

Contents

Foreword, vii

List of Contributors, xi

Preface, xiii

Part 1 Introduction: the Deep Evolutionary History of Modern Birds

Introduction: Changing the Questions in Avian Paleontology, 3

Gary Kaiser and Gareth Dyke

- 1 Theropod Diversity and the Refinement of Avian Characteristics, 9
Peter J. Makovicky and Lindsay E. Zanno

- 2 Why Were There Dinosaurs?
Why Are There Birds?, 30
Peter Ward and Robert Berner

- 3 Pre-modern Birds: Avian Divergences in the Mesozoic, 39
Jingmai O'Connor, Luis M. Chiappe, and Alyssa Bell

Part 2 "The Contribution of Paleontology to Ornithology": the Diversity of Modern Birds: Fossils and the Avian Tree of Life

- 4 Progress and Obstacles in the Phylogenetics of Modern Birds, 117
Bradley C. Livezey
- 5 The Utility of Fossil Taxa and the Evolution of Modern Birds: Commentary and Analysis, 146
Gareth Dyke and Eoin Gardiner

- 6 Penguins Past, Present, and Future: Trends in the Evolution of the Sphenisciformes, 155
Daniel T. Ksepka and Tatsuro Ando

- 7 Phorusrhacids: the Terror Birds, 187
Herculano Alvarenga, Luis Chiappe, and Sara Bertelli

- 8 The Pseudo-toothed Birds (Aves, Odontopterygiformes) and their Bearing on the Early Evolution of Modern Birds, 209
Estelle Bourdon

- 9 Phylogeny and Diversification of Modern Passerines, 235
F. Keith Barker

Part 3 The Evolution of Key Avian Attributes

- 10 Morphological and Behavioral Correlates of Flapping Flight, 259
Bret W. Tobalske, Douglas R. Warrick, Brandon E. Jackson, and Kenneth P. Dial

- 11 Evolution of the Avian Brain and Senses, 282
Stig Walsh and Angela Milner

- 12 Evolving Perceptions on the Antiquity of the Modern Avian Tree, 306
Joseph W. Brown and M. Van Tuinen

- 13 **Major Events in Avian Genome Evolution, 325**
Chris L. Organ and Scott V. Edwards
- 14 **Bird Evolution Across the K–Pg Boundary and the Basal Neornithine Diversification, 338**
Bent E. K. Lindow
- 15 **Functional and Phylogenetic Diversity in Marine and Aquatic Birds, 355**
Gary Kaiser

Part 4 The Future: Conservation and Climate Change

- 16 **The State of the World's Birds and the Future of Avian Diversity, 381**
Gavin H. Thomas

Glossary, 405

Index, 411

Colour plates appear in between pages 208 and 209