

Australasian Journal of Herpetology

Contents.

Issue 25 (This issue)

Dealing with the “truth haters” ... a summary!

... Raymond T. Hoser, 3-13 (including):

Timeline of relevant key publishing and other events relevant to Wolfgang Wüster and his gang of thieves.

... Raymond T. Hoser, 8-12.

Table of “*nomen furtum*” synonyms.

... Raymond T. Hoser, 13.

The Wüster gang: Knowingly publishing false information, recklessly engaging in taxonomic vandalism and directly attacking the rules and stability of zoological nomenclature.

... Raymond T. Hoser, 14-38.

Best Practices in herpetology: Hinrich Kaiser’s claims are unsubstantiated.

... Raymond T. Hoser, 39-64.

Issue 26

PRINO (Peer reviewed in name only) journals: When quality control in scientific publications fails.

... Raymond T. Hoser, 3-64.

Issue 27

Rhodin *et al.* 2015, Yet more lies, misrepresentations and falsehoods by a band of thieves intent on stealing credit for the scientific works of others.

... Raymond T. Hoser, 3-36.

Comments on *Spracklandus* Hoser, 2009 (Reptilia, Serpentes, ELAPIDAE): request for confirmation of the availability of the generic name and for the nomenclatural validation of the journal in which it was published (Case 3601; see *BZN* 70: 234-237; comments *BZN* 71:30-38, 133-135) (Unedited version of document submitted to and published in *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* in March 2015).

... Raymond T. Hoser, 37-44.

Raymond T. Hoser, taxonomy publications to end 2014 (about 114 papers) (list).

... Raymond T. Hoser, 45-51.

Raymond Hoser, Nomenclatural Acts to May 2005 (729).

... Raymond T. Hoser, 52-63.

ISSN 1836-5698 (Print)
ISSN 1836-5779 (Online)

Australasian Journal of Herpetology

Publishes original research in printed form in relation to reptiles, other fauna and related matters in a peer reviewed journal for permanent public scientific record, and has a global audience.

Full details at: <http://www.herp.net>

Online journals (this issue) appear a month after hard copy publication.

Minimum print run of first printings is always at least fifty hard copies.

ISSN 1836-5698 (Print)
ISSN 1836-5779 (Online)

Dealing with the “truth haters” ... a summary!

Issues 25, 26 and 27 of *Australasian Journal of Herpetology (AJH)* deal with a group who have at many times appropriately called themselves the “truth haters”.

Operating within the domain of the “reptile business” and the “science” of herpetology they are a group of career criminals and rule breakers, who over a period spanning nearly 2 decades have focussed their attention against myself Raymond Hoser on the basis of personal greed, self interest and delusions of grandeur.

The focus of these issues of *AJH* is an unprecedented campaign by the group, also known as “The Wüster gang” and their attempts to create anarchy in the science of reptile taxonomy and nomenclature.

The battle commenced when in 1993 and 1996, I detailed activities by a police-protected criminal David John Williams in the books *Smuggled* and *Smuggled-2*.

As a result of material disclosed in *Smuggled-2*, Williams was convicted in Cairns Magistrates Court in 1997 and fined \$7,500 on charges of wildlife trafficking and extreme animal cruelty.

The following year (1998), I published my first scientific descriptions of reptile species, these being several species of snakes.

While I had published well over a hundred scientific papers to that date, papers naming species are significant in that others who recognize those species and discuss them in any publications are under the rules of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*, obliged to use the scientific name formally proposed (coined) by the describer and cite name and year of description at the same place.

It is interpreted by serial thieves and plagiarisers as a form of forced citation and if it involves citing a man they would rather not, then they begin to engage in dishonest tactics to avoid doing what in the normal course of events is routine.

The simplest immediate course to adopt is to deny the existence of the newly described species by claiming they are something else already named.

It is a good short-term strategy, but long term is hazardous if it is obvious that a different species had in fact been described.

Hence when I published my first scientific papers naming new species the resistance to these papers by my adversaries was nothing short of extreme.

Putting things in perspective, the reaction by my enemies to my publishing papers on the taxonomy of reptiles has in many ways far exceeded the reactions I have had from bodies like the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) or the Victoria Police, when they tried to stop the publication of my books in the 1990's detailing endemic corruption in these government departments.

Or one may contrast the reaction of my adversaries to that which accompanied publication of my major scientific works on non-taxonomic matters. In these cases it was nothing more than feigned indifference and/or subsequent plagiarism of the results in their own so-called “papers”.

The criminal David John Williams immediately sought to discredit my taxonomic works of 1998 via the posting of material on the internet of numerous statements claiming my species were non-existent and merely variants of other previously named taxa.

The species described as *Pailsus pailsei* Hoser, 1998 was “sunk” by David Williams (in the short term at least) by a declaration that it was nothing more than an underfed King

Brown Snake (“*Pseudechis australis*”).

Wolfgang Wüster, an ally of Williams similarly relegated the species *Acanthophis wellsei* Hoser, 1998 to the synonymy of *Acanthophis pyrrhus* a position he maintained publicly for more than a decade.

In an act of fraud, Williams posted a paper online in late 1998 sinking *Pailsus pailsei* into synonymy with “*Pseudechis australis*” late in 1998.

He then reposted it on various sites in year 2000 in no less than three different versions in total, in an attempt to retrospectively allege that I was acting in breach of the ethics of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (commonly referred to as “The Code”) and to ultimately allege I had stolen from him naming rights on a species he had previously spent a huge amount of effort denying existed! That was *Pailsus rossignollii* Hoser, 2000. His scheme fell apart when I had retained copies of all three versions and was able to show the errors in each.

In 1998 and later, Williams enlisted the support of a UK-based university lecturer, Wolfgang Wüster, of Bangor University who did his bidding in terms of denying the validity of species named by myself.

Within a short period Wüster became my main protagonist in this regard.

In 2001, Wüster published a lengthy diatribe in the journal *Litteratura Serpantium* alleging that most if not all of my descriptions of genera and species to that date were of non-existent species.

That is, he said I had merely named variants of existing taxa, meaning that for everyone else, my names (and taxa) should be ignored.

To rebut the claims of the three versions of the Williams paper of 1998 through to year 2000 (which he allegedly co-authored with Mr Brian Starkey, but according to Starkey didn't include him as an author) and the Wüster critique published in *Litteratura Serpantium*, I published a detailed account of the activities of these men and rebutted their claims against me in a paper in 2001.

I mention this to show that other than the accurate disclosures in the *Smuggled* books, everything I have published about the group known as the “Truth haters” or Wüster gang since then, has been published as a direct reaction to their actions (publications) and with a view to rebutting their false claims.

Wüster *et al.* have cobbled together a significant and vocal group of followers on the basis of shared interests against my interests, most notably including business competitors who since year 2006 have moved into the wildlife display and education business in Australia and seek to steal established clients from myself in what has for many years been a saturated

and over-serviced marketplace.

In the period to 2009, Wüster *et al.* continued with a steady stream of publications lampooning my scientific descriptions of species as part of a wider campaign against me.

This included among other things harassing of journal editors who published my papers, a large-scale online petition that sought to have my business forcibly shut down by the Australian government, contacting my business clients and telling them not to deal with our company and so on.

However the campaign by Wüster *et al.* in terms of telling others to disregard my science was failing at all levels.

As my papers and the targeted species were revisited by other scientists, they too made the same obvious conclusions and all the taxa first named by myself came to be widely recognized and the names I had properly created under the rules of "The Code" were correctly used by other scientists and those who relied on their findings. This included in new books, other papers and the like.

Advances in molecular methods also led to independent corroboration of the conclusions in all my early papers by scientists too numerous for Wüster to knobble pre-publication.

In other words, in the period 2000 to 2009, more and more so-called "Hoser names" came into general usage as they became used by well-regarded academics who managed to publish their obvious conclusions before Wüster was able to stop them.

This included for large python species, Death Adders, such as *Acanthophis wellsei* Hoser, 1998, the two *Pailsus* species and other Australasian snakes.

In 2008, one of Wüster's close friends, Wulf Schleip made his first ever foray into reptile taxonomy and did exactly what I'd been accused of. This was engaging in scientific fraud and claiming to have discovered new species that were in fact non-existent.

On his own website www.leiopython.de at end 2008 he even tried to assert name rights to the taxon *Leiopython hoserae* Hoser, 2000, a species I'd named 8 years earlier and that Schleip had spent most of the intervening 8 years denying was a valid taxon.

The following year (2009), I published a paper exposing the antics of Schleip over the previous 8 years and also refuting his claims to have found and described three new species of Brown White-lipped Python in his "paper" that he'd published in late 2008.

He'd published a claim in his abstract in 2008 to have DNA evidence to support his three newly named (pseudo) species, but when one actually read his paper, that quite notably was hidden behind a pay-wall, you found that he had no such evidence.

My 2009 paper pointed out this obvious irregularity among many others.

At the same time in early 2009 I published major papers reclassifying the world's Cobras and Rattlesnakes at the genus level, these being my first major publications on the taxonomy of non-Australasian reptiles.

Although Wüster initially denied the validity of my taxonomy via online posts, he soon reversed his view and published his own paper later the same year renaming a genus of Cobras I had created by coining his own name for it.

This was in direct breach of the "The Code" and its central rules of homonymy (one name only per taxon or group) and that of priority (the first name is the proper one) and marked a significant escalation in the battle.

It also stripped Wüster of any veneer he may have had of scientific respectability in this ongoing battle, as for the first time he had outed himself as being nothing more than a thief!

At the same time, Wüster encouraged others to do the same for other taxa I had named, but by 2012, no one else had taken up his challenge.

On 9 March 2012, largely as a result of the campaign by the group that included Wüster *et al.* and recently licenced business rivals, acting with Wüster *et al.*, my wildlife education business Snakebusters was permanently shut down at gunpoint.

Being placed under effective house arrest and not allowed to earn an income, I used the opportunity to largely complete a taxonomic review of the snake genera of the world, which was a project I had commenced decades earlier. This enabled me to devote time to publish a large number of papers in the first half of year 2012 naming new species and genera of snakes in a quantity far exceeding that of all other scientific descriptions by myself prior. Although I note that a sizeable amount of relevant and irreplaceable data was taken in a raid at the time and my papers were published in the absence of much of this supporting data.

At the same time (early 2012), I also published a detailed account of the Wüster campaign to year 2012, rebutting various false claims he had made in a paper in 2009 where he had sought to rename a Cobra genus I had properly named earlier that year.

To reinforce the situation, I went to the international Commission of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN) to have them formally censure Wüster for his reckless behaviour (Case 3601), most notably being his attempts to break the rules to have valid species renamed.

This effectively meant that every scientist in the world would know that Wüster had engaged in an act of scientific theft in relation to the Cobra genus I had named.

This is perhaps the most serious breach of the rules of zoology possible.

Significantly Wüster and their group had largely created the problem they perceived they had with my names. You see in 2000 (twice) and 2001 (twice again) Wüster and Williams had harassed journal editors not to publish material from myself. They tried the same again in 2003 (twice) and as a result, in 2009 when I first had a sizeable volume of material to publish about taxonomic matters, I made a decision that it would be advantageous for me to publish it all in a journal I owned and controlled.

This was (and still is) *Australasian Journal of Herpetology (AJH)*.

When I had the unexpected opportunity to produce an even greater volume of work in 2012, I was able to do so rapidly and without having to worry about Wüster and his friends harassing editors and slowing up the progress of my material being published as they had done in the early 2000's.

Rather than dealing with panicking editors bombarded with lies, hatred and ultimately threats from Williams, Wüster and their gang, I was able to concentrate more intensely on my publications instead.

While my business was unexpectedly allowed to trade again in June 2012 (3 months after I'd been placed under effective house arrest), as a result of a Supreme Court judgement against the state Wildlife Department, Wüster and his group retaliated to my approaching the ICZN in 2012 by cobbling together a campaign of smear and innuendo, including a broad-scale attack on the integrity of *AJH*.

They had the ultimate stated objective to have his group gain legitimacy for their plan to steal all my works and rename all the taxa I had formally described themselves.

That is, they would coin their own names for hundreds of species and genera that I had already properly named and in effect they were stealing a lifetime's worth of work on reptile classification.

Using methods they had tried and tested in years prior as outlined in my paper of 2009, Wüster *et al.* would create a veneer of widespread support for their reckless scheme to aid its execution.

Wüster and associates even created Wikipedia pages and

Facebook groups where they discussed how best they could execute their plans.

The first major document they created to be the vehicle of this campaign, apparently written by Wüster, ultimately became branded as and known as Kaiser *et al.*. Although first drafted in 2012, the campaign hit a blockage after I obtained the document before it was due to be published in a PRINO (peer reviewed in name only) Journal (*Herp Review*) controlled by Wüster gang member Robert Hansen.

I published a detailed rebuttal of the document almost immediately in my own journal, *Australasian Journal of Herpetology*, along with a copy of the original Wüster document so that both documents and their claims could be viewed side by side and assessed impartially by others.

It is usually cited as Kaiser 2012b on the basis that Wüster's friend, a creationist "scientist" named Hinrich Kaiser was the person who first circulated it to herpetologists, noting that at the same time in a letter seeking support (known as Kaiser 2012a) he openly said he had nothing to do with writing the material and was merely circulating it for friends.

Because I had described a significant number of taxa after Kaiser (2012b) was drafted, the final document published in 2013 (known widely as Kaiser *et al.* 2013), had a greater list of species and genera the Wüster gang sought to rename.

As it happens the extent of the renaming list is irrelevant as since then (in 2014), the Wüster gang have stepped outside their own ever-expanding lists (several have been made since) to rename species of myself and others, including such lights of Zoology like John Edward Gray from the 1800's. Wüster associates Hedges *et al.* in 2014 invoked what has become known as the "Kaiser veto" to simply rename *Argyrophis* Gray, 1845 with their own coined name *Asiatyphlops*.

Furthermore in order to gain support from like-minded individuals in terms of their mass-renaming of species plans, Wüster *et al.* have added the scientific works of other authors to their hit-list, meaning that no scientist's work is now safe, unless they are perhaps within the closed Wüster group.

In essence Wüster *et al.* sought to set themselves up like an ISIS-like Caliphate, or "State within State" in that they would run their own version of a Zoological Code and hopefully with the rubber stamp of the ICZN, which they then set about trying to hijack.

My response to Kaiser *et al.* (2013) was published in *AJH* issue 18 in mid 2013.

Since then, the Wüster gang have significantly ramped up their campaign in terms of creating instability in zoology to enable them to try to steal my works and rename hundreds of taxa.

They have done this by finally inducing close friends to rename a sizeable number of species and genera previously properly named by myself with the incentive being that they would hopefully convince the ICZN to allow their "reversal of priority".

Most of these authors have simply used what's become known as the Kaiser veto, summed up by Scott Eipper who on 16 December 2013 said "You cannot use a viewpoint (Kaiser *et al.* 2013) - to act as a veto- to disregard the use of the code."

The Wüster gang campaign has included posting SPAM on every conceivable website and social media page dealing with reptiles, herpetology and the like in any way promoting their views.

They have also liberally used bogus identities to promote their veneer of widespread support, but the real support is shown lacking when one measures more reliable indicators including regular use of the names they seek to ban in books written and published by respected herpetologists and so on.

Wüster and the gang have also published a series of articles in journals they exercised undue influence or control to publish further false and misleading material about me and my scientific papers.

What follows is my factual rebuttal in terms of this recently published material by the Wüster gang of truth haters.

These are as follows:

1/ An account of the PRINO Journals and the papers that have stepped outside of the rules of "The Code" to rename validly named taxa described by myself and others in their ever expanding list of targets. This account includes issues of far wider significance in terms of scientific publishing.

2/ A rebuttal to a revised version of the Kaiser *et al.* document published by Kaiser (with himself only listed as the author) in 2014 in Robert Hansen's PRINO Journal *Herp Review*.

3/ A rebuttal to false claims by Kaiser, Wüster and associates published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature (BZN)* in 2014 in response to my application to the ICZN to formally censure Wüster for his actions in terms of fraudulently trying to rename the Cobra genus *Spracklandus*.

4/ A rebuttal to a wacky scheme, ostensibly proposed by Kaiser (but quite likely written by Wüster), called the "Taxon Filter" which is clearly a sanitized version of seeking a Wüster group controlled taxonomy for herpetology. Ironically it was published in the ICZN Journal, *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature (BZN)* which they appear to have recently hijacked, noting that the Zoological Code, the reason the ICZN exists, actually expressly forbids any form of censorship of taxonomy (see the Introduction to the Fourth edition, the first principal that states "The Code refrains from infringing upon taxonomic judgment, which must not be made subject to regulation or restraint." and elsewhere).

All this material was scheduled to be published in September 2014 and relevant peer review had been completed as at the end of that month.

However at about that time three events happened that in combination caused me to make a decision to delay publication until now (mid 2015).

Separate to that and between mid 2014 and mid 2015 were some other publications by members of the Wüster gang, the detail of which is incorporated in this material, although the bulk of what appears herein is effectively unchanged from that which was publishing ready at end September 2014.

The three relevant events that caused the holding off these publications were:

1/ I was advised in September 2014 that the Wüster gang were "shopping" for co-authors in yet another attack on me slated to be published in *BZN*, heavily marketed by Mark O'Shea as being some kind of "knock-out blow" against myself. While nothing new was expected, it was decided that a delay in publishing this material would be helpful in the event that anything new from the Wüster gang arising from that publication needed to be rebutted. The publication date was expected to be December 2014, but in the end was March 2015. As it happens, little new came from this publication known as Rhodin *et al.* (2015), but I have chosen to rebut it in an added section herein as a largely self-contained paper, so that it can be more easily disseminated and understood.

That is done mainly to show the stupidity of some of their arguments, as opposed to an actual need to rebut any of their main points, most of which are merely a repeat of their earlier ridiculous arguments, well refuted in other publications.

2/ The editors of *BZN* while refusing to publish my response to Kaiser's "Taxon Filter" rant, did agree to publish a sanitized version of my rebuttal to false claims by Kaiser, Wüster and associates published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature (BZN)* in 2014 in response to my application to the ICZN to formally censure Wüster for his actions in terms of fraudulently trying to steal my Intellectual Property (IP) and illegally rename the Cobra genus *Spracklandus* (as outlined elsewhere). That appeared in March 2015. Because the ICZN Secretariat have asked that I not disseminate that comment as published, I present herein the unedited and longer version which unlike the *BZN* version is also properly referenced.

3/ The long-running legal battle in part created by the Wüster gang as detailed herein took a significant turn against them on 5 September 2014. On that date three Judges at the Victorian Court of Appeal (the highest court in the State) made a series of findings of fact and made several rulings in my favour. This was via a lengthy judgement created and published by them on that date. In summary Judges Tate, Santamaria and Redlich found that all allegations and criminal charges pursued against me in the previous decade had no legal basis at all. Likewise for all legal actions taken against me arising from criminal convictions they now also declared had no basis in law.

Significantly, the judges ruled that the State Wildlife Department (known at the time as DSE) had broken the law in retrospectively redefining the law in 2010, to place me outside the law in 2009, when I had been doing what was in fact legal and complying with the law at the relevant time.

The Court found that the 2010 retrospective redefining of a 2006 set of rules by the department head, Ronald Leslie Waters, that he had himself imposed in 2006 and defined differently at the time, redefined by him retrospectively in 2010 for the sole purpose of accusing me of breaking the rules in 2009 was an illegal act. It was not tenable in law that I could be charged, convicted, fined and have wildlife licenses taken from me at gunpoint in 2011 on the basis of such a retrospective redefinition of the law, this being the making of a legal act in 2009, retrospectively illegal in 2010.

Of course this is exactly what Wüster and his gang seek to do in terms of my scientific publications that name taxa in terms of "The Code" and a ruling they seek the ICZN Commissioners to make.

The Court of Appeal judges did on 5 September 2014, formally set aside (quash) two previous court judgements made against me. They also awarded costs in my favour.

The damages, costs, restitution and compensation that the State Wildlife Department is now liable for is in the order of millions of dollars, noting that my business had ten staff when shut down at gunpoint and was hugely successful by any measurable criteria.

I have now briefed lawyers (solicitors and barristers) and commenced actions to recover costs and damages.

The wildlife department is liable for the damages they have caused, even though they were in effect induced to act against me in the way they did by other parties, that being the Wüster gang and newly licensed business competitors.

Significant in all this is that being a "name authority" for taxa, is regarded in law as owning intellectual property (IP) and this has been long established, including via the ICZN's own journal *BZN* as published in 1988 and their website which via a page erected in 2007 links to third party sites offering "name rights" on species for anywhere between 5 and 15 thousand dollars as of 1 May 2015.

Scientists around the world market their services and seek grants on the basis of taxa that carry their name as the authority (as stated by Wüster himself), meaning that any "theft" of names from myself by the Wüster gang would be a theft of IP.

In many ways this is little different from a trader using another person's registered trademark illegally.

In 2004, a close friend of David John Williams, in conjunction with Williams himself, and other members of the Wüster gang, (e.g. Bryan Fry) illegally used my registered trademark "Snakebuster" to scam a total of three million dollars from a government department and an investor to create a series of poor quality TV shows depicting these men engaging in acts of extreme animal cruelty.

The animal cruelty in these TV shows has been confirmed in two separate courts of law.

Wüster also joined the caper widely posting images of himself in an imitation black "Snakebusters" shirt, not unlike the originals,

that were also black and had similar logos, that we had worn for many years.

I sued for trademark infringement and won, but the main players pled bankruptcy after their business premises at Freemantle, near Perth, West Australia burnt down in questionable circumstances.

Notwithstanding this, the broadcasters agreed to a court certified settlement whereby I was paid \$39,500 in partial damages and all agreed not to use my registered trademarks again.

Because members of the Wüster gang have continued to attack my IP at several levels, including the illegal use of my registered trademarks online to divert my clients to other providers, I was forced to seek the services of IP lawyers in 2010 to deal with the issue. We successfully closed down over 1,000 bogus websites, including over 800 Youtube pages and dozens of fake Facebook accounts, many of the latter being run by people in the USA and UK (where I also own registered trademarks and do business) as well as from Australia.

We have also successfully taken legal action to seize control of a number of infringing websites and domains that were using my trademarks and pointing potential business clients elsewhere.

The IP lawyers have also advised that as for the State Wildlife Department, the ICZN is also bound by the law, including its own, this being "The Code".

The ICZN Commissioners are similarly not allowed to retrospectively make perfectly legal acts illegal.

Retrospectivity is simply not allowed and the Commissioners are bound by the rules of "The Code".

Whether it is wildlife laws or zoological nomenclature, my position has always been one of strict compliance with the rules. That includes even if I disagree with them. The Wüster gang's position has been the reverse, namely contempt for the rules and a general belief that they should not be bound by them.

Just as the Court of Appeal found against the State Wildlife Department for repeatedly acting outside the law and have now forced them to pay costs arising from their misconduct, it is important that the ICZN do the same in terms of the Wüster gang, to ensure that no acts of theft take place.

The ICZN must also ensure that they do not become a legally liable entity (as the State Wildlife Department did) through misuse of its delegated powers and authority, including in the ICZN's case, the "plenary power", as means to step outside the long accepted rules of Zoological Nomenclature to attack an entity who has acted within the rules at the relevant times.

If the ICZN fail to act within the rules as spelt out in "The Code" and to properly enforce them, then someone else may end up making them do so.

Elsewhere, both myself and others have pointed out that a general failure of people to comply with the law, be it wildlife or nomenclature would simply lead to chaos! ... And no proper scientist would want that!

AUTHORSHIP

All papers and relevant material (except where stated), including this preamble in issues 25, 26 and 27 of *AJH* are by Raymond Hoser, who accepts all legal responsibility for the contents. Details are the same as published on page 54 of *AJH* issue 18 (2013).

REFERENCES OF RELEVANCE

No references are referred to in the text of the above summary. This is because all relevant material is cited in text and in full in the relevant documents that follow in the journals published on this date and the relevant earlier material.

A full history of the Wüster gang's activities can be found by cross referencing the original Hoser papers with the published comments of the Wüster gang across the 17 year period from 1998 to 2015.

All Hoser papers are available in full as pdf download from <http://>

www.herp.net

While some Wüster gang posts and comments cited in papers may have been removed from the web in the period to 2015, all cited material has been archived and should be widely available.

As a matter of procedural fairness, I should state that all their material has been quoted in context and cited in full as required.

Notwithstanding this, it is best that the Wüster gang's main publications should also be read to confirm the validity of claims made within my own material relating to it.

The relevant Hoser papers that sum up the entire relevant history of the Wüster gang's activities are cited below as follows:

Hoser, R. T. 2001. *Pailsus*:- A story of herpetology, science, politics, pseudoscience, more politics and scientific fraud. *Crocodilian: Journal of the Victorian Association of Amateur Herpetologists* 2(10):18-31.

Hoser, R. T. 2009. Creationism and contrived science: A review of recent python systematics papers and the resolution of issues of taxonomy and nomenclature. *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 2:1-34. (3 February).

Hoser, R. T. 2012a. Exposing a fraud! *Afronaja* Wallach, Wüster and Broadley 2009, is a junior synonym of *Spracklandus* Hoser 2009! *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 9 (3 April 2012):1-64.

Hoser, R. T. 2012b. Robust taxonomy and nomenclature based on good science escapes harsh fact-based criticism, but remains unable to escape an attack of lies and deception. *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 14:37-64.

Hoser, R. T. 2013. The science of herpetology is built on evidence, ethics, quality publications and strict compliance with the rules of nomenclature. *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 18:2-79.

Hoser, R. T. 2015a. The Wüster gang and their proposed "Taxon Filter": How they are knowingly publishing false information, recklessly engaging in taxonomic vandalism and directly attacking the rules and stability of zoological nomenclature. *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 25:14-38.

Hoser, R. T. 2015b. Best Practices in herpetology: Hinrich Kaiser's claims are unsubstantiated. *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 25:39-52.

Hoser, R. T. 2015c. Comments on *Spracklandus* Hoser, 2009 (Reptilia, Serpentes, ELAPIDAE): request for confirmation of the availability of the generic name and for the nomenclatural validation of the journal in which it was published (Case 3601; see *BZN* 70: 234-237; comments *BZN* 71:30-38, 133-135). (Draft version) *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 27:37-44.

Hoser, R. T. 2015d. PRINO (Peer reviewed in name only) journals: When quality control in scientific publications fails. *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 26:3-64.

Hoser, R. T. 2015e. Rhodin *et al.* 2015, Yet more lies, misrepresentations and falsehoods by a band of thieves intent on stealing credit for the scientific works of others. *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 27:3-64.

TAX INVOICE
 Kwik Kopy Printing Box Hill
 3/1031 Whitehorse Road
 Box Hill VIC 3128
 t: 039 899 0833 | f: 039 899 0536
 ABN: 65 740 679 782

CONTACT
 Australasian Journal of Herpetology

INVOICE DETAILS
No.21560
 Issue Date: 18/05/2015
 Ship Via:

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	VALUE	Ex. GST
50	Australasian Journal of Herpetology Issue 25 - 64 page document printed black and white on 128gsm gloss and 250gsm gloss cover in colour	\$227.27	\$227.27
50	Australasian Journal of Herpetology Issue 26 - 64 page document printed black and white on 128gsm gloss and 250gsm gloss cover in colour	\$227.27	\$227.27
50	Australasian Journal of Herpetology Issue 27 - 64 page document printed black and white on 128gsm gloss and 250gsm gloss cover in colour	\$227.27	\$227.27
50	Australasian Journal of Herpetology Issue 28 - 64 page document printed black and white on 128gsm gloss and 250gsm gloss cover in colour	\$227.27	\$227.27

RECEIVED BY: _____ **DATE:** _____

TERMS: Please refer to terms & conditions of trade. Account customers, please pay in 30 Days. no statement issued. C.O.D. customers please pay in full, on pickup. We accept Payment via EFT POS, Mastercard, Visa & Amex. All card transactions will incur a 2% surcharge. You can deposit directly into our bank account E & O E All claims and returned goods are to be accompanied by this invoice, and made within 7 days of receipt of goods.

CUSTOMER: Australasian Journal of Herp
INVOICE No.: 21560
INVOICE Tot.: \$999.99

SUBTOTAL: \$809.08
GST: \$90.91
TOTAL: \$999.99
AMOUNT DUE: \$999.99

REMITTANCE ADVICE: RETURN WITH PAYMENT
 !! BANK DETAILS HERE !!
 Method: VISA MASTERCARD CASH CHEQUE OTHER
 Amount: \$
 Card No.:
 Name:
 Expires: Date: CCV:
*see terms of trading for conditions of payment by other methods

Something for everyone.

Hoser 2015 - Australasian Journal of Herpetology 25:3-13.

Timeline of relevant key publishing and other events relevant to Wolfgang Wüster and his gang of thieves.

- 1980** – Raymond Hoser publishes the first of over 100 scientific papers in a peer reviewed journal (*Herpetofauna*).
- 1987** – Richard Shine as “The President of the Australian Society of Herpetologists” publishes an application in the ICZN Journal *BZN* seeking formal suppression (for nomenclatural purposes) of three publications by Wells and Wellington (1983 and 1985), supported by more than 80 signatories in *BZN* the following year.
- 1988** – ICZN Journal *BZN*, publishes a statement indicating they are aware of the illegality of retrospectively suppressing legally made nomenclatural publications (Holthius 1988).
- 1989** – Hoser’s first major book, *Australian Reptiles and Frogs*, was published after delays spanning several years.
- 1991** – The ICZN Rule in favour of Wells and Wellington and do not suppress their works.
- 1991** – Hoser’s second major book, *Endangered Animals of Australia*, was published.
- 14 February 1994** – Several heavily armed Victorian Police raided the Hoser residence in a bid to stop impending publication of book about police corruption. They emptied dozens of filing cabinets of files, data, photos, etc, took all computer-related materials and so on. In spite of a court order the next day to return everything, most material was not.
- June 1994** – *The Hoser Files*, a 322 page book about police corruption in Victoria was published.
- 1993 and 1996** – Raymond Hoser publishes the best-selling books *Smuggled* and *Smuggled-2*, detailing wildlife smuggling and animal cruelty by snake handler, David John Williams.
- 1997** – As a result of activities disclosed in *Smuggled-2*, Williams was convicted and fined \$7,500 in Cairns Magistrates Court on charges of wildlife smuggling and animal cruelty.
- 1997** – Sprackland *et al.* publish a second application to the ICZN to suppress the works of Wells and Wellington for nomenclatural purposes (one taxon) so their patronym name can take priority.
- 1998** – Raymond Hoser publishes his first ever scientific descriptions of new species. These included five death adders and a species of dwarf Mulga snake from Queensland.
- 1998** – David Williams publishes online paper denouncing Hoser’s Dwarf Mulga Snake taxonomic description paper alleging it is not a valid species and merely a starved “*Pseudechis australis*”.
- 1998** – David Williams recruits friend Wolfgang Wüster, a Welsh university lecturer to his anti-Hoser campaign. Wüster soon becomes lead player and widely posts that none of the Hoser Death Adder species exist. This is a position maintained by him continually to mid 2014.
- August 1999** – Hoser publishes books, *Victoria Police Corruption* and *Victoria Police Corruption – 2*, totalling 1,536 pages and which led to the demise of the corrupt Kennett State Government in Victoria, Australia.
- 2000** – Hoser describes a second species of Dwarf Mulga Snake (this one from New Guinea) as well as several pythons, including the Black White-lipped Python (*Leiopython hoserae*). Both relevant journal editors were harassed by Wüster and Williams and told not to publish the relevant papers but stood firm against the threats.
- 2000** – In response to Hoser’s recent year 2000 publications, Williams reposts his 1998 paper and alters it to allege Hoser was acting outside the ethics of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (“the Code” or “Zoological Code”) (Ride *et al.* 1999) and stole his right to name the New Guinea species.
- 2000** – Hoser points out error in second draft of Williams paper, leading him to correct it and repost it.
- 2000** – Hoser points out fatal flaws in third version of online paper, still carrying a publication date of 1998, even though it was posted in year 2000. The errors were in the form of parts he forgot to alter to

make consistent with the altered parts. Hoser also reposted the three versions of the same paper before Williams could destroy the originals.

2001 – Wüster (first alone) and then with others listed as co-authors publishes widely a paper (including in the journal *Litteratura Serpentium*) alleging that none of Hoser's described species were valid. He uses the word "non-taxa" to describe them.

2001 – ICZN rules against Sprackland et al. and their attempt to steal a species "name authority" from Wells and Wellington.

2001 – Wulf Schleip a German snake fancier creates a website *leiopython.de* recognizing the species *Leiopython hoserae*, Hoser, 2000.

Late 2001 – Under influence of Wüster, who becomes a close friend of Schleip, Schleip alters his website to allege *Leiopython hoserae* is merely a variant of *L. albertisi* (a view he ostensibly maintained to end 2008).

Mid 2001 – Hoser publishes rebuttal of Wüster's published claims in *Boydii* and *Crocodilian*. Williams emails editors of both publications and threatens to sue them if they do not recall all magazines, destroy them and formally renounce the Hoser papers. Both refused.

2001-2004 – Hoser continues to publish taxonomic papers naming species or subspecies at a steady pace, with the most significant being one in *Crocodilian* in 2003/2004 which named the genus *Broghammerus* for the Reticulated Pythons.

2003 – Wüster approached two more journal editors and told them not to publish Hoser papers. Both did publish the papers, but with hesitation and trepidation and only after considerable time spent lobbying by Hoser.

2004 – Wüster continues to denounce all Hoser-named taxon as non-existent (synonyms of others), including *Broghammerus*. He actively harasses others to do same and harasses website owners to not use any Hoser names being largely successful in his campaign in 2004.

2005 – Members of the Wüster gang were forced by the Federal Court of Australia to pay a total of \$39,500 in partial damages for the illegal usage of Hoser's registered trademark, "Snakebuster". This was not the first or the last time that the Wüster gang had illegally used or sought to steal Hoser's Intellectual property (IP). In two other cases Hoser got two \$10,000 court-sanctioned payouts when his IP was similarly improperly used.

2006 – Wüster and associates Mark O'Shea and Shane Hunter run an online campaign against Hoser's education business Snakebusters seeking it be shut down by the Victorian government. Included in the group were business competitors in Victoria who stood to gain significant amounts of customers and income should Snakebusters be shut down. The campaign included petition pages, direct harassment of government officials and Snakebusters clients. Wüster *et al.* created numerous hate webpages, Wikipedia hate pages and the like, which from 2006 to 2014 were regularly updated, edited and changed. Business rivals made numerous false complaints to Hoser clients, regulators and anywhere else they thought they'd benefit from. In 2008 and later, they also used Hoser-owned trademarks to steal clients online and elsewhere.

2007 – Following the hate campaign commenced the year earlier by Wüster and associates, including newly licensed business rival Sean McCarthy, Ron Waters of DSE (the State Wildlife Department), acted on their complaints and took steps to have outlawed Hoser's venomoid (devenomized) elapid snakes.

This was a direct attack on the unique business advantage of the Hoser Snakebusters business, as no one else had the said snakes.

Waters and the DSE then commenced criminal proceedings against Hoser for owning the venomoid snakes. These failed on the basis one could not make the legal act of acquiring venomoids illegal retrospectively. As a result, Hoser kept the venomoid snakes for his educational displays (which remains the case as of May 2015).

2007 – ICZN publish on their website details of IP value of scientific names, with both statements and links to relevant pages, citing an average value of over \$10,000 per name.

February 2008 – Wüster *et al.* outed for an unsuccessful attempt to defraud the Accor Hotels chain of an estimated \$US 20,000.00 by aggressively using online social media to generate bogus “votes” for David John Williams, as an “unsung hero”, including thousands of alleged votes from a single IP address.

2008 – Wüster campaign against Hoser-named species being accepted dealt several blows, including molecular studies using new technology upholding the validity of species and genera described to 2004, with an increasing number of authors accepting the obvious and using the Hoser names.

December 2008 – Without explanation, Schleip accepts validity of species *L. hosevae* (which until then he had campaigned strongly against) when publishing a paper in PRINO Journal, *Journal of Herpetology*. In the abstract of his paper posted widely he alleges DNA evidence for three more *Leiopython* species he names, but in fact does not have this evidence.

1 January 2009 – Hoser publishes the first issue of *Australasian Journal of Herpetology (AJH)*, controlled by Hoser and therefore out of reach of Wüster’s harassment of editors.

3 February 2009 – Hoser publishes a large paper exposing Schleip’s scientific frauds to date.

7 February 2009 – Major bushfire kills 172 people in Victoria (Black Saturday). State Wildlife department officials culpable (later paying out \$103 million in partial damages).

9 March 2009 – Hoser publishes in *AJH* a major reclassification of the world’s rattlesnakes naming numerous new genera.

23 March 2009 – Hoser publishes in *AJH* a major reclassification of the world’s cobras naming two new genera (out of a total of four).

29 March 2009 – Wüster posts at online chat forums stating that one Hoser Cobra genus *Wellsus* is not valid as it is a junior synonym of *Uraeus*, Wagler, 1830. He also reaffirms his view that all true Cobras should be in a single genus (contrary to the Hoser view of four).

29 March 2009 – Hoser corrects the error immediately and renounces *Wellsus* online and formally retracts it in a later issue of *AJH*. Hoser maintains four genera configuration is correct.

21 September 2009 – Wüster and friends publish paper in PRINO (peer reviewed in name only) *Journal Zootaxa* reversing his view of 29 March 2009 and earlier and now agreeing with Hoser’s 9 March 2009 taxonomy. However Wüster, Wallach and Broadley go further and allege Hoser had stolen their work and on that basis renamed the Hoser genus *Spracklandus*, with their own coined name *Afronaja*. They also falsely alleged that *AJH* was not validly published as a print journal under the zoological code and that everything else named there (e.g. Rattlesnake genera) should be renamed by others.

February 2010 – In *AJH* issue 8, Hoser publishes expose of Victorian State Wildlife department corruption in terms of the Black Saturday bushfires a year earlier and the associated case of a fraud involving a pet Koala.

2009-2012 – No one else heeded Wüster’s repeated calls to rename Hoser-named taxa. Wüster actively promoted his invalid name *Afronaja*.

May 2011 – Raymond Hoser successfully closed down over 800 bogus websites using his registered trademarks to divert clients to rivals.

May 2011 – Wüster gang and Hoser business rivals ramp up campaign against Hoser, including via creation of “Ray Hoser – Melbourne’s biggest wanker” Facebook page (closed down in July 2011). Numerous similar ones have been set up by Wüster and Hoser business rivals since.

17 August 2011 – Wüster gang and Hoser business rivals, claimed success immediately after the Hoser family was subjected to an illegal 9 hour raid by 11 heavily armed police and wildlife officers.

They loaded a truck and trailer with research files and data from the previous 40 years, computers, photos and pretty much anything else of value or use that they could gather up in the frenzied raid.

The raid was also in response to the publication of *AJH* issue 8, which exposed corruption in the State Wildlife Department, at which time all copies of *AJH* were seized as seen in the video the officers created at the time.

Snakebusters was also shut down immediately, with the wildlife officers themselves, having taken all diaries, computers and the like contacting clients and telling them to book elsewhere.

Several deaths from snakebites in the period postdating this raid occurred as a direct result of Snakebusters clients being forced to seek less experienced providers.

22 August 2011 – Snakebusters obtain VCAT order, confirming actions of the wildlife officers and police had been illegal and the business re-opens.

9 March 2012 – Hoser's education business, Snakebusters, was shut down illegally at gunpoint (again) and Hoser effectively put under house arrest. An appeal to the Supreme Court was delayed by months.

March-July 2012 – As a result of not working for an income and effectively house-bound Hoser was able to complete a long-running review of the snake genera of the world. Published numerous papers in *AJH* naming many dozens of species, genera and tribes of snakes. Also published a rebuttal of Wüster's 2009 claims against *AJH* with evidence and then went to the ICZN to formally renounce Wüster's name *Afronaja*.

5 June 2012 – Wüster associate Hinrich Kaiser, sent a SPAM email to the world's herpetologists seeking support for a Wüster campaign to start "working outside acceptable rules of science and taxonomy" and overwrite all "Hoser names" with their own coined names. They produced a list of Hoser-named taxa to overwrite.

8 June 2012 – Hoser wins in Supreme Court of Appeal of Victoria and his damaged education business Snakebusters reopens.

8 June 2012 – State Wildlife Department vows to fight Snakebusters all the way to the full bench of the Supreme Court of Appeal.

18 June 2012 – Hoser obtained a copy of the SPAM email and associated document known as "Kaiser *et al.* 2012", scheduled to be published in a friend's journal, *Herpetological Review*, although in the SPAM email, Kaiser stated that he did not write it!

30 June 2012 – Hoser publishes the SPAM email, the associated document and a detailed rebuttal in *AJH*. Numerous herpetologists globally express outrage at the Wüster plan.

Early 2013 – ICZN refuse to act on *Spracklandus/Afronaja* matter as the date priority of *Spracklandus* was obvious and Wüster's claims, while ridiculous, had not been published in any prominent journal.

March 2013 – Document known as Kaiser *et al.* from 2012 appears in altered form in friend Rob Hansen's journal, *Herpetological Review*, with Kaiser now listed as lead author (of nine, including Schleich, Wüster and Mark O'Shea).

29 April 2013 – Hoser publishes in *AJH* a detailed rebuttal of Kaiser *et al.* (2013). 2013 also sees a significant number of new species of snakes, lizards and turtles named by Hoser in *AJH*.

June 2013 – On the basis of the publication of Kaiser *et al.* (2013) in a well-known print journal, the ICZN decides to act on the *Spracklandus/Afronaja* matter with a view to validating the first name in order to stop Wüster campaign destabilizing zoology.

July 2013-July 2014 – Wüster gang step outside the 2 century old zoological rules to improperly rename over twenty species and genera previously named by Hoser and other herpetologists Richard Wells, Ross Wellington and even John Edward Gray, formerly of the British Museum in the 1800's. This includes widely recognized and used names like *Broghammerus*.

July 2013-July 2014 – Wüster gang ramp up hate campaign in all social media and the like, including print journals they control.

July 2013-July 2014 – Hoser continues to publish descriptions of new taxa in *AJH*, albeit at a slower pace, effectively completing a wide-ranging review of the snakes at the genus level.

December 2013 – The ICZN publish in *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature (BZN)*, "Case 3601: *Spracklandus* Hoser, 2009 (Reptilia, Serpentes, ELAPIDAE): request for confirmation of the availability of the generic name and for the nomenclatural validation of the journal in which it was published" with a call for submissions for or against. They receive numerous submissions both in favour and the predictable ones from the Wüster gang against.

March 2014 – Dr. Hal Cogger, himself a former commissioner of the ICZN condemns Kaiser *et al.* in his definitive 1,064 page book *Reptiles and Amphibians of Australia*, and uses the correct names of Hoser, Wells and Wellington and other authors attacked by Kaiser and the Wüster gang. Cogger is just one of many scientific authors taking this position.

July 2014 – Schleip renames *Leiopython hoseerae* and another Hoser-named taxon from 2000 in his own paper. The significance in renaming *L. hoseerae* is that Schleip as co-author of Kaiser *et al.* (2013) had identified that as one species his gang were NOT going to rename. Schleip, with the open support of the rest of the Wüster gang also calls on others to rename all Hoser-named taxa in spite of their long recognition as valid and use in most major contemporary books.

5 September 2014 – Supreme Court of Appeal of Victoria rules emphatically in favour of Hoser and his business Snakebusters. All previous criminal charges and convictions from 2009-2011 and matters arising after 2011, were found to have no basis in law. Two previous judgements were formally set aside. Full costs were awarded in favour of Hoser, meaning that the State Wildlife Department faced a multi-million dollar payout.

25 October 2014 – Another 23 criminal charges laid against Hoser improperly by the wildlife department were thrown out of the Melbourne Magistrates Court, meaning no charges were upheld against Hoser as a result of the decade long campaign by the Wüster gang and business rivals.

16 January 2015 – ICZN Commissioner Doug Yanega confirms on the ICZN List that being a “name authority” for taxa confers intellectual property rights on the describer. With retrospectivity not allowed in law, as per the Supreme Court of Appeal of Victoria judgement dated 5 September 2014, legal advice in January 2015 confirmed that no one, including the ICZN has a legal right to transfer legally obtained IP rights by retrospective decree or order and to do so would leave the perpetrator liable to be sued for damages.

March 2015 – Wüster gang publishes another of several submissions against Hoser in the *BZN*, this one co-signed by about 70 (alleged) authors most being the same group who co-signed “Kaiser *et al.* 2013” and including many who petitioned against Wells and Wellington to the ICZN from 1987 to 1989. Not disclosed in this document, known as Rhodin *et al.* 2015 was the fact that dozens of signatories were a party to renaming species in breach of the rules of the code as listed co-authors in the relevant papers (e.g. Georges, Schleip, Sprackland, Thomson, Wüster, etc) (see synonyms list published) and that they were in fact seeking the rules be broken to allow them to steal name rights from Raymond Hoser, Richard Wells, Ross Wellington, John Edward Gray and others whose taxa they had chosen to coin their own names for.

Hinrich Kaiser also earned himself the dubious distinction of having made the most published submissions to the *BZN* in opposition to a single case, these being largely “bluster” according to Stephen Thorpe on Taxacom and ICZN list. At the same time, numerous submissions in favour of the Hoser case were not being published, leading to numerous complaints about the integrity of the editorial process at the journal (Wellington 2015).

In summary such an attack on the zoological nomenclature is unprecedented in the over 200 year history of the zoological code and one hopes that the ICZN see it for what it is and acts appropriately.

Nomen furtum synonyms.

Names coined or used in acts of attempted theft.

Non code-compliant name coined by associates of the Wüster gang and widely promoted by them.	Comments (reasons given of author for creating new name in breach of the Zoological Code).	Correct taxon name according to scientific ethics and the established rules of the Zoological Code.
<i>Afronaja</i> Wallach, Wüster and Broadley 2009.	Falsely alleged earlier Hoser paper not published according to Article 8 of Zoological Code.	<i>Spracklandus</i> Hoser, 2009.
<i>Amerotyphlops</i> Hedges <i>et al.</i> , 2014	Author was a signatory to Kaiser <i>et al.</i> documents of 2012/2013.	<i>Altmantyphlops</i> Hoser, 2012
<i>Antaresia stimsoni</i> (Smith, 1985)	Name published after Wells and Wellington, 1985, (date priority) but improperly not renounced.	<i>Antaresia saxacola</i> Wells and Wellington, 1985. Note: <i>Nomen nudem</i> claim on Wikipedia is false.
<i>Antillytyphlops</i> Hedges <i>et al.</i> , 2014	Author was a signatory to Kaiser <i>et al.</i> documents of 2012/2013.	<i>Mosestyphlops</i> Hoser, 2012
<i>Asiatyphylops</i> Hedges <i>et al.</i> , 2014	Author was a signatory to Kaiser <i>et al.</i> documents of 2012/2013.	<i>Argyrophis</i> Gray, 1845
<i>Bartleia</i> Hutchinson <i>et al.</i> 1990	Deliberately ignored name authority to rename taxon (<i>nomen furtum</i>).	<i>Techmarscincus</i> Wells and Wellington, 1985
<i>Bassiana</i> Hutchinson <i>et al.</i> 1990	Deliberately ignored name authority to rename taxon (<i>nomen furtum</i>).	<i>Acritoscincus</i> Wells and Wellington, 1985
<i>Broadleysaurus</i> Bates <i>et al.</i> , 2013	Invoked Kaiser "veto".	<i>Funkisaurus</i> Hoser, 2013
<i>Candoiidae</i> Pyron <i>et al.</i> , 2014	No reason given, but authors and stated reviewers have attacked Hoser for years and over-written Hoser names previously.	<i>Candoiidae</i> Hoser, 2013
<i>Cartula</i> Hutchinson <i>et al.</i> 1990	Deliberately ignored name authority to rename taxon (<i>nomen furtum</i>).	<i>Harrisoniascincus</i> Wells and Wellington, 1984
<i>Chelodina burrungandjii</i> Thomson, Kennett and Georges, 2000	Alleged Wells and Wellington, 1985 not code compliant when it was.	<i>Chelodina billabong</i> (Wells and Wellington, 1985)
<i>Chelodina canni</i> McCord and Thomson, 2002	Falsely claimed Wells and Wellington, 1985 name was a <i>nomen nudem</i> .	<i>Chelodina rankini</i> Wells and Wellington, 1985
<i>Cubatyphlops</i> Hedges <i>et al.</i> , 2014	Author was a signatory to Kaiser <i>et al.</i> documents of 2012/2013.	<i>Dannytyphlops</i> Hoser, 2012
<i>Emydura macquarii dharra</i> Cann 1998	Alleged Wells and Wellington, 1985 not code compliant when it was.	<i>Emydura cooki</i> (Wells and Wellington, 1985)
<i>Emydura macquarii emmotti</i> Cann, McCord and Joseph-Ouni, 2003	Alleged Wells and Wellington, 1985 not code compliant when it was.	<i>Emydura macquarii windorah</i> (Wells and Wellington, 1985)
<i>Indotyphlops</i> Hedges <i>et al.</i> , 2014	Author was a signatory to Kaiser <i>et al.</i> documents of 2012/2013.	<i>Maxhoserus</i> Hoser, 2012
<i>Leiopython meridionalis</i> Schleip, 2014	Invoked Kaiser "veto".	<i>Leiopython hoserae</i> Hoser, 2000
<i>Leiopython montanus</i> Schleip, 2014	Invoked Kaiser "veto"	<i>Leiopython albertisi bennetti</i> Hoser, 2000
<i>Lemuriatyphlops</i> Pyron and Wallach, 2014	Invoked Kaiser "veto"	<i>Elliotttyphlopa</i> Hoser, 2012
<i>Macrochelys apalachicola</i> Thomas <i>et al.</i> , 2014	Falsely claimed no holotype ever existed. Claim rebutted by co-author.	<i>Macrochelys muscati</i> Hoser, 2013.
<i>Macrochelys suwanniensis</i> Thomas <i>et al.</i> , 2014	Falsely claimed no holotype ever existed. Claim rebutted by co-author.	<i>Macrochelys maxhoseri</i> Hoser, 2013.
<i>Madatyphlops</i> Hedges <i>et al.</i> , 2014	Author was a signatory to Kaiser <i>et al.</i> documents of 2012/2013.	<i>Ronhoserus</i> Hoser, 2012
<i>Malayopython</i> Reynolds <i>et al.</i> , 2013a, 2013b, 2014	Invoked Kaiser veto; also falsely claimed <i>Broghammerus</i> a <i>nomen nudum</i>	<i>Broghammerus</i> Hoser, 2004
<i>Malayotyphlops</i> Hedges <i>et al.</i> , 2014	Author was a signatory to Kaiser <i>et al.</i> documents of 2012/2013.	<i>Katrinahosertyphlops</i> Hoser, 2012
<i>Matobosaurus</i> Bates <i>et al.</i> , 2013	Invoked Kaiser "veto"	<i>Swilesaurus</i> Hoser, 2013
<i>Myuchelys</i> Thomson and Georges, 2009	Falsely claimed Wells 2007 breached article 8 of Zoological Code.	<i>Wollumbinia</i> Wells, 2007
<i>Niveoscincus</i> Hutchinson <i>et al.</i> 1990	Deliberately ignored name authority to rename taxon (<i>nomen furtum</i>).	<i>Litotescincus</i> Wells and Wellington, 1985
<i>Paralaudakia</i> Baig <i>et al.</i> , 2012	Author was a signatory to Kaiser <i>et al.</i> documents of 2012/2013.	<i>Adelynkimberlea</i> Hoser, 2012
<i>Sundatyphlops</i> Hedges <i>et al.</i> , 2014	Author was a signatory to Kaiser <i>et al.</i> documents of 2012/2013.	<i>Sivadictus</i> Wells and Wellington, 1985, (Note: <i>Anilios</i> Gray, 1845, is a different genus: Type sp. <i>australis</i>)
<i>Varanus teriae</i> Sprackland, 1991	Allegedly overlooked name authority and then refused to renounce synonym.	<i>Varanus keithornei</i> (Wells and Wellington, 1985). (Note: genus assignment is in flux).
<i>Xerotyphlops</i> Hedges <i>et al.</i> , 2014	Author was a signatory to Kaiser <i>et al.</i> documents of 2012/2013.	<i>Lenhosertyphlops</i> Hoser, 2012

The Wüster gang and their proposed “Taxon Filter”: How they are knowingly publishing false information, recklessly engaging in taxonomic vandalism and directly attacking the rules and stability of zoological nomenclature.

Raymond T. Hoser

Snakebusters, PO Box 599, Doncaster, Victoria, 3108, Australia.
Phone: +61 3 9812 3322 Fax: 9812 3355 E-mail: snakeman@snakeman.com.au
Received 2 July 2014, Accepted 1 August 2014, Published 25 May 2015.

PREAMBLE

The following paper was submitted to the editor of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature (BZN)* on 2 January 2014, in response to a hateful rant published by Mr. Hinrich Kaiser in *BZN* within previous days. As of May 2015, it has not been published in *BZN* and noting that other similar rants from Kaiser and others in a group known as the “Wüster gang” have been published in *BZN* since then, even though they were submitted well after this paper, it is reasonably likely that *BZN* will not publish this quite proper response.

Therefore in the public interest and to protect the integrity of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (or “Zoological Code” or “Zoological Rules”) (Ride *et al.* 1999), it is published in *Australasian Journal of Herpetology*.

Of relevance is that since this paper was submitted to *Bull. ZN*, the Wüster gang have produced a significant volume of publications repeating demonstrably false statements by them.

This includes the redescription of “Hoser-named” taxa by coining their own invalid junior synonyms in several so-called “papers”, published in PRINO (peer reviewed in name only) journals, the total count now being about 20 names coined.

Notable is that statements within these “papers” collectively as well as from the gang’s many online posts on social media are commonly contradictory of one another. If used for the purposes of cross-referencing in the following paper, this material would improve the power of relevant rebuttals significantly.

However to maintain procedural fairness, the following text has not been substantively altered from that submitted to *BZN* on 2 January 2014 save for minor updates. It is printed herein essentially “as submitted”.

SUMMARY

A gang led by Wolfgang Wüster and including Hinrich Kaiser, Wulf Schleip and Mark O’Shea have engaged in a 15 year campaign of pseudoscience and reckless taxonomic vandalism designed to create nomenclatural instability. These men have sought to stop other scientists using properly proposed names based on sound scientific evidence, proposed by this author (Raymond Hoser), and other scientists as far back as 1861.

In terms of the so-called “Hoser-names”, in 1998, 2000 and 2004 these men repeatedly raised bogus pseudoscientific arguments against them both online and in various printed journal publications. These attempts to stop widespread usage of the names for what they then described as “non-taxa” failed when other scientists revisited the Hoser data

and decided the original science and the resulting Hoser taxonomy and nomenclature was correct.

At the time of the first four relevant taxonomic papers, there was extreme taxonomic vandalism and reckless behaviour by Wüster and his associates. This was due to the reckless way in which they made false claims and pseudoscientific arguments to try to stop usage of the relevant names.

The unethical behaviour of the group was best demonstrated by their dishonest alteration of an online paper originally published in 1999 (Williams and Starkey, 1999), at least twice in 2000, in order to commit acts of scientific fraud and taxonomic vandalism.

This was easily exposed when the poster, the

convicted wild smuggler, David John Williams, failed to remove from various places on the web, all the unaltered earlier versions.

The three versions of the document known as Williams and Starkey, (1999) are cited herein. The dozens of associated internet posts by Wüster and Williams at the time, demonstrating their reckless behaviour are all archived in their original form at: <http://www.smuggled.com/boycan1.htm>.

Hoser (2001) details the unethical and reckless behaviour of Wüster and his gang to September 2001.

After other scientists (e.g. Aplin 1998, Wellington and Wells 1998), Kuch *et al.* 2005, Rawlings *et al.* 2008, and others) revisited the Hoser taxonomy papers to 2001 and one by one validated all the Hoser findings, Wüster and his gang then plagiarized the relevant Hoser results in later papers and masqueraded the same findings as their own original ones.

In a more desperate attempt to stop the use of the Hoser names, the Wüster gang, falsely claimed Hoser publications were not code compliant in 2003 and again in 2009, though to 2010 (Wallach, Wüster and Broadley 2009; Schleip and O'Shea 2010).

None of the actions by Wüster to stop usage of Hoser names had a scientific basis. It was all motivated through an obsessive hatred by Wüster, as seen by his continually shifting pseudoscientific arguments.

In early 2012, all but one of the supposedly unpublished Hoser names (that being *Spracklandus* Hoser, 2009, see Hoser 2013c) that would in the normal course of events be regarded as "available under the code" were republished in *Australasian Journal of Herpetology*, with hard copy printing receipts published at the same time.

This effectively stabilized the nomenclature for the relevant taxa from the morally repugnant attacks based on Wüster's ridiculous and false claims of non-code compliance on the alleged basis earlier publications had not in fact been printed (which was the basis of his claims).

With Wüster losing the argument in terms of validity of Hoser publications in 2012, and already losing arguments based on the science behind the taxonomy and nomenclature, the Wüster gang has since 2012 embarked in their most audacious act so far to stop people using Hoser names.

They have done this by creating a new and in fact non-existent "Hoser problem".

This is through alleging the creation of a non-existent mass instability of nomenclature allegedly caused by myself (Hoser), although in fact created wholly by the Wüster gang.

These serial rule breakers now seek to break the fundamental rules underpinning the stability of zoological nomenclature. They seek to do this by overwriting all names properly created by myself and in widespread usage, as well as those of any other authors they arbitrarily deem soft targets or in any way vulnerable to attack.

The stated plan is to steal the "naming rights" of their enemies to claim the "glory" of naming taxa first properly described by others Wüster (2013f). This is also to be used as a short cut to doing any proper scientific research themselves.

To facilitate this, the Wüster gang seek to step outside the zoological code and as an alternative set themselves up as unaccountable gatekeepers of the taxonomy and nomenclature of the reptiles, the mechanism being their newly contrived "Taxon Filter" as a means to hijack control of nomenclature. In time they hope to see a zoological code-breaking system of nepotism and censorship that permeates all areas of zoology.

THE BACKGROUND

I, Raymond Hoser have worked in herpetology full time more than thirty years. My first paper in a peer reviewed scientific herpetology journal was in 1980 (Hoser, 1980). Since then I have published many hundreds of papers in peer reviewed and other journals to 2013 (full list published online at <http://www.smuggled.com/pap1.htm>) and for most taxonomic papers refer to Kaiser *et al.* (2013) for papers to end 2012 and more recent papers at <http://www.zoobank.org>.

Since 1998, I have published scientific papers of a taxonomic nature, naming species or genera in no less than seven different peer reviewed and other journals (namely *Boydii*, *Crocodylian*, *Monitor*, *Macarthur Herpetological Society News*, *Litteratura Serpentina*, *Ophidia Review* and *Australasian Journal of Herpetology*) proposing new names and combinations for unnamed species and groups in accordance with the Zoological Code (Ride *et al.* 1999). The naming of unnamed taxa was the inevitable result of wide-ranging audits of large groups of reptiles, including the majority of the world's snakes at the genus level. As part of this process these actions have also included correct use of pre-existing in-use names, resurrecting old names and the like.

I have also published nine major books including the definitive works *Australian Reptiles and Frogs*, (Hoser 1989) and *Endangered Animals of Australia* (Hoser 1991) and contributed to dozens of others.

My main day job is working professionally with reptiles, employing ten staff (in 2012), less since and myself and my company are employed by both

private industry, governments and others.

My scientific works are regularly cited by scientists in both the peer reviewed and other literature.

In 1993 and 1996, I published two books on wildlife smuggling (Hoser 1993 and 1996) which adversely named members of a small but vocal group herein described as the "Wüster gang" or "Kaiser *et al.*", for their involvement in large scale wildlife trafficking activities, extreme animal cruelty and other criminal conduct.

In an apparent reprisal for this in 1998, Wüster and others in the gang sought to discredit two papers I published naming new species of Australian elapid snakes (Hoser 1998a, 1998b). In summary they sought to stop others from recognizing the taxa and/or using the names proposed by myself (see details of these actions and their publications listed in Hoser 2001). These men also did the same in terms of two other taxonomic papers naming new species that I published in 2000 (Wüster 2001, Wüster *et al.* 2001). Their methodology was to raise pseudoscientific arguments that on scrutiny lacked merit in an attempt to raise doubt in terms of my diagnoses of new species, which were described by them as "non-taxa" (Wüster 2001, Wüster *et al.* 2001). The campaign was most intense on internet chat forums and the like (see for example the list of posts in Hoser 2001), the posts themselves reposted in full with the online version of the paper.

The gang's posts were typically in places they were able to manage debate in their favour by removing dissenting views in a form of extreme censorship.

This has been one of their hallmarks ever since. In summary their campaign consisted of lies and "noise" and a list of many more such online posts and the like beyond 2001 can be found listed in Hoser (2013).

Hoser (2013), also provided extensive documentation showing the Wüster gang engaging in the disgraceful acts of scientific fraud, taxonomic vandalism, repeated criminal acts including, wildlife trafficking, animal cruelty, online fraud, use of bogus identities online in order to manipulate online "debate", plagiarism of the work of others, faking and fabricating alleged scientific findings, misrepresenting evidence they do not have, evidence free acts of taxonomic vandalism, acts deliberately calculated to cause physical harm to others, criminal stalking requiring court intervention, repeated breaches of Intellectual Property (IP) laws and other improper and illegal actions.

The detail of these actions was published by Hoser (2012a and 2013a) and due to the extent of their actions and the space required to document it all, this information is not repeated here. However both

Hoser 2012a and 2013a are available in full on the internet.

The account of Hoser (2013a) spans about 80 pages and has the word count of a book (over 53,000 words). The cited source documents (all publicly available) would fill several large folders.

THE SCIENCE, THE TAXONOMY AND THE PLAGIARISATION

Taxa described in all four of my scientific papers from 1998 and 2000 (Hoser 1998a, 1998b, 2000a, 2000b) were later further validated by others using new molecular methods not available to me in the relevant period. The later molecular results, as would be expected, corroborated my morphological evidence published and as a result, species named in these papers are all now widely recognized and referred to globally, including in books and online databases.

In other words, four out of four scientific papers by myself that have had the benefit of an extended time-line of scrutiny have stood up to the most vigorous of peer reviews possible, both before and after publication and correctly named valid species for the first time. It is in effect a 100% success rate!

It is also significant as it means that the Wüster gang have achieved a 100% failure rate in their claims against my taxa!

Notwithstanding this failure to stop people using the Hoser names for previously unnamed taxa, Wüster in particular and others in his gang have then after failing to stop usage of the Hoser names, shamelessly plagiarized my own papers making the same (obvious) taxonomic findings and judgments.

Examples of these outrageous acts of plagiarization of Hoser papers include:

- Hoser 1998a/2002b *Acanthophis* taxonomy (confirmed by Aplin and Donnellan 1999, Wells 2002), (also see support from Starkey 2008 dating back many years), then plagiarized by Fry *et al.* 2002 (including Wüster) and Wüster *et al.* (2005):
- Hoser 2000b/2003e/2004 Python Taxonomy (confirmed by Rawlings and Donnellan 2003, then plagiarized by Reynolds *et al.* 2013a ("*Chondropython*"), confirmed by Wells 2005 ("*Morelia*" Carpet Pythons), Rawlings, *et al.* 2008 ("*Broghammerus*" and other genera); plagiarized by O'Shea 2007 ("*Leiopython*"); also then plagiarized by Schleip 2008, Schleip and O'Shea 2010, Schleip 2014 ("*Leiopython hoserae*" and others):
- Hoser 1998b/2000b/2001 "*Pseudechis*" group taxonomy (confirmed by Kuch *et al.* 2005), then plagiarized by Wüster *et al.* (2005):
- Hoser 2002a *Oxyuranus* taxonomy, plagiarized by Wüster *et al.* (2005):

F rom the editors

Gijs van Akou
Marcel van der Voort

We published an original article by Raymond Hoser describing a new species of snake from Irian Jaya in volume 20 (issue 6). In this issue you will find a reaction on Hoser's taxonomic contributions written by Wüster, Bush, Keogh, O'Shea and Shine. Wüster et.al criticise Hoser on the way he describes new genera and species. They also criticise the editors of *Litteratura Serpentina* for publishing the article without prior review by several qualified taxonomists.

Prior to publication we did send the Wüster article to Mister Hoser and offered him the opportunity to reply.

From the reactions received we can conclude that we are in the middle of a conflict that has been going on for years. *Litteratura Serpentina* had no intention to become part of, or escalate this conflict.

The publication of the Hoser paper is a fact. That is why we decided to publish the reaction by Wüster et.al. on that publication. If Mister Hoser decides to take the given opportunity to reply, you will find his response in the next issue. Both reactions are published on account of the authors themselves.

The editors do not wish to judge in this matter. After reading the contributions our readers can make up their own minds.



LITTERATURA SERPENTINA 2001 VOL. 21 N° 3



34 Snakes in the News Classifieds

Welcome to the first edition of Ophidia review which is the first title in a new series of publications on reptiles and amphibians. Some may ask why publish separate magazines? Why not simply expand upon the existing publication? The answer is very simple, specialisation is what most readers now want. As publishers it is very easy to give people what you think they want but few ever ask what the readers really want. Over the years there have been many changes in herpetoculture and introducing separate titles for each area of the hobby reflects increasing trends towards keeping just one group of animals.

I am sure that the article by Raymond Hoser will draw much criticism, both towards us for publishing it and at Raymond Hoser for writing it. I shall, however, make no apology for its appearance. While I may not agree entirely with Hoser's proposals, there is much merit in much of his observations. All too often interesting and controversial work is suffocated by professional jealousies and the like. This publication will have much in common with a scientific journal, but also incorporate aspects of a more serious magazine. This format gives the opportunity for great flexibility of content and enables controversial material to be given an airing. I do hope you enjoy this first issue.

Ophidia Review Contents

The Ivarian Tree Viper
By Euan Edwards

Revision of the Australasian Pythons
By Raymond Hoser

Crotalus cerastes - My experience with keeping and breeding this species
By John Bakker

Snakes in the News
Classifieds

Published by
C-VIEW MEDIA
Tom Burgess
or-adair@cviewmedia.com

Editor:
Tom Burgess

Advertising:
or-adair@cviewmedia.com

Information:
Tel: 0870 3213764
Fax: 0870 3216208
Web page: www.cviewmedia.com

Subscription:
£11.00 for 4 issues (post paid) -
UK & EU Countries Only
\$19.95 for 4 issues
USA Only

ISSN 1464-7267
Copyright © 2008
C-View Media

Hoser 2015 - Australasian Journal of Herpetology 25:14-38.

Hoser 2003a *Pseudonaja* taxonomy, plagiarized by O'Shea (2008), David Williams *et al.* (including Wüster and O'Shea) (2008).

All the above cited morally repugnant plagiarism is readily confirmed by cross-checking the cited documents!

The context of all this in 2013 is that Wüster and the others, are well aware of the validity of most, if not all the Hoser described taxa in the post 2000 period (to end 2012) and their current actions can be put in perspective with their past.

In a rare burst of honesty, on 15 May 2013, Wüster himself admitted on a private internet list that his gang sought to steal any "glory", Hoser may get from having done scientific work naming species and genera. At the same time, he admitted that the Kaiser *et al.* scam was how his gang intended pulling off the stunt (Wüster 2013f)! Wüster (2013f) also admitted that the claims in Kaiser *et al.* "may not be issues of scientific merit", privately admitting elsewhere he knew that the document Kaiser *et al.* was full of lies and mistakes (Wüster 2013d, 2013e).

As mentioned already, in the time period to 2009, the Wüster gang repeatedly engaged in fraudulent and unethical actions to facilitate what ultimately became their hate campaign against myself.

No less than four different journal editors were harassed by the Wüster gang not to publish Hoser material, although in these cases, the threats were ultimately ignored. Two editors even published in their journals that the Wüster gang had unlawfully threatened them (Newman 2000, Van Aken 2001).

AUSTRALASIAN JOURNAL OF HERPETOLOGY

In part as a result of the above actions, in 2009, I made the decision to publish taxonomic papers in a journal I had editorial control over.

This was for several reasons.

The main reason was to be able to ensure the best possible quality control in terms of the production of the papers themselves, this being, printing, layout and the like. With all my scientific papers, including taxonomic material being properly peer reviewed prior to submission to journals in the past and as a matter of course, this aspect was not relevant in terms of where papers were published.

Other important considerations were:

1/ To remove the uncertainty of the ongoing threats the Wüster gang were making to other editors.

One of them, Mick Pugh, editor of *Crocodylian*, was even graced with an armed raid by government wildlife officers as a result of a false complaint made by members of the Wüster gang against him after he published a number of my papers. For the

record, I was also graced with a heavily armed 11 man, 9 hour raid following a false complaint made after publication of the first 8 issues of *Australasian Journal of Herpetology*. Also for the record, 11 criminal charges laid against me immediately after the raid and allegedly arising from it were all subsequently dropped and I was exonerated of any wrongdoing.

2/ To avoid the very real prospect of the Wüster gang being able to steal and publish my work when my own material was in the waiting list to be published. Two journal editors (Paul Woolf and Mick Pugh) had advised me that approaches had been made to them by the Wüster gang for my taxonomic material to be handed to them before publication and with the clear intent that my work and taxon naming rights be scooped by them.

3/ A compelling advantage of my controlling my own journal was that I would then own the intellectual property (IP) of the papers themselves in all ways and forms. This had emerged as a key consideration in the relevant time frame.

A/ In terms of my published books, the first three (Hoser 1989, Hoser, 1991 and Hoser 1993) all sold out quickly after publication and the publisher, Pierson Publishing saw most of the profits, not myself. With this in mind, and a desire to exercise greater editorial and production control (see above), I decided to publish my later six books myself (one or two at a time) (Hoser, 1994, 1996, 1999a, 1999b, 2001b, 2001c) and all were extremely profitable ventures.

B/ In 2006 I had successfully sued a group including members of the Wüster gang for misusing my legally registered business trademark Snakebuster, receiving a \$29,500 court-enforced payout, as directed by the Federal Court of Australia. At the time, one of the Wüster gang, Mark O'Shea had also unlawfully used the registered trademark to try to undermine my case in the courts, via a journal he controlled, namely *The Herptile*. Two similar cases involving illegal use of my Intellectual Property resulting in my receipt of payouts in the order of \$10,000 each time.

C/ Noting the inherently high demand for hard-copies of taxonomy publications, I correctly predicted that the publishing of my own journal with a sizeable proportion of taxonomic papers would be either a cash-neutral or cash positive proposition. In spite of the large number of free printed copies of *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* issued to Museums and the like, the journal has delivered a nominal profit, while maintaining my control of the relevant intellectual property (IP).

No doubt similar factors explain why there are a

+1 Add Friend Follow



A reptile educator has named this deadly Territory snake - a cousin of the feared King Brown - after his wife. Picture: RAYMOND HOSER

A REPTILE educator has named a deadly Territory snake in honour of his wife after he found it

Like · Comment · Share

11 people like this.



Christopher Sanges smh
May 14 at 2:34pm · Like · 1



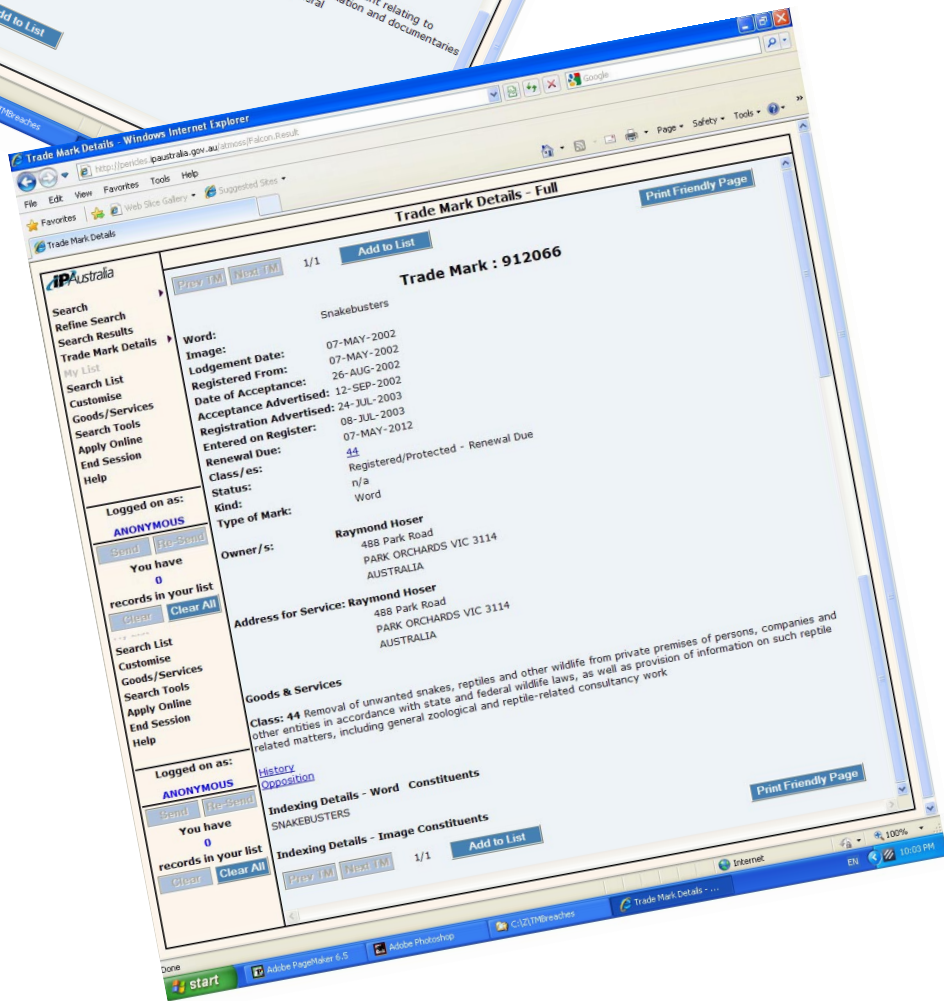
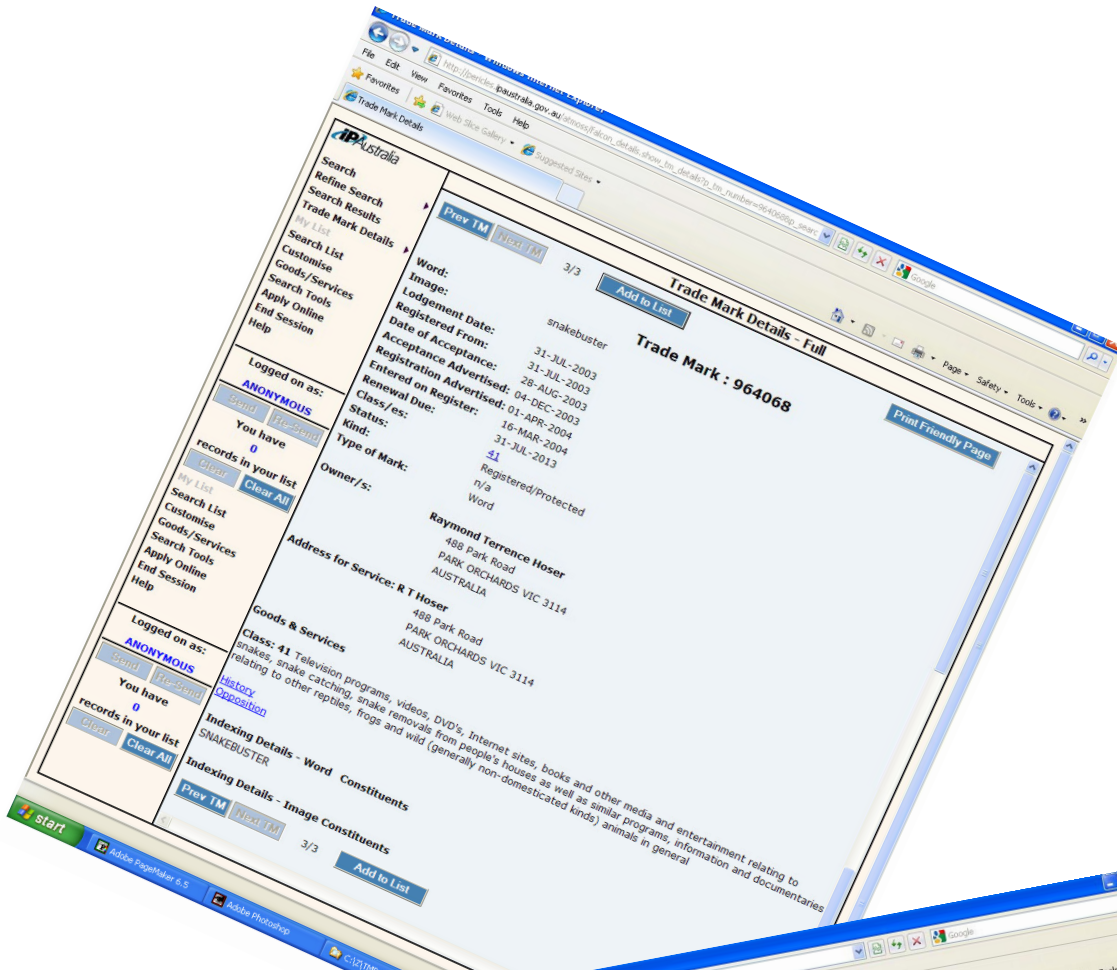
Wolfgang Wüster The antidote:
http://pages.bangor.ac.uk/~bss166/Publications/2013_Herp_Review_PoV.pdf
May 14 at 3:05pm · Like · 5



Urban Jungles-Radio Wolfgang Wüster you should come on the show to chat sometime about reptiles and this of course! 😊
May 14 at 3:16pm · Like · 4



Hoser 2015 - Australasian Journal of Herpetology 25:14-38.



Hoser 2015 - Australasian Journal of Herpetology 25:14-38.

large number of other “privately published” or “in house” taxonomic publications by scientists around the world as well as predatory profit-making taxonomy journals such as *Zootaxa* which are not owned or funded by government-backed entities.

4/ I correctly saw the rise of the internet and online distribution of hard copy papers post publication via pdf's and the like becoming the primary means of distribution of scientific papers. This being opposed to the traditional form of subscription to hard copies.

Combined with an obvious rise in the number of different journals soliciting and publishing taxonomic papers, most publishing online versions (e.g. *Zootaxa*, *Molecular Phylogeny and Evolution*) it became clear that the quality of the science in the journal was now more important than any prestige or “impact factor” formerly attached to a given printed journal.

Zootaxa itself is a good example of a journal that appears to be PRINO (peer reviewed in name only) that has produced both excellent and atrocious papers. Furthermore with wide dissemination of freely available (open access) post publication pdf's being in the spirit of the Zoological Code I saw it as desirable that I have full control of the IP and so *Australasian Journal of Herpetology (AJH)* was created in 2009.

This journal contained all my taxonomy publications post 2009.

THE MOST EFFECTIVE FORM OF PEER REVIEW

Contrary to the false claims of Kaiser *et al.* (2013) and Kaiser (2013), *AJH* is in fact peer reviewed pre-publication.

Also contrary to popular perception, most of the thousands of reptile taxa currently recognized globally were formally described in literature that was not peer reviewed before printing.

By the way and of peripheral relevance is that peer review is NOT a requirement of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*, meaning that all arguments relating to peer review and nomenclature are somewhat redundant in any event.

However one form of peer review not mentioned by Kaiser and others in the Wüster gang is that of post publication peer review. This is the far more effective review of papers by scientists after they have been published by others. It is also a process that can run for many years post publication.

It must be recognized by all that it's both possible and common for authors of given papers to avoid peer review if so desired.

This can be done by shopping a paper to various journals, or more likely via a PRINO (Peer review in name only) journal, thereby enabling pretty much any kind of paper to be published (somewhere).

Alternatively a paper can be published in a journal where the author is editor and no peer review takes place (a claim levelled against myself post 2009, even though all papers published were subjected to rigorous external review and oversight), or similarly where a paper is sent to a journal where the editor is a friend of the author and shoddy work is allowed to bypass any effective forms of peer review.

This last method is that typically employed by the Wüster gang to have their material bypass any effective form of peer review or general quality control including in those papers of theirs cited above (the best examples of which include Wallach, Wüster and Broadley 2009, Schleip 2008 or Schleip and O'Shea 2010).

However post publication peer review is not avoidable and is a consequence faced by all authors of scientific papers.

This is where potentially thousands of other scientists are able to review given papers and potentially refine, improve or even reject the findings based on all the available evidence, including that not available to the original author.

This is also called scientific progress!

Ultimately, the facts in a given paper will rise or fall on their merits and the ability to duplicate the results and findings.

Noting the effective nature of post-publication peer review of the Hoser taxonomy and in the face of the relentless Wüster gang campaign against Hoser taxonomy and names, it is clear that the taxonomy and nomenclature would only ever be used by others in the face of overwhelming evidence in their favour (and those brave enough to dodge the flak from the Wüster gang).

As noted already, for those species and genera revisited by others since the publication of the relevant Hoser papers, the original Hoser taxonomy and nomenclature has been further validated and consistently vindicated.

As a simple reality check, a global audit of the entire planet's serpents by myself completed in 2013 after decades of working with snakes, left the vast majority untouched in terms of their taxonomy or nomenclature. There has been no mass changes or any instability in terms of the code! A tiny unnamed portion has been named according to the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* in a series of science-based and conservatively formulated taxonomic proposals!

In summary there is no “Hoser problem” and there has never been one!

THE WÜSTER GANG PROBLEM

With an ever increasing number of Hoser names being further validated by others, the Wüster gang

has become ever more desperate in their attempts to stop people using Hoser names for reptile taxa.

By 2012, it had become apparent that the adoption of Hoser names had become general in herpetology and in spite of the Wüster gang's best efforts (and contrary to the claim otherwise of Kaiser 2013).

As a result of this the so called Kaiser *et al.* plan to step outside the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (or the "Zoological Code") to stop usage of the Hoser names was executed.

A document was prepared, which according to Kaiser (2012b) was written by Wüster and the gang in 2012, but not Kaiser himself. This is although it was later fraudulently rebadged as "Kaiser *et al.* 2013" (at which time Wüster said on the Taxacom list server that Kaiser had written it).

The document sought to arbitrarily declare all Hoser papers from years 2000 to 2012 "unscientific", this term being used as a smokescreen or code to justify a their own planned renaming of all relevant species and genera in direct breach of the rules of the Zoological Code. This was spelt out explicitly on page 20 of Kaiser *et al.* (2013).

Contrary to their earlier false claims, the issue with the Hoser papers now was that they were code compliant and as a result the code itself was faulty and needed to be directly attacked (Kaiser *et al.* (2012).

Because it would not be possible to argue to the wider zoological community that the Wüster gang were a bunch of renegades seeking to steal someone else's work and rename species and genera, they had to market their claim to the wider community as something else.

Hence the manufacturing of the so-called "Hoser problem".

This alleged problem was that I had created a huge problem of nomenclatural instability by renaming previously named species and genera. Put bluntly, this was one big lie!

As a badly concealed Nazi style "final solution" to their fabricated problem, they then sought to rename all taxa validly and properly named by myself.

The Trojan Horse in the document, later marketed as Kaiser *et al.* (2013) was a rant about the benefits of the scientific method and effective peer review, which in any event was totally irrelevant to their ultimate claims.

No one in the scientific community, myself included, could possibly argue against effective peer review as a form of quality control. So to publish an argument pretending that there would be any scientists publicly opposed to effective proper quality control was in itself fraudulent.

However noting the obvious failures that may occur in any peer review process (Bohannon 2013), science, including taxonomy and nomenclature depends more importantly on the wider peer review that occurs post publication.

As already stated, it is ultimately the science itself that matters, not who did or did not review a paper before publication!

The same is true in terms of publication outlet. One need look no further than the website <http://retractionwatch.com/> which details numerous cases of scientific frauds, retractions and the like involving numerous prestigious "peer reviewed" scientific journals.

Regardless of the false claims made in terms of alleged non-peer review in *AJH*, the fact is that the scientific evidence and conclusions in the papers within the journal have stood up to rigorous post publication review and analysis (see for example the more recent confirmatory results of Pyron *et al.* 2013 (in terms of several Hoser-named genera derived from *Oligodon*, *Boiga* and *Dendrelaphis*), Reynolds *et al.* 2013 (*Adelynhoserboa* derived from *Tropidophis*), and others).

That the Wüster gang know the validity of the Hoser-named taxa is seen in their Nazi-style final solution, which is to overwrite the Hoser names with their own.

Long ago they ceased arguing the merits of the science!

Now if the Hoser papers were in fact completely unscientific rubbish as regularly alleged by the Wüster gang (without substantiation), including on their online hate pages, there would be no need to rename anything.

The rules of priority and homonymy in the *Zoological Code* have taken care of the widespread issue of taxonomic vandalism for 200 years.

The solution is called "synonymy"!

So the fact is that there is no instability created by the formal published taxonomic proposals of Raymond Hoser (myself), Bill McCord, Richard Wells, Ross Wellington and the others in the Wüster gang hit list as published by Kaiser *et al.* (2012) and added to since. That is even if one were to accept the totally false statements adverse of myself as published by Kaiser *et al.* (2013) and Kaiser (2013).

KAISER ET AL. AND THEIR DUAL NOMENCLATURE.

There is however extreme risk of serious instability created by a dual nomenclature recklessly created by the Wüster gang in total contempt for the rules of zoology.

Case 3601 (Hoser 2013c), is but one of many cases

that will come before the commission if the Wüster gang is allowed to continue stealing the work of others to rename validly named taxa.

In that case, Wüster and others sought to rename a validly named cobra genus, namely *Spracklandus* Hoser, 2009 in a deliberate and reckless breach of the Zoological Code, even after they were repeatedly made aware of the errors of their actions.

More recently, the same gang through Reynolds *et al.* (2013b) have sought to declare the Wells and Wellington name *Australiasis* Wells and Wellington (1983) *nomen nudem*, knowing full well that it was not (Shea 2013e) and that their claim was false. This latest act of taxonomic vandalism by the gang is made more serious by the fact that the ICZN even ruled in favour of the Wells and Wellington publication being validly published according to the code in 1991 and again in 2000, with the names being available. This means the Wüster gang even acts in contempt of the Commission itself and not just their rules! (ICZN 1991, 2000).

Of course I need not mention the example of the Wüster gang's renaming of the python genus *Broghammerus* Hoser, 2004, in the paper Reynolds *et al.* (2013b). In May 2013, before Reynolds *et al.* published their "paper", O'Shea in one of many such posts wrote "This name (*Broghammerus* Hoser, 2004) should be ignored and replaced with a suitable substitute." (O'Shea 2013e).

His colleagues in the form of Reynolds *et al.* (2013b) did this by calling the genus "*Malayopython*", backed by the patently false claim that *Broghammerus* was a *nomen nudem* (Shea 2013c).

These thieves (and that's all they are), have recklessly created nomenclatural instability in an icon genus of snakes of global conservation significance. This reckless act of Reynolds *et al.* was aggressively promoted by the Wüster gang including O'Shea again, to get Google to list no less than 509 websites using the name by 25 December 2013.

This was less than a month after publication of their draft paper in a PRINO journal promoting the new name!

For the record, *Broghammerus* had been used in numerous books and no less than 15,200 internet sites as of 24 December 2013.

While speaking about quality of science, the diagnosis (alone) for *Broghammerus* in Hoser 2004 was 1,477 words (3 pages), versus just five words in Reynolds *et al.* 2013 for their synonym genus *Malayopython*!

There are other similar such rule-breaking acts by the Wüster gang detailed in Hoser (2013).

By the way, the central claims against Hoser and

Wells made in Kaiser *et al.* (2012 and 2013) were comprehensively discredited by Shea (2013a), Wells (2013a), Wellington (2013) and Cogger (2013).

Hoser (2012b) gave a more detailed rebuttal of Kaiser *et al.* (2012) and those near identical claims made in Kaiser *et al.* (2013) were similarly discredited in detail by Hoser (2013a).

The rebuttal by Hoser (2013a) was even conceded as correct, by Wüster (2013d, 2013e), who noted the "errors that slipped through in that paper" and "mistakes slipped into the Kaiser *et al.* paper - big deal, that was hardly the point of the paper."

Notwithstanding these admissions by his alleged coauthor, Kaiser (2013) repeats a number of these false statements from the two earlier documents in Kaiser (2013).

THE SOLUTION TO THE WÜSTER GANG PROBLEM

The Wüster gang of thieves, with Hinrich Kaiser as one of the front men, need to be stopped before the whole of zoological nomenclature descends into chaos.

As a result of the reckless actions of Reynolds *et al.* (2013b), at the behest of Wüster and his gang, the ICZN will almost certainly have to formally place *Broghammerus* onto the official names list to stabilize the nomenclature of the genus and to stop the Wüster gang's duel nomenclature causing chaos. The same applies for no less than three genera of lizards renamed in deliberate breach of the rules! At the same time, or preferably sooner, the ICZN must rule that it will not tolerate the wanton abuse of the rules of the code by those who deliberately rename taxa in acts of theft.

These actions of Kaiser *et al.* (2013) and those now aggressively promoting the taxonomic and nomenclatural chaos within that paper are in breach of numerous parts of the Zoological Code both in letter and spirit, including the three critical rules of: 1/ Homonymy (Principal 5, Article 52 and elsewhere), 2/ Priority (Principal 3, Article 23 and elsewhere), 3/ Stability (Principal 4, Articles 23, 65 and elsewhere), as well as the ethics of the Code (Appendix A).

Removing the ongoing instability caused by this gang is best done by the ICZN making a formal statement renouncing Kaiser *et al.*'s "ridiculous and unworkable" plans to rename dozens of well-recognized and properly named taxa (backed by sound scientific data) on the basis of the gang's false and baseless claims against authors they seek to steal work from (Cogger 2013, Shea 2013a, 2013b, 2013c, 2013d, Wells 2013).

END NOTE:

From the taxacom list server:

“On 21/05/2013 21:28, Stephen Thorpe wrote:

At the end of the day, Wolfgang, you are just complaining about the authorship of names which may have to be used as valid ... complaining that they are not yours (or those of people you choose to consider to be colleagues)! This isn't a big issue!”

APPENDIX 1:**Obvious factual errors in Kaiser (2013) as published in *Bull ZN* issue 4 and other relevant matters.**

The general adverse statements against myself (Raymond Hoser) as published by Kaiser *et al.* (2013) are generally untrue and have been shown as such by Shea (2013a), Wells (2013a), Cogger (2013) and Hoser (2012, 2013). Therefore they should not have been repeated in an altered form in the *Bulletin on Zoological Nomenclature (BZN)* a year later!

However in terms of claims raised specifically within Kaiser (2013), the following are noted:

SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT AND DELIBERATE FALSE STATEMENTS

Kaiser has talked about scientific misconduct and myself in the same time and place and yet failed to give a single example of this activity involving myself. This is because I have never engaged in “scientific misconduct”. However the Wüster gang and Kaiser himself have repeatedly engaged in this activity. Recent examples are documented in Hoser (2013), including Kaiser putting his name as lead author to Kaiser *et al.* (2013), when in 2012, while marketing the same document (Kaiser *et al.* 2012) he said it had been written by others (Kaiser 2012).

The writings of Kaiser *et al.*, including the rest of the Wüster gang regularly fit within the ambit of “Pseudoscience” as defined within Kaiser (2013). A holotype example is the paper of co-author Wulf Schleip in 2008 inventing three non-existent species of *Leiopython* (Schleip 2008), published in a PRINO journal at a place where he is also an editor (Hoser 2009a, confirmed by CITES 2011).

Kaiser (2013) describing myself as “Australian snake enthusiast Raymond Hoser” is deliberately wording his introduction to imply I have no scientific knowledge of reptiles. Working full time with reptiles for decades and having published in the peer reviewed scientific literature on reptiles since 1980 would refute that inference.

By comparison I could accurately describe Hinrich Kaiser as being at a quack university that specializes in creationism theory. These are facts easily ascertained from the Victor Valley College's own website!

Claims by Kaiser *et al.* that my publications are unscientific do not stand up to even a cursory scrutiny. In any event, Kaiser *et al.* have failed to argue against the scientific merits of the relevant papers. That is because they cannot credibly do this!

Importantly however, a cross-referencing of the appendix of his (purported) paper Kaiser *et al.* (2013), which gave an evidence free list of name changes for hundreds of taxa, showed he and the 8 alleged co-authors hadn't even bothered to read the majority of papers they were criticising. More importantly, gang members Wolfgang Wüster and Wulf Schleip condemned Hoser papers on Facebook admitting they hadn't yet read them! (Schleip 2013a, Schleip 2013b, Schleip 2013c, Wüster 2013a, Wüster 2013b, Wüster 2013c).

Claims against my “deportment” and that I have acted in violation of the Code's ethics (Kaiser 2013), are reckless and without substantiation and should not have been published in *Bull ZN* without a shred of evidence.

By contrast, Wüster, Schleip, Kaiser and their agents have routinely breached the ethics of the code, through various hate webpages such as their liberal usage of sites created called “Ray Hoser, Melbourne's Biggest Wanker” (Various authors 2011), “Herpetological Taxonomy”, the latter being a hate site run by Kaiser's good mate Robert Twombly (also of Victor Valley College), and a barrage of non-stop and abusive hate posts on all relevant and accessible parts of the internet to peddle their weird form of taxonomical anarchy and hatred (Twombly *et al.* 2013) and many others. Twombly himself, in his own words, claims to have expertise in the pseudoscience of “Cryptozoology” (see <http://www.iherp.com/Public/ShowUser.aspx?UserId=75ebfdbab-bd2b-4261-9146-e479aa261fc8>) (Twombly 2013).

Many of these hate sites used by the Wüster gang were removed from the internet by no less than five separate court orders after the gang were lobbying

for people to commit criminal attacks on myself, my wife, young children and our wildlife research and education business, which did in fact culminate in an illegal armed raid on our facility on 17 August 2011.

By way of example, when the Wüster gang post on Wikipedia and other outlets lies such as:

"In 2011 Hoser was convicted and fined \$12,000 in the County Court after four separate people died in four separate incidents as a result of venomoid snake bites at his reptile displays, as well as numerous other near-fatal bites involving snakes that had regenerated venom and become dangerously venomous. Hoser allowed his 10-year-old daughter to be bitten by a taipan and a death adder using her as a guinea pig to demonstrate that his "venomoid" snakes were harmless and she was hospitalized for a week after the bite, being in a coma for two days." (Wüster *et al.* 2000-2013),

I am entitled to be outraged and to publicly correct the series of lies!

By the way the truth of the story is that our venomoid snakes (those with venom glands removed) have never regenerated a drop of venom, as it simply isn't possible. Therefore no one has ever been killed or injured as a result of venomoid bites from our snakes.

My business "Snakebusters, Australia's best reptiles" has an unmatched perfect safety record spanning more than 30 years!

The language and abuse by Kaiser, Schleip, O'Shea and Wuster is of the level that would commonly put people in prison and has allowed us to have agents of theirs acted on by the legal system here in Australia.

We have even been to court and had criminal sanctions imposed by the courts via orders against several criminal co-offenders, including Margaret Irvine Osborne, Sean McCarthy, Danny Wynn, Benny Moylan and Andrew DeGroot, all of whom not only masqueraded as herpetologists to attack my scientific papers with countless false statements but even went so far as to commit criminal attacks on our wildlife education business.

The sort of thing I refer to is one of the countless abusive Schleip posts on facebook like his comment on 16 December 2013 "Hey shit head. There is nothing as the "rules of zoology", and appendix isn't mandatory either" (Schleip 2013c).

Recall Schleip is one of Kaiser's esteemed co-authors!

"A STABILITY PROBLEM" ... CREATED BY KAISER AND THE REST OF THE WÜSTER GANG

Under the heading, "A stability problem" Kaiser

erroneously uses the terms "science based and Hoser's names" to overtly imply mine are exclusive of the former. The fact is that my names are all science based as in based on quantifiable evidence and data. In both examples given under this heading of usage by others of my allegedly unscientific names (without substantiation), Kaiser has been in serious error.

That he knew this is indicated by his lack of detail in his allegations and so I shall give the circumstances of his published claims here.

In the case of the first example he gave, in 2011 he sought not to use the then universally recognized genus *Broghammerus* Hoser, 2004 for the reticulated pythons when reporting on his field collecting in Timor-Leste as part of the gang's policy of not using any Hoser names or crediting Hoser's prior published works on reptiles (Kaiser *et al.* 2011).

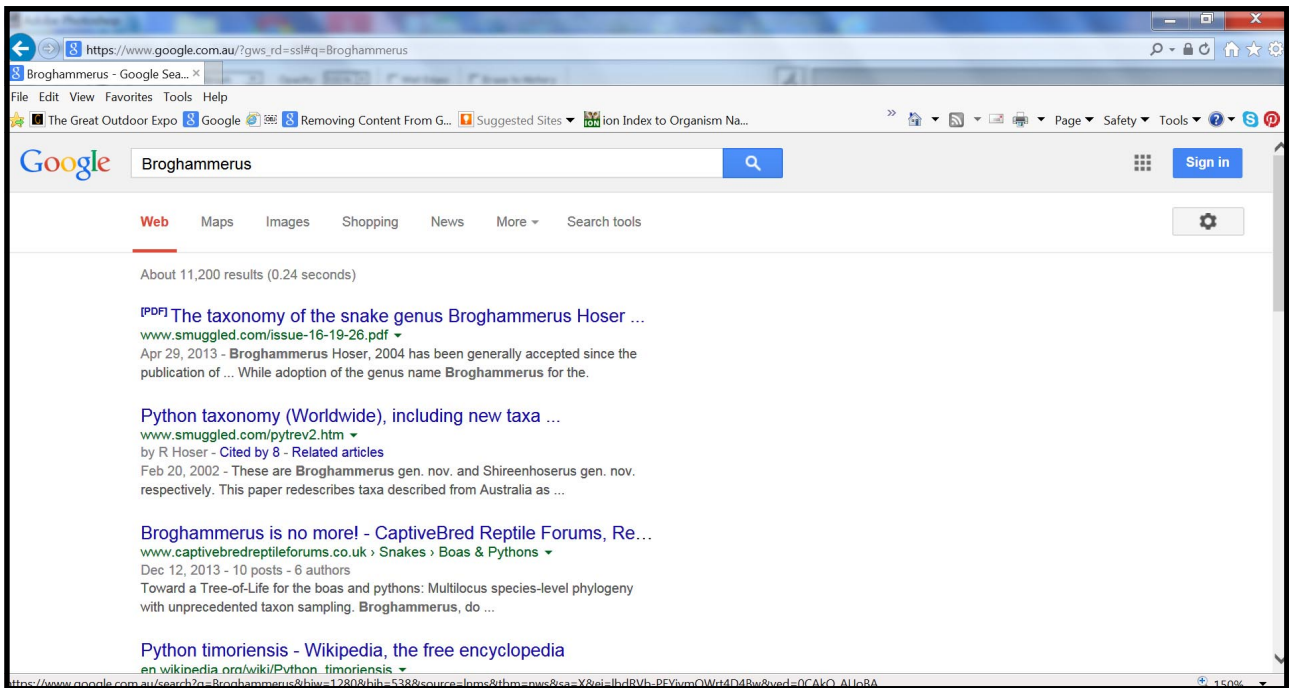
Broghammerus was proposed by myself as part of a global audit of the Pythonidae and based on obvious significant morphological divergence between the Reticulated Pythons and the nominate Python species, the Burmese Python (*Python molurus*) via a 1,477 word (three page) diagnosis in the formal description. Such differences were well known and had been referred to by earlier authors such as McDowell (1975). My 2003/4 diagnosis for the genus was confirmed by molecular data as published by Rawlings *et al.* in 2008 and beyond that date the Wüster gang had increasing difficulty getting others not to use the generic name *Broghammerus*.

By way of example the name has appeared in numerous books and papers and was listed by Google as being on no less than 15,200 websites as of 24 December 2013.

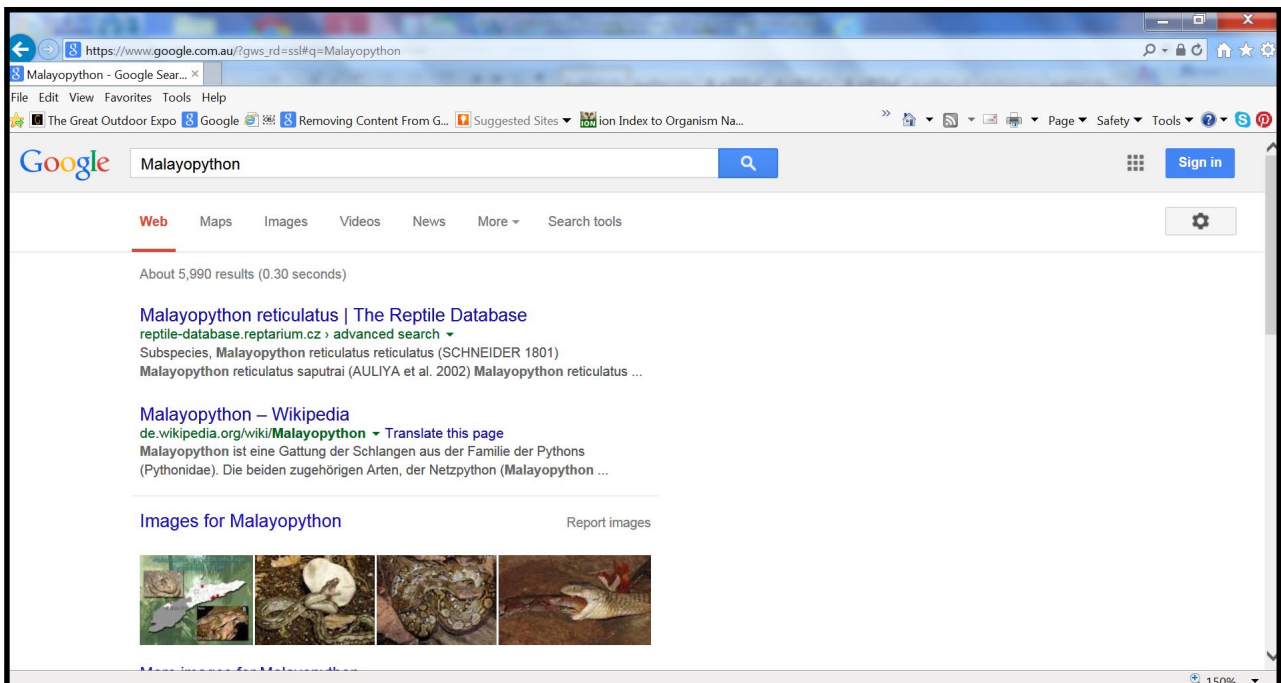
Now in terms of my original 2004 paper, it is clear that the diagnosis of the genus *Broghammerus* was based on scientific evidence, confirmed via peer review both before and after publication.

That Kaiser and other gang member Mark O'Shea refused to accept the obvious and not use the correct nomenclature of the time is not my fault or as a result of any code-breaking instability. It is simply the manifestation of their own refusal to accept peer reviewed scientific evidence and reality that has been first presented by a man they see as their enemy!

Oddly enough, Schleip and O'Shea (2010), the latter co-working and co-publishing with Kaiser on Timor-Leste did in fact recognize and use the generic name *Broghammerus* Hoser, 2004, in that paper, erroneously crediting Rawlings *et al.* for the discovery of it, as did O'Shea on his website at: http://www.markoshea.info/oba4-4_peru03.php, still



Both screen dumps on this page were taken on 1 May 2015.



Hoser 2015 - Australasian Journal of Herpetology 25:14-38.

online as late as 9 December 2013 (O'Shea 2013d). However in terms of Kaiser's alleged grievance, this time (2011) as their hatred for all names Hoser intensified in the post 2009 period, they decided to create a nomenclatural problem and a "stability problem" by boycotting the established nomenclature.

More recently in December 2013 the gang have been actively promoting use of the invalid name *Malayopython* Reynolds *et al.* 2013 as their means to "kill" *Broghammerus* (O'Shea *et al.* 2013).

The solution to the nomenclatural problem created by the Wüster gang and raised by Kaiser (2013) is to make sure taxonomists and scientists in general deal with the facts at issue and not concern themselves with who was the first to publish a finding and whether or not they are a part of your gang!

As for the Kaiser, *Broghammerus* matter in Timor-Leste, it was his refusal to accept the science of the taxonomy and the rules of the nomenclature the followed from this that was the issue and the problem. Nothing I, Raymond Hoser did was in any way unscientific or against the spirit or rules of the code.

A genus was named according to the scientific evidence available at the time (2004) and has been agreed by most publishing herpetologists since then!

KAISER AND WÜSTER NOW USURPING PROPERLY FORMED NAMES FROM THE 1800'S!

Kaiser's statement, "In Brazil, a country where a strong commitment to conservation has been emerging over the years, there are now two parallel taxonomies for snakes in use, one using science-based names and the other Hoser's names. For the purposes of species management, proper communication between government agencies, and the treatment of snakebite, dual taxonomies are impractical and must be avoided." Is patently false, again because it falsely asserts any names proposed by myself are not science based.

As it happens, the name used by the Brazilian authorities he referred to was the genus *Caudisona* Cope, 1861, not any so-called "Hoser names" (Wüster and Bernils, 2011). I had merely recognized a particular genus of rattlesnake and resurrected the old name in compliance with the code. Upon reading my paper and accepting it as science-based, the Brazilian herpetologists had accepted my taxonomy and nomenclature as correct.

Again, the problem was with Kaiser's own issue with anything "Hoser" and a recklessly misguided impression that the name *Caudisona* was a Hoser invention.

KAISER'S EVIDENCE FREE UNSCIENTIFIC TAXONOMY

But for those interested in real cases of evidence free unscientific taxonomy, a holotype example is the hit-list of taxa to have their names changed as published by Kaiser *et al.* (2013), cited by Kaiser (2013), noting that Kaiser *et al.*'s failure to read the original papers of Hoser and Wells they were attacking, meant they transferred species to genera they had never been a part of and for that matter could not possibly be placed in.

Hence in one fell swoop, Kaiser *et al.* created immense nomenclatural and taxonomic instability affecting hundreds of properly constituted scientific names backed by good scientific evidence and strong peer review!

Furthermore there is absolutely no doubt at all that Kaiser *et al.* failed to read the Wells and Hoser papers they so strongly criticized.

This is because they haven't even been able to follow the intellectual exercise of cross-matching our newly created genera with those from where we derived the given species and instead resorted to the totally unscientific game of guessing, (yes guessing!) what genera the said species came from.

Plus of course, Schleip (2013a) did in April 2013 admit to not having read the papers he so roundly condemned as listed co-author in Kaiser *et al.* (2013).

So in summary, Kaiser *et al.* were incapable of effectively "joining the dots" in terms of our papers, which is something a normal 7 year old could do!

By way of example, until now, no one in history has ever contemplated moving species from *Lampropholis* Fitzinger, 1843 to *Eulamprus* Lonnberg and Andersson, 1913, but this is exactly what Kaiser *et al.* (2013) has told the world to do. ...and "without evidence"!

The claim by Kaiser (2013) "some authorities in the field are treating these (Hoser) names as if they were nomenclaturally unavailable, largely because they cannot be reliably used in the absence of satisfactory scientific argumentation justifying their appropriate attribution." if true has arisen not due to any fault of myself or the content of my original publications, but rather due to the deliberate false claims of the Wüster gang that my publications are "unscientific".

Kaiser's claim "that multiple names will be in use simultaneously for a large number of organisms." will only occur if his group and other potentially like-minded thieves continue to rename previously named genera such as they have recently recklessly done with *Broghammerus*, *Spracklandus*, *Swilesaurus*, *Funkisaurus* and *Adelynkimberlea* in

each case stealing my published data and using the very same type species (Reynolds *et al.* 2013b, Wallach, Wüster and Broadley 2009, Baig *et al.* 2012, Bates *et al.* 2013)!

The easiest solution to the Wüster gang's self-manufactured Hoser problem is to either use the correct names, or if there is no evidence for them as alleged (which based on the record is not the case), then to allow the names to disappear into synonymy along with the other hundreds of thousands of synonyms in the pool of "available" names already.

Kaiser (2012) is partially correct when he writes "If the purpose of the *Code* is 'to promote stability and universality in the scientific names of animals,' this goal cannot be achieved so long as Hoser's names are treated as available by the *Code* and unavailable by many in the herpetological community."

The obvious solution to the problem is for Kaiser and the rest of the Wüster gang to abide by the code and admit that the Hoser names are available under the code.

Then there will be 'stability and universality in the scientific names of animals,'.

From there, the only issue to be debated by them is whether or not the taxa identified by Hoser are in fact worthy of recognition based on peer reviewed scientific evidence.

The Wüster gang must either formally renounce their scheme to rename hundreds of Hoser named taxa and those of other scientists, or if they refuse to do so, then the ICZN must formally rule that all affected names are available under the code and must not be deliberately over-written in direct contravention of the spirit and letter of the rules.

Kaiser *et al.* (2013) wrote "These recommendations are not formal nomenclatural proposals according to articles of the *Code*", but since then this gang have treated the document as if it is (see for example Reynolds *et al.* 2013b, Fritz and Havas 2013 and Bates *et al.* 2013). Therefore the ICZN should as a matter of urgency place both Kaiser *et al.* (2012) and the later version Kaiser *et al.* (2013) on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Works in Zoology to remove the instability, even though neither actually propose newly diagnosed taxon names.

The statement "a key problem for stability with Hoser's approach is his practice of giving names to even the most poorly supported groups, and then selecting type material he assumes to be suitable from lists presented in the literature, without ever evaluating this material himself." is patently false and shown as such when the original Hoser papers are read. In an earlier document, Kaiser *et al.* (2013) complained of myself only harvesting the

best clades to name as genera. However if one were to actually read all my descriptions, not one single taxon is defined solely on a molecular basis! Molecular results are only cited as supporting my diagnoses if and when available.

I do note however that the Wüster gang cannot identify one single taxon named by myself that has its basis of naming refuted by molecular evidence.

Kaiser's reference to naming branches of phylogenies as if it is an easy thing to do, and as an allegation of myself somehow stealing naming rights from others is not supported by any evidence and yet another reckless claim. Checking the accuracy of inputs in phylogenies, including by cross-checking of morphological attributes of the relevant species and all other relevant evidence takes time. Kaiser's own good friend and co-author of Kaiser *et al.* (2013), Wulf Schleip has conceded that large amounts of material at Genbank is in fact improperly labelled, making taxonomy based on molecular results only a very risky venture (Schleip 2013b).

In terms of nomenclature, further time is required to check for pre-existing names and resurrecting them as needed. Kaiser ignores all this and comments within his papers cited below show he has no idea as to what the differences are between simple taxonomy and nomenclature!

By way of example Kaiser *et al.* (2011) wrote: "Rawlings *et al.* (2008) determined that *reticulatus* and *timoriensis* were sufficiently phylogenetically distinct from other species in the genus *Python* to warrant separate generic recognition. However, we believe that the generic name assigned to these two species by Rawlings *et al.* (2008) is taxonomically unavailable".

KAISER AND THE REST OF THE WÜSTER GANG, A VERY NOISY MINORITY!

Kaiser's claim he represents "a strong majority of scientists against a single individual who seeks to validate his actions by using the *Code*." is patently false. Fact is that in spite of an intensive marketing effort spanning a year and dressing up an attack on myself as a point of view endorsing peer review (which happens to be my position in actions and not that of the Wüster gang), the Wüster gang blog marketed as Kaiser *et al.* (2013) failed to gain the support of a majority of herpetologists. By way of example, not one of Australia's pre-eminent herpetological taxonomists signed the Kaiser *et al.* (2012, 2013) declarations, these being Dr Hal Cogger (Cogger 2012, 2013), Dr Glenn Shea (Shea 2013a, 2013b, 2013d), Richard Wells (Wells 2013) and Ross Wellington (Wellington 2013)!

All publicly stated they were opposed to it (Cogger 2013, Shea, 2013a, Wellington 2013, Wells 2013).

The case whereby the Wüster gang faked thousands of online “votes” to defraud the Accor hotels chain of thousands of dollars is a matter of public record, with relevant material from the Wüster gang themselves quoted and cited by Hoser (2012a, 2012b), meaning that any claims by the Wüster gang of widespread support for their rule-breaking position must be treated with utmost scepticism.

Added to this the Wüster gang’s ruthless censorship of journals and internet sites that they control, countless examples of which have been screen dumped and archived, liberal usage of bogus internet ID’s to fake widespread support for their views and to post bare-faced lies about myself as part of a broad-based hate campaign (as seen on the Wikipedia page and Facebook pages they manage), and the evil insidious nature of their agenda becomes apparent.

Of course any success they have in renaming properly named taxa in herpetology and stealing the published works of others, will be copied by similar ruthless individuals in other areas of zoology if the Wüster gang are allowed to succeed.

In an unsubstantiated attack on myself, Kaiser wrote:

“While it is easy and probably correct to say that taxonomic research will eventually ferret out the false names and place them into the synonymy of scientifically acceptable names - after all, it has always been thus - this is not good enough any more, especially when a single, self-supported individual with the ability to publish at will can easily produce new names faster than scientists can synonymise them; the former has no constraints imposed by peer reviewers, publishers, tenure review boards, funding agencies, or even access to specimens. Poorly executed taxonomy not only contaminates the products of science, but will also divert the efforts of other scientists away from following their own research goals; it compels them instead to devote their efforts to refuting pseudoscience.”

As it happens the comments “While it is easy and probably correct to say that taxonomic research will eventually ferret out the false names and place them into the synonymy of scientifically acceptable names - after all, it has always been thus” are correct, but they in fact apply to his own Wüster gang. The holotype examples of the time-wasting taxonomic vandalism they have engaged in include their reckless attempts to rename the snake genera *Spracklandus* and *Broghammerus* and three Hoser-named lizard genera *Swilesaurus*, *Funkisaurus* and *Adelynkimberlea* as well as Wulf Schleip’s creation of three bogus *Leiopython* species (Schleip 2008) in a holotype case of scientific fraud and evidence free

taxonomy (Hoser 2009, confirmed by CITES 2011). All these actions of “Pseudoscience” by Kaiser and his mates, which now need to be undone, has wasted and will waste a lot of time by scientists better spent on more productive endeavours, including perhaps naming other unnamed species and genera!

I should also note that as of 2015 usage of the correct Hoser names by others still exceeds that of the Wüster gang and in spite of their best efforts, making a mockery of their claim to have majority support of the herpetological community.

As of 1 May 2015, the Google results for usage of each name was as follows:

Broghammerus 11,200 results

Malayopython 5,990 results

Put another way, it seems that 2 out of 3 herpetologists prefer to use the proper code compliant name for the reticulated pythons as opposed to the illegitimate “alternative taxonomy” of the Wüster gang!

These numbers also make a mockery of the 6 times repeated claim by Rhodin *et al.* (2015) that their views against using “Hoser names” are those of the “global herpetological community”.

That is also in the face of their overt attacks on websites using the correct names as outlined by them on their own controlled Facebook page “herpetological Taxonomy” with just 290 “likes in both May 2014 and May 2014 (indicating their anti-code campaign has “tanked”, which also must by definition give their warped views of nomenclature an apparent bias that would otherwise not be the case.

Or alternatively look at *Leiopython hoserae* Hoser, 2000 versus *Leiopython meridionalis* Schleip, 2014.

As of 1 May 2015, the Google results for usage of each name was as follows:

Leiopython hoserae 3,520 results

Leiopython meridionalis 711 results.

With this taxon contest, representing Schleip’s most audacious attempt of name theft ever, and in the face of his near 24/7 obsessive campaign to get usage of his improperly coined name he has only managed to get at best about one in five herpetologists to use his name!

THE RED HERRING OF THE “TAXON FILTER”

The “Taxon Filter” as proposed by Kaiser and taken to its highest possible altruistic level is nothing more than an expanded form of peer review and is not the real basis of his paper.

But the real reason for his paper was to prepare people for his gang’s wholesale destruction of the

rules of nomenclature. In the form proposed by Kaiser, the so-called "Taxon Filter" is clearly a sinister plan to enable his group to take control of the naming rights for species and genera in herpetology and perhaps elsewhere and then to impose his own warped and evidence-free taxonomy on other scientists and hopefully with the approval of the ICZN. This is to be executed while masquerading as a benign form of peer review. Wüster and his gang are known to stack internet forums and the like with their own cronies, remove dissenters and to stifle proper scientific discourse, debate and correct outcomes.

Examples are seen in the Facebook forums the gang control including those cited already.

This would be a *fait accompli* in any Wüster gang proposed taxonomic filter. It is also a bogus argument to justify non-use of scientific evidence-based names first proposed by myself, that have been through rigorous peer review and are now widely in use.

While, the work of myself Raymond Hoser, is the target of the gang's attacks this year, who knows who's names and works they will turn their attentions to after I have departed from zoological research. Based on my age of 52 in 2014, this will be shortly.

Furthermore if the lists produced by Kaiser *et al.* (2012 and 2013) are any indication of how their taxonomic filter will work, it is most certainly something that should not be foisted on herpetologists or anyone else!

Recall, these lists compiled without a shred of evidence consisted of species being moved to genera they had never been in and could never sensibly be placed in.

Coauthor of Kaiser *et al.*, an amateur snake keeper, Wulf Schleip (no doubt a part of this planned "Taxon Filter") and with no expertise in taxonomy whatsoever has already polluted online databases with his three bogus species of *Leiopython* (Schleip 2008)!

Recall they were shown as being "non-taxa" by Hoser (2009a) and yet they remain listed by Wüster's good mate Peter Uetz on his "The Reptile Database" as full and recognized species as of 29 December 2013 (Uetz, 2013).

This action alone means you could safely expect other "non-taxa", or species and genera described without a shred of evidence described by the gang to slip through Kaiser's so-called "Taxon Filter" if the gang ever got complete control of the taxonomy and naming of reptiles.

Would their "Taxon Filter" remove the rights of others to demand evidence of proof before they

were forced to recognize taxa or use names, once "cleared" by them and regardless of provisions and rules of the Zoological Code!

Then of course, such evidence-based taxa such as the Hoser-named *Broghammerus* Hoser, 2004, *Acanthophis wellsi* Hoser, 1998 and the like would have been "banned" outright and then no doubt later named in an act of scientific theft, by members of the gang controlling their "Taxon Filter".

KAISER'S ACTIONS TO CREATE MASS INSTABILITY

The statement,

"In herpetology, we have reached the point when the scientific community has formally and nearly unanimously rejected the use of names coined by Raymond Hoser since the year 2000." is simply not true.

Likewise for the next statement,

"Given that these names have appeared in a single outlet and their production has followed the same pattern that makes them unacceptable to herpetologists, such names could be rendered void for the purposes of nomenclature if the Commission used its plenary power (Article 81) to declare all names proposed in Hoser's *AJH* unavailable."

Rather than giving a name-by-name examples, one needs look no further than the name *Broghammerus* Hoser, 2004. This name was in fact published in *Crocodylian*, a journal over which I have never had editorial or other control and have no part in publishing. Like all names from the period 1998-2008, it was not published in *Australasian Journal of Herpetology*, as that journal simply didn't exist at the time (Wells 2013).

Kaiser himself knew this because he cited all Hoser taxonomy publications from 2000 to 2012 in Kaiser *et al.* (2012) and Kaiser *et al.* (2013), including their publication outlets!

It also means he has knowingly made a false statement within *Bull ZN* and one that should have been removed by the editors.

To claim the name *Broghammerus* has been "formally and nearly unanimously rejected" is also patently false as seen by the many thousands of uses of it in books, papers and online globally.

In terms of books see for example De Lang (2011) or Grismer (2011), or alternatively view any of the 14,700 publications reported by Google on 25 December 2013.

Likewise for other Hoser names that are also found throughout much of the scientific and popular literature in many thousands of publications, including for example the books of Eipper (2012), Emmott and Wilson (2009), Storr, Smith and

Johnstone (2002), Wilson and Swan (2008, 2013) and so on, many of whom cite my scientific papers (the majority not being taxonomic in nature) more (by number of citations) than those of any other author (e.g. Eipper 2012).

The online search engine, Google reported over 300,000 uses of "*Morelia harrisoni*" Hoser, 2000 alone, as of 25 December 2013, 4,630 uses of "*Acanthophis wellsei*" Hoser 1998 or 3,610 uses of "*Leiopython hosei*" Hoser, 2000 which can hardly be reported as "nearly unanimously rejected" names as alleged by Kaiser (2013)!

That such false statements by Kaiser could make it into the pages of *Bull ZN* is an indictment of the pre-publication fact checking and editorial control of that journal and one hopes that such indiscretions do not form part of a regular editorial pattern and/or the editorial oversight of contributions is tightened up so as to prevent such glaring errors being printed in the future!

One also hopes that the ICZN Commissioners see through the errors being published in the journal that is meant to be their collective mouthpiece!

PRECEDENTS THAT DON'T SUPPORT THE KAISER'S CASE

The statement by Kaiser (2013),

"There is precedent for this step (mass banning of names via plenary action), albeit for entirely different reasons, and the Commission recently took it in the case of a work by Lacepède (Savage, 2003; Opinion 2104, BZN 62: 55; March 2005)." as justification to get the ICZN to rubber stamp the Wüster gang's planned renaming of hundreds of taxa in an unscientific manner is also ridiculous.

Lacepède's work from the 1700's was written outside the Zoological Code. Mine was not!

There are many other critically important differences.

Secondly the ICZN rely on the code itself for guidance and never relies on precedent!

The code states "(8) There is no "case law" in zoological nomenclature. Problems in nomenclature are decided by applying the Code directly, and never by reference to precedent. If the Commission is called on to make a ruling on a particular case, the decision relates to that case alone." (Ride *et al.* 1999).

There is however a precedent of relevance in terms of the Wüster gang plans. This was in the failed attempt to suppress for nomenclatural purposes the works of Wells and Wellington (1983, 1985). Almost unanimously Australian herpetologists of the time sought the ICZN suppress the works on the basis that the Wells and Wellington papers spelt chaos

and instability for taxonomy and nomenclature in Australia. The number of taxonomic acts in these papers, exceeded the number cited by Kaiser *et al.* (2013) as needing formal suppression.

After arguments were raised in *Bull ZN* questioning the merits of blanket suppression of authors or journals, the ICZN refused to rule against the Wells and Wellington papers in 1991 (ICZN 1991).

History has also been more than favorable to the original authors.

There was no taxonomic or nomenclatural chaos as allegedly feared by proponents of the original submission and while the Wells and Wellington papers did contain errors and most descriptions of taxa were extremely brief (in contrast to those of the Hoser publications and the Wells ones also on the Kaiser *et al.* hit list), most later scientists have confirmed the bulk of the Wells and Wellington taxonomy and corresponding code-compliant nomenclature.

The most recent relevant Australian reptile field guide, Wilson and Swan (2013) lists more than 30 genera and species first created by Wells and Wellington in 1983 and 1985 and follows many dozens of other taxonomic acts first done by Wells and Wellington.

No doubt the same would apply to the Hoser names from 2000 to 2013 and the Wells names of the same time period if time were allowed to take its course. It is knowledge of the fact that the Hoser and Wells taxonomy and nomenclature of the post 2000 period is in fact generally correct that drives the Wüster gang to forcibly suppress names now that they know are scientifically formulated and evidence based.

KAISER'S ATTACKS ON THE LETTER AND SPIRIT OF THE CODE

The statement by Kaiser (2013), "the spirit of the Code is truly more important than the letter of the Code." is correct, but unfortunately it is Kaiser and the rest of the Wüster gang who are clearly operating outside the code, not !!

Recall in 2012 in his call to arms, Kaiser said his plan "may require overriding the *letter* of the Code" (Kaiser *et al.* 2012). He repeated this call in Kaiser *et al.* 2013 by seeking herpetologists to recklessly create taxonomic and nomenclatural instability in order to force the ICZN to rule on each and every one of the names of Hoser, Wells and anyone else they sought to over-write (O'Shea 2013e).

More importantly, you can easily see the trail of abuse of the code by Wüster and the gang spanning more than 15 years (Williams and Starkey 1999a, 1999b, 1999c, noting the second and third versions of the same document were in fact published in year

2000), or Wüster (2009a-c, 2013a-d), as crystallized in Hoser (2013c).

Included for example are Wüster's and O'Shea's repeated calls to people to overwrite all names including *Broghammerus*, knowing full-well the instability and chaos such actions would cause (Wüster 2013d, O'Shea 2013e).

That call by the Wüster gang was taken up by Reynolds *et al.* in December 2013 in what can only be described as extreme taxonomic misconduct and a total contempt for rules and spirit of the code!

Or perhaps there is no better example of the abuse of the spirit of the code, than the case of the serial offenders Wallach, Wüster and Broadley who in 2009 knowingly lied when claiming *AJH* Issue 7 was not validly published according to the code and then in breach of the ethics of the code renamed the Cobra genus *Spracklandus*. Their continued false statements for years after being told that their statements were wrong and being provided with confirmatory evidence is even more disturbing (Hoser 2013c provides a list of relevant references, but they include Wüster and Bernils 2011 and Schleip and O'Shea 2010).

THE WIDENING TAXONOMIC AND NOMENCLATURAL INSTABILITY CAUSED BY KAISER ET AL.

What is particularly alarming and no doubt a sign of things to come, unless the ICZN intervenes, is the citation of the taxonomic vandalism of Kaiser *et al.* (2013) as a justification for other renegade authors potentially outside the Wüster gang created war-zone to deliberately engage in code-violating acts of taxonomic vandalism and nomenclatural misconduct, which will spread across all areas of the zoological sciences.

Four such examples include:

1/ Mark O'Shea's creation of a hit list of authors whose names are to be banned, even before they have published papers (O'Shea 2013), meaning that scientific merit is not and has never been a relevant issue for their gang;

2/ The non-recognition of validly described taxa, backed by strong and undisputed morphological and molecular data in a paper recently published (Hoser 2013b) not read or cited by Kaiser *et al.* (2013) (as at that stage the Hoser paper hadn't been published) on the alleged basis that Kaiser *et al.* (2013) provided a code compliant justification to do so (Fritz and Havas, 2013).

Fritz and Havas wrote, "Hoser (2013) named a new species and a new subspecies of *Macrochelys*. These taxa are not recognized here until the situation associated with taxa descriptions by Hoser is clarified (cf. Kaiser *et al.* 2013)."

3/ The claim that Kaiser *et al.* (2013) provided justification to overwrite a Cope genus from 1861, (*Caudisona*) simply because Hoser used the name in a scientific paper (Kaiser 2013).

4/ The overwriting of a valid scientific name from 1983 (the Wells and Wellington, *Australiasis*) on the alleged basis that Kaiser *et al.* (2013) provided a code compliant justification to do so, even though Kaiser *et al.* in their rule-breaking hit list, used year 2000 as their alleged cut off date to overwrite other people's names (Reynolds *et al.* 2013b), meaning *Australiasis* was not among those names marked to be overwritten, further meaning the list of authors and names liable to be over-written is effectively unlimited.

In summary I am mortified that the ICZN has in their own journal published what is easily shown to be a collection of false statements and misrepresentations from a man (Kaiser) representing a group of renegades hell-bent on the destruction of order and sanity in zoology and both taxonomy and nomenclature.

I note these men have a stated aim of operating in an unscientific manner outside of the Zoological Code (Wüster 2013f) and who by their own actions clearly seek the destruction of a system of zoological nomenclature that has operated well for more than 200 years.

The Wüster gang have long ago lost all arguments about the taxonomy underpinning the Hoser names and those of others they seek to steal naming rights from (e.g. Wells and Wellington 1983).

Their own published phylogenies support our taxonomy! (e.g. Wallach, Wüster and Broadley 2009 and Reynolds *et al.* 2013a, the latter being mainly a rehashing of the work of Rawlings *et al.* 2008). In fact before the Wüster gang induced Reynolds *et al.* to engage in their reckless brand of taxonomic vandalism in 2013, the original draft of their paper did use the correct name *Broghammerus* (and not the more recently coined *Malayopython*) throughout the paper. We know this because an earlier draft, different from the widely posted version seen on Bryan Fry's website at:

http://www.venomdoc.com/downloads/MPE_pythons.pdf, inadvertently this being Reynolds *et al.* (2013b) remained online on a website on 13 December 2013 and was downloaded by myself from here: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1055790313004284>, this being the original document Reynolds *et al.* (2013a).

So it is now self evident that members of the Wüster gang are marketing their plan to corruptible friends in academia as a short cut to steal the work of others in breach of the zoological code and without

having to do the original research.

Wells (2013) correctly said “what is unfolding is a straight forward matter of scientific fraud and intellectual theft that is masquerading as science”, a view agreed by many others including former ICZN Commissioner, Hal Cogger (Cogger 2013).

On this basis, it is now time for the ICZN to step in and make sure that this gang fail in their self-declared war on the rules of zoological nomenclature before they cause a level of damage that so far has not even been visualized by most zoologists. The Kaiser *et al.* gang are manufacturing a disaster of extreme taxonomic vandalism and nomenclatural destruction that threatens to engulf other areas of the biological sciences and way beyond the scaly laboratories of herpetologists.

Their actions put the entire code of zoological nomenclature at risk!

REFERENCES CITED

- Aplin, K. P. and Donnellan, S. C. 1999. An extended description of the Pilbara death adder, *Acanthophis wellsi* Hoser (Serpentes: Elapidae), with notes on the desert death adder, *A. pyrrhus*
- Boulenger, and identification of a possible hybrid zone. *Rec. West. Austr. Mus.* 19:277-298.
- Baig *et al.* 2012. A morphology-based taxonomic revision of *Laudakia* Gray, 1845 (Squamata: Agamidae). *Vertebrate Zoology* 62(2):213-260 (6 July 2012) (Received by *Zoological Record* on 29 November 2012).
- Bates, M. F. *et al.* 2013. A molecular phylogeny of the African plated lizards, genus *Gerrhosaurus* Wiegmann, 1828 (Squamata: Gerrhosauridae), with the description of two new genera. *Zootaxa* 3750 (5): 465-493 (23 December 2013).
- Cogger, H. G. 2012. Email to Scott Eipper, 15 June:8:03:59 PM AEST
- Cogger, H. G. 2013. Email to Raymond Hoser, 17 August 2013.
- CITES 2011. CITES Asian snake trade workshop, Guangzhou, China, Topic 2 , Trade and Enforcement Issues, 11-14 April.
- De Lang, R. 2011. *The Snakes of the Lesser Sunda Islands (Nusa Tenggara), Indonesia: A Field Guide to the Terrestrial and Semi-aquatic Snakes with Identification Key.* Edition Chimaira, Frankfurt, 359 pp.
- Eipper, S. 2012. *A guide to Australian snakes in captivity ... elapids and colubrids.* Australian Reptile Publications:280 pp.
- Emmott, A. and Wilson, S. G. 2009. *Snakes of Western Queensland. A field guide.* Desert Channels, Queensland: 136 pp.
- Fritz, U and Havas, P. 2013. Order Testudines: 2013 update. *Zootaxa* 3703(1):12-14.
- Fry, B. G. *et al.* 2002. Electrospray liquid chromatography/mass spectrometry fingerprinting of *Acanthophis* (death adder) venoms: taxonomic and toxicological implications. *Rapid Communications in Mass Spectrometry*:16:600-608.
- Grismer, L. 2011. *Amphibians and reptiles of the Seribuat Archipelago. Peninsula Malaysia.* Edition Chimaira, Germany: 239 pp.
- Hoser, R. T. 1980. Further records of aggregations of various species of Australian Snake. *Herpetofauna* 12(1):16-22.
- Hoser, R. T. 1989. *Australian Reptiles and Frogs.* Pierson and Co. Mosman, Australia:238 pp.
- Hoser, R. T. 1991. *Endangered Animals of Australia.* Pierson Publishing, Mosman, Australia:240 pp.
- Hoser, R. T. 1993. *Smuggled: The underground Trade in Australia's Wildlife.* Apollo Publishing, Mosman, NSW, Australia:159 pp.
- Hoser, R. T. 1994. *The Hoser Files: The fight against entrenched official corruption.* Kotabi Publishing, Doncaster, Victoria, 322 pp.
- Hoser, R. T. 1996. *Smuggled-2: Wildlife Trafficking, Crime and Corruption in Australia.* Kotabi Publishing, Doncaster, Victoria, Australia:280 pp.
- Hoser, R. T. 1998a. Death adders (genus *Acanthophis*): an overview, including descriptions of five new species and one subspecies. *Monitor* 9:20-41.
- Hoser, R. T. 1998b. A New Snake From Queensland, Australia (Serpentes: Elapidae). *Monitor* 10(1):5-9.
- Hoser, R. T. 1999a. *Victoria Police Corruption.* Kotabi Publishing, Doncaster, Victoria, Australia: 732 pp.
- Hoser, R. T. 1999b. *Victoria Police Corruption-2.* Kotabi Publishing, Doncaster, Victoria, Australia: 800 pp.
- Hoser, R. T. 2000a. A revision of the Australasian pythons. *Ophidia Review* 1:7-27.
- Hoser, R. T. 2000b. A new species of snake (Serpentes: Elapidae) from Irian Jaya. *Litteratura Serpentina* 20(6):178-186.
- Hoser, R. T. 2001. A current assessment of the status of the snakes of the genera *Cannia* and *Pailsus*, including descriptions of three new subspecies from the Northern Territory and Western Australia, Australia. *Boydii:Journal of the Herpetological Association of Queensland* July 2001:26-60.
- Hoser, R. T. 2001b. *Taxi:Indecent exposures.* Kotabi Publishing, Doncaster, Victoria, Australia: 504 pp.
- Hoser, R. T. 2001c. *Taxi-2:More indecent*

exposures. Kotabi Publishing, Doncaster, Victoria, Australia: 504 pp.

Hoser, R. T. 2002a. An overview of the Taipans, genus: (*Oxyuranus*) (Serpentes:Elapidae) including the description of a new subspecies. *Crocodylian: Journal of the Victorian Association of Amateur Herpetologists* 3:43-50.

Hoser, R. T. 2002b. Death adders (genus *Acanthophis*): an updated overview, including description of 3 new island species and 2 new Australian subspecies. *Crocodylian: Journal of the Victorian Association of Amateur Herpetologists* 4(1):5-11, 16-22, 24-30.

Hoser, R. T. 2003a. A new subspecies of elapid (Serpentes, Elapidae), from New Guinea. *Boydii:Journal of the Herpetological Association of Queensland* Autumn 2003:2-4.

Hoser, R. T. 2003b. The rough-scaled snakes, genus *Tropidechis* (Serpentes: Elapidae), including the description of a new species from far north Queensland, Australia. *Crocodylian: Journal of the Victorian Association of Amateur Herpetologists* 4(2):11-14.

Hoser, R. T. 2003c. A re-assessment of the taxonomy of the red-bellied black snakes (genus *Pseudechis*) with the descriptions of two new subspecies. *Boydii:Journal of the Herpetological Association of Queensland* Autumn 2003:15-18.

Hoser, R. T. 2003d. A new species of elapid (Serpentes: Elapidae), from western New South Wales. *Crocodylian: Journal of the Victorian Association of Amateur Herpetologists* 4(2):19-26.

Hoser, R. T. 2003e. Five new Australian pythons. *Macarthur Herpetological Society Journal Issue* 40:4-9.

Hoser, R. T. 2004. A reclassification of the Pythoninae including the description of two new genera, two new species and nine new subspecies. *Crocodylian: Journal of the Victorian Association of Amateur Herpetologists* 4(3):31-37 and 4(4):21-40.

Hoser, R. T. 2009a. Creationism and contrived science: a review of recent python systematics papers and the resolution of issues of taxonomy and nomenclature. *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 2:1-34.

Hoser, R. T. 2009b. A reclassification of the true cobras; species formerly referred to the genera *Naja*, *Boulengerina* and *Paranaja*. *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 7:1-15.

Hoser, R. T. 2012a. Exposing a Fraud! *Afronaja* Wallach, Wüster and Broadley 2009, is a junior synonym of *Spracklandus* Hoser 2009! *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 9:1-64.

Hoser, R. T. 2012b. Robust taxonomy and nomenclature based on good science escapes harsh fact-based criticism, but remains unable to escape an attack of lies and deception. *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 14:37-64.

Hoser, R. T. 2013a. The science of herpetology is built on evidence, ethics, quality publications and strict compliance with the rules of nomenclature. *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 18:2-79.

Hoser, R. T. 2013b. An updated taxonomy of the living Alligator Snapping Turtles (*Macrochelys* Gray, 1856), with descriptions of a new tribe, new species and new subspecies. *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 16:53-63.

Hoser, R. T. 2013c. Case 3601: *Spracklandus* Hoser, 2009 (Reptilia, Serpentes, ELAPIDAE): request for confirmation of the availability of the generic name and for the nomenclatural validation of the journal in which it was published. *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* 70(4):234-237.

ICZN 1991. Decision of the commission. Three works by Richard W. Wells and C. Ross Wellington: proposed suppression for nomenclatural purposes. *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* 48(4):337-338.

Kaiser, H. *et al.* 2011. The herpetofauna of Timor-Leste: A first report. *Zookeys Online* 109:19-86.

Kaiser, H. 2012a. SPAM email sent out to numerous recipients on 5 June 2012.

Kaiser, H. 2012b. Point of view. Hate article sent as attachment with SPAM email sent out on 5 June 2012.

Kaiser, H. 2013. The Taxon Filter, a novel mechanism designed to facilitate the relationship between taxonomy and nomenclature, vis-à-vis the utility of the Code's Article 81 (the Commission's plenary power). *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* 70(4) December 2013:293-302.

Kaiser, H., Crother, B. L., Kelly, C. M. R., Luiselli, L., O'Shea, M., Ota, H., Passos, P., Schleich, W. D. and Wüster, W. 2013. Best practices: In the 21st Century, Taxonomic Decisions in Herpetology are Acceptable Only When supported by a body of Evidence and Published via Peer-Review. *Herpetological Review* 44(1):8-23.

Kuch, U., Scott Keogh, J., Weigel, J., Smith, L. A. and Mebs, D. 2005. Phylogeography of Australia's king brown snake (*Pseudechis australis*) reveals Pliocene divergence and Pleistocene dispersal of a top predator. *Naturwissenschaften* 92:121-127.

McDowell, S. B. 1975. A catalogue of the snakes of New Guinea and the Solomons, with special reference to those in the Bernice P. Bishop Museum. Part II. Anilloidea and Pythoninae. *Journal of Herpetology* 9 (1):1-79.

- Newman, C. 2000. Editorial. *Ophidia Review* (1):3.
- O'Shea, M. 2007. *Boas and Pythons of the world*. New Holland UK:160 pp.
- O'Shea, M. 2008. Brief history of *Pseudonaja* in New Guinea. *The Herpetile* 33(1):31-32.
- O'Shea, M. 2009. Multiple posts on website at: <http://pleiotropy.fieldofscience.com/2009/03/taxonomic-war.html#comment-form> all dated 18 March.
- O'Shea, M. 2012a. Post on facebook at: http://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?id=123173187727554&story_fbid=397980823580121 on May 17 at 9:18pm
- O'Shea, M. 2012b. Post on facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/wulf.schleip?sk=wall> dated 2 August.
- O'Shea, M. 2013a. Post on facebook at: on his own wall at <http://www.facebook.com> on 20 March 2013.
- O'Shea, M. 2013b. Post on Facebook wall of Wulf Schleip, dated 25 March 2013.
- O'Shea, M. 2013c. Post on Facebook wall of International Herpetological Symposium, dated 19 March 2013.
- O'Shea, M. 2013d. Amazon snake mystery. Web page article posted at: http://www.markoshea.info/oba4-4_peru03.php downloaded on 9 December 2013.
- O'Shea, M. 2013e. Post on Facebook on his own wall at <http://www.facebook.com> on 21 May 2013.
- O'Shea, M. *et al.* 2013a. Posts on Facebook wall of "Novataxa" at: <http://www.facebook.com/messages/100000474693087#!/novataxa?fref=ts> on 1 April.
- O'Shea, M. *et al.* 2013b. Posts on Facebook wall of Wulf Schleip, 9 December 2013.
- Rawlings, L. H. and Donnellan, S. C. 2003. Phylogeographic analysis of the green python, *Morelia viridis*, reveals cryptic diversity. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 27:36-44.
- Rawlings, L. H., Rabosky, D., Donnellan, S. C. and Hutchinson, M. N. 2008. Python phylogenetics: inference from morphology and mitochondrial DNA. *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* 93(3): 603-619.
- Reynolds, R. G., Niemiller, M. L. and Revella, L. J. 2013a. Toward a Tree-of-Life for the boas and pythons: Multilocus species-level phylogeny with unprecedented taxon sampling. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, Uncorrected proof uploaded on 6 December 2013 to <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1055790313004284>
- Reynolds, R. G., Niemiller, M. L. and Revella, L. J. 2013b. Toward a Tree-of-Life for the boas and pythons: Multilocus species-level phylogeny with unprecedented taxon sampling. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, Uncorrected proof uploaded on 6 December 2013 to http://www.venomdoc.com/downloads/MPE_pythons.pdf
- Ride, W. D. L. (ed.) *et al.* (on behalf of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature) 1999. *International code of Zoological Nomenclature*. The Natural History Museum - Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, UK (also commonly cited as "ICZN 1999" or "The Code").
- Schleip, W. D. 2008. Revision of the Genus *Leiopython* Hubrecht 1879 (Serpentes: Pythonidae) with the Redescription of Taxa Recently Described by Hoser (2000) and the Description of New Species. *Journal of Herpetology* 42(4):645-667.
- Schleip, W. D. 2013a. Posts on internet chat forum at: <http://www.pure-reptiles.de/index.php?page=Thread&threadID=1290> dated 19 March 2013-7 April 2013.
- Schleip, W. D. 2013b. Post dated 24 December 2013 at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/29038532220/>
- Schleip, W. D. 2013c. Post dated 24 December 2013 at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/559830307415249/>
- Schleip, W. D. and O'Shea, M. 2010. Annotated checklist of the recent and extinct pythons (Serpentes, Pythonidae), with notes on nomenclature, taxonomy, and distribution. *ZooKeys Online* 66:29-79.
- Schleip, W. D. *et al.* 2007. Numerous edits to Wikipedia page for "Leiopython" as hosted at: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leiopython>, including the linked edit history for that page as downloaded on 12 December 2008.
- Shea, G. 2013a. Email to Raymond Hoser dated Fri, 8 Mar 2013 04:29:39 +0000.
- Shea, G. 2013b. Post on Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/glenn.shea.73?ref=ts&fref=ts> on 8 March at 7.51 AM.
- Shea, G. 2013c. Post on Facebook on 20 March at: <http://www.facebook.com/glenn.shea.73?ref=ts&fref=ts#!/bryangrieg.fry?fref=ts>
- Shea, G. 2013d. Post on Facebook on 20 March at: <http://www.facebook.com/glenn.shea.73?ref=ts&fref=ts#!/bryangrieg.fry?fref=ts>
- Shea, G. 2013c Two posts on Facebook dated 13 December 2013 at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Herpetofauna.taxonomy/>

- Starkey, B. 2008. E-mail to R. Hoser dated 1 Feb 2008 at 22:12:40.
- Storr, G. M., Smith, L. A. and Johnstone, R. E. 2002. *Snakes of Western Australia*. Western Australian Museum: 309 pp.
- Thorpe, S. 2013. Post on taxacom list server at <http://mailman.nhm.ku.edu/pipermail/taxacom/2013-May/077590.html>
- Twombly, R. 2013. Profile at Iherp at: <http://www.iherp.com/Public/ShowUser.aspx?UserId=75ebfdab-bd2b-4261-9146-e479aa261fc8>
- Twombly, R. *et al.* 2013. Facebook hate page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Herpetofauna.taxonomy/>
- Uetz, P. 2013. The reptile database at: <http://reptile-database.reptarium.cz/search?search=leiopython&submit=Search> downloaded 29 December 2013
- Van Aken, G. 2001. Editorial. *Litteratura Serpenti* 21(3):66.
- Various authors 2011a. "Ray Hoser Melbourne's biggest wanker" Facebook page, May-July 2011 inclusive.
- Various authors 2011b. NY Woman dead from snake bite? Post at: <http://www.venomousreptiles.org/forums/Experts/51290>, June 2011.
- Wallach, V., Wüster, W. and Broadley, D. 2009. In praise of subgenera: taxonomic status of Cobras of the genus *Naja* Laurenti (Serpentes: Elapidae). *Zootaxa* 2236:26-36 (online paper).
- Wellington, R. W. 2013. Email to Raymond Hoser, Richard Wells and the ICZN, 25 Dec 2013 20:46:17 +1100
- Wellington, C. R. and Wells, R. W. 1998. A response to Ken Aplin's article on herpetology in Australia. *Monitor: Journal of the Victorian Herpetological Society* 10(2/3):110-112.
- Wells, R. W. 2002. Taxonomy of the genus *Acanthophis* (Reptilia: Elapidae) in Australia. *Australian Biodiversity Record* 2002(5):1-18.
- Wells, R. W. 2005. Post at: <http://forums.kingsnake.com/view.php?id=976434,976914> dated 29 December.
- Wells, R. W. 2013. Post on Facebook on 18 December posted at https://www.facebook.com/groups/559830307415249/?ref=br_tf
- Wells, R. W. and Wellington, C. R. 1983. A synopsis of the class Reptilia in Australia. *Australian Journal of Herpetology* 1(3-4):73-129.
- Wells, R. W. and Wellington, C. R. 1985. A classification of the Amphibia and Reptilia of Australia. *Australian Journal of Herpetology* Supplementary Series (1):1-61.
- Williams, D. J. and Starkey, B. A. 1999a. Comments on the Genus *Pailsus* (Hoser, 1998), Undated document from the internet site <http://www.uq.edu.au/~ddbfr/index.html>:5 pp (note the url) - "Version 1" dated 1 November 1998 (date only at foot of document).
- Williams, D. J. and Starkey, B. A. 1999b Comments on the Genus *Pailsus* (Hoser, 1998), Undated document from the internet site Kingsnake.com " at: <http://www.Kingsnake.com/toxinology/snakes/taxonomy.html> (note the url) and later "The Venomous Snake Forum" January 29, 2001 at 01:50:13: pp. "Version 2". (Actually published in this altered form in January 2001)
- Williams, D. J. and Starkey, B. A. 1999c. Comments on the Genus *Pailsus* (Hoser, 1998), Undated document from the internet site Kingsnake.com "The Venomous Snake Forum" January 30, 2001 at 02:12:58:5 at: <http://www.Kingsnake.com/forum/venom/messages/31762.html> (note the url) - Version 3. (Actually published in this altered form in January 2001)
- Williams, D. J., O'Shea, M., Daguerre, R. L., Pook, C. E., Wüster, W., Hayden, C.J., McVay, J.D., Paiva, O., Matainaho, T. L., Winkel, K. D., Austin, C. C. 2008. Origin of the eastern brownsnake, *Pseudonaja textilis* (Duméril, Bibron and Duméril) (Serpentes: Elapidae: Hydrophiinae) in New Guinea: evidence of multiple dispersals from Australia, and comments on the status of *Pseudonaja textilis pughii* Hoser 2003. *Zootaxa* 1703:47-61.
- Wilson, S. and Swan, G. 2008. *A complete guide to the reptiles of Australia*. New Holland:512 pp.
- Wilson, S. and Swan, G. 2013. *A complete guide to the reptiles of Australia*. New Holland:592 pp.
- Wüster, W. 2001a. Post on Kingsnake.com at: January 22, 2001 at 11:29:07 (same document as Wüster, W., Bush, B., Scott Keogh, J., O'Shea, M. and Shine, R. 2001. Cited below except Wüster was listed here as the sole author).
- Wüster, W. 2001b. Post on kingsnake.com on January 28, 2001 at 03:59:11.
- Wüster, W. 2003. Post on kingsnake.com on Thursday 18 December 2003 at 04:08:30.
- Wüster, W., Dumbrell, A. J., Hay, C., Pook, C. E., Williams, D. J. and Fry, B. G. 2005. Snakes across the Strait: trans-Torresian phylogeographic relationships in three genera of Australasian snakes (Serpentes: Elapidae: *Acanthophis*, *Oxyuranus*, and *Pseudechis*). *Molecular Phylogeny and Evolution* 34:1-14.
- Wüster, W. 2009a. Post on chat forum at: <http://www.venomousreptiles.org/forums/Experts/42293>

on 29 March.

Wüster, W. 2009b. Posts on internet chat forum at: <http://www.venomlist.com/forums/index.php?showtopic=24325&st=20>, during March 2009.

Wüster, W. 2009c. Multiple posts on website at: <http://pleiotropy.fieldofscience.com/2009/03/taxonomic-war.html#comment-form> all dated 18 March.

Wüster, W. 2013a. Posts on Facebook wall of Bryan Grieg Fry on 20 March 2013.

Wüster, W. 2013b. Posts on Facebook wall of Wulf Schleip from 20 March 2013 to 6 April 2013.

Wüster, W. 2013c. Post on Reptile Forum UK at: <http://www.reptileforums.co.uk/forums/snakes/946483-snakeman-hoser-29.html> on 9 April at 4.30 PM.

Wüster, W. 2013d. Post at <http://pleiotropy.fieldofscience.com/2009/03/taxonomic-war.html> dated 9 May 2013.

Wüster, W. 2013e. Post at <http://www.fieldherpforum.com/forum/viewtopic.php?f=13&t=15823&p=190713> on 27 April, 2013, 9:08 pm.

Wüster, W. 2013f. Post on Taxacom listserver 15 00:31:44 on 15 May 2013 at: <http://mailman.nhm.ku.edu/pipermail/taxacom/2013-May/077470.html>.

Wüster, W. and Bernils, R. S. 2011. On the generic classification of the rattlesnakes, with special reference to the Neotropical *Crotalus durissus* complex (Squamata: Viperidae). *Zoologia* 28 (4):417-419.

Wüster, W., Bush, B., Scott Keogh, J., O'Shea, M. and Shine, R. 2001. Taxonomic contributions in the "amateur" literature: comments on recent descriptions of new genera and species by Raymond Hoser. *Litteratura Serpentina* 21(3):67-91.


Wüster, W., Dumbrell, A. J., Hay, C., Pook, C. E., Williams, D. J. and Fry, B. G. 2005. Snakes across the Strait: trans-Torresian phylogeographic relationships in three genera of Australasian snakes (Serpentes: Elapidae: *Acanthophis*, *Oxyuranus*, and *Pseudechis*). *Molecular Phylogeny and Evolution* 34:1-14.

Wüster, W. *et al.* 2000-2013. Creation of and edits of a Wikipedia hate page "Raymond Hoser" hosted at: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raymond_Hoser.

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Taxonomy/Browser/wwwtax.cgi?id=1334238, has molecular support (see <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1095-8312.2007.00904.x>, PDF available here http://cteg.berkeley.edu/~rabosky/Publications_files/Rawlings_etal_BJLS_2008.pdf), and two of the authors of Kaiser et al. (Wulf D. Schleip and Mark O'Shea) recently accepted the genus as valid in a checklist of pythons (<http://dx.doi.org/10.3897/zookeys.66.683>). What has changed that we should now reject Broghammerus? I can't help feel that there's an element of "we did all this hard work to show that taxa 'x' is distinct, but some bugger has already given it a name, but he's a bit of a joker and (chortle) published it in his own journal (the horror), so let's give it a Proper Name". I can't help but think part of the issue here is way too many people chasing too few taxa. I suspect arthropod or nematode taxonomists would kill for this degree of attention lavished on their beasties. I'm mean, pythons are cool and everything, but seriously, aren't there more pressing things to worry about?'"/>

Re: [Taxacom] Paper on taxonomic standards in herpetology

To see messages related to this one, [group messages by conversation](#).

 Roderic Page (r.page@bio.gla.ac.uk) Schedule cleanup 6:54 PM Groups
To: TAXACOM

As an outsider I find this thread fascinating, in a train-wreck kind of way.

Regarding Hoser's names, a blanket rejection seems odd, given that some names seem to have gained acceptance. Broghammerus is used in the NCBI taxonomy <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Taxonomy/Browser/wwwtax.cgi?id=1334238>, has molecular support (see <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1095-8312.2007.00904.x>, PDF available here http://cteg.berkeley.edu/~rabosky/Publications_files/Rawlings_etal_BJLS_2008.pdf), and two of the authors of Kaiser et al. (Wulf D. Schleip and Mark O'Shea) recently accepted the genus as valid in a checklist of pythons (<http://dx.doi.org/10.3897/zookeys.66.683>). What has changed that we should now reject Broghammerus?

I can't help feel that there's an element of "we did all this hard work to show that taxa 'x' is distinct, but some bugger has already given it a name, but he's a bit of a joker and (chortle) published it in his own journal (the horror), so let's give it a Proper Name".

I can't help but think part of the issue here is way too many people chasing too few taxa. I suspect arthropod or nematode taxonomists would kill for this degree of attention lavished on their beasties. I'm mean, pythons are cool and everything, but seriously, aren't there more pressing things to worry about?

Best Practices in herpetology: Hinrich Kaiser's claims are unsubstantiated.

Raymond T. Hoser

Snakebusters, PO Box 599, Doncaster, Victoria, 3108, Australia.
Phone: +61 3 9812 3322 Fax: 9812 3355 E-mail: snakeman@snakeman.com.au
Received 2 July 2014, Accepted 1 May 2015, Published 25 May 2015.

ABSTRACT

In 2013, Kaiser *et al.* published in *Herpetological Review* a lengthy blog calling for other herpetologists not to use names formally proposed by myself (Raymond Hoser) and other herpetologists from the period 2000 onwards. This document (Kaiser *et al.* 2013), was a rehash of another, sent to herpetologists worldwide a year earlier (Kaiser 2012a and 2012b), which in 2012 Kaiser stated had been written by Wüster *et al.* (Kaiser 2012a).

Both blogs were discredited in succession by Hoser (2012) and Hoser (2013).

Kaiser *et al.* sought (and still seek) to step outside of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* ("The Code", "Zoological Rules" or "Zoological Code") (Ride *et al.* 1999) and breach the three most important rules being:

- 1/ Homonymy (Principal 5, Article 52 and elsewhere),
- 2/ Priority (Principal 3, Article 23 and elsewhere),
- 3/ Stability (Principal 4, Articles 23, 65 and elsewhere),

as well as the ethics of the Code (Appendix A) and numerous other sections of the document.

Notwithstanding this, Kaiser (2014a) repeated many of his false claims and for the purposes of rebuttal, one need look no further than Hoser (2013).

More recently Kaiser (2014b) proposed in an 11 page blog published in *Herpetological Review* that the ICZN should use their plenary powers to rule all Hoser names ever published (dating from 1998) as unavailable under the Zoological Code but in the absence of any proper formal submission.

Cogger (2013, 2014), Dubois (2014), Eipper (2013), Mutton (2014a), Shea (2013a-d), Thorpe (2013, 2014a, 2014b), Wellington (2013), Wells (2013), and many others had already condemned the Kaiser recommendations making a mockery of the claim by Kaiser (2014b) that he has broad agreement with his plans.

Of relevance is that names proposed by myself are widely used in thousands of other people's publications, easily ascertained by a "Google" search for the relevant names. To formally or informally suppress them (as being proposed by Kaiser and his gang) and in direct breach of the rules of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* ("The Code", "Zoological Rules" or "Zoological Code") (Ride *et al.* 1999), would cause instability in herpetological nomenclature.

In terms of venomous species, Kaiser's actions would potentially put human lives at risk as detailed by Hoser (2013).

Because Kaiser *et al.* (2013) and the earlier documents have been discredited already, there is no need to do this here.

In summary, the allegations made against myself were found to be false. However the same charges were found to be true for Kaiser *et al.*, better known as the Wüster gang, including the following:

"evidence free taxonomy", fraud, "unscientific taxonomic publications", "taxonomic terrorism", plagiarism, "unscientific taxonomy", "unscientific practices", "unscientific incursions" and "deliberate acts of intellectual kleptoparasitism".

Furthermore the claims in Hoser (2013) that Kaiser *et al.* (2013) engaged in reckless taxonomic vandalism have been vindicated by others, most notably including the very conservative former ICZN Commissioner, Dr. Harold G. Cogger (Cogger 2014), Dr. Glenn Shea several times (Shea 2013a-d), Eipper (2013), Wells (2013), Wellington (2013), Dubois (2014), Thorpe (2013, 2014a, 2014b) and most recently "Dr." Hinrich Kaiser himself in his "Errata" published in Kaiser (2014b).

This paper addresses all new claims against Hoser papers by Kaiser (2014b) and finds all to lack a sound factual basis and having been made in violation of best scientific practices.

Keywords: Taxonomy; nomenclature; ICZN; rules; Zoological Code; Kaiser; Wüster; O'Shea; Schleip; fraud; taxonomic vandalism; theft.

INTRODUCTION

In 2013, Kaiser *et al.* published in *Herpetological Review* a lengthy blog calling for other herpetologists not to use names formally proposed by myself (Raymond Hoser) from the period 2000 onwards. This document (Kaiser *et al.* 2013), was a rehash of another, sent to herpetologists worldwide in a SPAM email a year earlier (Kaiser 2012a and 2012b).

Both blogs were discredited in succession by Hoser (2012) and Hoser (2013) in detail. They were also discredited more briefly by others including Cogger (2013, 2014), Eipper (2013), Wellington (2013), Wells (2013), Thorpe (2013, 2014a, 2014b), Dubois (2014) and many others.

Kaiser sought (and still seeks) to step outside of the established *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* ("The Code", "Zoological Rules" or "Zoological Code") (Ride *et al.* 1999), and breach the three most important rules being:

- 1/ Homonymy (Principal 5, Article 52 and elsewhere),
- 2/ Priority (Principal 3, Article 23 and elsewhere),
- 3/ Stability (Principal 4, Articles 23, 65 and elsewhere),

as well as the ethics of the Code (Appendix A) and many other sections.

Notwithstanding this, Kaiser (2014a) repeated many of his false claims and for the purposes of rebuttal, one need look no further than Hoser (2013).

More recently Kaiser (2014b) proposed that the ICZN should use their plenary powers to rule all Hoser names (dating from 1998) as unavailable under the Zoological Code but in the absence of any proper formal submission.

This idea, or plan has already been executed by Schleip (2014), who overwrote the valid and widely accepted name *Leiopython hosei* Hoser, 2000, with his own coined synonym of 2014 in turn widely promoted by Kaiser and other members of the gang in the year post-dating that publication, both online and in other published "papers" (e.g. Barker *et al.* 2015 at page 9).

Cogger (2013, 2014), Dubois (2014), Eipper (2013), Mutton (2014a), Shea (2013a-d), Thorpe (2013, 2014a, 2014b), Wellington (2013), Wells (2013), and many others had already condemned the Kaiser recommendations making a mockery of the claim by Kaiser (2014b) that he has broad agreement within the scientific community with his plans.

He does not!

His lack of broad support is most recently confirmed by the group submission including himself, published by Rhodin *et al.* in March 2015 in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (BZN), which again was effectively confined to his narrow Kaiser *et al.* (2013) authorship.

Besides the fact that there is no precedent for blanket suppression of valid names by the ICZN, the rules of the code as (mis) quoted by Kaiser *et al.* (2013) do not allow such to happen.

However there are precedents based on proper administration of the code, for the ICZN to formally rule against the suppression by renegades like Kaiser *et al.* of properly formed code compliant names (e.g. ICZN 1991, 2001) and to condemn those who step outside the rules and ethics of the code to recklessly create instability or a dual nomenclature.

Of relevance is that names proposed by myself are widely used in thousands of other people's publications. To formally or informally suppress them (as being proposed and attempted by Kaiser and his gang) and in direct breach of the rules of the Zoological Code would cause immense instability in herpetological nomenclature.

In terms of venomous species, Kaiser's actions would potentially put human lives at risk as detailed by Hoser (2013).

Because Kaiser *et al.* (2013) and the earlier documents have been discredited already, there is no need to do this here.

In summary, the allegations made against myself were found to

be false. However the same charges were found to be true for Kaiser *et al.*, better known as the Wüster gang, including the following:

"evidence free taxonomy", fraud, "unscientific taxonomic publications", "taxonomic terrorism",

plagiarisation, "unscientific taxonomy", "unscientific practices", "unscientific incursions" and "deliberate acts of intellectual kleptoparasitism".

In terms of the "best practices" espoused by Kaiser *et al.* (2013), Hoser (2013) showed that the authors of Kaiser *et al.* (2013) notably failed in abiding by these practices themselves.

Furthermore they were shown to have repeatedly engaged in serious acts of taxonomic vandalism, scientific fraud, theft of other people's work and other serious misdemeanours.

I also take pleasure in noting that my claims in Hoser (2013) that Kaiser *et al.* (2013) engaged in reckless taxonomic vandalism have been vindicated by others, most notably including the very conservative former ICZN Commissioner, Dr. Harold G. Cogger (Cogger 2014), Dr. Glenn Shea several times (Shea 2013a-d), Dubois (2014), Thorpe (2013, 2014a, 2014b), Wells (2013), Wellington (2013) and most recently "Dr." Hinrich Kaiser himself in his "Errata" published in Kaiser (2014b).

On the internet list servers Taxacom and ICZN List, Kaiser's proposals have been widely condemned by taxonomists from various zoological fields (various authors 2012-14a, 2012-14b) and a number of ICZN Commissioners.

The Kaiser proposals have generally received no support from anyone except within the small group known as the Wüster gang (including their many aliases) and one Commissioner of the ICZN; namely Doug Yanega, who has been shown by others to have made quite outrageous and incorrect statements on the Taxacom and ICZN List forums.

For those unaware, *Herpetological Review* is a PRINO (peer reviewed in name only) journal edited by Mr. Robert Hansen, a close friend of Hinrich Kaiser, Wolfgang Wüster, Mark O'Shea and Wulf Schleip, better known as the Wüster gang, named in honour of their "leader".

Private conversations on the Facebook walls of Schleip and Hansen have included posts showing that they intended using *Herpetological Review* as a platform to launch attacks on myself (Hoser), other eminent herpetologists and the Zoological Code itself. They also have repeatedly stated that they will under no circumstances allow the publication of any material that in any way contradicts or dissents from their own warped view on things.

On another (closed) Facebook page set up by Kaiser's close friend Robert Twombly, called "Herpetological taxonomy" the group explicitly state that they have created a "watch" for any publications and webpages that may use "Hoser's taxonomy" with a view to harassing them not to do so.

Such action by the Wüster gang is an extremely serious breach of the Zoological Code (see the preamble of that document), which maintains the right for zoologists to have freedom of taxonomic judgement without any interference by others or the Zoological Code.

A point form rebuttal of 22 alleged errors in Hoser papers as published by Kaiser (2014b) was sent to Hansen for printing in his PRINO journal on 29 June 2014 and was rejected by him within seconds of receipt and clearly before he had read it.

Based on his private Facebook posts, which he was probably unaware of the fact I had accessed and read, this immediate rejection of properly submitted material was expected. However it was important that I observe correct procedure and protocols so that it would (in theory) prevent the claim being made that I had refused to submit material to them.

What follows is an expanded version of the (originally 4,000 word) document.

Of note is the following:

1/ All the anti-Hoser papers published by the Wüster gang are always reposted widely by them across the internet immediately upon publication. This is so they can maximize damage caused to my good reputation and as part of their wider attacks against science and the Zoological Code. They are all "open access" and in law freely allowed to be republished so long as not sold for profit.

2/ Members of the Wüster gang and others used Facebook and other internet sites as a launching pad for criminal attacks against myself, my young children, family business and others. As a result of this, I launched legal proceedings in 2012 and again in 2013 and got court orders against several people. As a part of the legal process, I gained access to Facebook pages and other internet properties that in the normal course of events I would either have been barred from by the Wüster gang (in line with their usual practice) or not had normal access to on the basis the sites were "closed" to "non-members".

This has included private Facebook walls of Schleip, Hansen, Wüster, O'Shea and others in the Wüster gang, list servers and forums under their control and similar sites from where they have planned and executed their often illegal attacks.

THE (ALLEGED) HOSER ERRORS

Kaiser (2014b) published an extended list of "Hoser names", that he says should not be used. These are names of taxa either allegedly omitted from his 2012 and 2013 lists or of taxa properly named by myself in the period post-dating Kaiser *et al.* (2013) and predating June 2014.

Note that no new Hoser papers were published from end 2013 to mid June 2014, although a number have been published in July 2014, these later names not yet being added to the Kaiser hit list (although Rhodin *et al.* 2015 added them without justification). Within the table and associated notes in Kaiser (2014b) he makes numerous demonstrably false allegations including that the names of myself were proposed in violation of the Zoological Code and are therefore unavailable.

But this is then rebutted by Kaiser himself at the end of the paper where he wrote:

"Hoser's most recent output is Code-compliant."

In his table of taxa he seeks people to rename with their own coined names, Kaiser also states:

"The footnotes list a variety of incongruities, including some with formal relevance."

To a naive reader this could be taken to imply there are formal code relevant reasons why my names should not be used and so it is important such inference be rebutted immediately.

To an unbiased reader, these footnotes should of course contain the real evidence of his claims to show that my papers have been reckless, unscientific and published outside of the Zoological Code, so it is necessary for each and every one of them to be addressed in detail as needed.

Now as my published material totals well over 2 million words and many dozens of code-compliant scientific descriptions there is no doubt that some errors of one form or other may have slipped through in the course of the publishing process.

While perfection is aimed for in scientific endeavour, it is not always achieved!

Of course had Kaiser *et al.* actually read these papers (or the detail of them) they would have found two serious and code-relevant errors that may have affected the potential availability of names proposed within. As it happens, they didn't ever find the errors and the historical record as encapsulated by Kaiser (2014b) proves this.

However, well before the publication of Kaiser (2014b) I did find the errors myself; notably immediately post-publication and a year later corrected the errors to stabilize the nomenclature in later publications actually cited by Kaiser (2014b),

As already mentioned, even at this late stage, Kaiser *et al.* were unaware of the errors.

That I know Kaiser *et al.* did not read the relevant papers (or do so in any proper way) was confirmed by posts on the internet by amateur snake handler, Mr. Wulf Schleip and also Wüster who said their group didn't bother reading my papers (Schleip 2013a-c, Wüster 2013a-c)..

Such conduct is clearly unscientific on their part and should be contrasted with my own conduct in relation to their group's papers. I have read them and scrutinized them in detail, regardless of how toxic their contents are!

More significantly the non-reading of the papers by myself that creationist "scientist" Mr. Hinrich Kaiser seeks to have formally suppressed by the ICZN (without a formal submission predating 2015) is seen in the various documents ostensibly authored by Kaiser, including most notably Kaiser (2014b).

That "paper" emphatically shows he never read several papers he cited and condemned in his footnotes.

In two of those cases material had been inadvertently deleted from descriptions in the formatting process making the names potentially unavailable under the Zoological Code; those papers cited by Kaiser *et al.* (2013), but the defects missed by them.

One of those descriptions was for the species

Charlepiersonserpens (*Macmillanus*) *jackyhoserae*, which Kaiser (2014b) in footnote 10 cites as being described by myself in 2012, rejected by him in his document Kaiser *et al.* (2013) as part of the blanket rejection of all Hoser names.

However there was no specific reason given to reject this particular species description and all his recommendations being admitted by himself as sitting outside the code (Kaiser *et al.* 2013).

Recall Kaiser *et al.* (2013) wrote:

"These recommendations are not formal nomenclatural proposals according to articles of the Code".

While he records in Kaiser (2014b) the exact same taxon being described by myself again in 2013, Kaiser and co-authors from Kaiser *et al.* (2013) remained as of June 2014 blissfully unaware as to why that particular taxon was redescribed in another near identical formal description!

Had Kaiser and any of his 8 listed co-authors from 2013 bothered to read the relevant 2012 paper, they'd have seen that the description of the relevant taxon was fatally flawed by the omission of holotype details as in the number of the specimen at the museum.

This sole piece of information (the specimen number) was inadvertently removed in the final publishing process thereby making the description almost certainly unavailable in terms of the code.

Therefore I had no choice but to republish it in 2013 as new and this time with the holotype number details included. This effectively preserved the nomenclature and only changed the reference date for the taxon name affected.

"formal relevance" is a term used by Kaiser (2014b) to attack my papers and imply that mine are somehow in breach of the code, but in terms of a direct cross-referencing of the relevant papers and the claims in his footnotes there is no such act performed.

This is notable as to do so would have taken minimal effort and space on his part.

Also as a matter of procedural fairness he should have cross-referenced my papers texts as quotes as required to substantiate his claims. But because his claims lacked merit, Kaiser chose not to engage in this simple and obvious intellectual and scientific exercise

However when I did just that; cross-referenced Kaiser's claims in his footnotes with the relevant papers and entries referred to, I found that none had any significance at all in terms of the nomenclatural availability of any of the names I had formally proposed.

If there had been serious flaws identified by him, I'd have dealt with them appropriately, just as I did for the species

Charlepiersonserpens (*Macmillanus*) *jackyhoserae* in 2013.

All names formally proposed remained available under the Zoological Code and all identified valid and defined taxa according to clear and defined scientific evidence in accordance with the best practices of peer review.

I might add however that if Kaiser, or anyone else for that matter identified genuine errors worthy of correction or change in terms of my original descriptions and the nomenclature that followed, I'd have adopted them without hesitation!

As Kaiser has chosen to list his "best" 22 claims against my papers in Kaiser (2014b) in the footnotes, I think it is only reasonable that I be allowed to give a simple cross-check of each herein and show that his claims against me in any proper measure lack merit and are frivolous at best.

It is also fortunate that all the relevant papers in their original form are posted online (Kaiser's and mine) so that anyone, from ICZN Commissioners to internet trolls and everyone in between can check the Kaiser claims and see that none have any significance in terms of arguing against either the science of my papers or their compliance with the Zoological Code (Ride *et al.* 1999).

The Hoser papers in *Australasian Journal of Herpetology*, including all those cited by Kaiser (2014b) can be found on the internet via <http://www.herp.net>.

Other than the most relevant ones, they are not cited herein.

Kaiser, Wüster and O'Shea have posted their various hate blogs widely across the internet and these are most certainly not hard to find.

Were I not to do this, Wüster *et al.* would most certainly be howling that I was acting outside of the rules!

In terms of what follows, the comments on Kaiser's footnotes are numbered in the same order as the footnotes themselves. My comments are then followed by the prefix/header "A" for "Answer". I have taken the liberty of adding a "f" after each number and answers "A" in order to make it easier for readers to see which is which.

However before dealing with Kaiser's alleged errors in my papers, there are a few other statements within his "paper" that should be addressed and these are dealt with first.

MISLEADING AND DECEPTIVE CONDUCT BY KAISER (2014b) AND THE WÜSTER GANG.

1/ Kaiser (2014b) wrote: "I am pleased to report that authors (e.g., Bates *et al.* 2013; Reynolds *et al.* 2014) as well as editors (e.g., Measey 2013) are now applying the recommendations we (Kaiser *et al.* 2013) made."

This is a direct admission by Kaiser that he has recklessly caused instability by inducing others to deliberately step outside of the Zoological Code. These authors (Bates *et al.* 2013; Reynolds *et al.* 2014) knowingly created invalid junior synonyms of Hoser names in their papers ... in effect stealing the work of earlier Hoser papers. Those papers, published in PRINO (Peer reviewed in name only) journals are dealt with elsewhere (in a separate paper), published at the same time as this one.

Measey (2013), is a rant published by the editor of the *African Journal of Herpetology* online at: <http://www.africanherpetology.org/taxonomy.php> that can only be described as a vicious attack on myself.

However in terms of its writing and content, he made a mess of things.

John Measey states as fact that the taxa named by myself are valid and I only was able to name them because I had stolen the data for my papers from Wüster *et al.*

Measey (2013) cited Wallach *et al.* (2009) as the basis for his claim.

Interestingly Wallach *et al.* (2014) makes the claim that all my descriptions of taxa to that date were based on clade shopping and data stolen from everyone else.

Rhodin *et al.* 2015, did much the same when they accused me of basing my descriptions on "data mining" the works of others, contradicting the same groups earlier claims that my descriptions were "evidence free" descriptions of "non-taxa" as stated in Wüster 2001 and Wüster *et al.* 2001.

Wüster (2009), published by Wolfgang Wüster just six days after Hoser (2009) shatters the claim of theft, as in that document he claimed none of my named taxa, including those published in Hoser (2009) were valid.

In terms of Hoser (2009), the paper where I formally named the Cobra genus *Spracklandus*, Wüster (2009) said:

"The case for keeping it (*Naja*) as a single genus was made by Wüster *et al.* 2007."

However the significance of Measey (2013) (and Wallach *et al.* 2014 and Rhodin *et al.* 2015) is that it/they is/are a full-blown admissions from the Wüster side that all taxa named by myself to mid 2013 (and beyond) are valid in terms of the Zoological Code and based on robust scientific evidence!

In effect the allegation of taxonomic vandalism against myself is removed and all we are left with is one of theft that Wüster (2009) had already removed as well.

The context of the outburst of Measey (2013) is that I had recently named a large number of Vipers Cobras and other African species in *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* (AJH) Issues 19 and 20, published on 10 July that year, followed by descriptions of yet more African taxa in AJH issue 21 published on 20 October that year, totalling dozens of species and genera.

Clearly hostile to the idea that he would be bound by the rules of Zoological Nomenclature to use the Hoser names for a number of prominent local species, thereby in his view removing the hegemony of his group in Africa, Measey published his rant in December of the same year (with a claimed date of November).

Kaiser (2014b) added what was at the time an apparently unpublished paper by Schleip cited as Schleip (2014) as a basis to give his ridiculous claims credibility.

Based on its title, this paper apparently renamed *Leiopython hoserae* Hoser, 2000, a species recognized by virtually all herpetologists, including Schleip himself in 2008 (Schleip 2008)!

An email to the two listed editors of the "*Journal of Herpetology*" on 22 June 2014 resulted in the reckless paper being removed from their website due to the obvious errors in it; as related by one of the editors in a recorded phone call some days after receiving the email.

My hope that the paper would not be published, because if the content were based on the title, it could only be taxonomic vandalism was shattered on 5 July 2014.

That morning, I was alerted to hundreds of posts on the internet from Schleip and Wüster announcing the publication of the paper.

The online paper (Schleip 2014) renamed *Leiopython hoserae* Hoser, 2000, with his own coined name "*L. meridionalis*" and also renamed the Hoser (2000) subspecies, *L. albertisi bennetti*. Schleip made the false claim Hoser (2000) did not comply with Article 8.1.1 of the Zoological Code (invoking Kaiser *et al.* 2013 and Kaiser 2014b), described by Eipper (2013) as the Kaiser *et al.* "veto".

Significantly, Schleip (2014b) was published in the face of advice by two separate expert reviewers that his paper's claims against Hoser (2000) were false and that he would be acting in contempt of the Zoological Code (Shea 2014, Raw, 2014). Shea formally recommended REJECTION of the Schleip paper to the editors of *Journal of Herpetology*. Raw did likewise in direct correspondence to Schleip where Schleip was then trying to raise the claim that the words in the Hoser (2000) descriptions themselves were not code-compliant, which was a proposition also rejected by Raw (Raw 2014).

The publication of Schleip (2014b) was also condemned by former ICZN Commissioner Hal Cogger within hours of its

appearance online (Cogger 2014b).

In spite of this, within 24 hours of online publication of Schleip (2014b), Wüster and Schleip had according to Google managed to cross-post links to the paper on Facebook and elsewhere online more than 200 times!

Notable also is that Kaiser *et al.* (2013) when itemising their alleged "line in the sand" to delineate which Hoser names they were to overwrite with their own coined names, specifically excluded *Leiopython hoseerae* Hoser, 2000 from their hit list on the basis that Schleip had recognized it as valid and used the name previously in a 2008 paper he'd published (Schleip 2008).

Noting that Schleip was a signed co-author of Kaiser *et al.* (2013) it is significant that a year later he has overstepped his own arbitrary "line in the sand".

This "line in the sand" was further muddied in 2015, when Rhodin *et al.* (with Schleip as listed co-author) confined it to *AJH* (Hoser 2009-2014) only (no Hoser papers predating 2008) stating further:

"These requests supersede those contained in three prior comments published by our co-authors (Thomson, BZN 71: 133; Wüster *et al.*, BZN 71: 37-38; Kaiser, BZN 71: 30-35).

Of course, such a new "line in the sand" contradicted that of Kaiser *et al.* (2013), Kaiser (2014) and Schleip (2014). I further note that since the publication of Rhodin *et al.* in March 2015, no one in the Wüster gang have sought to reverse their usage of Schleip's new *Leiopython* names or the invalid *Malayopython* coined by Reynolds in 2013 to replace the proper *Broghammerus* Hoser, 2004, which are not covered by this newly defined "line in the sand".

The significance of all this is that the Kaiser "veto" as employed by the Wüster gang to declare a paper outside of Article 8.1.1 of the Zoological Code (invoking Kaiser *et al.* 2013 and Kaiser 2014b), can now (as far as the Wüster gang are concerned) be applied by anyone to any paper by any author that they see fit to steal the work from!

2/ To Kaiser's credit under the heading "Errata" he openly admits to committing numerous instances of evidence-free taxonomic and nomenclatural vandalism in Kaiser *et al.* (2013), thereby requiring correction in Kaiser (2014b).

These errors had already been publicly admitted by his co-author Wüster.

Wüster noted the:

"errors that slipped through in that paper"

(Wüster 2013d) and that:

"mistakes slipped into the Kaiser *et al.* paper - big deal, that was hardly the point of the paper."

(Wüster 2013e).

Notwithstanding these open admissions of evidence free taxonomic decisions, Kaiser (2014b) in his new taxonomic judgements (that he called "corrections") are also made without evidence and therefore constitute yet more taxonomic vandalism!

It is also scandalous that Kaiser (2014b) fails to cite the means by which he was first made aware of the many gross factual errors in his earlier publication (Kaiser *et al.* 2013). The source of information was none other than my own detailed rebuttal of his document in the form of Hoser (2013), corrections of which he has lifted and used in Kaiser (2014b) without correct attribution as to the source of his corrections.

This of course is the morally repugnant crime of plagiarisation, something regarded as one of the most serious crimes a so-called scientist can commit.

3/ Kaiser's statement "there must be sound scientific principles underlying the creation of any new taxon name." is agreed with. I note that this has always been the case for Hoser papers. However I also note that Kaiser (2014b) openly admits that he departed from this fundamental principle in Kaiser *et al.* (2013).

4/ Kaiser (2014b) wrote: "Following the publication of Kaiser *et al.* (2013) in March of 2013, Hoser worked the online social media circuit to discredit the authors and supporters of that paper, along with the journal and its editor, as well as the scientific societies that voted in support of the presented ideas (e.g., Hoser 2013n)."

The statement is an obvious lie.

If one turns to Kaiser's own cited references, you see that the document "Hoser 2013n" is cited as follows:

"2013n. The science of herpetology is built on evidence, ethics, quality publications and strict compliance with the rules of nomenclature. *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 18:2-79."

That is in fact a hard-copy printed journal and not anything online or evidence of having "worked the online social media circuit".

It goes without saying that Kaiser has deliberately printed a false statement in the hope his readers look no look further than the words as presented there and then, and hoping that they don't even do the simple exercise of cross-matching cited references with text, due to the excessive verbosity of his rant.

The hard copy paper (Hoser 2013) does however discredit Kaiser *et al.* (2013).

Kaiser's statement "His department is in clear violation of the Code of Ethics of the Code," in fact applies to Kaiser *et al.* as demonstrated in examples provided by Hoser (2013).

I note that in my case, the pointing out of the Wüster gang's lies, frauds and other deceptive conduct is part of the scientific process and well within the Zoological Code, which expressly encourages this in the preamble.

As for working out who in fact are the people busily working the social media circuit and everywhere else to promote their warped views, one needs look no further than Facebook or the various online herpetological forums.

It would be hard to find any major reptile-related Facebook page or online reptile-related chat forum that has not been posted on by Kaiser *et al.* for the purposes of making claims against me.

This is invariably done in a very inflammatory way and designed to incite personal hatred against me. O'Shea regularly makes the false claims of myself "ripping out the fangs" of snakes, which is something I have never in fact done.

He has also made numerous false and defamatory outbursts on list servers like Taxacom and ICZN list leading to him being forced to apologise for one such rant by the moderators.

I need not refer to the Wüster and O'Shea edited "Raymond Hoser" Wikipedia page that among other gems reports the obvious lie:

"Hoser allowed his 10-year-old daughter to be bitten five times by two species of highly venomous snakes, an inland taipan and a common death adder to demonstrate that his "venomoid" snakes were harmless; however she died from envenomation shortly after.[42] The manager of the shopping center where Hoser performed claimed that Hoser's performance was not consistent with his act description and said that Hoser would not be allowed back. Hoser avoided being charged with manslaughter as he described the death of his daughter as an accident.[43] Following this incident, the Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) suspended Hoser's commercial wildlife demonstrator license and his authorisation to hold snake-handling courses and use of wildlife in film and television citing this and five other deaths arising from the use of venomoid snakes that had regenerated their venom glands.[44]" (Wüster, O'Shea *et al.* 2014); authors identities being substantiated by Wikipedia (2014).

For what it's worth, my daughter (actually aged 12 at the time) voluntarily took bites in July 2011 in front of a public audience from venomoid snakes, filmed at the time by my staff to shatter a deliberate lie by Wüster side-kick Mark O'Shea (O'Shea 2004) and others to the effect that the snakes had regenerated venom and were a serious public risk. They had not regenerated

venom and she remains alive and well as of May 2015!

No one else has ever died from a venomoid snake bite either. The video was legally made pursuant to a permit issued by the DSE for that express purpose and at the direct invitation of DSE lawyer Samuel Bird!

A series of criminal charges alleging I had broken the law at this display were thrown out in totality by a magistrate on 25 October 2014.

Of note is that a photo of her holding newly printed issues of *AJH* Issue 22 in one hand and the relevant venomoid snakes in the other were posted on the Snakebusters Facebook wall on 24 June 2014 (cover date 1 July 2014), further indicating the child was still alive as of that date.

However the deliberately false claims made on the page edited by Wüster and O'Shea were clearly made and protected from correction (by a so-called "bot" they had placed on the page) in order to incite hatred against myself.

The alleged references cited by number on the Wikipedia page did not make the false claims of Wüster and O'Shea either. In other words the use of effectively bogus references was also fraudulent.

This attack against my business, my good name and everything else to do with myself, including my wife and young children by the Wüster gang on Wikipedia is even more insidious when one realises that the Wüster gang have also created dozens of so-called "backlinks" to the site for Search Engine Optimisation (SEO) purposes.

SEO by the gang ensures that their collection of hate and lies is the first link shown when my name "Raymond Hoser" is typed into the Google search engine.

These recent actions by the Wüster gang to attack myself is not their first coordinated assault on the truth for improper purposes either.

Wüster *et al.* attempted to defraud the Accor Hotels chain of \$US 20,000.00 in 2008 by aggressively using online social media to generate "votes" for David John Williams, a man with serious smuggling and animal cruelty convictions (Wüster 2008, Coritz, 2008, Williams 2008).

The scheme fell apart and they were outed when the hotel chain detected many thousands of "votes" for Williams, ostensibly from many different individuals coming from a single IP address (Williams 2008).

In 2006 an online petition sponsored by the same group of animal-hating pseudoscientists including Wolfgang Wüster, Mark O'Shea, David John Williams, Bryan Fry and others posted at: <http://www.aussiereptileclassifieds.com/phpPETITION> (Hunter *et al.* 2006) called for my successful wildlife education business and all my other herpetological activity to be shut down by the government of Victoria, Australia.

It is notable that this group ultimately had success in that in 2011 and again in 2012 my lawful wildlife education business was shut down at gunpoint.

Both times this required expensive and time-wasting legal proceedings to reverse the illegal actions of the recklessly misguided government officers. These officials had erroneously believed the online lies and misinformation from the Wüster gang that had been tendered in those proceedings by the government wildlife officers (Supreme Court of Appeal, Victoria 2012).

In a lengthy judgement dated 5 September 2015, three judges at the Victorian Court of Criminal Appeal completely exonerated myself in terms of the various lies and reversed all previous actions against me, allowing our business to trade again as normal (Supreme Court of Victoria - Court of Appeal 2015).

As a result of our illegal closure in 2011, Andrew Smith of Emerald in Queensland died on 17 November 2011 from an avoidable snakebite after being forced to seek another snake handling course provider instead of the most experienced

provider in Australia, Snakebusters.

The provider that taught Smith was a man who had recently purchased a \$75 business name. He had no meaningful experience with venomous snakes and was therefore both inexperienced and unsafe. He also taught the unsafe handling method (use of metal tongs to pick up snakes) that was ultimately the direct cause of Smith's death. He died attempting to catch a Brown Snake (*Pseudonaja textilis*) with tongs (Scheffe 2011).

In other words it is clear that the threat posed by individuals in the Wüster gang go way beyond their attempt to rename various Hoser named species. It involves matters of public safety as well.

Misinformation and actions by the Wüster gang has also been shown to be directly responsible for the snakebite deaths of Aleta Stacey in the United States (Various authors 2011a) and Luke Yeomans in the UK (Hoser 2013, Dolan 2011) and several deaths in Australia (including Bradley Hicks and Karl Berry in 2013 and Shane Tatty in 2014) (Adams, 2013, Betts 2013, Jarbour 2013, Various authors 2014).

By contrast to the Wüster gang, I have generally stayed away from online forums, due to time commitments as much as anything else. However I note that people who post in favour of my taxonomy on most herpetological chat forums are immediately "flamed" by the Wüster gang and often falsely accused of being "one of Hoser's aliases".

This situation is evidenced by an email received from Nick Mutton on 30 May 2014, asking me to appear on his online radio show (Mutton 2014a). In that email he wrote: "their side of this debate gets a great deal of coverage and I thought it would be more interested (sic) to hear your side of things."

That statement alone confirmed that it was Kaiser and the Wüster gang "working" the social media circuit and not myself.

A series of later emails by Mutton talked extensively of the overt censorship of dissenting opinions by the Wüster gang (Mutton 2014b).

Notable is that Mutton was then stopped by the Wüster gang from interviewing me on the basis of threats (Mutton 2014b). I need not mention the overt Nazi-style censorship of dissenting views being practiced by Kaiser *et al.* elsewhere including refusal by themselves to print dissenting views in journals they despotically control.

This is in order to give their side the veneer of widespread support from other herpetologists when the undercurrent is in the opposite direction as well as prevent exposure of both their lies and untenable often contradictory and inconsistent arguments.

In the face of the Wüster gang's Nazi-style tactics of censorship and ruthless attacks against those who breach it, people who have spoken out against their reckless taxonomic vandalism and breaching of the Zoological Code include Cogger (2013, 2014), Dubois (2014), Eipper (2013), Mutton (2014a), Shea (2013a-d), Thorpe (2013, 2014a, 2014b), Wellington (2013), Wells (2013), and many other eminent herpetologists.

Finally, while talking about working the online circuit, one needs look no further than 5 July 2014, where within the period 3 AM and 11 AM, Australian Eastern time, Schleip and associates made more than 200 separate posts on Facebook promoting the online publication of his new name "*Leiopython meridionalis*", that he coined in an online paper published at the same time in "*Journal of Herpetology*".

That name is an invalid junior synonym of the 14-year-old *Leiopython hoseerae*, recognized by everyone including Schleip himself (see Schleip 2008 or Schleip and O'Shea 2010).

Svhleip's new name was justified on a bogus assertion that the original 2000 description was invalid according to Article 8.1.1 of the code, a point Eipper had shown to be false previously (see Eipper 2013) and again confirmed as false by numerous

correspondents, including two who reviewed and condemned his very paper before it was published (Raw 2014, Shea 2014).

Simultaneous to this, Schleip and the rest of the Wüster gang had altered dozens of online databases to substitute the correct name with their own coined name.

5/ Kaiser's statement that follows is a reversal of the actual reality:

"Those interested in this issue can comment on Case 3601 filed by Hoser (2013ai) to preserve the genus name *Spracklandus* Hoser 2009 (published in the *AJH*) over *Afronaja* Wallach *et al.* 2009 (published in *Zootaxa*). This could prove to be a landmark case insofar as it pits the value of the scientific process against pseudoscience in nomenclature (Kaiser 2013, 2014)."

Thorpe (2014) a taxonomist outside herpetology wrote in an email to the ICZN and to the ICZN list:

"As dreadful as Hoser might be, the comments submitted by his enemies (Case 3601) are absolutely laughable in terms of the Code! ... Kaiser rants on and on, misinterpreting other Code articles The rest of Kaiser's rant is even more far fetched and lacking defined meaning. It is however a standard rhetorical strategy for someone who is perceived to be an authority of some kind to win an argument by simply writing enough quantity of verbage to look convincing, however lacking it might be in meaning! The more I read, the more my sympathy goes to Hoser ..."

I should also note that at the time I published the description of the genus *Spracklandus* in 2009, it took just six days for Wüster and the rest of the gang to post to a global audience that my taxonomy was wrong and that "The case for keeping it (*Naja*) as a single genus was made by Wüster *et al.* 2007." (Wüster 2009) and Fry (2009) who repeated this on the same day.

It was only after reconsidering the data, that several months later Wüster changed his mind and he then decided to steal the naming rights over the genus.

In that paper (Wallach *et al.* 2009), Wüster and two coauthors lied and alleged I had tried to scoop their attempt to name the taxon. Fortunately the digital trail left by Wüster (2009) still online as of end June 2014, showed the lie in the later paper. In doing so, he and his co-authors rehashed old and previously published data, which they masqueraded as "new" in the form of their "new" paper and then violated the three most important rules in the Zoological Code being:

- 1/ Homonymy (Principal 5, Article 52 and elsewhere),
 - 2/ Priority (Principal 3, Article 23 and elsewhere),
 - 3/ Stability (Principal 4, Articles 23, 65 and elsewhere),
- as well as the ethics of the Code (Appendix A), to recklessly create an invalid junior synonym and to promote it at the expense of the proper name (Hoser 2013).

Hence the actual position is that it is my science is hereby pitted against the ever-changing pseudoscience of the Wüster gang.

(ALLEGED) HOSER ERRORS: ITEMIZED

"1/ Fig. 4 in Vidal and Hedges (2009) shows that Malagasy boine snakes are part of an unresolved polytomy."

A/ This claim is made by Kaiser (2014b) in order to rebut my 2013 tribal arrangement and provide a veneer that another potentially better scientist had provided evidence to contradict my position as put in the 2013 paper. However papers by Pyron *et al.* (2011 and 2013) both cited by me regularly following the publication of each, provided a robust molecular basis to support my classification.

These later papers were published on the basis of evidence far superior to that of Vidal and Hedges (2009) in that it was considerably more extensive.

More significantly, Kaiser's own good friends Reynolds *et al.* in 2014 published a paper with a rehashed tree using old data (Pyron's) supporting all my python and boa taxonomy in a paper (Reynolds *et al.* 2014), which Kaiser allegedly read, as he cited it in Kaiser (2014b).

As for the Pyron *et al.* (2013) paper, it is likely that Kaiser was unaware of it or the earlier 2011 version of the paper adding support to my position (Pyron *et al.* 2011). This is because of his failure to read my papers. Both the Pyron *et al.* papers are widely cited in my papers in the period 2012 and 2013, the last papers of which cite the 2013 paper and the earlier ones the 2011 paper.

In other words the method of use of Kaiser's statement in "1" is a reckless ploy to imply my taxonomy and nomenclature had no evidentiary basis (or was "pseudoscience" as he claims repeatedly), when the reverse was in fact the case. My taxonomy was science based and the nomenclature that followed from this was obvious and completely within the code (Ride *et al.* 1999). See also Rhodin *et al.* (2015), of which Kaiser is listed as a co-author, who proves the evidentiary basis of my papers by (correctly) accusing me of "data mining" other people's published works according to the scientific method.

"2/ Hoser (2013ad) includes in this group the species *Hypsilurus spinipes* and the genus *Tiaris* Duméril and Bibron 1837 (now known as *H. dilophus*). In the original description of their species *Lophyrus dilophus*, Duméril and Bibron (1837:421) list in their observation section that the name "*Tiare dilophe*" applies to the specimen figured on Plate 46 of their Atlas. There, it is denoted as *Tiaris dilophus*.

However, the genus name *Tiaris* Duméril and Bibron 1837 was preoccupied by the genus *Tiaris* Swainson 1827, a taxon erected for a genus of songbirds in the tanager family (Thraupidae). The use of this genus in the definition of a tribe is incorrect."

A/ Kaiser's comment has no nomenclatural implications in terms of the tribe Adelynhosersaurini Hoser, 2013, as the type genus for the tribe is *Adelynhosersaur* Hoser, 2013 which is another taxon. The tribe is defined on the basis of the type genus and morphological characteristics as defined, both of which are in accordance with the rules of the code..

On that basis alone his comments about *Tiaris* Duméril and Bibron 1837 is both irrelevant and unnecessary.

Furthermore and far more scandalous is that even a veneer that Kaiser appears to have a legitimate grievance in terms of what genera should be included in the tribe is shown to be false if one actually reads the tribe description and that of another tribe described on the same page of the same paper, that being *Hypsilurini* *tribe* *nov.*

Based on the descriptions of each tribe and the morphological characteristics defining each, it is clear that the two genera within Adelynhosersaurini are in fact *Adelynhosersaur* Hoser, 2013 and *Tikris* Macleay, 1884, with the species *Lophura* (*Hypsilurus*) *godeffroyi* Peters, 1867 being listed as the type species for the other properly defined tribe *Hypsilurini*.

This is unavoidably evident if one actually read the relevant parts of the two tribe descriptions, or for that matter the rest of the Hoser paper.

What Kaiser had in fact identified (and without realising it) was that I had inadvertently made a (so far undetected) error in listing "*Tiaris*" instead of the one-letter different "*Tikris*" in the "content" field of the tribe Adelynhosersaurini in the paper. That this was an inadvertent error is confirmed via the fact that the type species for the genus *Tiaris* Duméril and Bibron 1837 was listed as the type species for the other tribe *Hypsilurini* (under the correct generic name *Hypsilurus* Peters, 1867) and also on the basis of the morphological characters defining each tribe.

As to why Kaiser was unaware of the fact he had stumbled upon a one letter "typo" (inadvertently cited by him here) as opposed to anything else is because he clearly has absolutely no experience with, or knowledge of the relevant agamid taxa. He probably wouldn't recognize a *Tiaris* or a *Tikris* if he squashed the head of one in his set of Mark O'Shea's heavy-duty metal reptile handling tongs!

Yet in spite of this total lack of expertise on these reptiles, he

seeks to force others as to what taxonomy and nomenclature they must use, via his own contrived "Taxon Filter"!

What Kaiser is not entitled to do under the rules of the Zoological Code is to rename any of the relevant genera or tribes using his own or his friends alternative junior synonyms, and this is his stated objective (Kaiser 2012a, 2012b, 2013, 2014a, 2014b), Kaiser *et al.* (2013) and Rhodin *et al.* (2015).

"3/ The taxon listed here was previously described by Hoser (2012b) and rejected by Kaiser *et al.* (2013)."

A/ The remark is plainly stupid because Kaiser *et al.* (2013) said of their own wacky taxonomic and nomenclatural proposals that: "These recommendations are not formal nomenclatural proposals according to articles of the Code".

Of greater relevance to the specific taxon *Bothropina* is that Kaiser has failed to work out why the subtribe *Bothropina* was redescribed in 2013 (cited by Kaiser 2014b as Hoser 2013m).

That can only be because he failed to read the relevant papers! The same applies for some other redescribed taxa he has listed in his footnotes and the same applies in each and every case! Had he or any of his other 8 alleged co-authors read the 2012 papers that first named the tribe (or the other affected taxa), he would have found errors that potentially made each of the descriptions potentially non-compliant under the Zoological Code. This could have actually given their ambit claims against me some basis, at least in terms of the said taxa in as much as a generalized statement that descriptions were not fully code compliant. As it happens, neither Kaiser *et al.* or any of their other fellow nomenclatural thugs got that far!

Had Kaiser managed to read so much as the abstract of the 2013 paper, he'd have realised why the tribe was being redescribed.

Just so there is no ambiguity, I shall cut and paste the entire abstract here:

Abstract:

Some recently published papers in *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* issues 10-15 contained descriptions that in the publishing process contained errors that made the descriptions potentially invalid under the Zoological Code (Ride *et al.* 1999).

This included for descriptions at tribe, subtribe and species levels.

As a result descriptions of the same taxa are published herein that are fully compliant with the Zoological Code as new descriptions, in order to establish available names for the relevant taxon groups and including two relevant species taxa. This will stabilize the nomenclature for the taxa making the names available for other scientists.

Keywords: Taxonomy; Nomenclature; Zoological Code; new tribe; new subtribe; new species; Hoser;

Viperini; Maxhoserviperina; Montiviperina; Viperina; Calloselasmiini; Adelynhoserserpenini; Porthidiumina; Cerrophodionina; Adelynhoserserpenina; Crotalina; Piersonina; Jackyhoserini; Bothropina; Bothropoidina; Rhinocerophiina; Jackyhoserina; Bothrocophiina; Hulimkini; *Charlespiersonserpens*; *Macmillanus*; *jackyhoserae*; *Gerrhopilus*; *carolinehoserae*."

The paper then corrects the omissions in terms of relevant descriptions and publishes them as new to stabilize the nomenclature.

In other words some genuine (and on my part unintentional) errors in my papers were identified and fixed before any of the truth haters in Kaiser *et al.* even read the original papers to find them as confirmed by the comments in Kaiser (2014b).

"4/ The taxon was also described as *Antaresia maculosus brentonoloughlini* by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser *et al.* (2013)."

A/ The remark is plainly stupid because Kaiser *et al.* (2013) said of their own wacky taxonomic and nomenclatural proposals that: "These recommendations are not formal nomenclatural proposals according to articles of the Code".

Of greater relevance to the specific taxon, the paper cited by Kaiser (2014b) was Hoser (2003), predating the much larger Hoser (2004 paper).

In terms of this taxon, Wüster had in 2003 claimed that the 2003 description wasn't code compliant because he said the hard copies were produced with the aid of a computer disk. He then argued that because a disk is not a publication under the code, the hard copies couldn't be either!

Of course such a ridiculous argument if accepted and applied to other zoologists as well, would render virtually all publications post 2000 outside the code if applied to other papers.

After all, using the same logic, every paper printed must be generated by a printer and no printing machine is a publication under the code!

It was something I was prepared to argue as neither myself or anyone else I spoke to agreed with Wüster's warped interpretation of the code.

But having decided that Wüster was not prepared to listen to common sense and instead Wüster was fuelled by lies, hatred and twisted arguments, I decided a better and less time consuming option was to have the descriptions republished as new as part of a new paper to stabilize the names (see Hoser 2009 for details).

That my strategy was correct was seen by Kaiser (2012a, 2012b) and Kaiser *et al.* (2013), where the same group this time around admitted that the 2004 paper was validly published according to the Zoological Code.

Hence in terms of the validity of the names via code-compliance of (re) publication, I had stabilized the nomenclature for the affected taxa.

This was even though their group was still trying to squash all things Hoser by whatever means they could invent.

It is also notable that after years of falsely alleging my publications were outside the Code (from 2000 to 2009), Wüster *et al.* subsequently reversed their false claims to complain that my publications were bad because they in fact complied with the code (Kaiser 2012a, 2012b) and again in Kaiser (2014b).

Of course, Kaiser *et al.* have now realised that the ICZN and others will not tolerate people stepping outside the code and so have now mounted their bogus arguments again to allege that the Hoser publications sit outside of the code according to their own warped and hypocritical interpretations of it.

By the way, this method of stabilizing names (republishing as new) when claims of invalid first publication are made has been done by scientists since the 1800's and is nothing new or unique to Raymond Hoser.

Of course because Kaiser never read the original 2003 descriptions (Hoser 2003) or the newer ones for the same taxa in 2004 (Hoser 2004), he had no idea why the same taxon was formally described twice.

However Kaiser's failure to read these or other Hoser papers has not stopped him from declaring them "unscientific", "pseudoscience" or "taxonomic vandalism".

However the evidence as shown here clearly indicates that these words ("unscientific", "pseudoscience" or "taxonomic vandalism") are best applied to Kaiser himself and the rest of the Wüster gang.

"5/ The definition of this subgenus by Hoser (2013o) is confusing because of poor grammar, and no species content is formally presented. While the author states that the type species for the subgenus is *Bitis parviocula*, the later text appears to confound the subgenera *Macrocerastes* and "*Kuekus*."

A/ Clearly Kaiser never actually read the paper!

The description is quite lengthy but relevant material from the

paper includes the following text:

"The species *Bitis parviocula* Böhme, 1977, divergent from others within *Macrocerastes* is placed in its own monotypic subgenus *Kuekus subgen. nov.*"

So Kaiser has lied to readers of his blog in *Herpetological Review* by claiming I never formally identified the content of the subgenus!

As for Kaiser's claim "the later text appears to confound the subgenera *Macrocerastes* and "*Kuekus*" clearly shows he never read the description and/or hasn't a clue about these morphologically similar snakes.

For the benefit of Kaiser and others, I should note that when providing a diagnosis of a new taxon, it is prudent to explain both similarities to and differences from similar species.

This is exactly what I did in the relevant science-based and code-compliant description. As for the alleged confusion between the subgenera, just a part of my detailed description read as follows:

"This subgenus (*Kuekus subgen. nov.*) is separated from *Macrocerastes* by the absence of crossbands on the tail. It is further separated by an absence of prominent spines on the snout. In *Macrocerastes* (as defined herein) the nasal is separated from the first supralabials by four or more scales, as opposed to 3-4 in *Kuekus subgen. nov.*

Kuekus subgen. nov. is further separated from *Macrocerastes* by the following suite of characters: The head is long, flat, triangular and covered with small, strongly keeled scales. Both the eyes and the nostrils are large, with the latter set well forward. The head is distinct from the thin neck and the snake is large for a Viper (up to a meter in length) and stoutly built. The body is cylindrical with a slight vertebral ridge, while the tail is short. The dorsal scales are keeled and number 37-39 at midbody. The color pattern consists of a light brown to dark brown ground color overlaid with a series of black hexagons or diamonds that run down the center of the back. The black hexagons may have paler crossbars, while being separated from each other by a chain of yellow butterfly shapes. A series of black triangular or subtriangular spots, each with a white center, run down the upper flanks. The lower flanks have a series of greenish-gray triangles, pointing upwards, with yellow edges, especially the tips. The flanks between these triangles are a mottled green color. The head is brown with a dark triangle between the eyes and a dark hammer shape just behind it that extends onto the nape of the neck. The iris is brown. The side of the head is dark, but with a pale stripe that runs from the eye down to the labials. The upper labial scales are white. The chin and throat are white with black speckling. The belly is greenish gray and may be clear, or with black speckling."

So clearly there is no confusion between the subgenera, the newly described one is described in a scientific and code-compliant manner and all Kaiser's claims are shown to be lies and baseless!

"6/ The entire first paragraph of the putative diagnosis for *Bothrops "mexicoiensis"* is a verbatim copy of the diagnosis for *B. "lenhoseri."* This is also the case for the diagnosis of *B. m. "maccartneyi."* Furthermore, to indicate a Mexican origin, the proper form for the name would be *mexicoensis.*

To create a patronym for an individual with last name McCartney, as stated in the etymology, the proper form is *mccartneyi."*

A/ "The entire first paragraph of the putative diagnosis for *Bothrops "mexicoiensis"* is a verbatim copy of the diagnosis for *B. "lenhoseri."* This is also the case for the diagnosis of *B. m. "maccartneyi."*"

This statement is correct. However there is nothing wrong with this!

The three taxa are similar to one another and the descriptions are based on a formal separation of them. Thus for each description to be of highest quality in the scientific method, the

taxa need to be formally defined and separated. While it would perhaps have been expedient to have reduced the word count by providing the relevant information just once in the paper, Kaiser *et al.* would have seized on such an alleged "defect" to claim that two of the descriptions were inadequate in the same way his co-author Wulf Schleip has done for earlier Hoser papers (see for example Schleip and O'Shea 2010). In the form the material was presented no such claim could credibly be made and none has been so far!

"Furthermore, to indicate a Mexican origin, the proper form for the name would be *mexicoensis.* To create a patronym for an individual with last name McCartney, as stated in the etymology, the proper form is

mccartneyi."

Kaiser's claims carry no weight according to the code (Ride *et al.* 1999) in terms of availability or potential to be rejected, suppressed by way of ruling, emended (changed) and so on. Refer to article 32 of the code and elsewhere in the same document.

Just to confirm the lack of merit in Kaiser's claims, the most relevant parts of the code reads as follows:

"32.1. Definition. The "original spelling" of a name is the spelling used in the work in which the name was established.

32.2. Correct original spelling. The original spelling of a name is the "correct original spelling" and

"32.5.1. If there is in the original publication itself, without recourse to any external source of information, clear evidence of an inadvertent error, such as a lapsus calami or a copyist's or printer's error, it must be corrected. Incorrect transliteration or latinization, or use of an inappropriate connecting vowel, are not to be considered inadvertent errors."

"7/ The subspecies of *Malayopython reticulatus* listed here were previously described by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser *et al.* (2013)."

A/ The remark is plainly stupid because Kaiser *et al.* (2013) said of their own wacky taxonomic and nomenclatural proposals that: "These recommendations are not formal nomenclatural proposals according to articles of the Code".

Most seriously Kaiser has again demonstrated a failure to have read the relevant papers he has cited. Schleip and O'Shea (2010) and others in the Wüster gang alleged that the Hoser (2004) descriptions referred to by Kaiser (2014b) were not valid according to the code due to alleged omissions in the descriptions text. While not agreeing with their arguments, the best way to deal with their complaints to stabilize the nomenclature was by the means of redescribing the relevant taxa as new in 2013 with added relevant data in order to neutralize the claims by Schleip and O'Shea (2010) and others in the Wüster gang.

Also scandalously, Kaiser deliberately uses the following misleading phrase "*Malayopython reticulatus* listed here were previously described by Hoser (2004)".

Kaiser's statement is a lie. *Malayopython* is a bogus name first coined by the Wüster gang at end of 2013. It did not exist in 2004!

It had not yet been coined and invented by the Wüster gang and therefore I could not have described anything attributable to it! It is hardly necessary for me to state that the correct name for the relevant species is *Broghammerus reticulatus*, the name *Broghammerus* Hoser, 2004 being properly established by myself in a paper published in 2004 based on solid scientific data including that published by Samuel B. McDowell (McDowell, 1975) and others, whom Kaiser *et al.* clearly also allege are "unscientific" and engaged in "pseudoscience".

I might also mention that the Reynolds *et al.* paper that coined the invalid name *Malayopython* was published in no less than

three different forms from end 2013 to early 2014 (Reynolds *et al.* 2013a, 2013b, 2014) and therefore is not even a valid code compliant paper. The code says:

"to be available, names must be published in multiple, identical, and durable copies."

Also I have only counted the three online versions. One presumes one or more other versions have been produced as "hard copy".

More importantly Kaiser (2014b) deliberately used the generic name *Malayopython* Reynolds *et al.* (2014), which Kaiser also said he knew was a junior synonym of *Broghammerus* Hoser, 2014 (see Kaiser 2012, 2012b and Kaiser *et al.* 2014) and was happy to see it being used in contempt of the Zoological Code as stated by himself in both Kaiser (2014b) and Kaiser (2012b).

"8/ According to Vidal and Hedges (2009:Fig. 4), "the phylogenetic position of the Pacific Island endemic genus *Candoia* remains uncertain."

A/ See for "1"

"9/ This taxon was previously described by Hoser (2012b), without the lapsus in spelling. It was rejected by Kaiser *et al.* (2013)."

A/ See for "3" ... republished to correct spelling errors. While talking corrections, Kaiser *et al.* (2013) and Kaiser (2014) failed to pick up an error in the tribe description for a tribe *Tribe Calloselasma Tribe Nov.* published by Hoser, 2012. As you cannot have a tribe name the same as a genus, the description was clearly invalid. Hence the tribe was properly described as *Tribe Calloselasmiiini Tribe nov.* in Hoser (2013).

I note also that the original mistake in 2012 was an error of omission as all other tribes in the same paper were properly formed and described in terms of naming.

"10/ The taxon listed here was already described by Hoser (2012d) and rejected by Kaiser *et al.* (2013)."

A/ See for "3". As Kaiser never actually read the detail of either paper, he was never aware of the inadvertent non-inclusion of the holotype specimen number in the first description necessitating the description to be redone as new.

"11/ Also described as *Chondropython viridis shirenae* by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser *et al.* (2013)."

A/ See for "4" ... first publication allegedly not valid (according to Wüster) as it was generated by computer disk.

"12/ Given that the name derives from an individual named George Konstantinou, a proper spelling for such a group would be *Georgekonstantinous*."

A/ See for "6", the claim by Kaiser has no weight or merit according to article 32 of the Zoological Code.

"13/ This is the second description of a species named *Gerrhopilus carolinehoserae*. The first was by Hoser (2012a), which was rejected by Kaiser *et al.* (2013)."

A/ See for "3" ... Kaiser failed to read the detail of either paper. The second corrected an error of the first to stabilize the nomenclature.

"14/ Given that the name derives from an individual named Lachlan McConchie, a proper spelling for such a group would be *mconchiei*."

A/ See for "6", the claim by Kaiser has no weight or merit according to article 32 of the Zoological Code.

"15/ The taxon listed here was already described by Hoser (2012c) and rejected by Kaiser *et al.* (2013)."

A/ See for "3" ... Kaiser failed to read the detail of either paper. The second corrected an error of the first to stabilize the nomenclature.

"16/ Also described as *Katrinus fuscus jackyae* by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser *et al.* (2013)."

A/ See for "4" ... first publication allegedly not valid according to Wüster as it was generated by computer disk (see Hoser 2009 for details).

"17/ A proper name indicating a Bornean origin would be *borneensis*."

A/ See for "6", the claim by Kaiser has no weight or merit according to article 32 of the Zoological Code.

"18/ A proper name indicating Philippine origin would be *philippinensis*."

A/ See for "6", the claim by Kaiser has no weight or merit according to article 32 of the Zoological Code.

"19/ The name *Macrochelidae* is preoccupied by a group of mites."

A/ An irrelevant comment and designed to cast doubt on a different Hoser name's validity. Hoser used a different name (*Macrochelyiini*) to assign to the tribe as given by Kaiser in the same blog paper, thereby avoiding any conflict with the rule of homonymy. The Hoser name *Macrochelyiini* is therefore both taxonomically and nomenclaturally available and correct according to the code rules (Ride *et al.* 1999).

"20/ Also described by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser *et al.* (2013)."

A/ See for "4" ... the first publication was allegedly not valid according to Wüster as it was generated by a computer disk (see Hoser 2009 for details).

"21/ Hoser (2013ac) lists this as "Subtribe *Tracheloptychina tribe nov.*" The subtribe ending -ina conflicts with the designation of this name as a tribe."

A/ Hinrich Kaiser has found a typographical error!
Well done!

The third word in the sequence should read "subtribe". However with the first word in the string as "Subtribe", the name itself is conformed as a subtribe (ending in "ina" as opposed to "ini" for the tribe described immediately above) and every other part of the paper correctly identifying the subtribe, the third word in the string is in fact incorrect. While this is perhaps Kaiser's greatest achievement in terms of finding fault with any of the Hoser publications which total over 2 million words, or equal to more than 20 very large books, it gets his cause nowhere in terms of finding against the paper in any significant way.

Firstly, if he were to have read the rest of the paper or the description itself he would see that the correct spelling, designation and use for the subtribe is throughout the paper. It is clear from the description that a subtribe is being described. The code deals with typographical errors (see 32.5.1) meaning that the section quoted by Kaiser would in fact be taken to read as "Subtribe *Tracheloptychina subtribe nov.*"

By the way Kaiser's claim "The subtribe ending -ina conflicts with the designation of this name as a tribe." is in error.

Every taxonomist knows that tribes end in "ini"! Alternatively Kaiser could try reading the Zoological Code (Ride *et al.* 1999) to find this out from the rule makers themselves! Also see below.

"22/ Hoser (2013ac) lists this as "Subtribe *Zonosaurina tribe nov.*" The subtribe ending -ina conflicts with the designation of this name as a tribe."

A/ As for "21". The typographical error is a repeat of "21" in the same paper and like "21" is a one off.

Just so there is no doubt as to the insignificance of the typographical error identified, I cut and paste below the section of the relevant paper with the two typographical errors identified by Kaiser underlined:

"TRIBE ZONOSAURINI TRIBE NOV.

Diagnosis: Ventral plates not forming straight transverse series; nostril pierced between 2 nasals, first labial and the rostral.

Otherwise as for the family *Gerrhosauridae*, (adapted from Loveridge 1943).

Distribution: Madagascar.

Content: (Genera): *Zonosaurus* Boulenger, 1887 (type

genus); *Hawkeswoodsaurus gen. nov.*; *Tracheloptychus* Peters, 1854; *Wellingtonsaurus gen. nov.*; *Wellssaurus gen. nov.*

SUBTRIBE ZONOSAURINA *TRIBE NOV.*

Diagnosis: Ventral plates not forming straight transverse series; nostril pierced between 2 nasals, first labial and the rostral.

Otherwise as for the family Gerrhosauridae, (adapted from Loveridge 1943).

Separated from the subtribe *Tracheloptychina subtribe nov.* by the absence of the following suite of characters: Nostril pierced between the rostral, the first labial, and two nasals. Prefrontal and frontoparietal shields present. Lower eyelid scaly. No lateral fold on the body. Dorsal and ventral scales arranged quincuncially, laterals forming straight longitudinal and transverse series. Subdigital scales keeled. Tongue entirely covered with rhomboidal papillae.

Distribution: Madagascar.

Content: (Genera): *Zonosaurus* Boulenger, 1887 (type genus); *Hawkeswoodsaurus gen. nov.*; *Wellingtonsaurus gen. nov.*; *Wellssaurus gen. nov.*

SUBTRIBE TRACHELOPTYCHINA *TRIBE NOV.*

Diagnosis: Separated from the subtribe *Zonosaurina subtribe nov.* by the following suite of characters: Nostril pierced between the rostral, the first labial, and two nasals. Prefrontal and frontoparietal shields present. Lower eyelid scaly. No lateral fold on the body. Dorsal and ventral scales arranged quincuncially,

laterals forming straight longitudinal and transverse series. Subdigital scales keeled. Tongue entirely covered with rhomboidal papillae.

In common with all *Zonosaurini* *tribe nov.* species within this subtribe have the following characters: Ventral plates not forming straight transverse series; nostril pierced between 2 nasals, first labial and the rostral. Otherwise as for the family Gerrhosauridae, (adapted from Loveridge 1943).

Distribution: Madagascar.

Content: (Genus): *Tracheloptychus* Peters, 1854 (monotypic for the type genus)."

CONCLUSIONS

In summary, Kaiser has managed to identify three typographical errors in documents totalling over 2 million words. He has not managed to find a single factual error, error of judgement or anything that in any way places a single paper, name description or the like outside of the Zoological Code, be they the mandatory or the voluntary provisions.

Kaiser has also been unwilling or unable to discredit any of the research forming the basis of the Hoser papers, be they my own data or those properly cited in each paper (data that was "data mined" from the papers of others according to Rhodin *et al.* 2015) according to scientific principles.

As a result, Kaiser and others in the Wüster gang have in effect shown that 1/ Raymond Hoser's methods have been of the "Best Practices in Herpetological Taxonomy" and Zoological Code compliant.

The reverse has been true for their own "team".

Kaiser and others in the Wüster gang have also shown the merit of myself not including members of their own group in the peer review process for my own papers.

This fact clearly irks them!

I need not also mention that the earlier document, Kaiser *et al.* (2013), cited by Kaiser (2014) as having authority in science and nomenclature was demonstrated to be unscientific taxonomic vandalism by Hoser (2013).

This is in fact confirmed by Kaiser himself in his numerous

"Errata" published in Kaiser (2014). In terms of the first "paper", Kaiser *et al.* (2013) said of their own wacky taxonomic and nomenclatural proposals that:

"These recommendations are not formal nomenclatural proposals according to articles of the Code".

As a result of both this statement in Kaiser *et al.* (2013) and the numerous "Errata" published in Kaiser (2014), on top of the inability to show any scientific or nomenclatural misconduct on the part of myself (Hoser) via Kaiser's 22 footnotes as demonstrated here, all the attacks on the Zoological Code by Kaiser, Wüster and others in the gang should not be supported by any scientists.

Likewise for other users of taxonomy and nomenclature.

Of wider relevance is that Kaiser, Wüster and others in the gang have made it clear that they are enemies of herpetology and science at all levels and it is this that makes these men particularly dangerous.

I won't even bother to detail the numerous allegations made against Wüster and O'Shea of sexual assaults of vulnerable young women.

Wüster and the gang have regularly badgered government wildlife officers to conduct what have later been found by the courts to be highly illegal armed raids on private keepers, seize wildlife and engage in other similar acts in the UK, USA and Australia.

Their actions are designed to stamp out anyone they see as a potential competitor to their desired hegemony in herpetology at all levels.

In my own case, Wüster and others used a Facebook hate page called "Ray Hoser, Melbourne's biggest wanker" in 2011 (Various authors 2011b) to call for a media hate campaign to be launched against myself and my wildlife education business. The actions of the gang have included illegal use of my registered trademarks and other intellectual property to undermine myself and my business as well as other unlawful attacks (see Hoser 2013 for details).

After our family home was hit with an illegal 9 hour, 11 man armed raid in August 2011, Wüster and O'Shea made numerous posts in support of the actions by government employed wildlife officers and state police. These actions included my two vulnerable young daughters being viciously assaulted at gunpoint, theft of computers and research files spanning decades of full-time scientific studies, killing of supposedly "protected" snakes and other reckless actions, all confirmed in a series of subsequent legal proceedings.

Later the raid was found to be illegal by a number of courts (Supreme Court of Victoria - Court of Appeal Victoria, Victoria 2012 and Supreme Court of Victoria - Court of Appeal Victoria, Victoria 2014)!

Charges laid after the raid as an excuse to justify it, were later thrown out of the magistrates court on 25 October 2014 for lack of evidence!

Now just so there is no doubt that this hatred for herpetology and the rights of private keepers goes way beyond a personal hatred of myself in my obvious role as the world's leading advocate for the rights of private keepers (e.g. Hoser, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1996) as confirmed by Ramus (1997), one need look no further than the website of close Wüster friend Peter Uetz, trading as "The Reptile Database".

On the webpage that is backlinked across the internet and titled "reptiles as pets" (url at: http://www.reptile-database.org/db-info/snakes_as_pets.html), the page opening reads:

"SHOULD I KEEP A SNAKE [or any other reptile] AS A PET? ... We do not believe any amphibian or reptile should be kept as a pet."

before detailing all their alleged reasons to support their anti-herpetology position.

This includes such ridiculously radical statements as:

“It endangers your life and the lives of family, friends, and neighbours.”

In fact the stand taken by the Wüster gang against private (as opposed to government) herpetologists is even more extreme than that of radical animal rights groups like PETA and HSUS. Wüster himself has personally lobbied government wildlife departments across the globe to stamp out private herpetology and herpetoculture, as evidenced by his own posts admitting the same on the Facebook hate page “Ray Hoser, Melbourne’s biggest wanker” in the period May-July 2011 (Various authors 2011b).

In terms of legislative actions against privately funded herpetologists, such as ongoing constrictor bans in the United States and elsewhere, the actions of the Wüster gang are far more damaging than anything done by fringe “animal rights” groups.

This is because their pressure on authorities to ban privately owned reptiles comes from a position of (alleged) expertise on the reptiles themselves, rather than just from some known ratbag fringe group.

Wüster and Kaiser regularly identify themselves as representing herpetology as a whole and market their outrageous demands as part of a “unanimous, agreement on the part of herpetologists” which while untrue has had considerable success in enticing government authorities to introduce ever tighter laws governing reptile keepers on three continents.

So whether you are in the United States of America, the UK, or Australia, when your rights to keep live reptiles as pets, for study or similar are squashed, you can thank the Wüster gang for this.

REFERENCES CITED

- Adams, C. 2013. Man Killed by Stephen’s Banded Snake. Post at: http://www.sssafe.com.au/_blog/Snake_Safety/post/Man_Killed_by_Stephen’s_Banded_Snake/ dated 15 March.
- Barker, D. G., Barker, T. M., Davis, M. A. and Schuett, G. W. A review of the systematics and taxonomy of Pythonidae: an ancient serpent lineage. *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society*, 2015. Published as a pdf online: 19 pp.
- Bates, M. F. *et al.* 2013. A molecular phylogeny of the African plated lizards, genus *Gerrhosaurus* Wiegmann, 1828 (Squamata: Gerrhosauridae), with the description of two new genera. *Zootaxa* 3750 (5): 465-493 (23 December).
- Betts, A. 2013. Hockey player dies after snake bite at training. News report at: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-04-26/hockey-player-dies-after-on-field-snake-bite/4653048> posted on 29 April.
- Cogger, H. G. 2013. Email to Raymond Hoser. Dated 17 Aug 2013 14:09:26 +1000.
- Cogger, H. G. 2014a. *Reptiles and Amphibians of Australia*, Seventh Edition, CSIRO Publishing, Sydney, NSW, Australia.
- Cogger, H. G. 2014b. Email to Raymond Hoser, 5 July.
- Coritz, A. 2008. Youtube video placed online at: <http://au.youtube.com/watch?v=QzgluS-tIKc> (Downloaded 1 Dec 2008).
- Dolan, A. (*Daily Mail* Reporter) 2011. Snake breeder’s partner made desperate attempt to save him after fatal King Cobra attack. *Daily Mail* (UK) 6 July, online at: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2011564/Snake-breeders-partner-desperate-attempt-save-fatal-King-Cobra-attack.html>
- Dubois, A. 2014. Email to Raymond Hoser, 14 May.
- Eipper, S. 2013. Post on Facebook 16 December 2013.
- Fry, B. G. 2009. Re: Yikes, yikes, yikes, Naja nuked! Post on 29 March at: <http://www.venomousreptiles.org/forums/Experts/42293?page=2>
- Hoser, R. T. 1989. *Australian Reptiles and Frogs*. Pierson and Co. 238 pp.
- Hoser, R. T. 1991. *Endangered Animals of Australia*. Pierson Publishing, 240 pp.
- Hoser, R. T. 1993. *Smuggled: The Underground Trade in Australian Wildlife*. Apollo, Moss Vale: 160 pp.
- Hoser, R. T. 1996. *Smuggled-2: Wildlife trafficking, crime and corruption in Australia*. Kotabi, Doncaster, Victoria, Australia:280 pp.
- Hoser, R. T. 2003. Five new pythons. *Macarthur Herpetological Society Newsletter* 40:4-9.
- Hoser, R. T. 2004. A reclassification of the Pythoninae including the description of two new genera, two new species and nine new subspecies. *Crocodylian: Journal of the Victorian Association of Amateur Herpetologists* 4(3):31-37 and 4(4):21-40.
- Hoser, R. T. 2012. Robust taxonomy and nomenclature based on good science escapes harsh fact-based criticism, but remains unable to escape an attack of lies and deception. *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 14:37-64.
- Hoser, R. T. 2013. The science of herpetology is built on evidence, ethics, quality publications and strict compliance with the rules of nomenclature. *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* 18:2-79.
- Hoser, R. T. 2009-2014. All papers within Issues 1-24. Issues 1-24 *Australasian Journal of Herpetology*. Kotabi Pty Ltd: Doncaster, Victoria, Australia.
- Hunter, S. *et al.* 2006. Online petition to shut down Raymond Hoser, published at: <http://www.aussiereptileclassifieds.com/phpPETITION>
- ICZN 1991. Case 2531, Decision of the Commission: Three works by Richard W. Wells and C. Ross Wellington: proposed suppression for nomenclatural purposes. *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* 48(4):337-338.
- ICZN 2001. Opinion 1970 *Odatia keithornei* Wells & Wellington, 1985 (Reptilia, Squamata): specific name placed on the Official List. *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* 58(1):74.
- Jarbour, B. 2013. Hockey player dies after snake bite, two-kilometre run. Post at: <http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/hockey-player-dies-after-snake-bite-two-kilometre-run> posted on 26 April.
- Kaiser, H. 2012a. SPAM email sent out to numerous recipients on 5 June 2012.
- Kaiser, H. 2012b. Point of view. Hate article sent as attachment with SPAM email sent out on 5 June 2012.
- Kaiser, H. 2013. The Taxon Filter, a novel mechanism designed to facilitate the relationship between taxonomy and nomenclature, vis-à-vis the utility of the Code’s Article 81 (the Commission’s plenary power). *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* 70(4) December 2013:293-302.
- Kaiser, H. 2014a. Comments on *Spracklandus* Hoser, 2009 (Reptilia, Serpentes, ELAPIDAE): request for confirmation of the availability of the generic name and for the nomenclatural validation of the journal in which it was published. *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, 71(1):30-35.
- Kaiser H. 2014b. Best Practices in Herpetological Taxonomy: Errata and Addenda. *Herpetological Review*, 45(2):257-268.
- Kaiser, H., Crother, B. L., Kelly, C. M. R., Luiselli, L., O’Shea, M., Ota, H., Passos, P., Schleip, W. D. and Wüster, W. 2013. Best practices: In the 21st Century, Taxonomic Decisions in Herpetology are Acceptable Only When supported by a body of Evidence and Published via Peer-Review. *Herpetological Review* 44(1):8-23.
- McDowell, S. B. 1975. A catalogue of the snakes of New Guinea and the Solomons, with special reference to those in the Bernice P. Bishop Museum. Part II. Anilloidea and Pythoninae. *Journal of Herpetology* 9 (1):1-79.
- Measey, J. 2013. Taxonomic vandalism: Taxonomic publishing, vandalism and best practices: African Journal of Herpetology makes changes that will safeguard authors. Online blog posted at: <http://www.africanherpetology.org/taxonomy.php> (downloaded on 2 July 2014)

- Mutton, N. 2014a. Private email (via Facebook) to Raymond Hoser. 6.31 AM, 30 May.
- Mutton, N. 2014b. Two emails to Raymond Hoser, 9 June.
- O'Shea, M. 2004. The case against venomoid snakes. *The Herptile* 29(2):74-83 and widely posted online including at: http://www.markoshea.info/blog_venomoid1.php (as of 29 June 2014)
- Pyron, R. A., Burbrink, F. T., Colli, G. R., de Oca, A. N., Vitt, L. J., Kuczynski, C. A. and Weins, J. J. 2011. The phylogeny of advanced snakes (Colubroidea), with discovery of a new subfamily and comparison of support methods for likelihood trees. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 58:329-342.
- Pyron, R. A., Burbrink, F. T. and Wiens, J. J. 2013. A phylogeny and revised classification of Squamata, including 4151 species of lizards and snakes. *BMC Evolutionary Biology* 13:93. [doi:10.1186/1471-2148-13-93].
- Ramus, E. 1997. Australia's blanket policy restricts amateur contributions. *Reptile and Amphibian Magazine*, March/April:110.
- Raw, L. 2014. Email to Raymond Hoser, 5 July.
- Reynolds, R. G., Niemiller, M. L. and Revella, L. J. 2013a. Toward a Tree-of-Life for the boas and pythons: Multilocus species-level phylogeny with unprecedented taxon sampling. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, Uncorrected proof uploaded on 6 December 2013 to <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1055790313004284>
- Reynolds, R. G., Niemiller, M. L. and Revella, L. J. 2013b. Toward a Tree-of-Life for the boas and pythons: Multilocus species-level phylogeny with unprecedented taxon sampling. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, Uncorrected proof uploaded on 6 December 2013 to http://www.venomdoc.com/downloads/MPE_pythons.pdf
- Reynolds, R. G., Niemiller, M. L. and Revella, L. J. 2014. Toward a Tree-of-Life for the boas and pythons: Multilocus species-level phylogeny with unprecedented taxon sampling. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, 71:201-203 (posted online at: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1055790313004284>).
- Rhodin, A. *et al.* 2015. Comment on *Spracklandus* Hoser, 2009 (Reptilia, Serpentes, ELAPIDAE): request for confirmation of the availability of the generic name and for the nomenclatural validation of the journal in which it was published (Case 3601; see *BZN* 70: 234-237; 71: 30-38, 133-135, 181-182, 252-253). *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* 72(1)65-78.
- Ride, W. D. L. (*ed.*) *et al.* (on behalf of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature) 1999. International code of Zoological Nomenclature. The Natural History Museum - Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, UK (also commonly cited as "The Code", "Zoological Rules" or "ICZN 1999").
- Scheffe, Y. 2011. Emerald local hero killed by deadly brown snake. *Courier Mail* (Brisbane), 22 November, online at: <http://www.couriermail.com.au/news/queensland/local-hero-killed-by-brown-snake/story-e6freoof-1226201898702?nk=fc1a21c2d156fd632762057ed4e882c2>
- Schleip, W. D. 2008. Revision of the Genus *Leiopython* Hubrecht 1879 (Serpentes: Pythonidae) with the Redescription of Taxa Recently Described by Hoser (2000) and the Description of New Species. *Journal of Herpetology* 42(4):645-667.
- Schleip, W. D. 2013a. Posts on internet chat forum at: <http://www.pure-reptiles.de/index.php?page=Thread&threadID=1290> dated 19 March 2013-7 April 2013.
- Schleip, W. D. 2013b. Post dated 24 December 2013 at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/29038532220/>
- Schleip, W. D. 2013c. Post dated 24 December 2013 at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/559830307415249/>
- Schleip, W. D. 2014. Two new species of *Leiopython* Hubrecht, 1879 (Pythonidae: Serpentes): Non-compliance with the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature leads to unavailable names in zoological nomenclature. *Journal of Herpetology* 48(2):272-275.
- Schleip, W. D. and O'Shea, M. 2010. Annotated checklist of the recent and extinct pythons (Serpentes, Pythonidae), with notes on nomenclature, taxonomy, and distribution. *ZooKeys* 66:29-79.
- Shea, G. 2013a. Email to Raymond Hoser dated Fri, 8 Mar 2013 04:29:39 +0000.
- Shea, G. 2013b. Post on Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/glenn.shea.73?ref=ts&fref=ts> on 8 March at 7.51 AM.
- Shea, G. 2013c. Post on Facebook on 20 March at: <http://www.facebook.com/glenn.shea.73?ref=ts&fref=ts#!/bryangrieg.fry?fref=ts>
- Shea, G. 2013d. Post on Facebook on 20 March at: <http://www.facebook.com/glenn.shea.73?ref=ts&fref=ts#!/bryangrieg.fry?fref=ts>
- Shea, G. 2014. Email to Raymond Hoser, 5 July.
- Supreme Court of Victoria - Court of Appeal Victoria, Victoria 2012. Transcript and Judgement, Raymond Hoser versus the Department of Sustainability and Environment, Victoria. 8 June.
- Supreme Court of Victoria - Court of Appeal Victoria 2014. Judgement, Raymond Hoser versus the Department of Sustainability and Environment, Victoria. 5 September.
- Thorpe, S. 2013. Post to the Taxacom listserver, 21 May 2014.
- Thorpe, S. 2014a. Post on Taxacom forum dated 13 April.
- Thorpe, S. 2014b. Email to ICZN, 29 April.
- Uetz, P. 2014. Snakes as pets. Url at: http://www.reptile-database.org/db-info/snakes_as_pets.html (downloaded on 29 June).
- Various authors 2011a. "Ray Hoser Melbourne's biggest wanker" Facebook page, May-July 2011 inclusive.
- Various authors 2011b. NY Woman dead from snake bite? Post at: <http://www.venomousreptiles.org/forums/Experts/51290>, June 2011.
- Various authors 2012-14a. Taxacom archives. Downloaded from <http://mailman.nhm.ku.edu/mailman/listinfo/taxacom> (on 29 June 2014).
- Various authors 2012-14b. ICZN list archives. Downloaded from <http://list.afriherp.org/mailman/listinfo/iczn-list> (on 29 June 2014).
- Various authors 2014. "Snakes . . . I hate snakes." Posts at: <http://bushwalk.com/forum/viewtopic.php?f=5&t=17915&start=90>
- Vidal, N., and Hedges, S. B. 2009. The molecular evolutionary tree of lizards, snakes, and amphisbaenians. *C. R. Biol.* 332:129-139.
- Wallach, V., Wüster, W. and Broadley, D. 2009. In praise of subgenera: taxonomic status of Cobras of the genus *Naja* Laurenti (Serpentes: Elapidae). *Zootaxa* 2236:26-36 (online paper).
- Wallach, V., Williams, K. L. and Boundy, J. 2014. *Snakes of the world: A catalogue of living and extinct species*. CRC Press, Raylor and Francis Group.
- Wellington, C. R. 2013. Post on Facebook 26 December 2013.
- Wells, R. W. 2013. Post on Facebook 18 December 2013.
- Wikipedia 2004-2014. Edit history of Wikipedia page "Raymond Hoser" downloaded 8 June 2014.
- Williams, D. J. 2008. Two posts dated 14 February 2008 at: <http://www.reptileforums.co.uk/snakes/87176-support-new-guinea-snakebite-research-2.html> and also posted at the same time at "aussiepythons.com" and numerous

other internet chat forums.

Wüster, W. 2001. Post on Kingsnake.com at: January 22, 2001 at 11:29:07 (same document as Wüster, W., Bush, B., Scott Keogh, J., O'Shea, M. and Shine, R. 2001. Cited below except Wüster was listed here as the sole author).

Wüster, W., Bush, B., Scott Keogh, J., O'Shea, M. and Shine, R. 2001. Taxonomic contributions in the "amateur" literature: comments on recent descriptions of new genera and species by Raymond Hoser. *Litteratura Serpentina* 21(3):67-91.

Wüster, W. 2008 Posts at: <http://www.reptileforums.co.uk/snakes/87176-supportnew-guinea-snakebite-research.html>. Dated 20 Jan and later.

Wüster, W. 2009. Posts on internet chat forum at: <http://www.venomlist.com/forums/index.php?showtopic=24325&st=20>, 29 March 2009.

Wüster, W. 2013a. Posts on Facebook wall of Bryan Grieg Fry on 20 March 2013.

Wüster, W. 2013b. Posts on Facebook wall of Wulf Schleich from 20 March 2013 to 6 April 2013.

Wüster, W. 2013c. Post on Reptile Forum UK (RFUK) at: <http://www.reptileforums.co.uk/forums/snakes/946483-snake-man-hoser-29.html> on 9 April at 4.30 PM.

Wüster, W. 2013d. Post at <http://pleiotropy.fieldofscience.com/2009/03/taxonomic-war.html> dated 9 May 2013.

Wüster, W. 2013e. Post at <http://www.fieldherpforum.com/forum/viewtopic.php?f=13&t=15823&p=190713> on 27 April 2013 at 9:08 pm.

Wüster, W. *et al.* 2008. Facebook hate page "Ray Hoser, Melbourne's biggest wanker" (entire download for period May-July 2011, being the full history of that page).

Wüster, W., O'Shea, M. *et al.* (2004-2014) Wikipedia page "Raymond Hoser" downloaded 8 June 2014.

Wüster, W. 2013b. Posts on Facebook wall of Wulf Schleich from 20 March 2013 to 6 April 2013.

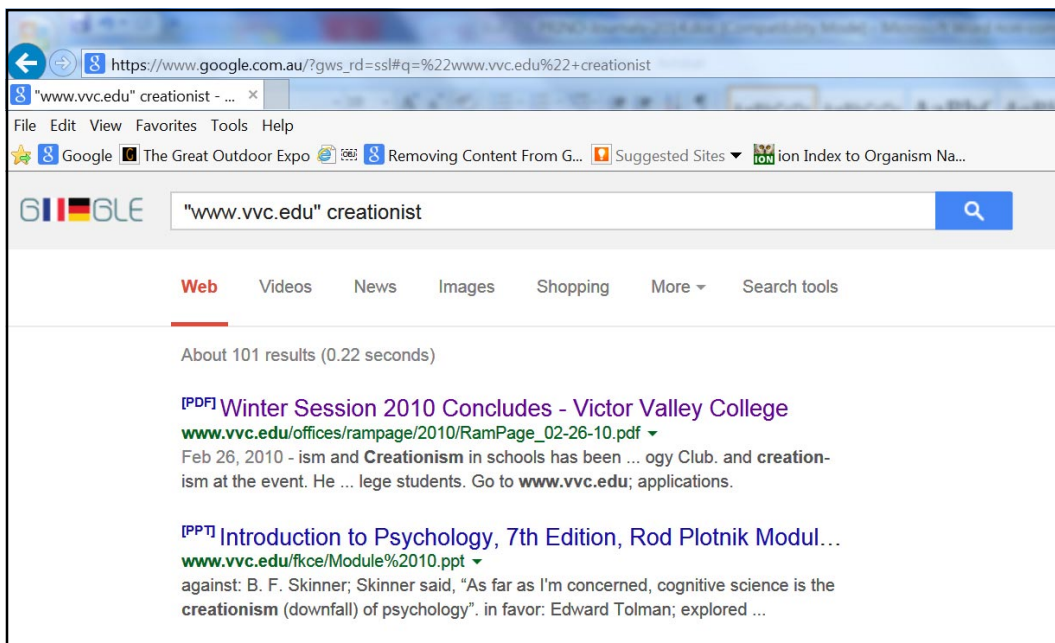
Wüster, W. 2013c. Post on Reptile Forum UK (RFUK) at: <http://www.reptileforums.co.uk/forums/snakes/946483-snake-man-hoser-29.html> on 9 April at 4.30 PM.

Wüster, W. 2013d. Post at <http://pleiotropy.fieldofscience.com/2009/03/taxonomic-war.html> dated 9 May 2013.

Wüster, W. 2013e. Post at <http://www.fieldherpforum.com/forum/viewtopic.php?f=13&t=15823&p=190713> on 27 April 2013 at 9:08 pm.

Wüster, W. *et al.* 2008. Facebook hate page "Ray Hoser, Melbourne's biggest wanker" (entire download for period May-July 2011, being the full history of that page).

Wüster, W., O'Shea, M. *et al.* (2004-2014) Wikipedia page "Raymond Hoser" downloaded 8 June 2014.



Notice: The *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* does not in any way support "evidence-free" taxonomy, lies, misrepresentations or breaking the established rules of Zoological Nomenclature as stated in the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* openly advocated in material presented as "evidence" in this paper. That material is reprinted here for the purposes of procedural fairness and cross-checking purposes and under fair use provisions of the law for public comment.

Australasian Journal of Herpetology

Publishes original research in printed form in relation to reptiles, other fauna and related matters in a peer reviewed journal for permanent public scientific record, and has a global audience.

Full details at: <http://www.herp.net>

Online journals (this issue) appear a month after hard copy publication.

Minimum print run of first printings is always at least fifty hard copies.

ISSN 1836-5698 (Print)
ISSN 1836-5779 (Online)

Herpetological Review, 2014, 45(2), 257–268.
© 2014 by Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles

Best Practices in Herpetological Taxonomy: Errata and Addenda

In a recent issue of *Herpetological Review*, my co-authors and I published a *Point of View* article outlining a set of best practices for workers in the field of herpetological taxonomy (Kaiser et al. 2013). The goal of that article was to defend modern herpetology from “taxonomic vandalism” (see Jäch 2007), and it has generated considerable discussion among zoological taxonomists (e.g., in the online listserv *Taxacom*). There is broad, although not unanimous, agreement on the part of herpetologists with our proposed solutions for how to handle taxonomic vandalism, and there is widespread recognition amongst zoological taxonomists in general that (1) taxonomic vandalism in zoology occurs and can pose a problem for users, (2) that the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (ICZN 1999; hereafter, the *Code*) in its function as an accounting system outside of the scientific method cannot safeguard scientific output from interference by authors who do not conform to scientific principles (see Kaiser 2013), and (3) that the adjudication of taxonomic decisions ultimately remains in the hands of authors, editors, and, in terms of the resulting nomenclature but not the taxonomic decisions, the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (hereafter, ICZN). I am pleased to report that authors (e.g., Bates et al. 2013; Reynolds et al. 2014) as well as editors (e.g., Measey 2013) are now applying the recommendations we made. It is the purpose of this follow-up paper to correct four minor errors made in the earlier paper’s list of taxonomic recommendations (Kaiser et al. 2013: Table 1), augment that list with a new set of recommendations for 255 unscientific names presented by Hoser (2013a–ag^[1]), and provide some clarification of the earlier paper regarding the relationship between scientific taxonomy and the *Code*.

ERRATA

Recommendation for *Costinisauria couperi* Wells 2009.—Kaiser et al. (2013) erroneously recommended the use of *Lampropholis couperi* in place of *Costinisauria couperi*. Instead, they should have listed *Eulamprus kosciuskoi* as the correct recommendation. The original listing of *C. couperi* in Wells (2009) shows that the author intended to separate his purported species from *C. worrelli* Wells and Wellington 1985, a name in the synonymy of *E. kosciuskoi* (see Shea and Sadler 1999).

Recommendation for *Cyrtodactylus abrae* Wells 2002.—Kaiser et al. (2013) erroneously recommended the use of *Cyrtodactylus tuberculatus* in place of *C. abrae*. Instead, they should have listed *C. pulchellus* as the correct recommendation. The authors overlooked an important recent paper, in which Shea et al. (2011) investigated the status of *C. abrae*. By designating the lectotype of *C. pulchellus* as the neotype of *C. abrae* (a poorly described taxon based on a photograph, and for which the nominal holotype did not exist), Shea et al. (2011)

[1] As for the year 2012 (see Kaiser et al. 2013), due to the large number of works produced by Raymond Hoser in 2013 (N = 33), I continued the enumeration of citations by beginning the alphabet anew. Thus, in addition to Hoser (2013a–z), nine additional references exist (Hoser 2013aa–ai).

permanently relegated the name *C. abrae* to the status of junior synonym of *C. pulchellus*.

Recommendation for *Zeusius sternfeldi* Wells 2007.—Kaiser et al. (2013) erroneously recommended the use of *Cyclodomorphus casuarinae* in place of *Zeusius sternfeldi*. *Zeusius sternfeldi* is, in fact, a synonym of *C. venustus*. In his description of *Z. sternfeldi* Wells (2007) listed, without attribution, diagnostic characters from Shea and Miller (1995) for a population these authors considered conspecific with *C. venustus*.

Typographical error.—In Table 1, Kaiser et al. (2013) list the name *Calloselasma*, without italic lettering, as a new tribe presented by Hoser (2012b). This name should have been listed as *Calloselasmii*. Hoser (2013m) described this putative tribe as new for the second time, both times in violation of the Principle of Coordination (Article 36 of the *Code*).

ADDENDA

In the course of writing the recent *Point of View* paper, my co-authors and I fully anticipated the production of additional taxon names by Raymond Hoser, but we were nevertheless dumbfounded by the sheer number of new names he created in five recent issues of his self-published *Australasian Journal of Herpetology* (hereafter *AJH*). In these issues, Hoser proposes a globe-spanning series of 255 new names for snakes and turtles at the family, subfamily, tribe, subtribe, genus, subgenus, species, and subspecies level. Following the standard of Kaiser et al. (2013), I here list these new names with recommendations for scientifically valid names (Table 1). In this list I also identify taxa violating Article 29 (proper formation of family-group names) and Article 36 (Principle of Coordination) of the *Code* and present corrections. I wish to note that, contrary to the exclamations by Hoser (2013n), the recommendations by Kaiser et al. (2013), and the ones presented herein are not formal taxonomic decisions underpinned by new evidence, but simply the most appropriate names to be used in place of dubious taxon names presented by Hoser since the year 2000; I consider Hoser’s post-2000 names non-existent for the purposes of taxonomy and nomenclature. The names coined by Hoser (2003), inadvertently omitted by Kaiser et al. (2013), are included in this new listing.

BEST PRACTICES REVISITED AND REAFFIRMED

There are two fundamental issues when dealing with non-peer-reviewed, unscientific contributions in taxonomy. The first of these is to clearly define the line separating taxonomy and nomenclature, as defined and differentiated by Pyle and Michel

HINRICH KAISER

Department of Biology, Victor Valley College,
18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, California 92395, USA
Department of Vertebrate Zoology,
National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D.C. 20013, USA; e-mail: hinrich.kaiser@vvc.edu

258 POINTS OF VIEW

TABLE 1. List of 255 herpetofaunal taxa published as new by Raymond Hoser from April–September 2013, plus one set of names from Hoser (2003) that was inadvertently omitted by Kaiser et al. (2013). I follow Kaiser et al. (2013) in considering the manner in which these names were produced unscientific, in violation of Articles 8.1.1, 29, 36 and the *Code of Ethics of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (ICZN 1999); these dubious names therefore have no standing in taxonomy and nomenclature. Readers *should not use these names* but instead revert to those listed in the column titled “Recommendation,” where nomenclaturally available and taxonomically suitable scientific names are provided. For clarification, the Recommendation column shows subgenera in parentheses with their corresponding genus name, according to standard nomenclatural usage. The Recommendation column may include several scientifically valid names when a non-scientific higher group taxon (e.g., tribe, subtribe) encompasses multiple lower ranked taxa. All other capitalized and italicized names are genera or subgenera. These recommendations do not constitute synonymies under the rules of the *Code*, but serve as substitutes for Hoser’s names until a formal, scientific treatment for the groups under consideration is published. A name formed incorrectly according to Article 29 of the *Code* is identified by the superscript A29. A name, whose description as new violates the Principle of Coordination of the *Code* (Article 36) and therefore is not new, is identified by the superscript A36. In these cases, a corrected version of the name and/or the proper authorship is provided after the taxon name. The footnotes list a variety of incongruities, including some with formal relevance.

Taxon	Taxon Rank	Citation	Recommendation
Acrantophiidae ^{A29, A36}	fam. nov.	Hoser 2013a	Boidae (part)
Acrantophini ^{A29, A36}	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013a	<i>Acrantophis</i> ¹
<i>Acrantophis stoppi</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013a	<i>Acrantophis dumerilii</i>
<i>Adelynhoserboa</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis</i> (part)
<i>Adelynhoserboa</i> (<i>Adelynhoserboa</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis tazanowskyi</i>
<i>Adelynhoserboa</i> (<i>Meretcaboa</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis paucisquamis</i>
<i>Adelynhoserboa</i> (<i>Pattersonboa</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis battersbyi</i>
<i>Adelynhoserboa</i> (<i>Adelynhoserboaina</i>)	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis</i>
<i>Adelynhosersaur</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Hypsilurus spinipes</i>
<i>Adelynhosersaurini</i> ²	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Hypsilurus spinipes</i> , <i>H. aliphopus</i>
<i>Adelynhoserserpentiae walsli</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013e	<i>Atropoides occiduus</i>
<i>Adelynhoserserpentini</i> ³	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Atropoides</i> (part)
<i>Adelynhoserserpentini</i>	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Atropoides</i> , <i>Cerrophidion</i> , <i>Porthidium</i>
<i>Ahaetullini</i> ^{A29, A36}	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Ahaetulla</i> , <i>Chrysopaeta</i>
<i>Amphibolurini</i> ^{A36}	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Amphibolurinae</i> (part)
<i>Anomochilus martensvillae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013f	<i>Anomochilus leonardi</i>
<i>Antaresia brentonoloughlini</i> ⁴	sp. nov.	Hoser 2003	<i>Antaresia maculosa</i>
<i>Atractaspis</i> (<i>Benjaminiswilieus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013v	<i>Atractaspis bouleengeri</i>
<i>Atractaspis</i> (<i>Lowryus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013v	<i>Atractaspis duerdeni</i>
<i>Bennetsaurini</i>	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus mitchelli</i> , <i>P. maculatus</i>
<i>Bennetsaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus mitchelli</i> , <i>P. maculatus</i>
<i>Bennetsaurus</i> (<i>Bennetsaurus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus maculatus</i>
<i>Bittis</i> (<i>Kloseipera</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bittis caudalis</i> , <i>B. peringuey</i> , <i>B. schneideri</i>
<i>Bittis</i> (<i>Kloseipera</i>) (<i>caudalis tajerikbuliardii</i>)	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bittis caudalis</i>
<i>Bittis</i> (<i>Kloseipera</i>) (<i>caudalis swilae</i>)	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bittis caudalis</i>
<i>Bittis</i> (<i>Kuekus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bittis parvirostris</i> ⁵
<i>Bittis brianvallaicei</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bittis arietans</i>
<i>Bittis funki</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013p	<i>Bittis gabonica</i>
<i>Bittis hoseriae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013p	<i>Bittis nascormis</i>
<i>Bittis lourenceklosei</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013p	<i>Bittis arietans</i>
<i>Bittis matroade</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bittis atropos</i>
<i>Bittis oflahertyae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bittis arietans</i>
<i>Bittis pintaudii</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bittis arietans</i>

Herpetological Review 45(2), 2014

TABLE 1. Continued

Taxon	Taxon rank	Citation	Recommendation
<i>Bitis tocottoni</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013o	<i>Bitis arietans</i>
<i>Bitis wellingtoni</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013p	<i>Bitis gabonica</i>
<i>Bitis wellsii</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013p	<i>Bitis gabonica</i>
Boigaini ^{1,23, A16} [Boigaini; Boiga Fitzinger 1826]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013b	Boiga (part), <i>Dipsadomorphus</i> , <i>Toxicodryas</i>
<i>Bothrocophias</i> (<i>Pugwipera</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Bothrocophias</i>
<i>Bothrocophina</i> ^{3, A16} [<i>Bothrocophias</i> Gutberlet and Campbell 2001]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Bothrops</i> (part)
<i>Bothropina</i> ^{3, A16} [<i>Bothrops</i> Wagner, 1824]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Bothrops</i> (part)
<i>Bothropodina</i> ^{4,16} [<i>Bothropoides</i> Fenwick et al. 2009]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Bothrops asper</i>
<i>Bothrops lenhoseri</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013r	<i>Bothrops asper</i>
<i>Bothrops mexicotensis</i> (sic) ⁵	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013r	<i>Bothrops asper</i>
<i>Bothrops mexicotensis macartneyi</i> (sic) ⁶	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013t	<i>Naja</i> (<i>Boulengerina</i>) <i>melanoleuca</i>
<i>Boulengerina adeyni</i> <i>hoserae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013t	<i>Naja</i> (<i>Boulengerina</i>) <i>melanoleuca</i>
<i>Brachyophidini</i> ^{4,16} [<i>Brachyophidium</i> Wall 1921]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Brachyophidium</i>
<i>Brogammerus</i> (<i>Wellsphython</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013d	<i>Malayopython timoriensis</i>
<i>Brogammerus reticulatus dalegibbonsi</i> ⁷	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013d	<i>Malayopython reticulatus</i>
<i>Brogammerus reticulatus euanedwardsi</i> ⁷	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013d	<i>Malayopython reticulatus</i>
<i>Brogammerus reticulatus haydnmacphiei</i> ⁷	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013d	<i>Malayopython reticulatus</i>
<i>Brogammerus reticulatus neilsommersi</i> ⁷	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013d	<i>Malayopython reticulatus</i>
<i>Brogammerus reticulatus patrickcouperi</i> ⁷	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013d	<i>Malayopython reticulatus</i>
<i>Brogammerus reticulatus stuartbigmorei</i> ⁷	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013d	<i>Malayopython reticulatus</i>
<i>Brucegowius</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013aa	<i>Dendelaphis caudolineolatus</i>
<i>Calliophis</i> (<i>Benmooreus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013k	<i>Calliophis bibroni</i> , <i>C. haematoeiron</i> , <i>C. melanurus</i>
<i>Calliophis</i> (<i>Paulstokesus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013k	<i>Calliophis beddomei</i> , <i>C. castoe</i> , <i>C. nigrescens</i>
<i>Calliophis</i> (<i>Savileia</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013k	<i>Calliophis maculiceps</i>
<i>Calloselasma</i> (<i>Calloselasma</i>)	subfam. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Calloselasma hypnale</i>
<i>Calloselasma</i> ^{23, A16} [<i>Calloselasma</i> Cope 1860]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Calloselasma hypnale</i>
<i>Calloselasma</i> ^{23, A16} [<i>Calloselasma</i> Cope 1860]	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013a	<i>Candoia aspera schmidti</i>
<i>Candoia</i> (<i>Erebophis</i>) <i>aspera iansimpsoni</i>	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013a	<i>Candoia</i> ⁸
<i>Candoidini</i> ^{4,23, A16} [<i>Candoini</i> ; <i>Candoia</i> Gray 1842]	fam. nov.	Hoser 2013a	Boidae (part)
<i>Candoididae</i> ^{4,23, A16} [<i>Candoididae</i> ; <i>Candoia</i> Gray 1842]	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013y	<i>Atractus clarki</i>
<i>Carstensius</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013q	<i>Causus lichtensteini</i>
<i>Causus perkinsi</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Protobothrops cornutus</i> , <i>P. jerdonii</i> , <i>P. xiangchengensis</i>
<i>Ceratineresurus</i> (<i>Lowrypiperia</i>)	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Atropoides</i> (part), <i>Cerrophidion</i>
<i>Cerrophodionina</i> (sic) ⁹	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013w	<i>Chamaelycus fasciatus</i>
<i>Chamaelycus euanedwardsi</i>	fam. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Ahaetulla</i> , <i>Dendrelaphis</i> , <i>Chrysopelea</i>
<i>Charlespersenserpenitidae</i> ^{4,23} [<i>Charlespersenserpenidae</i>]	subfam. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Ahaetulla</i> , <i>Dendrelaphis</i> , <i>Chrysopelea</i>
<i>Charlespersenserpeninae</i> ^{4,23} [<i>Charlespersenserpeninae</i>]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013i	<i>Dendrelaphis</i>
<i>Charlespersenserpenini</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Dendrelaphis lorentzi</i>
<i>Charlespersenserpens</i> (<i>Macmillanus</i>) <i>jackyhoserae</i> ¹⁰	sp. nov.	Hoser 2003	<i>Morelia viridis</i>
<i>Chondropython shirenae</i> ¹¹	tribe nov.	Hoser 2013x	<i>Coluber zebrinus</i> , <i>Bamanophis</i> , <i>Macroprotodon</i>
<i>Chrismaxwellini</i> ^{4,23} [<i>Chrismaxwellini</i>]	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013x	<i>Coluber zebrinus</i>
<i>Chrismaxwellius</i>			

Herpetological Review 45(2), 2014

260 POINTS OF VIEW

TABLE 1. Continued

Taxon	Taxon Rank	Citation	Recommendation
<i>Chrysopelea</i> (Wellserpens)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013b	<i>Chrysopelea taprobanica</i>
<i>Conantipera</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Gloydus</i> (part)
<i>Corlylus</i> (<i>Hilimikacordylus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Corlylus</i> (part)
Cottonsaurini	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonurus</i> (part), <i>Chamaesaura</i> , <i>Pseudocordylus</i> , <i>Smaug</i>
<i>Cottonsaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus</i> (part)
<i>Cottonipera</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Quoplis zayuensis</i> , <i>O. tonkinensis</i>
<i>Craspedocephalus</i> (<i>Borneovipera</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Trimeresurus</i> (<i>Craspedocephalus</i>) (part)
<i>Crotalina</i> ⁴⁵ (<i>Crotalus</i> Linnaeus 1758)	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	Crotalidae (part)
<i>Crotyserpens</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Rhinophis fergusonianus</i> , <i>R. sanguineus</i> , <i>R. travancoricus</i>
<i>Crotyserpens</i> (<i>Ackyserpens</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Rhinophis fergusonianus</i> , <i>R. sanguineus</i>
<i>Crotyserpens</i> (<i>Crotyserpens</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Rhinophis travancoricus</i>
<i>Crotyvipera</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Protobothrops mucrosquamatus</i> , <i>P. elegans</i>
Ctenophorini ⁴⁶ [<i>Ctenophorus</i> Fitzinger 1843]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Ctenophorus</i>
<i>Cummingipera</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Protobothrops kaulbacki</i> , <i>P. himalayanus</i>
<i>Cylindrophis</i> (<i>Cylindrophis</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013f	<i>Cylindrophis</i> (part)
<i>Cylindrophis</i> (<i>Macgoldrichia</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013f	<i>Cylindrophis maculatus</i>
<i>Cylindrophis</i> (<i>Motteramus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013f	<i>Cylindrophis</i> (part)
<i>Cylindrophis</i> (<i>Motteramus</i>) <i>wilsoni</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013f	<i>Cylindrophis boulengeri</i>
<i>Dannycoleus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013aa	<i>Dendrelaphis bifrenalis</i> , <i>D. giri</i>
<i>Dasytelis saezadi</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013ag	<i>Dasytelis scabra</i>
<i>Drewwilliamsus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013y	<i>Atractus zadoki</i>
<i>Drysdalia</i> (<i>Stazeuskis</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ab	<i>Drysdalia rhodogaster</i>
<i>Drysdalia mastersii andrewlowry</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013ab	<i>Drysdalia mastersii</i>
<i>Drysdalia mastersii robwatsoni</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013ab	<i>Drysdalia mastersii</i>
<i>Eduardssaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus maculatus</i>
<i>Eduardssaurus</i> (<i>Eduardssaurus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus</i> (part)
<i>Eduardssaurus</i> (<i>Macgoldrichisaurus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus</i> (part)
<i>Eduardssaurus</i> (<i>Vrijjesaurus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus ocellatus</i>
<i>Empugusia</i> (<i>Dendrovaranus</i>) <i>salvator woolfi</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus</i> (<i>Soterisaurus</i>) <i>salvator hinitatus</i>
<i>Empugusini</i> ^{43, 45} [<i>Empagusini</i> ; <i>Empagusia</i> Gray 1838]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus</i> (<i>Empagusia</i>)
<i>Euprepiosaurus indicus wellingtoni</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus indicus</i>
<i>Euprepiosaurus indicus wellsii</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus indicus</i>
<i>Eriteswilsoni</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013f	<i>Anomochilus monticola</i>
<i>Funkisaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Broadleysaurus major</i>
<i>Funkisaurusini</i> ⁴³ [<i>Funkisaurusini</i>]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Broadleysaurus major</i>
<i>Furina ornata todtpattersoni</i>	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Furina ornata</i>
Georgekonstandinouini ⁴³ [<i>Georgekonstandinouini</i>]	tribe nov.	Hoser 2013v	<i>Atractaspis</i> (part)
<i>Georgekonstandinouus</i> [<i>sic</i>] ¹²	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013v	<i>Atractaspis</i> (part)
<i>Georgekonstandinouus</i> (<i>Georgekonstandinouus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013v	<i>Atractaspis irregularis</i>
<i>Georgekonstandinouus</i> (<i>Slateryaspus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013v	<i>Atractaspis congica</i> , <i>A. reticulata</i>
<i>Georgekonstandinouus</i> (<i>Wellingtonaspus</i>)	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013v	<i>Atractaspis engdahl</i>
<i>Gerrhopilus carolinehoserae</i> ⁴³	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Gerrhopilus hedraeus</i>

Herpetological Review 45(2), 2014

TABLE 1. Continued

Taxon	Taxon Rank	Citation	Recommendation
<i>Gerrosaurina</i> ^{423,456} [<i>Gerrosaurina</i> ; <i>Gerrosaurus</i> Wiegmann 1828]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	Gerrosaurinae (part)
<i>Gerrosaurini</i> ^{423,456} [<i>Gerrosaurini</i> ; <i>Gerrosaurus</i> Wiegmann 1828]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	Gerrosaurinae (part)
<i>Gongylosoma (Aonolovelius)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013z	<i>Gongylosoma nicobariensis</i>
<i>Gongylosoma (Pauliellotus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013z	<i>Gongylosoma longicauda</i> , <i>G. mukutense</i>
<i>Hallibysaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus trilineatus</i> , <i>Z. quadrilineatus</i>
<i>Hapsidophrys daraini</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013w	<i>Hapsidophrys lineatus</i>
<i>Hapsidophrys pintauidi</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013w	<i>Hapsidophrys smaragdina</i>
<i>Hawkeswoodelapidus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ab	<i>Elapognathus</i>
<i>Hawkeswoodosaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	Zonosaurinae (part)
<i>Hawkeswoodosaurus (Hawkeswoodosaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	Zonosaurinae (part)
<i>Hawkeswoodosaurus (Nussbaumsaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus tsingy</i>
<i>Hawkeswoodosaurus (Raselmanasaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus aeneus</i>
<i>Hawkeswoodosaurus (Raxworthysaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus brygooi</i>
<i>Helodermini</i> ⁶⁰ [<i>Heloderma</i> Wiegmann 1829]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ae	<i>Heloderma</i>
<i>Hemachatus haemachatus macconchei</i> [sic] ¹⁴	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013u	<i>Hemachatus haemachatus</i>
<i>Hulminki</i> ¹⁵	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Suta</i>
<i>Hydrophis (Crotytydrophis)</i>	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013c	<i>Hydrophis donaldi</i>
<i>Hypsilurini</i> ⁴⁵⁶ [<i>Hypsilurus</i> Peters 1867]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Hypsilurus</i> (part)
<i>Intellagami</i> ⁴⁵⁶ [<i>Intellagama</i> Wells and Wellington 1985]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Intellagama</i>
<i>Jackyhoseboa</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis greenwayi</i> , <i>T. haetianus</i>
<i>Jackyhoserina</i> ³	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Bothrops</i> (part)
<i>Jackyhoserini</i> ³	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Bothrops</i> , <i>Bothrocophias</i>
<i>Jackyhoserisaur</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Diporiphora superba</i>
<i>Karusasaurini</i>	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Karusasaurus</i> , <i>Ouroborus</i>
<i>Katrinahoservipera</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Gloydia</i> (part)
<i>Katrinus jackye</i> ⁶	sp. nov.	Hoser 2003	<i>Liasis fuscus</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Adelynhosertypilops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilios</i> (part)
<i>Libertadictus (Bennetttypilops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilios pinguis</i> , <i>A. bicolor</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Buckleytypilops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilios aspinus</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Jackyhosertypilops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilios</i> (part)
<i>Libertadictus (Jackyhosertypilops) adelynhoserae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilios grypus</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Jackyhosertypilops) cliffrosswellingtoni</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilios proximus</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Kerrytypilops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilios</i> (part)
<i>Libertadictus (Mantypilops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilios</i> (part)
<i>Libertadictus (Pattersontypilops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilios unguistrois</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Robinwitttypilops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilios unguistrois</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Robinwitttypilops) jackyhoserae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilios batillus</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Sheatypilops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilios silvia</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Silvatypilops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilios</i> (part)
<i>Libertadictus (Stoppypilops)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilios ammodytes</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Stoppypilops) richardwellsi</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilios ligatus</i>
<i>Libertadictus (Suewitttypilops) stoppi</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	

Herpetological Review 45(2), 2014

262 POINTS OF VIEW

TABLE 1. Continued

Taxon	Taxon Rank	Citation	Recommendation
<i>Libertadictus (Suevittiplops)</i> [sic]	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Anilius</i> (part)
<i>Liopeltis tricolor borneotensis</i> [sic] ¹⁷	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013z	<i>Liopeltis tricolor</i>
<i>Liopeltis tricolor brummeri</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013z	<i>Liopeltis tricolor</i>
<i>Liopeltis tricolor philippinensis</i> [sic] ¹⁸	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013z	<i>Liopeltis tricolor</i>
<i>Liophidium (Matrborgus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013k	<i>Liophidium pattoni</i> , <i>L. rhodogaster</i>
<i>Liopholidophis (Christneumanus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013k	<i>Liopholidophis dimorphus</i> , <i>L. rhadinaea</i>
<i>Lycophidion wolffi</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013w	<i>Lycophidion ironatum</i>
<i>Macrochelyini</i> ^{423, 456} [Macrochelysini ¹⁹ , <i>Macrochelys</i> Gray 1856]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013h	<i>Macrochelys</i>
<i>Macrochelys maxhoseri</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013h	<i>Macrochelys temmincki</i>
<i>Macrochelys temmincki muscati</i>	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013h	<i>Macrochelys temmincki</i>
<i>Manserpens</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013f	<i>Cylindrophis engkarensis</i>
<i>Maxhosersaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ae	<i>Heloderma suspectum</i>
<i>Maxhoserviperina</i> ³	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Daboia</i>
<i>Melanophidini</i> ^{423, 456} [Melanophidini; <i>Melanophidium</i> Günther 1864]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Melanophidium</i>
<i>Micrelapidae</i> ^{423, 456} [Micrelapidae; <i>Micrelaps</i> Boettger 1880]	fam. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Micrelaps</i>
<i>Micrelapinae</i> ^{423, 456} [Micrelapinae; <i>Micrelaps</i> Boettger 1880]	subfam. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Micrelaps</i>
<i>Molochini</i> ⁴²³ [Moloch Gray 1841]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Moloch</i> , <i>Chelosania</i>
<i>Montiviperina</i> ⁴²³ [<i>Montiviper</i> Nilson et al. 1999]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Macrovipera</i> , <i>Montivipera</i>
<i>Morelia macburniei</i> ²⁰	sp. nov.	Hoser 2003	<i>Morelia spilota imbricata</i>
<i>Morelia nippughae</i> ²⁰	sp. nov.	Hoser 2003	<i>Morelia spilota</i>
<i>Namazonurini</i> ⁴²³ [<i>Namazonurus</i> Stanley et al. 2011]	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Namazonurus</i>
<i>Namazonurus (Atikaa)</i>	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Namazonurus laurenci</i> , <i>N. peersi</i>
<i>Namazonurus (Slattersaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Namazonurus namaquensis</i>
<i>Ninivipera</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Gloydus himalayanus</i>
<i>Ninsaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Ninsaurus langi</i>
<i>Notopseudonaja modesta wellsi</i>	ssp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Pseudonaja modesta</i>
<i>Odatria honlami</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus semiremex</i>
<i>Odatria hoserae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus glauerti</i>
<i>Odatria (Odatria) trisris nini</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus tristis orientalis</i>
<i>Oxyrhabdiumiidae</i> ^{423, 456} [<i>Oxyrhabdiumidae</i> ; <i>Oxyrhabdium</i> Boulenger 1893]	fam. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Oxyrhabdium</i>
<i>Oxyrhabdiumiinae</i> ^{423, 456} [<i>Oxyrhabdiuminae</i> ; <i>Oxyrhabdium</i> Boulenger 1893]	subfam. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Oxyrhabdium</i>
<i>Oysasaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus spinulosus</i>
<i>Oxyserpenini</i> ⁴²³ [Oxyserpenini]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Uropeltis</i> (part)
<i>Oxyserpens</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Uropeltis</i> (part)
<i>Oxyserpens (lealousserpens)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Uropeltis broughami</i> , <i>U. grandis</i>
<i>Oxyserpens (Oxyserpens)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Uropeltis</i> (part)
<i>Peilsus hoserae</i>	sp. nov.	Hoser 2013g	<i>Uropeltis</i> (part)
<i>Physignathini</i> ⁴⁵⁶ [<i>Physignathus</i> Cuvier 1829]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ad	<i>Pseudechis australis</i>
<i>Piersonina</i> ³	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013m	<i>Physignathus</i>
<i>Platysaurini</i> ^{423, 456} [<i>Platysaurus</i> Smith 1844]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Crotalus rarus</i>
<i>Plectrurini</i> ^{423, 456} [<i>Plectrurini</i> ; <i>Plectrurus</i> Duméril 1851]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013l	<i>Platysaurus</i> (part)
<i>Polydaedalini</i> ^{423, 456} [<i>Polydaedalini</i> ; <i>Polydaedalus</i> Wagler 1830]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Uropeltidae</i> (part)
			<i>Varanus</i> (part)

Herpetological Review 45(2), 2014

TABLE 1. Continued

Taxon	Citation	Taxon Rank	Recommendation
<i>Porthidium (Davivipera)</i>		subgen. nov.	<i>Porthidium dunni</i> , <i>P. ophryomegas</i>
<i>Porthidium</i> ⁴⁵⁸ [<i>Porthidium</i> Cope 1871]		subtrib. nov.	<i>Porthidium</i>
Psammodynastidae ^{453, 456} [Psammodynastidae; <i>Psammodynastes</i> Boie 1827]		fam. nov.	<i>Psammodynastes</i>
Psammodynastinae ^{453, 456} [Psammodynastidae; <i>Psammodynastes</i> Boie 1827]		subfam. nov.	<i>Psammodynastes</i>
Rhinocerophiina ⁴⁵⁶ [<i>Rhinocerophis</i> Garman 1881]		subtrib. nov.	<i>Bothrops</i> (part)
<i>Rhinocerophis (Blackeyvipera)</i>		subgen. nov.	<i>Bothrops</i> (part)
Rhinophiini ⁴⁵⁶ [<i>Rhinophis</i> Hemprich 1820]		trib. nov.	<i>Rhinophis</i> , <i>Uropeltis</i>
Rossolanini ⁴²⁹ [Rossolanini]		tribe nov.	<i>Cyclophiops</i> , <i>Liopeltis</i> , <i>Gongylosoma</i> , <i>Oreocryptophis</i>
<i>Rossolanus</i>		gen. nov.	<i>Liopeltis rappi</i>
<i>Rykyvipera</i>		gen. nov.	<i>Oiophis okinaensis</i>
<i>Shaneblackus</i>		gen. nov.	<i>Dendrelaphis</i> (part)
<i>Shanekingus</i>		gen. nov.	<i>Atractus wagleri</i> , <i>A. attenuatus</i> , <i>A. sanguineus</i>
<i>Shireenhosersaurina</i> ⁴²⁹ [Shireenhosersaurini]		gen. nov.	<i>Varanus (Euprepiosaurus)</i> (part)
<i>Sivadictus (Achythiops)</i>		gen. nov.	<i>Varanus</i> (part)
<i>Slopboiga</i>		trib. nov.	<i>Anilios</i> (part)
<i>Slopvipera</i>		subgen. nov.	<i>Boiga kraepelini</i>
Swilesaurina ⁴²⁹ [Swilesaurina]		gen. nov.	<i>Tropidolaemus huttoni</i>
<i>Swilesaurus</i>		gen. nov.	<i>Matobosaurus validus</i>
Swileserpeniidae ⁴²⁹ [Swileserpenidae]		subtrib. nov.	<i>Matobosaurus validus</i>
Swileserpeninae ⁴²⁹ [Swileserpeninae]		gen. nov.	<i>Buhoma</i>
<i>Swilevipera</i>		fam. nov.	<i>Buhoma</i>
<i>Tetradactylus</i> ^{429, 456} [Tetradactylusini; <i>Tetradactylus</i> Gray 1838]		gen. nov.	<i>Trimeresurus (Parais) hageni</i>
Thermophiidae ^{429, 456} [Thermophidae; <i>Thermophis</i> Malnate 1953]		trib. nov.	<i>Tetradactylus</i> , <i>Cordyllosaurus</i>
Thermophiinae ^{429, 456} [Thermophidae; <i>Thermophis</i> Malnate 1953]		fam. nov.	<i>Thermophis</i>
Thermophiini ^{429, 456} [Thermophidae; <i>Thermophis</i> Malnate 1953]		subfam. nov.	<i>Thermophis</i>
Tracheloptychina ²¹		trib. nov.	<i>Thermophis</i>
Trachyboaini ^{429, 456} [Trachyboaini; <i>Trachyboa</i> Peters 1860]		trib. nov.	<i>Tracheloptychus</i>
Tropidolaemusiinae ^{429, 456} [Tropidolaemusiinae; <i>Tropidolaemus</i> Wagler 1830]		trib. nov.	<i>Trachyboa</i>
Tropidolaemini ^{429, 456} [Tropidolaemusiinae; <i>Tropidolaemus</i> Wagler 1830]		subfam. nov.	<i>Deinagkistrodon</i> , <i>Garthius</i> , <i>Tropidolaemus</i>
Tropidophiina ^{429, 456} [Tropidophiinae; <i>Tropidophis</i> Bibron 1843]		subtrib. nov.	<i>Tropidophis</i> (part)
Tropidophiini ^{429, 456} [Tropidophiinae; <i>Tropidophis</i> Bibron 1843]		trib. nov.	<i>Tropidophis</i>
<i>Tropidophis (Eseraboa)</i>		subgen. nov.	<i>Tropidophis canus</i>
<i>Tropidophis (Robertbullboa)</i>		subgen. nov.	<i>Tropidophis caymanensis</i>
<i>Tropidophis (Roduwellboa)</i>		subgen. nov.	<i>Tropidophis melanurus</i>
<i>Ungaliophis panamensis lonelinyi</i>		ssp. nov.	<i>Ungaliophis panamensis</i>
Varauniini ^{429, 456} [Varauniini; <i>Varanus</i> Merrem 1820]		trib. nov.	<i>Varanus</i> (part)
<i>Varanus (Aquiavaranus)</i>		subgen. nov.	<i>Varanus (Varanus) mertensi</i>
<i>Varanus (Arborhabitatorisaurus)</i>		subgen. nov.	<i>Varanus (Odatria) gilleni</i> , <i>V. (O.) bushi</i> , <i>V. (O.) caudolineatus</i>
<i>Varanus (Honlamus)</i>		subgen. nov.	<i>Varanus (Odatria) semirenex</i> , <i>V. (O.) mitchelli</i>
<i>Varanus (Honlamus) mitchelli hawkeswoodi</i>		subsp. nov.	<i>Varanus (Odatria) mitchelli</i>
<i>Varanus (Kimberleyvaranus)</i>		subgen. nov.	<i>Varanus (Odatria) glebopalma</i>
<i>Varanus (Parivaranus)</i>		subgen. nov.	<i>Varanus (Odatria) brevicauda</i> , <i>V. (O.) eremius</i>

Herpetological Review 45(2), 2014

TABLE 1. Continued

Taxon	Taxon Rank	Citation	Recommendation
<i>Varanus (Pilbaravaranus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus (Odatria) pilbarensis</i>
<i>Viridovipera (Simpsonvipera)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Trimeresurus (Viridovipera) medoensis</i>
<i>Viridovipera (Yunnanvipera)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013s	<i>Trimeresurus (Viridovipera) yunnanensis</i>
<i>Wellingtonboa</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis haectanus</i>
<i>Wellingtonsaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurinae</i> (part)
<i>Wellsboa</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis</i> (part)
<i>Wellsboa (Tonyshivaboa)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis hendersoni</i>
<i>Wellsboa (Wellsboa)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis</i> (part)
<i>Wellsboa (Wittboa)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013j	<i>Tropidophis fascus</i> , <i>T. pilsbryi</i> , <i>T. wrightii</i>
<i>Wellsaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus boettgeri</i> , <i>Z. maramaitso</i> , <i>Z. maximus</i>
<i>Wellsaurus (Wellsaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus boettgeri</i> , <i>Z. maramaitso</i>
<i>Wellsaurus (Lukefabasaurus)</i>	subgen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus maximus</i>
<i>Woolosaurini</i>	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus pungweensis</i>
<i>Woolfsaurus</i>	gen. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Platysaurus pungweensis</i>
<i>Worrellisaurus storri makhani</i>	subsp. nov.	Hoser 2013af	<i>Varanus storri</i>
<i>Zonosaurina</i> ^{23,26} [<i>Zonosaurus</i> Boulenger 1887]	subtrib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus</i>
<i>Zonosaurini</i> ²⁶ [<i>Zonosaurus</i> Boulenger 1887]	trib. nov.	Hoser 2013ac	<i>Zonosaurus</i> , <i>Trachelophychus</i>

¹ Fig. 4 in Vidal and Hedges (2009) shows that Malagasy boine snakes are part of an unresolved polytomy. Hoser (2013ad) includes in this group the species *Hypsibatus spinipes* and the genus *Tiaris* Duméril and Bibron 1837 (now known as *H. ditlophius*). In the original description of their species *Lophyrus ditlophius*, Duméril and Bibron (1837:421) list in their observation section that the name "*Tiare ditlophi*" applies to the specimen figured on Plate 46 of their *Atlas*. There, it is denoted as *Tiaris ditlophius*. However, the genus name *Tiaris* Duméril and Bibron 1837 was preoccupied by the genus *Tiaris* Swainson 1827, a taxon erected for a genus of songbirds in the tanager family (Thraupidae). The use of this genus in the definition of a tribe is incorrect.

² The taxon listed here was previously described by Hoser (2012b) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

³ The taxon was also described as *Antaresia maculosa brentonoloughini* by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

⁴ The definition of this subgenus by Hoser (2013c) is confusing because of poor grammar, and no species content is formally presented. While the author states that the type species for the subgenus is *Bittis parvicula*, the later text appears to confound the subgenera *Macrocerastes* and "*Kiaekus*."

⁵ The entire first paragraph of the putative diagnosis for *Bothrops "mexicoensis"* is a verbatim copy of the diagnosis for *B. "lethosera"*. This is also the case for the diagnosis of *B. m. "maccartneyi"*. Furthermore, to indicate a Mexican origin, the proper form for the name would be *mexicoensis*. To create a patronym for an individual with last name McCartney, as stated in the etymology, the proper form is *mccartneyi*.

⁶ The subspecies of *Malayopython reticulatus* listed here were previously described by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

⁷ According to Vidal and Hedges (2009:Fig. 4), "the phylogenetic position of the Pacific Island endemic genus *Candidia* remains uncertain."

⁸ This taxon was previously described by Hoser (2012b), without the lapsus in spelling. It was rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

⁹ The taxon listed here was already described by Hoser (2012d) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

¹⁰ Also described as *Chondropython viridis shirenae* by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

¹¹ Given that the name derives from an individual named George Konstantinou, a proper spelling for such a group would be *Georgetonstantinouus*.

¹² This is the second description of a species named *Gerrhopilus carolinahoserae*. The first was by Hoser (2012a), which was rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

¹³ Given that the name derives from an individual named Lachlan McConchie, a proper spelling for such a group would be *mcconchiei*.

¹⁴ The taxon listed here was already described by Hoser (2012c) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

¹⁵ Also described as *Karrius fascus jacksonae* by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

¹⁶ A proper name indicating a Bornean origin would be *borneensis*.

¹⁷ A proper name indicating Philippine origin would be *philippinensis*.

¹⁸ The name Macrocheilidae is preoccupied by a group of mites.

¹⁹ Also described by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

²⁰ Also described by Hoser (2004) and rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013).

²¹ Hoser (2013ac) lists this as "Subtribe Trachelophychina trib. nov." The subtribe ending -ina conflicts with the designation of this name as a tribe.

²² Hoser (2013ac) lists this as "Subtribe Zonosaurina trib. nov." The subtribe ending -ina conflicts with the designation of this name as a tribe.

(2008), to determine which aspects of a body of work are in the purview of science and which are not. Taxonomy is based on data and argument (a scientific process), and if a disagreement occurs over evidence or its interpretation, then alternative taxonomies may coexist. Nomenclature, in contrast, is a system of rules based on general principles, through which the application of taxon names is regulated. It is not based on science, but for the system to be meaningful *there must be sound scientific principles underlying the creation of any new taxon name*. Thus, the workflow for proposing new taxon names automatically and invariably involves first science, using an explicit and transparent scientific process (i.e., a peer-reviewed publication), and then accounting, with all subsequent information regarding the status of a taxon name derived from accounting (Kaiser 2013). While it is true that the *Code* applies only to nomenclature, given its overall presentation (including its *Preamble*, *Introduction*, and *Code of Ethics*), it seems reasonable to assume that reliable scientific processes ought to underlie nomenclature.

The *Code* states that its application will be subservient to the "promotion of stability and universality in the scientific names of animals" (*Preamble* of the *Code*; ICZN, 1999). I interpret this as an attempt by the original authors of the *Code* to ascertain that scientific processes must govern the interactions between taxonomy and the *Code*. In my opinion, that is how Article 8.1.1 must be understood. If it can be shown that scientific principles are violated (i.e., data and argument for the specific case are not merely poorly interpreted, but missing, erroneously or deliberately misrepresented, or entirely outside of acceptable scientific principles), then the taxonomy and names produced by such means are unscientific. Names produced in this manner should therefore be considered nomenclaturally void, and should neither be permitted to receive approval via the *Code*, nor be able to subsequently re-enter the realm of science after having been "laundered" by the *Code* (Kaiser 2013).

The best practices presented by Kaiser et al. (2013) were designed to help taxonomic herpetologists and users of herpetological taxonomy recognize and sort post-2000 taxon names, and the publications in which they appeared, into acceptable and unacceptable columns. These recommendations are universally applicable: a user can take any article and check it against the listed criteria, then make a determination regarding the validity of any taxonomic decision it might contain. Using this approach, Kaiser et al. (2013) were able to declare the post-2000 output by the Australian snake aficionado Raymond Hoser void for nomenclatural purposes and provided a corresponding list of taxon names with nomenclatural validity. The particular issue with Hoser's output is not only the proposal of taxonomically unfounded and superfluous reptile names (more than 200 in 2013 alone; Hoser 2013a-ag), it includes attacks on professional and non-academic herpetologists who disagree with Hoser's concept of taxonomy, something I perceive to consist of little more than a competitive naming game to him. Following the publication of Kaiser et al. (2013) in March of 2013, Hoser worked the online social media circuit to discredit the authors and supporters of that paper, along with the journal and its editor, as well as the scientific societies that voted in support of the presented ideas (e.g., Hoser 2013n). His department is in clear violation of the *Code of Ethics* of the *Code*, as has frequently been stated in online venues. This is perhaps most significantly demonstrated by an exchange between Hoser and ICZN Commissioner Douglas Yanega in the listserv *Taxacom* (Hoser 2013ah). These exchanges are the source of gross misinformation about the relevant issues

and scientific processes, and they have caused significant discontentment among taxonomists.

A key issue emerging in this discussion is the position of the *Code* and the ICZN. At their root, the rules and their governing body provide zoological taxonomists with a mechanism for the accounting of taxon names and for resolving disputes arising from the publication of available names. Alas, this mechanism is by design not scientific, and it is perhaps better likened to a system of legal oversight (Kaiser 2013). These entities were not established to influence the scientific processes by which taxonomic decisions are made. While this has fostered the independence of two important regulatory aspects of taxonomy, it has also created a problem: although the nonscientific component is strictly governed, the scientific one is not. I therefore feel I must preface the discussion of the *Code*'s specifics by stating that I am a firm proponent of the scientific process, a grand, yet imperfect human endeavor by which we produce knowledge. If the *Code*, a tool created by scientists for use by scientists to sort out nomenclature, does not unequivocally support this scientific process (which is the ultimate reason for the *Code*'s very existence), then the *Code* becomes irrelevant to science. While the *Code* provides a very valuable service, its application must always be congruent with scientific principles, and not for the protection of the *Code* in and of itself. The *Code* has adapted (e.g., ICZN 2012), and must continue to adapt, to the realities and demands of modern science, and it must do so as the situation demands it (see Harvey and Yanega 2013). The broader issue, therefore, is the use of the scientific method for creating knowledge, and the relevance of the *Code* to that goal.

Article 8.1.1 of the *Code* exemplifies how working within the framework of the *Code* and the ICZN creates challenges for those contending with names produced by taxonomic vandals. This article states that for a work to be considered published for the purposes of zoological nomenclature, "it must be issued for the purpose of providing a public and permanent scientific record" (ICZN 1999). Kaiser et al. (2013) and Schleip (2014) discuss this article in relation to Hoser's output in the *AJH*. Based on the online discussions that have followed (e.g., on *Facebook* pages and in *Taxacom*), as well as the presentation of *AJH* issues 16–18, it is instructive to revisit the ramifications of this article.

On the surface, glossy presentation and overall production of pseudoscientific^[2] materials, such as the *AJH*, may closely mimic a scientific journal and can lead to confusion on the part of users, particularly in an applied setting where taxonomic minutiae may not be verified (e.g., Wüster and Bernils 2011). On the back pages of the two most recent issues of the *AJH*, it is even stated that articles are published "in a peer reviewed journal for permanent public scientific record" (grammar and spelling as in original). However, presentation and proclamation alone do not a scientific journal make. Even statements touting compliance with scientific rules cannot compensate for a lack of rigor in data presentation. For example, Hoser states multiple times in each issue of the *AJH* that his articles are designed to be "in accordance with the Zoological Code" (e.g., Hoser 2013ac:18), yet they fail scientific principles in even the most basic aspects

[2] Pseudoscience is an attempt to clothe nonscientific fact in scientific attire to validate fictional, non-reproducible information. Pseudoscience does not pose a question and seek an explanation; it begins with the explanation and then seeks supportive data. Pseudoscientific statements are generally easy to recognize by the vocal defense that typically accompanies their presentation, unlike science, where the evidence can speak for itself. In contrast to science, there is no knowledge gained through pseudoscience.

of reproducibility and data disclosure. While Hoser indeed works hard to make the *AJH* a public and permanent record, it is the term “scientific” where he fails the test of Article 8.1.1. In light of this, it is highly questionable whether the *AJH*, in the absence of the *Code*, would ever obtain permanence in the Scientific Record (see Dayrat 2005; Minelli 2005).

Following the best practices of Kaiser et al. (2013), the contents of the *AJH* are clearly noncompliant with broadly accepted scientific standards. From an administrative or oversight perspective, both an editorial board and associate editors are lacking. Hoser's role as the only contributor creates a conflict of interest for the peer-review process given his role as the *AJH*'s Editor. In terms of editorial quality, a reading of any article in the *AJH* demonstrates that there is no peer review despite Hoser's attestations to the contrary: no person upholding scientific principles and standards of collegial discourse (not to mention familiarity with English grammar, paragraph structure, or scientific writing) would accept *AJH* contributions (Carraway 2009). A scientific journal is not created by proclamation, but by the consistent production of quality, demonstrably peer-reviewed scientific output.

Regarding the taxonomic details of the articles in *AJH* issues 16–21, Hoser provides ample evidence that the names he proposes are not based on the scientific study of specimens or offered out of scientific necessity, which violates the scientific tenets of taxonomy and eliminates the utility of any resulting names. The main interest of Hoser is to have his proposed names endure, with the help of the *Code*. They are not the products of the scientific process, but generated “for completeness” (e.g., Hoser 2013a:3), which results in names for ranks that are not informative or useful. Indeed, most appear to be named for the sake of naming them: (1) naming clades for which molecular data from peer-reviewed publications may be preliminary or provide weak support, (2) names proposed from holotypes and paratypes that Hoser designates, yet has never examined himself, or (3) listing long strings of in-text citations rather than critically reviewing the relevant data from such papers (invariably ending with the phrase “and sources cited therein;” this occurs 38 times in the 33 papers comprising *AJH* issues 16–21). Hoser even states periodically that he does not want to rehash prior work (e.g., Hoser 2013a:4, 2013z:34, 2013ae:38), even when such work would support his taxonomic proposals.

Some may consider it impossible to differentiate scientific from nonscientific works so that it can be objectively determined which taxonomic decisions should have nomenclatural impact. I disagree. Based on the fundamental processes of science accepted today, developed and refined over centuries, it is a simple task to separate poorly executed science from pseudoscience. These are not matters of free speech or freedom of expression, which in science are restricted by evidence (Kaiser 2013). If it is not science, then it shall not be known as such. This has been amply and successfully demonstrated as evolutionary science defended itself against Intelligent Design, and it is certainly possible and appropriate in applications to taxonomy. This is not just a question of publishing outlet, but more specifically a question of whether basic scientific principles are followed or not.

Perhaps Hoser's most recent output is *Code*-compliant when it comes to the “public” or “permanent” aspects of Article 8.1.1. After all, the issues of the *AJH* are bound, available for purchase, and are distributed to some public libraries. But the output is by no measure “scientific” and clearly in violation of Appendix A of the *Code* (the *Code of Ethics*).

I have encountered the argument that Hoser's output merely represents exceptionally poor taxonomy, like that of some taxonomic vandals outside of herpetology, but with the addition of the many slanderous interpersonal transgressions and name-calling, and that over time scientists will correct the record. However, Hoser's prolific output, which as of this writing includes well over 600 new taxon names since 2000 (the exact number would require close scrutiny because the author tends to describe taxa as new more than once, and he calls higher taxon names “new” even when their authorship was already established according to Article 36 of the *Code*), creates significant instability for users of taxonomy in the herpetological community. Thus, the *Code*, whose explicit mandate includes the oversight of stability of scientific zoological nomenclature, is being co-opted by Hoser as a tool to create confusion in herpetological taxonomy^[3]. The issue of taxonomic vandalism therefore is not merely a matter of working within the *Code* and exploiting its loopholes; it amounts to an example of treasonous conduct in the framework of zoological science.

A significant segment of the herpetological community is on record as rejecting the post-2000 names coined by Hoser (Kaiser et al. 2013), and given that these recommendations are being implemented in recent papers (e.g., Bates et al. 2013; Reynolds et al. 2014; Schleip 2014) and by editors (e.g., Measey 2013), this is likely to become the *status quo* for reptile taxonomy: science forges ahead as nonsense is overwritten. Despite this trend, the position of the *Code* and the ICZN vis-à-vis Hoser's nomenclature remains unresolved. Those interested in this issue can comment on Case 3601 filed by Hoser (2013ai) to preserve the genus name *Spracklandus* Hoser 2009 (published in the *AJH*) over *Afronaja* Wallach et al. 2009 (published in *Zootaxa*). This could prove to be a landmark case insofar as it pits the value of the scientific process against pseudoscience in nomenclature (Kaiser 2013, 2014).

I assert that one of the best options to resolve the issue of taxonomic vandalism in general, and of the situation described herein in particular, is for the ICZN to use its plenary powers under the *Code* to declare names proposed by Raymond Hoser unavailable for the purposes of nomenclature (Kaiser 2013). To resolve the problem in herpetology, it would suffice to do so with names proposed in the *AJH*, because that is where the most egregious offenses against scientific taxonomy have occurred. While this would not prevent Hoser from launching another outlet, it would set the precedent that the ICZN will not stand by as the system it safeguards is subverted and compromised.

Acknowledgments.—I thank G. Shea for his many insightful and helpful comments on the manuscript and for clarifying the status of the three lizard species for which Kaiser et al. (2013) made incorrect recommendations. I am also very grateful to S. Nikolaeva for her help in clarifying the issues relating to Articles 29 and 36 of the *Code*. I thank A. Koch, M. O'Shea, W. Schleip, V. Wallach, and W. Wüster for their assistance in streamlining my ideas and for checking the recommendations in Table 1.

Note to the reader: In the following list, publications by Raymond Hoser have all errors in punctuation or spelling preserved.

[3] The most recent example for such confusion is listed in the newest edition of *Reptiles and Amphibians of Australia* (Cogger 2014). The author highlights in the account for the genus *Silvascincus* that readers will likely encounter two names for these lizards, of which the earlier name was rejected by Kaiser et al. (2013); in the account, the older name is nevertheless only listed second and in parentheses.

LITERATURE CITED

- BATES, M. F., K. A. TOLLEY, S. EDWARDS, Z. DAVID, J. M. DA SILVA, AND W. R. BRANCH. 2013. A molecular phylogeny of the African plated lizards, genus *Gerrhosaurus* Wiegmann, 1828 (Squamata: Gerrhosauridae), with the description of two new genera. *Zootaxa* 3750:465–493.
- CARRAWAY, L. N. 2009. Ethics for and responsibilities of authors, reviewers and editors in science. *American Midland Naturalist* 161:146–164.
- COGGER, H. G. 2014. *Amphibians and Reptiles of Australia*. 7th ed. CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood, Australia.
- DAYRAT, B. 2005. Towards integrative taxonomy. *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* 85:407–415.
- HARVEY, M., AND D. YANEGA. 2013. Call for comments: taxonomic practice and the *Code*. *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* 70:216–217.
- HOSER, R. T. 2003. Five new pythons. *Macarthur Herpetol. Soc. Newslett.* 40:4–9.
- . 2004. A reclassification of the Pythoninae including the description of two new genera, two new species and nine new subspecies. *Crocodylian - J. Victorian Assoc. Amat. Herpetol.* 4(3):31–37 and 4(4):21–40.
- . 2012a. A review of the extant scolecophidians (“blindsnakes”) including the formal naming and diagnosis of new tribes, genera, subgenera, species and subspecies for divergent taxa. *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 15:1–64.
- . 2012b. A reassessment of the higher taxonomy of the Viperidae. *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 10:35–48.
- . 2012c. A reassessment of the higher taxonomy of the Elapidae. *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 10:49–63.
- . 2012d. Divisions of the Asian colubrid snake genera *Xenochrophis*, *Dendrelaphis* and *Boiga* (Serpentes: Colubridae). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 12:65–76.
- . 2013a. Tidying up the taxonomy of the extant Booidea, including the erection and naming of two new families, the description of *Acrantophis sloppi* sp. nov., a new species of ground boa from Madagascar and *Candoia aspera iansimpsoni*, subsp. nov., a new subspecies of boa from Papua New Guinea. *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 16:3–8.
- . 2013b. Further division of the genera *Boiga* Fitzinger, 1826 and *Chrysopolea* Boie, 1826, with the creation of a new tribe, a new genus and a new subgenus. *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 16:9–14.
- . 2013c. Making sense of the mess ... A new and workable sea-snake taxonomy with nomenclature to match! *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 16:15–18.
- . 2013d. The taxonomy of the snake genus *Broghammerus* Hoser, 2004 revisited, including the creation of a new subgenus for *Broghammerus timoriensis* (Peters, 1876). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 16:19–26.
- . 2013e. *Adelynhoserserpentae wellsii*, a new species of jumping pitviper from Mexico (Serpentes: Viperidae). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 16:27–30.
- . 2013f. Divisions within the snake genera *Cylindrophis* Wagler, 1828 (Cylindrophidiidae Fitzinger, 1843) and *Anomochilus* Berg, 1901 (Anomochilidae Cundall, Wallach and Rossman, 1993). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 16:31–38.
- . 2013g. The description of new snake subgenera, species and subspecies from Australia (Squamata: Serpentes). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 16:39–52.
- . 2013h. An updated taxonomy of the living alligator snapping turtles (*Macrochelys* Gray, 1856), with descriptions of a new tribe, new species and new subspecies. *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 16:53–63.
- . 2013i. Stopping the shuffle between families: six new colubroid snake families named. *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 17:3–21.
- . 2013j. A reassessment of the Tropidophiidae, including the creation of two new tribes and the division of *Tropidophis* Bibron, 1840 into six genera, and a revisiting of the Ungaliophiinae to create two subspecies within *Ungaliophis panamensis* Schmidt, 1933. *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 17:22–34.
- . 2013k. In praise of subgenera, with ethics and within the rules of zoology: taxonomic status of the snake genera *Calliophis* Gray, 1835, *Liophidium* Boulenger, 1896 and *Liopholidophis* Mocquard, 1904 (Serpentes). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 17:35–50.
- . 2013l. An overdue new taxonomy for the Rhinophiidae (Uropeltidae). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 17:51–57.
- . 2013m. New tribes and sub-tribes of vipers and elapid snakes and two new species of snake (Squamata: Serpentes). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 17:58–63.
- . 2013n. The science of herpetology is built on evidence, ethics, quality publications and strict compliance with the rules of nomenclature. *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 18:2–79.
- . 2013o. African adders (*Bitis* Gray, 1842), reviewed, including, two new subgenera, five new species of puff adder, all formerly *Bitis arietans* (Merrem, 1820) subspecific division of *Bitis caudalis* (Smith, 1839) and division of the berg adders *Bitis atropos* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Serpentes: Viperidae: Bitisini). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 19:3–24.
- . 2013p. A formal five-way division of the Gaboon viper species complex: *Bitis (Macrocerastes) gabonica* (Duméril, Bibron and Duméril, 1854) and a two-way division of the nose-horned viper species complex *Bitis (Macrocerastes) nasicornis* (Shaw, 1802) (Serpentes: Viperidae: Bitisini). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 19:25–31.
- . 2013q. A new species of night adder (Serpentes: Viperidae) from central Africa. *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 19:32–35.
- . 2013r. Two new species of pitviper from Middle America (Serpentes: Viperidae: Crotalinae). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 19:36–42.
- . 2013s. A review and rearrangement of pitviper genera (Serpentes: Viperidae: Crotalinae). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 19:43–63.
- . 2013t. Two new species of true cobra in the genus *Boulengeria* Dollo, 1886 from West Africa and South Africa (Serpentes: Elapidae). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 20:3–7.
- . 2013u. A new subspecies of rinkhals *Hemachatus haemachatus* (Bonnaterre, 1790) from Southern Africa. (Serpentes: Elapidae). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 20:8–10.
- . 2013v. A further division of the African burrowing asps, *Atractaspis* Smith 1849 with the erection of a new genus and two new subgenera. *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 20:11–19.
- . 2013w. Four new species of snake from Central Africa (Serpentes: Colubridae) and (Serpentes: Lamprophiidae). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 20:20–25.
- . 2013x. *Chrismaxwellius*: A new genus of colubrid snake from south-west Africa. *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 20:26–29.
- . 2013y. Three new genera of ground snakes from Middle and South America (Serpentes: Dipsadidae). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 20:30–32.
- . 2013z. Division of the Asian snake genera *Liopeltis* Fitzinger, 1843 and *Gongylosoma* Fitzinger, 1843 (Serpentes: Colubridae). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 20:33–40.
- . 2013aa. Further division of the tree snake genus *Dendrelaphis* Boulenger, 1890, including the erection of three new genera to accommodate divergent species groups (Serpentes: Charlespersen-serpeniidae). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 20:41–46.
- . 2013ab. Revisiting the Australian “white-lipped snakes” of the genus *Drysdalia* Worrell, 1961, (*sensu lato*) including two new subgenera and two new subspecies (Serpentes: Elapidae). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 20:47–51.
- . 2013ac. A revised taxonomy for the lizard families Gerrhosauridae and Cordylidae. *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 21:2–32.
- . 2013ad. A seven way division of the Amphibolurinae (Squamata: Sauria: Agamidae). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 21:33–36.
- . 2013ae. Not in *Heloderma* ... A revised taxonomy and new genus for the Gila Monster. *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 21:37–40.
- . 2013af. Monitor lizards reclassified with some common sense (Squamata: Sauria: Varanidae). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 21:41–58.

- . 2013ag. A new egg-eating snake from the southern Arabian Peninsula (Squamata: Serpentes: Colubridae: Colubrinae: Boigini). *Australasian J. Herpetol.* 21:59–63.
- . 2013ah. The Doug Yanega Opinion. Taxacom Discussion Thread dated 8 October 2013. URL: <http://markmail.org/message/at3cgsjo4go4wzir>. Accessed on 27 December 2013. Archived by WebCite at <http://www.webcitation.org/6MC2zN3LK>.
- . 2013ai. *Spracklandus* Hoser, 2009 (Reptilia, Serpentes, Elapidae): request for confirmation of the availability of the generic name and for the nomenclatural validation of the journal in which it was published. *Bull. Zool. Nomen.* 70:234–237.
- ICZN. 1999. International Code of Zoological Nomenclature. The International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature, London, United Kingdom. Online version accessed at <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/hosted-sites/iczn/code>.
- . 2012. Amendment of Articles 8, 9, 10, 21 and 78 of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* to expand and refine methods of publication. *ZooKeys* 219:1–10.
- JACH, M. A. 2007. Vandalism in taxonomy. *Koleopterol. Rundschau* 77:38, 146.
- KAISER, H. 2013. The Taxon Filter, a novel mechanism designed to facilitate the relationship between taxonomy and nomenclature, vis-à-vis the utility of the *Code's* Article 81 (the Commission's plenary power). *Bull. Zool. Nomen.* 70:293–302.
- . 2014. Comment on *Spracklandus* Hoser, 2009 (Reptilia, Serpentes, Elapidae): request for confirmation of the availability of the generic name and for the nomenclatural validation of the journal in which it was published. *Bull. Zool. Nomen.* 71:30–35.
- , B. I. CROTHER, C. M. R. KELLY, L. LUISSELLI, M. O'SHEA, H. OTA, P. PASSOS, W. D. SCHLEIP, AND W. WÜSTER. 2013. Best practices: In the 21st Century, taxonomic decisions in herpetology are acceptable only when supported by a body of evidence and published via peer-review. *Herpetol. Rev.* 44:8–23.
- MEASEY, J. 2013. Taxonomic publishing, vandalism and best practice: *African Journal of Herpetology* makes changes that will safeguard authors. *African Herp News* 60:2–4.
- MINELLI, A. 2005. Publications in taxonomy as scientific papers and legal documents. *Proc. California Acad. Sci.* 56, Suppl. 1:225–231.
- PYLE, R. L., AND E. MICHEL. 2008. ZooBank: Developing a nomenclatural tool for unifying 250 years of biological information. *Zootaxa* 1950:39–50.
- REYNOLDS, G. R., M. L. NIEMILLER, AND L. J. REVELL. 2014. Toward a Tree-of-Life for the boas and pythons: Multilocus species-level phylogeny with unprecedented taxon sampling. *Mol. Phylog. Evol.* 71:201–213.
- SCHLEIP, W. D. 2014. Two new species of *Leiopython* Hubrecht, 1879 (Pythonidae: Serpentes): Non-compliance with the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* leads to unavailable names in zoological nomenclature. *J. Herpetol.* In press.
- SHEA, G., P. COUPER, J. W. WILMER, AND A. AMEY. 2011. Revision of the genus *Cyrtodactylus* Gray, 1827 (Squamata: Gekkonidae) in Australia. *Zootaxa* 3146:1–63.
- SHEA, G. M., AND B. MILLER. 1995. A taxonomic revision of the *Cyclodomorphus branchialis* species group (Squamata: Scincidae). *Rec. Austral. Mus.* 47:265–325.
- , AND R. A. SADLER. 1999. A catalogue of the non-fossil amphibian and reptile type specimens in the collection of the Australian Museum: Types currently, previously and purportedly present. *Tech. Rep. Austral. Mus.* 15:1–91.
- VIDAL, N., AND S. B. HEDGES. 2009. The molecular evolutionary tree of lizards, snakes, and amphisbaenians. *C. R. Biol.* 332:129–139.
- WELLS, R. W. 2002. Taxonomic notes on the genus *Cyrtodactylus* (Reptilia: Gekkonidae) in Australia. *Austral. Biodiv. Rec.* 2002(3):1–8.
- . 2007b. Some taxonomic and nomenclatural considerations on the class Reptilia in Australia. The genus *Cyclodomorphus* Fitzinger, 1843 with a new interpretation of the *Cyclodomorphus branchialis* species-group. *Austral. Biodiv. Rec.* 2007(4):1–23.
- . 2009. Some taxonomic and nomenclatural considerations on the class Reptilia in Australia. A review of the genera *Eulamprus* and *Glaphyromorphus* (Scincidae), including the description of new genera and species. *Austral. Biodiv. Rec.* 2009(3):1–96.
- WÜSTER, W., AND R. S. BERNILS. 2011. On the generic classification of the rattlesnakes, with special reference to the Neotropical *Crotalus durissus* complex (Squamata: Viperidae). *Zoologia* 28:417–419.

The preceding document published online and open access is known as: Kaiser, H. 2014b. Best Practices in Herpetological Taxonomy: Errata and Addenda. *Herpetological Review*, 45(2):257-268.

It is reproduced herein for the purposes of fair comment and so that quotes taken from it can be seen in full and proper context, as a matter of fairness to the author.

Australasian Journal of Herpetology

Publishes original research in printed form in relation to reptiles, other fauna and related matters in a peer reviewed journal for permanent public scientific record, and has a global audience.

Full details at: <http://www.herp.net>

Online journals (this issue) appear a month after hard copy publication.

Minimum print run of first printings is always at least fifty hard copies.

ISSN 1836-5698 (Print)
ISSN 1836-5779 (Online)