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Innovation and stasis : gymnosperms from the early Permian Jambi flora
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Citation

Booi, M. (2017, November 15). *Innovation and stasis : gymnosperms from the early Permian Jambi flora*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/57351>

Version: Not Applicable (or Unknown)

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Date: 2017-11-15

Propositions

1. The striking morphological similarities of new gymnosperm groups appearing throughout the paleo-tropics at the end of the Paleozoic get less attention than deserved and still lacks a satisfactory explanation. (*This thesis: chapters 2 & 3*)
2. *Gigantopteris* and *Gigantonoclea* should not be included in a single family with all the other 'gigantopterids'. (*This thesis: chapter 3; Booi et al., 2009b*)
3. Not a single new species should be described from Late Paleozoic pycnoxylic wood until extensive analysis of large datasets has made clear whether the Linnean species is in any way a useful concept when applied to this wood type. (*This thesis: chapter 4; Booi et al., 2014*)
4. The ecological distinctions of wet, mesic and xeric are misleading at best. In the context of Late Paleozoic floras we are simply talking about very wet, wet and slightly less wet. (*This thesis*)
5. Macropaleobotanical taxonomic research based on general plant morphology has since long been at an impasse, which can only be resolved by the automated processing of large datasets of measurements. (*This thesis, primarily chapter 3*)
6. Although analysis of large datasets is one of the most promising avenues for the future of paleobotany, it is unlikely that any real progress can be made here unless the data gathering itself can be automated. (*Booi et al., 2014*)
7. One disadvantage of peer-review is that it may result in publications that carefully avoid causing offense. (*Personal observation*)
8. Thorough knowledge of valid statistical methods and their proper use should be mandatory for every editor of a scientific publication. (*Personal observation*)
9. One advantage of paleobotanic research is that, even if it progresses at a slow pace, it is unlikely to get outdated.
10. Parkinson's law ("work expands so as to fill the time available for its completion"), holds true even when a deadline is absent.