Propositions

1. With an undiminished rate of description an estimated 95% of all dragonflies will be described by 2030. (This thesis)

2. Given the current lack of representation for invertebrates in global biodiversity assessments the importance in obtaining a comprehensive assessment for odonates has to be a priority, requiring extensive new field surveys. This holds especially true for most forests in tropical areas. (This thesis)

3. The dragonfly fauna of Australia and New Guinea have effectively been separated during the Pleistocene probably due to the prolonged unfavourable climatic conditions in the intervening areas. (This thesis)

4. Characters of venation, in particular, show little congruence with our molecular results. This result challenges the current taxonomy for fossil Odonata which is based almost entirely on venation, and stresses the importance of a review of fossil data in the light of molecular results. (This thesis)

5. Taxonomy is one of the few sciences were bad papers are cited as often as good ones.

6. Giving authorities behind species names is nearly always useless as these in most cases are taken from checklists and thus not necessarily reflect the species concept used by the author.

7. The main challenge for research departments of natural history museums is to find a balance between supportive taxonomy, collection-based scientific output and research of relevance to society.

8. Biogeography allowed biologists to write papers without bothering too much about evidence, with the dawn of phylogeny and especially with that of molecular techniques all that has gone.