BOOK REVIEWS

Haeussler and Mayhall note the symposium had sessions dealing with ontogeny, dental genetics, dental morphology, technological advances, dental evolution, dental anthropology, and the functional correlation between teeth and jaws. This organization did not extend to the proceedings volume. Papers listed in the table of contents are not set off by subheadings to distinguish topical areas. Given the multidisciplinary nature of these symposia, previous editors have used subheads such as ontogeny, phylogeny, dental genetics, and the like to distinguish logical groupings of papers. In the Berlin proceedings, there is some sequential ordering of paper topics but the order is not consistent throughout — one could not simply insert subheadings but would have to re-order papers under appropriate heads. Topics covered from most to least often are: hard tissue research, with an emphasis on enamel (23), the morphology and size of teeth of recent human populations (15), paleontology, mostly primate and hominid (15), ontogeny (12), human growth and development/geonetics (8), research on mandibles (8), methods (5), and occlusion (3). Seven residual papers do not fall under any of these headings. Content-wise, the most significant departure (from previous symposia) of these proceedings is its great emphasis on enamel structure.

A striking inclusion in the Berlin volume are several color figures of excellent quality (Leica, a major sponsor of the meeting, may have played a role in this). Paradoxically, dozens of black and white figures are of marginal quality, apparently reproduced xerographically. The volume is beset by spelling and typesetting errors, no doubt attributable to the haste in its production prior to the conference. The soft cover of the book is of relatively light stock and shows a definite propensity to “curling”; a short shelf-life seems likely.

Previous volumes of the International Symposium on Dental Morphology are a must in any dental anthropologists library. They include landmark papers in dental anthropology and related areas of research, especially ontogeny, phylogeny, and genetics. While the current work covers a comparable set of topics, it does not cover them in the same way. Too many papers are included and these are too brief. The volume contains many good ideas and presents interesting lines of investigation. However, authors have not been allowed the space to adequately develop and illustrate their research. The advantages associated with producing a volume available for distribution at the time of a meeting are short term only. In the long run, this book will not stand the test of time as have its predecessors. At a price of 120 dm. (ca. $80 US), I would not recommend this book as a “must” for a dental anthropologist’s library. Few individuals want to cram months or years of work into four or five pages so I can only surmise that most of the articles in this book have been or will be published in extended versions elsewhere.

In the Journal of Dental Research supplement that includes the proceedings of the very first dental morphology symposium, Al Dahlberg remarked in the introduction that a special feature of the symposium was the distribution of a 400 page folio to all participants one month in advance of the meeting. This folio included abstracts, reports, and even previously published materials. If participants feel it is urgent to disseminate results before or at the meeting, future organizers should contemplate the original “folio model.” Following the meeting, manuscripts could be revised, expanded, and published in a book more substantial than the proceedings of the 10th Dental Morphology Symposium.

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In Tables 3 and 4 and in Figs. 2 and 3 the labels “Camerano” and “Tarquinia” have been reversed. In Table 5 and Fig. 4 the correct sequence of headings is Alfedena, Camerano, Campovalano A, Campovalano B, and Tarquinia.

REMEMBER FROM THE SECRETARY/TAERSEER
Shara E. Bailey

Membership fees for 1997 are due January first. Beginning on January first, dues are $15.00 for regular members and $8.00 for student members. Please take time now to check your membership status indicated on your address label. If the year following your name is 1996 or earlier, please remit your annual fee in order to remain an active member. If you no longer have your address label you can contact me via e-mail at azsbs@imap2.asu.edu and I will update you on your status.

DENTAL ANTHROPOLOGY NEWSLETTER GUIDELINES
A.M. Haeussler

Manuscripts for the next issue are due on December 15, 1996. The newsletter generally follows the style of the American Journal of Physical Anthropology. Beginning with the upcoming issue, authors are asked to include a brief abstract with articles, but not with news items or reviews. Photographs enhance articles, and will be returned on request. Manuscripts on diskette (IBM format), accompanied by a paper copy, are especially welcome.