LEFFINGWELLIA Head & Norris 2003
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Marine palynomorph incertae sedis
Genus LEFFINGWELLIA new genus
Figures 10, 11, 12.16–12.25

Diagnosis.—Elongate palynomorph resembling u-tube whose wall is not joined together along inside length of tube. Main body proximally round-ended, and may bear ornament such as ridges or verrucae. Distal part drawn into two tube-like tapering appendages that become progressively less ornamented towards distal end.

Etymology.—Named for Harry A. Leffingwell under whose visionary leadership the Palynology Oil Company Consortium, which partly supported the present study, was established.

Type.—The holotype of *Leffingwellia costata* n. sp. (Fig. 12.16–12.18).

Other accepted species.—None formally described. Incertae sedis B of Head in Head and Westphal (1999) is considered synonymous with *Leffingwellia costata* n. sp., whereas Incertae sedis A of Head in Head and Westphal (1999), characterized by an ornament of low verrucae, is clearly a separate species of *Leffingwellia*.

Occurrence.—Upper Lower Pliocene (3.6–4.1 Ma) of the Bahamas (as Incertae sedis A and B of Head in Head and Westphal, 1999), and a single sample from the upper Upper Pliocene (Olduvai Subchron) of DSDP Hole 603C.

Discussion.—*Leffingwellia* is considered a marine palynomorph, as it has been found only in marine sediments, notably those of the Clino Core, Bahamas, where terrestrial palynomorphs typically comprise less than 1 percent of the total. It is here treated for convenience under the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, although a botanical affinity is not established with any certainty.