

## Town Hall Meeting

SI acting secretary Cristián Samper will hold a town hall meeting at STRI on Friday, October 26 at 30pm, at the Tupper Center Auditorium. Everybody is encouraged to attend.

## Tupper 4pm seminar

No 4pm seminar is scheduled for Tuesday, October 23.

## Paleo-Talk

Wednesday, October 24, Paleo Talk speaker will be Edwin Correa, STRI intern, at 4pm, CTPA, Ancon

**Some aspects of the flora and leaf litter from Gorgona Island, Colombia**

## Bambi seminar

Please check your Outlook to learn about the next Bambi seminar. If you wish to give a Bambi, please contact Marco Visser, new Bambi jefe, or w-mail: Bambi Bambi.

## Special

The University of Panama invites the STRI community to the inauguration of the 30<sup>th</sup> Week of Panamanian Literature “Rodrigo Miró Grimaldo”, on Monday, October 22, 6pm, at the Paraninfo Universitario. The invited speaker will be Stanley Heckadon, STRI **Naturaleza panameña vista a través de los viajes científicos**

## Arrivals

SI group working on STRI’s master plan and contractor Kling Stubbins, to meet with administrative and scientific staff, to gather information on programs needs and future development.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

[www.stri.org](http://www.stri.org)

October 19, 2007

## “A. Stanley Rand Fellowship”

STRI is honored to announce the “A. Stanley Rand Fellowship,” which was recently established by the Smithsonian Institution’s Board of Regents. The “A. Stanley Rand Endowment” was built through many generous donations from Stan’s friends, family members, former students and fellow colleagues at STRI. The endowment will fund short term (3-4 month) fellowships at STRI, with preference given to research areas that were of interest to Stan: animal behavior and natural history, evolutionary biology, plant and animal ecology and environmental monitoring.

This new fellowship program recognizes Stan’s efforts to foster and promote the careers of young biologists, especially those from Latin America, and his belief in the importance of tropical research. STRI staff scientist A. Stanley Rand (1932-2005) played a monumental role in mentoring countless young students in evolutionary and ecological studies of the behavior of reptiles and amphibians.

Awards will support independent research projects, and include round-trip airfare to Panama, up to \$2,000 for research expenses, and a stipend for living expenses.

Candidates will be selected by the Academic Board during their quarterly meetings. Deadlines for submission are the 15th of February, May, August and November. Applicants will be notified six to eight weeks after the submission deadline.

For additional information about this program, or to contribute to the Endowment, contact Adriana Bilgray, administrator of STRI’s Fellowship and Internship Program, at [bilgraya@si.edu](mailto:bilgraya@si.edu)

STRI tiene el honor de anunciar la “Beca A. Stanley Rand”, recientemente establecida por el Comité de Síndicos del Smithsonian. El “Fondo A. Stanley Rand” se creó a través de muchas donaciones generosas de parte de los amigos de Stan, miembros de su familia, antiguos estudiantes y colegas en STRI. El fondo financiará becas de 3-4 meses en STRI, con preferencia para estudios en las áreas que fueron



Photo: Christian Ziegler

de interés para Stan: comportamiento animal e historia natural, biología evolutiva, ecología de plantas y animales, y monitoreo ambiental.

Este nuevo programa de becas reconoce los esfuerzos de Stan para apoyar y promover las carreras de jóvenes biólogos, especialmente de América Latina, y su fuerte creencia en la importancia de las investigaciones en el trópico. El científico de STRI A. Stanley Rand (1932-2005) jugó un rol monumental al ser mentor de incontables estudiantes jóvenes dedicados a investigaciones en evolución y ecología del comportamiento de anfibios y reptiles.

Las becas financiarán investigaciones independientes e incluirán el costo del viaje ida

## Arriving next week

PAEC members Robert Ricklefs, Beryl Simpson, Steve Palumbi and Rodolfo Dirzo, to conduct evaluations.

SI acting secretary Cristián Samper and undersecretary for Science Ira Rubinoff, to attend meetings at STRI.

Lisa Barnett, STRI, to meet with STRI officials and assist with donors' visits.

Anthony Coates, STRI, to attend meetings and join donors at STRI.

Frank and Alan Levinson, and Philip St John, to visit STRI facilities.

## Departures

Edgardo Ochoa to México, to attend a symposium and a diving workshop, then to Orlando, to attend a diving convention.

## New publications

Candia-Gallardo, Carlos Ernesto. 2007. "Observations on feeding and habitat use by Crimson Fruitcrow *Haematoderus militaris* in Amazonian Brazil." *Cotinga* 28(October): 82-83.

Kirkendall, Lisa, and Odegaard, Frode. 2007. "Ongoing invasions of old-growth tropical forests: establishment of three incestuous beetle species in Central America." *Zootaxa* 1588: 53-62.

Turner, Benjamin L., Condrón, Leo M., Richardson, Sarah J., Peltzer, Duane A., and Allison, Victoria J. 2007. "Soil organic phosphorus transformations during pedogenesis." *Ecosystems* Online.

y vuelta a Panamá, hasta \$2000 en gastos de investigación y un estipendio para gastos de estadía.

Los candidatos serán seleccionados por el Comité académico durante sus

## Glass-bottom boat

A glass-bottom boat named *R.V. David A. Cofrin* recently arrived at STRI as a special gift from David Cofrin, who together with his family has been a strong supporter of the Bocas del Toro Research Station and other STRI initiatives. This boat gives non-snorkeling visitors to Bocas a glimpse of life under water, and will be a wonderful resource for visiting university classes.

Un bote con el nombre *R.V. David A. Cofrin* con fondo de

reuniones trimestrales. Las fechas límite para aplicar son los días 15 de febrero, mayo, agosto y noviembre. Los candidatos serán notificados seis semanas después de la fecha límite. Para información adicional sobre este programa, o para contribuir al

vidrio llegó recientemente a STRI como regalo especial de David Cofrin, quien junto con su familia ha apoyado fuertemente a la Estación de Investigaciones de Bocas del Toro, así como a otras iniciativas de STRI. Este bote ofrece una ventana a la vida submarina de Bocas a aquellos visitantes que

Fondo, favor ponerse en contacto con Adriana Bilgray, administradora del Programa de Becas y Pasantías de STRI, a: [bilgraya@si.edu](mailto:bilgraya@si.edu)



no bucean. También será un excelente recurso para las clases universitarias que visitan Bocas.

## Latin America Plants Initiative (LAPI) 2007

—Tupper Conference Center, STRI: Monday, October 22 to Friday, October 26  
Meeting schedule overview (simultaneous interpretation throughout the meeting)

### Monday, October 22

5:30-8:30 pm: Registration and welcome cocktail at the Continental Hotel

### Tuesday, October 23

9:00 am: Welcome from STRI's Eldredge (Biff) Bermingham; announcements and logistics, by STRI staff; self Introductions  
Coffee break  
10:30 am:  
10:45 am: Overview by Bill Robertson; ALUKA, by Tom Nygren; ArtSTOR by Carol Ann Fabian; JSTOR, by Anne Ray. Discussions and questions.  
12:00 pm Lunch  
1:30 pm LAPI support team: Kew, MBG, NYBG and STRI; LAPI standards and guidelines, by Deirdre Ryan and Alex Lyashok  
Partner groups for Smaller Herbaria, by Fernando Zuloaga  
LAPI Proposals and Reports by Bill Robertson and Doreen Tinajero  
3:00 pm Coffee break  
3:30 pm Discussions and questions  
7:00 pm Dinner at a local restaurant

### Wednesday, October 24

Field Trip Day  
7:00 pm Dinner at a local restaurant

### Thursday, October 25

9:00 am Reed Beaman overview of HERBIS and BioGeoMancer  
9:15 am Plants Database by Tom Nygren, Deirdre Ryan, Alex Lyashok, Carla Chizmar, Sara Barrios and Patricia Malcolm  
10:45 am Coffee Break  
11:15 am Discussion and questions  
12:45 pm Lunch  
2:00 pm Future of LAPI by Bill Robertson, Peter Crane, Don Randel, and Cristián Samper  
3:30 pm Coffee break  
4:00 pm Wrap on last minute details  
6:00 pm Cocktails overlooking the Panama Canal at the Miraflores Visitors Center  
7:00 pm Dinner