

The following message from Dr. Dzik to Dr. Lucas was originally sent as an e-mail message and has been pasted into word. I have italicized taxon names, indented paragraphs, and removed the signature, but the message is otherwise unaltered.

Dear Dr. Lucas,

It was a great surprise to me to find out that in your recent paper on the locality Krasiejów in southern Poland (New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science Bulletin 41, 248-258), you have illustrated and described many fossils from our collection without asking us for permission. Except for the holotype of *Metoposaurus diagnosticus krasiejowensis* illustrations of these fossils were so far not published in scientific journals and are currently subject of our research. A monograph of *Metoposaurus* from Krasiejów by Tomasz Sulej has been already peer reviewed and accepted for publication in *Palaeontologia Polonica*. A doctoral dissertation on *Paleorhinus* by Mariusz Lubka, University of Wrocław, is close to be completed and another dissertation on this genus is now being prepared at the University of Warsaw. A manuscript on *Stagonolepis* by Tomasz Sulej is ready for submission to a paleontological journal, the material is also studied at the Opole University. Your action was thus harmful to many young researchers who had invested a lot of time and energy to excavate at Krasiejów, prepare the fossils, identify them taxonomically, and interpret their anatomy and evolution.

During your visit to our Institute, we authorized the technical staff of our museum to provide you free access to our collections, including specimens in cabinets on exhibition. We assumed that you understood one of the basic principles of scientific activity that the use of results of other people's work in publications requires that they are informed and agree to transfer their priority rights. For more than fifty years of activity of the Institute of Paleobiology of the Polish Academy of Science in Warsaw we have always done science in a completely open way, with unrestricted access to unpublished materials, but we have never had such an experience before. We do not intend to change our attitude to international exchange of ideas and this is why we find this situation especially painful to us.

Yours sincerely,

Jerzy Dzik