



# STRINNEWS

FEB 13, 2015



## Mysterious Mangrove Moth

Full story: [www.stri.si.edu](http://www.stri.si.edu)

### SEMINARS

**NO TUPPER SEMINAR**  
Panamanian Holiday

**SEGUNDO SÁBADO TALKS**  
Sat, Feb 14, 5:00 pm  
Aaron O’Dea  
Smithsonian Tropical Research  
Institute

**BIOMUSEO**  
A history of life in 100 fossils

**BAMBI SEMINAR**  
Thur, Feb. 19, 7:15 pm  
Robert Dudley  
University of California,  
Berkeley  
**Barro Colorado Island**  
The Drunken Monkey: Evolutionary  
Origins of Human Alcoholism in  
Primate Frugivory

### WHAT’S HAPPENING AT STRI?

#### FIELD COURSES

**Princeton University - Semester in the field**  
Contact person: Lolly O’Brien  
**Feb 3 - Apr 30**

**MarineGEO Workshop**  
Contact person: Rachel Collin  
**Mar 1 - Mar 13**

**Yale University - Introduction to Tropical Field Ecology**  
Contact person: Liza Comita  
**Mar 7 - Mar 22**





## U.S. Congress reps visit Barro Colorado Island

Members of the U.S. Congressional Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure visited Barro Colorado Island on Jan. 31. Welcomed by STRI director Matthew Larsen, the lawmakers were given an overview of Smithsonian research. This included a special mention of staff scientist Hector Guzman's work leading to the establishment of a new shipping lane designed to minimize collisions between whales and marine vessels in the Gulf of Panama. Jefferson Hall explained how the Panama Canal Watershed Project puts a dollar value on water, carbon and biodiversity, helping decision makers to evaluate land-use tradeoffs in the watershed. Joe Wright (green T-shirt) was among the senior staff scientists who guided small groups along BCI's forest trails. T&I committee chairman Bill Shuster (R-PA) (front left, bottom photo) was among the guests.

## Representantes del Congreso de los E.E.U.U visitan la isla Barro Colorado

El pasado 31 de enero, miembros de la Comisión de Transporte e Infraestructura del Congreso de los Estados Unidos visitaron la Isla Barro Colorado. Luego de recibir unas palabras de bienvenida por parte del director del Smithsonian en Panamá Matthew Larsen, se les presentó una visión general de las investigaciones de la Institución. Esto incluyó menciones especial del trabajo de científicos permanentes como el de Héctor Guzmán que condujo al establecimiento de una nueva vía de navegación en el Golfo de Panamá, diseñada para minimizar las colisiones entre ballenas y buques. Jefferson Hall explicó cómo el Proyecto de la Cuenca del Canal de Panamá pone un valor en dólares al agua, el carbono y la biodiversidad, ayudando a los tomadores de decisiones a evaluar las compensaciones del uso del suelo en la Cuenca. Joe Wright (camiseta verde) fue uno de los científicos senior que guiaron pequeños grupos por los senderos del bosque. Entre los invitados se encontraba el presidente de la comisión, Bill Shuster (R-PA) (frente izquierda, foto inferior).

## ARRIVALS

### Stephanie Pau

Florida State University

### Christopher Still and Youngil Kim

Oregon State University

Annual variation in tree growth and mortality on the forest dynamics plot on BCI

**Barro Colorado Island**

### Henry Pollock

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Dynamics of heterospecific eavesdropping in Neotropical ant-following birds

**Barro Colorado Island**

### Jan Bechler

University of Ulm

Ecology and species barriers in emerging viral diseases

**Barro Colorado Island**

### Lauren Sumner-Rooney

Queen's University Belfast

Eye anatomy and vision in the brittle star *Ophiocoma wendtii*

**Bocas del Toro and Tupper**

### Robert Dudley

University of California - Berkeley

Ripening syndrome and ethanol levels within primate-consumed Neotropical fruit

**Barro Colorado Island**

### Mark Brigham

University of Regina

Sociality and physiology in the tropics

**Gamboa**

### Ana Pessoa

University of Cambridge

The Genomics of Speciation and Adaptation

**Gamboa**

### Matthias Huesener

University of Oldenburg

The velamen radicum in vascular epiphytes

**Barro Colorado Island and Fortuna**

### Christopher Dick and Melida Ruiz-Quiroz

University of Michigan

Population genetic structure and phylogeography of widespread tropical forest trees

**Gamboa and Tupper**

### Helena Einzmann

University of Oldenburg

### Calixto Rodríguez

Universidad Autónoma de Chiriquí

Community composition and dynamics in a neotropical lowland forest

**Panama**

### Benjamin Adams

University of Louisville

### Luis De León and Anakena Castillo

INDICASAT AIP

### Thomas Hiller

University of Ulm

### Paulo Mejía

Universidad Mayor de San Simón

### Valerie McMillan

COIBA BIOLITZ

## DEPARTURES

### Matthew Larsen

To Washington DC

To attend the Science Executive Committee meeting

### Tania Quiel

To Washington, DC

To meet with OCIO's staff



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Questions/comments  
Preguntas/comentarios



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