tabulations and correlation charts. Stabilisation of their names will thus benefit stratigraphers, as well as palaeontologists, world-wide.

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I strongly support this application, which will settle a long-standing difficulty and conserve accepted usage.

Comment on the proposed conservation of the specific name of *Amphiuma tridactylum* Cuvier, 1827 (Amphibia, Caudata)
(Case 2771; see BZN 48: 238–239; 49: 73)

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I should like to expand my previous brief note of support (BZN 49: 73) for Dr Dundee’s application. Every case in which the ‘nomen oblitum’ concept arises, now embodied in Article 79 of the Code, requires a judicious consideration of the relative merits of priority and stability. This particular case is not borderline, however. Salthe’s (1973) synopsis for *Amphiuma tridactylum* Cuvier, 1827 cites 63 works of sufficient scientific importance to note, and dozens more in the popular literature must have used the name. Undoubtedly the name has appeared in many other works published after Salthe’s account. Since the specific name *quadrupeda* has never been used as valid since it was proposed by Custis (1807), application of the principle of priority in this case would be a flagrant disservice to nomenclatural stability and should not be permitted.

Note on the proposed designation of a neotype for *Hyla chrysoscelis* Cope, 1880, and the designation of a neotype for *H. versicolor* Le Conte, 1825 (Amphibia, Anura)
(Case 2366; see BZN 40: 165–166; 45: 138–140)

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In 1983 we made a proposal (BZN 40: 165–166) to deal with the taxonomic and nomenclatural problems arising from the existence of two morphologically similar
treefrogs in the eastern United States. One of these is diploid, and has always been known as *Hyla chrysoscelis* Cope, 1880 since its differentiation from *H. versicolor* Le Conte, 1825 (which is tetraploid) by F.C. Johnson and his (mistaken) use in 1961 of the name *chrysoscelis*. Very unfortunately the holotype of Cope’s nominal species is a specimen of *H. versicolor*, a fact unknown to Johnson. We proposed as neotype of *chrysoscelis* the holotype of *H. versicolor sandersi* Smith & Brown, 1947, an unused synonym of *chrysoscelis* sensu Johnson. The *chrysoscelis/versicolor* species pair has become a much studied case of polyploidy in animals, and it is important that the two names should not be confused.

In September 1985 the Commission approved our proposals by a majority of 20 : 3. However, objection was made to the attribution of the authorship ‘Cope, 1880’ to the name of a taxon different from that described by Cope. Because of this and other questions we published a second application (BZN 45: 138–140) proposing that the name *Hyla chrysoscelis* (with the same neotype) be taken from Johnson, 1961, where it was first used in the current sense.

In March 1990 Commissioners were asked to choose between our original (BZN 40: 166) and revised (BZN 45: 139) proposals, and they approved the former by a majority of 17 : 8. However, it was pointed out that the ploidy of the proposed *chrysoscelis* neotype (the holotype of *sandersi*) had not been mentioned. It has proved technically not possible to determine this, and we now designate a specimen of *H. chrysoscelis* (in the modern sense) as the neotype of Cope’s nominal species, subject to a Commission vote (which will not involve further use of the plenary powers) of acceptance of a change in proposal (1)(b) on BZN 40: 166.

The proposed neotype is Texas Natural History Collection (University of Texas at Austin) no. 37293. It is an adult male, 38 mm s-v, from 2 miles west of the Colorado River on Highway 969, Bastrop County, Texas. It was collected in April 1970 by J.P. and J.E. Bogart, and bears J.P. Bogart’s field no. 2043. It belongs to the ‘fast-calling’ taxon (cf. Johnson, 1961) and is diploid (J.P. Bogart, personal communication); the karyotype conforms with the report by Ralin (1977, pp. 722–733, ‘locality 2’).

As reported by Duellmann (1977, p. 109) no type specimen exists of *H. versicolor* Le Conte, 1825. Because of the need to distinguish the species from *H. chrysoscelis* we here designate as neotype American Museum of Natural History specimen no. 84483. It is an adult male, 50 mm s-v, from Alpine, Bergen County, New Jersey (original type locality ‘northern states’). It is tetraploid (karyotype filed as AMNH K207), belongs to the ‘slow-calling’ taxon, and was collected April 13, 1970 by Richard G. Zweifel. The Commission voted in 1990 to place *versicolor* on the Official List of Specific Names.

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