

PREFACE

This volume, the third in the highly successful “Biology of Anomura” series, follows the first two volumes from previous carcinological meetings. The first “Biology of Anomura” symposium was at the Fifth International Crustacean Congress (ICC5) in Melbourne, Australia in 2001, and was published in a dedicated volume of *Memoirs of Museum Victoria* (Australia), 60(1), 2003. The second symposium of the same name was held at ICC6 in Glasgow, Scotland in 2005 and published as a special volume of *Crustacean Research* (Japan), Special Number 6, 2006.

The “Biology of Anomura III” symposium was held during The Crustacean Society Summer Meeting and the 47th Annual Meeting of the Carcinological Society of Japan, September 20–24, 2009, at Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology, Shinagawa, Tokyo. The symposium was organized by us and consisted of one key note address, seven oral presentations and seven symposium-related contributed papers as posters. There were 38 authors from eight countries and they presented fascinating research on representatives from eleven anomuran families (excluding the overview of anomuran phylogeny by Tudge, as a keynote presentation). The aim of the symposium was to emulate the previous successful events (“Biology of Anomura I and II”) with a diverse collection of international papers and posters on all aspects of anomuran biology, spread across a diversity of anomuran taxa, and presented by an international participation.

With the valued and unconditional support of the Brazilian Crustacean Society represented by Paula Araujo as President and Marcos Tavares as editor-in-chief of the society journal, *Nauplius*, this special volume is dedicated to various papers presented during The Crustacean Society Summer Meeting and the 47th Annual Meeting of the Carcinological Society of Japan. This volume contains 10 papers from 26 authors representing 10 countries, and covers many fields across seven families in the Anomura. Included in this special volume are two papers describing new species of *Aegla* and *Pylopaguropsis*, two papers covering the species richness and distribution of Eastern Pacific Diogenidae and Costa Rican squat lobsters (Galatheidae), respectively, and a further paper on the geographic distribution of *Aegla schmitti*. Also covered are a paper on the population structure and breeding season for a species of *Coenobita* from the Middle East, the sexual maturity and relative growth of a porcellanid in the genus *Petrolisthes*, and the secondary production of the hippoid *Emerita* on the beaches of Brazil. The last two papers on anomuran morphology describe a novel process called hypercarcinization in the porcellanid *Allopetrolisthes* and an unusual putative sense organ on the 4th legs of some pagurid and diogenid hermit crabs.

The papers in this volume do not represent all 38 authors who participated in the symposium, and others who did not attend the Tokyo meeting were invited to submit their work.

The continued, and enthusiastic, participation in the repeated symposia on “Biology of Anomura” is a testament to the worldwide interest in this important and speciose decapod group. As the latest symposium organizers and editors for this special issue of *Nauplius*, we thank the support of the organizers of the Japan meeting, specially the chairman Akira Asakura, many enthusiastic participants in the Tokyo symposium, the authors who contributed to this work, the 20 dedicated reviewers of these contributed papers, and finally the Brazilian Crustacean Society that made a great effort to cover all costs of this issue. We trust that this forms a valuable third volume in this series on anomuran biology

Dr. Fernando L. Mantelatto
Laboratory of Bioecology and Systematic of Crustaceans
Department of Biology – FFCLRP
University of São Paulo (USP)
Brazil

Dr. Christopher C. Tudge
Biology Department
American University
Washington, D.C.
U.S.A.