FOREWORD

A new edition of *The Dinosauria* should be more than just an update of the first edition, especially given the unprecedented developments in dinosaurian research over the past decade. To reflect this growth, we have fully reorganized the book to reflect the monumental increase in dinosaurian diversity that comes from new discoveries in the field (and museums) and the taxonomic revisions of this material but more especially the profound impact that phylogenetic analysis has made on Dinosauria as a whole. This latter research has substantially influenced how we interpret not only the contents and features of taxa but also their biogeography, paleoecology, functional morphology, and evolutionary dynamics. Our challenge as editors and authors, especially of the taxonomic chapters, has been to place these “terribly great lizards” in their phylogenetic context. As a result, all taxonomic chapters are provided, in some cases for the first time, with numerical cladistic analyses, with character descriptions and character-taxon matrices available on the World Wide Web. Although we are aware that these analyses will very likely be superseded by more detailed or robust investigations—indeed, this is inevitable in any vibrant systematic research—we consider this aspect of our revision to be the most fundamental change in this new edition of *The Dinosauria*.

The issue of birds as dinosaurs was hinted at in the first edition of *The Dinosauria*. Yet so much has happened over the past few decades—a veritable explosion of diversity among Mesozoic birds from Spain, Argentina, Uzbekistan, China, and Mongolia, as well as the discovery of feathered dromaeosaurids, oviraptorosaurs, and maybe other theropod taxa—that it is now clear that dinosaurs begat birds. Consequently, we have included a chapter on this evolutionary nexus in this new revision (chapter 11).

Thanks to e-mail and the Internet, efforts to organize this edition, communicate with authors anywhere in the world, obtain manuscripts, and deliver them to the publisher were light-years beyond our prior effort. For this edition we did not have to send communications and chapters through diplomatic pouch or to rely on colleagues to hand carry them “between the West and the East.” Thanks to support from the University of California Press, we met twice in Philadelphia, where we enjoyed the hospitality of Dawn Dodson. At our first meeting, in November 2001, we evaluated the manuscripts and their outside reviews and made recommendations to authors. At the second

meeting, in October 2002, we met to evaluate and integrate the final chapter drafts. The final revision of *The Dinosauria* was submitted to the University of California Press in May 2003.

An edited volume such as this is nothing without the authors’ willingness, insight, knowledge, and patience. Of these we had plenty, so it is a pleasure to thank all of our authors for participating in the creation of this book.

We also want to extend special thanks to the following for acting as chapter reviewers: Paul Barrett, Kay Behrensmeyer, Don Brinkman, Matt Carrano, Luis Chiappe, Brenda Chinnery, Kristi Curry Rogers, Bill Gallagher, Peter Galton, Jacques Gauthier, Mark Goodwin, Jerry Harris, Jason Head, Tom Holtz, Matt Lamanna, Jean Le Loeuff, Teresa Maryańska, Ralph Molnar, Paul Penkalski, Xabier Pereda-Suberbiola, Robin Reid, Armand de Ricqlès, Dale Russell, Michael Ryan, Hans Sues, François Therrien, Dave Varricchio, Jeff Wilson, Larry Witmer, and Darla Zelenitsky.

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