

## Contents

<i>List of contributors</i>	page vi		
<i>Preface</i>	ix		
<b>1 Background for a paleoecological study of the Santa Cruz Formation (late Early Miocene) on the Atlantic Coast of Patagonia</b>	1		
<i>Sergio F. Vizcaíno, Richard F. Kay, and M. Susana Bargo</i>			
<b>2 Tephrochronology of the Miocene Santa Cruz and Pinturas Formations, Argentina</b>	23		
<i>Michael E. Perkins, John G. Fleagle, Matthew T. Heizler, Barbara Nash, Thomas M. Bown, Adán A. Tauber, and Maria T. Dozo</i>			
<b>3 Absolute and relative ages of fossil localities in the Santa Cruz and Pinturas Formations</b>	41		
<i>John G. Fleagle, Michael E. Perkins, Matthew T. Heizler, Barbara Nash, Thomas M. Bown, Adán A. Tauber, Maria T. Dozo, and Marcelo F. Tejedor</i>			
<b>4 Sedimentology and paleoenvironment of the Santa Cruz Formation</b>	59		
<i>Sergio D. Matheos and M. Sol Raigemborn</i>			
<b>5 Oysters from the base of the Santa Cruz Formation (late Early Miocene) of Patagonia</b>	83		
<i>Miguel Griffin and Ana Parras</i>			
<b>6 Ichnology of distal overbank deposits of the Santa Cruz Formation (late Early Miocene): paleohydrologic and paleoclimatic significance</b>	91		
<i>Verónica Krapovickas</i>			
<b>7 Fossil plant studies from late Early Miocene of the Santa Cruz Formation: paleoecology and paleoclimatology at the passive margin of Patagonia, Argentina</b>	104		
<i>Mariana Brea, Alejandro F. Zucol, and Ari Iglesias</i>			
<b>8 Amphibians and squamate reptiles from the Santa Cruz Formation (late Early Miocene), Santa Cruz Province, Argentina: paleoenvironmental and paleobiological considerations</b>	129		
<i>Juan C. Fernicola and Adriana Albino</i>			
<b>9 Diversity and paleobiology of the Santacrucian birds</b>		138	
<i>Federico J. Degrange, Jorge I. Noriega, and Juan I. Areta</i>			
<b>10 Paleoecology of the Paucituberculata and Microbiotheria (Mammalia, Marsupialia) from the late Early Miocene of Patagonia</b>		156	
<i>María Alejandra Abello, Edgardo Ortiz-Jaureguizar, and Adriana M. Candela</i>			
<b>11 Paleoecology of the mammalian carnivores (Metatheria, Sparassodonta) of the Santa Cruz Formation (late Early Miocene)</b>		173	
<i>Francisco J. Prevosti, Analía M. Forasiepi, Marcos D. Ercoli, and Guillermo F. Turazzini</i>			
<b>12 Paleobiology of Santacrucian glyptodonts and armadillos (Xenarthra, Cingulata)</b>		194	
<i>Sergio F. Vizcaíno, Juan C. Fernicola, and M. Susana Bargo</i>			
<b>13 Paleobiology of the Santacrucian sloths and anteaters (Xenarthra, Pilosa)</b>		216	
<i>M. Susana Bargo, Néstor Toledo, and Sergio F. Vizcaíno</i>			
<b>14 Paleobiology of Santacrucian native ungulates (Meridiungulata: Astrapotheria, Litopterna and Notoungulata)</b>		243	
<i>Guillermo H. Cassini, Esperanza Cerdeño, Amalia L. Villafañe, and Nahuel A. Muñoz</i>			
<b>15 Paleobiology of Santacrucian caviomorph rodents: a morphofunctional approach</b>		287	
<i>Adriana M. Candela, Luciano L. Rasia, and María E. Pérez</i>			
<b>16 Paleobiology of Santacrucian primates</b>		306	
<i>Richard F. Kay, Jonathan M. G. Perry, Michael Malinzak, Kari L. Allen, E. Christopher Kirk, J. Michael Plavcan, and John G. Fleagle</i>			
<b>17 A review of the paleoenvironment and paleoecology of the Miocene Santa Cruz Formation</b>		331	
<i>Richard F. Kay, Sergio F. Vizcaíno, and M. Susana Bargo</i>			
<i>Index</i>		366	