and metabolism in Marchantia polymorpha*
- 12:00 ● Talk 23: Hannah Lepper (**Fichtner lab**, Düsseldorf) – *Trehalose 6-phosphate as an ancient sucrose specific signal shaping (land) plant evolution*
- 12:15 ● Talk 24: Mina Kazemianrouhi (**Reumann lab**, Hamburg) – *Investigating the assembly of peroxisome functions during plant terrestrialization (PeroxEvo)*
- 12:30 Lunch

Session 7 (13:30 – 15:30)

Session 7; Chair: Cäcilia Kunz

Short talk presentations, 12 + 3 min

- 13:30 ● Talk 25: Haruna Nomizo (Uchida lab, Nagoya, Japan) – *Cell division behavior of proliferative outermost cells during discoid thallus morphogenesis in Coleochaete scutata*
- 13:45 ● Talk 26: Elisa Goldbecker (**de Vries lab**, Göttingen) – *Core transcriptomic responses of Zygnematophyceae to a gradient of terrestrial stressors*
- 14:00 ● Talk 27: Tim Ruder (**Pfannschmidt lab**, Hannover) – *A conserved geometric core defines the RNA polymerase ω -subunit family*
- 14:15 ● Talk 28: Norina Noor (**Frank lab**, München) – *Functional analysis of small RNA pathways in bryophytes*

Optional 5 min break

- 14:30 ● Talk 29: Nora Gutsche (**Zachgo lab**, Osnabrück) – *Analysis of developmental TGA transcription factor functions in Riccia fluitans, a reductively evolved liverwort, unveils divergent evolutionary TGA trajectories*
- 14:45 ● Talk 30: Aniya Azam Rakhi (**Theißen lab**, Jena) – *Determining the impact of tetramerization of Marchantia polymorpha MADS-domain transcription factor MpMADS2 on DNA-binding site recognition*
- 15:00 ● Talk 31: Chiara Kuhlmann (**Schünemann lab**, Bochum) – *Adaptations of chloroplast protein transport mechanisms during land plant evolution*
- 15:15 ● Talk 32: Hengchi Chen (**de Vries lab**, Göttingen) – *Polyploid cycle in land plants*
- 15:30 Coffee break

Session 8 (16:00 – 17:00)

Session 8; Chair: Jan de Vries

- 16:00 – 16:30** Invited Talk 5: Liam Dolan (**Vienna, Austria**), 20+10 min
Development of the Marchantia polymorpha sporeling
- 16:30 – 17:00** Invited Talk 6: Pierre-Marc Delaux (**Toulouse, France**), 20+10 min
Evolution of plant - microbe interactions at the water to land transition
- 17:00** **Wrap-up (Jan de Vries)**
Best talk & poster prizes
Final remarks
- 19:00 Conference Dinner

Thank you!

[MAdLand](#) is funded by the DFG Priority Programme 2237. The meeting is organized by the Department of Applied Bioinformatics with the aid of the Department of Public Relations, Section Event Management. The <https://madland.science/> steering committee realizes the scientific program. Support by the University of Göttingen, Culture Collection of Algae at Göttingen, and Plant Journal is gratefully acknowledged.

