

Tupper 4pm seminar

Tue, Jun 27, 4pm seminar speaker will be Richard B. Aronson, Dauphin Island Sea Laboratory

Emergent zonation and geographic homogenization of Caribbean reefs

Paleo-talk

Wednesday, June 28, CTPA Paleo-talk speaker will be Christian Marks, STRI postdoctoral fellow, at 4pm. **The evolution of functional diversity in tree seedlings: selection versus chance**

Bambi seminar

Thu, Jun 29, Bambi seminar speaker will be Tom Wake, UCLA

The archaeology of Bocas del Toro

Arriving next week

Paula Trillo, University of Montana, to study the alloparental care in tortoise beetles: an offspring perspective, in Gamboa.

Stacey Littlefield, College of Charleston, to study the impact of non-equilibrium processes on benthic bacterial community structure, using molecular techniques to assess the effects of deposit feeding by *Holothuria mexicana*, at Bocas del Toro.

Karen Kapheim, University of California in Los Angeles, to study the evolution of cooperation and social correlates of individual recognition, on BCI.

Christopher Imrich, Virginia Polytech Institute & State University, study spatial foraging patterns at ranging behavior of the mantles howler monkey, on BCI.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

www.stri.org

June 23, 2006

STRI celebrates the life of A. Stanley Rand (1932-2005)



With the attendance of his wife, Pat Rand and their son Hugh the STRI community celebrated the life of A. Stanley Rand, on June 20, at the Tupper Auditoriu

m. Rand was one of STRI's founding scientists, serving as staff scientist, deputy director (1973-1978) senior scientist and scientist emeritus, since 1964.

Colleagues and students Michael Ryan, Roberto Ibáñez and Mary Jane West-Eberhard shared their experiences with the audience, as well as STRI's Mercedes Arroyo and Gloria Maggiori (retired) and Georgina de Alba. Ryan briefed the community on Stan Rand's

scientific accomplishments, theories and legacy for the new generation of biologists. The

photos (clockwise) show Stan Rand's colleague Mike Ryan and this year's Túngara frog team at Gamboa, followed by Pat and Hugh with a memorial table with frog designs. This table will sit out in front of Gamboa 183, where Stan used to sit every evening. It was presented to the Rands by Gamboa residents. Below, Hugh, Pat, Mary Jane and Roberto, during the memorial.

Con la presencia de su esposa, Pat Rand y el hijo de ambos Hugh, la comunidad de STRI celebró la vida de A. Stanley Rand, el 20 de junio en el Auditorio del Tupper. Rand fue uno de los científicos fundadores de STRI, fungiendo como científico permanente, subdirector (1973-1978), científico sénior, y científico emérito desde 1964.

Sus colegas y estudiantes Michael Ryan, Roberto Ibáñez y Mary Jane West-Eberhard



compartieron sus experiencias con la audiencia, al igual que Mercedes Arroyo y Gloria Maggiori, jubiladas de STRI, y Geogina de Alba. Ryan habló a la comunidad sobre los logros y teorías de Stan Rand, y su legado para la nueva generación de biólogos. Las fotos (siguiendo las manecillas del reloj) muestran a Ryan, y el equipo de este año del Proyecto



de la Rana Túngara, en Gamboa, seguida por Pat y Hugh en una mesa con diseños de ranas. Esta mesa se mantendrá en frente de Gamboa 183, donde Stan se sentaba todas las noches. Fue presentada a los Rand por los residentes de Gamboa. Abajo aparecen Hugh, Pat, Mary Jane y Roberto, durante la ceremonia.



Departures

Rachel Collin to New York City, to attend the Evolution meeting.

Mpala posters

Smithsonian staff including Under Secretary for Science Dave Evans, Scott Miller and STRI director Ira Rubinoff, recently attended the annual meetings in Kenya of the Mpala Wildlife Foundation, the Mpala Research Center Trust and the Mpala Science Advisory Committee. Posters prepared by scientists working at the Mpala Research Centre, are available at:

www.stri.org/english/research/facilities/affiliated_stations/mpala/

STRI in the news

Condit, Richard S., Ashton, Peter, Bunyavechewin, Sarayudh, Dattaraja, H.S., Davies, Stuart James, Esufali, Shameema, Ewango, Corneille E.N., Foster, Robin B., Gunatilleke, I.A.U.M., Gunatilleke, C.V.S., Hall, Pamela, Harms, Kyle E., Hart, Terese, Hernandez, Consuelo, Hubbell, Stephen P., Itoh, Akira, Kiratipayoon, Somboon, LaFrankie, James V., Loo de Lao, Suzanne, Makana, Jean-Remy, Noor, Md. Nur Supardi, Kassim, Abdul Rahman, Russo, Sabrina E., Sukumar, Raman, Samper, Cristian, Suresh, Hebbalalu S., Tan, Sylvester, Thomas, Sean C., Valencia, Renato, Vallejo, Martha Isabel, Villa, Gorky, and Zillio, Tommaso. 2006. "The importance of demographic niches to tree diversity." *Sciencespress* (June 8): 1-4.

Science: Depletion, Degradation, and Recovery Potential

A group of researcher including STRI's Jeremy B.C. Jackson and Richard G. Cooke published the article "Depletion, degradation, and recovery potential of estuaries and coastal seas" in today's issue of *Science* (June 23, vol 312, no. 5781, pp. 1806-1809).

"Estuarine and coastal transformation is as old as civilization yet has dramatically accelerated over the past 150 to 300 years. Reconstructed time lines, causes, and consequences of change in 12 once diverse

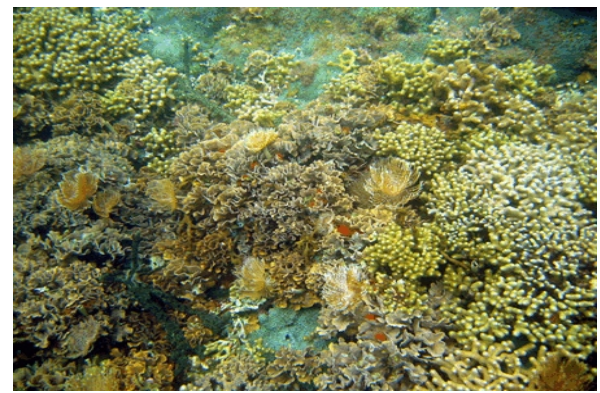
and productive estuaries and coastal seas worldwide show similar patterns:

Human impacts have depleted >90% of formerly important species, destroyed >65% of seagrass and wetland habitat, degraded water quality, and accelerated species invasions.

Twentieth-century conservation efforts achieved partial recovery of upper trophic levels but have

so far failed to restore former ecosystem structure and function. Our results provide detailed historical baselines and quantitative targets for ecosystem-based management and marine conservation." Read the article at:

www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/312/5781/1806



US secretary of Health and Panamanian minister of Health visit BCI

US secretary of Health Michael Levitt (center with blue shirt) visited STRI on Friday June 9, with Panama's minister of Health, Camilo Alleyne (center, white shirt), Jorge Motta Jr., director of the Gorgas Memorial Institute of Tropical Medicine and members of their personnel. STRI's Georgina de Alba, Stanley Heckadon-Moreno, Alejandro Arze, Elena Lombardo, Nélida Gómez and other members of the STRI staff met with the visitors who

traveled to Barro Colorado Island. The visit of secretary Levitt to Panama is part of a series of meeting that ministers of health of the Americas are conducting due to the threat of the avian flu.

El secretario de Salud de los EU Michael Levitt (centro con camisa azul) visitó STRI el viernes 9 de junio con el ministro de Salud de Panamá, Camilo Allyne (centro con camisa blanca), Jorge Motta Jr.,

director del Instituto Gorgas memorial de Medicina Tropical y miembros de su personal. Georgina de Alba, Stanley Heckadon Moreno, Alejandro Arze, Elena Lombardo, Nélida Gómez y otros miembros del personal de STRI se reunieron con los visitantes que viajaron a BCI. La visita del secretario Levitt a Panamá es parte de reuniones que los ministros de salud de las Américas están llevando a cabo debido a la amenaza de la gripe aviar.

STRI in the news

“Tutor' bats take peers under their wings” by Shankar Vedantam. 2006. Washington Post June 20.

“Pandas times two” by Katherine Unger. 2006. *Science Now* (June 19).

“Corporate Darwinism” by Joel A. Barker. 2006. *Forbes.com* June 19

“BRAZIL: Soy Exporters in Greenpeace's Sights” by Stephen Leahy. 2006. IPS news.net June 16.

New publications

Dominici Arosemena, Arturo, Brugnoli-Olivera, Ernesto, Cortes Nunez, Jorge, Molina-Urena, Helena, and Quesada-Alpizar, Marco. 2006. "Coomunity structure of eastern Pacific reef fishes (Gulf of Papagayo, Costa Rica)." *Tecnociencia* 7(2): 19-41.

Laube, Stefan, and Zotz, Gerhard. 2006. "Long-term changes of the vascular epiphyte assemblage on the palm *Socratea exorrhiza* in a lowland forest in Panama." *Journal of Vegetation Science* 17(6): 307-314.

Lotze, Heike K., Lenihan, Hunter S., Bourque, Bruce J., Bradbury, Roger H., Cooke, Richard G., Kay, Matthew C., Kidwell, Susan M., Kirby, Michael X., Peterson, Charles H., and Jackson, Jeremy B. C. 2006. "Depletion, degradation, and recovery potential of estuaries and coastal seas." *Science* 312(5781): 1806-1809.

Page, Rachel A., and Ryan, Michael J. 2006. "Social transmission of novel foraging behavior in bats: frog calls and their referents." *Current Biology* 16: 1201-1205.

\$4.8M gift to Yale to promote biodiversity conservation in tropical forests

An environmental leadership and training program to promote biodiversity conservation in tropical forests in Asia and Central and South America has been established at Yale University with a \$4.8 million gift from the Lisbet Rausing Charitable Fund.

The Tropical Resources Institute at F&ES, in partnership with STRI's Center for Tropical Forest Science, will coordinate the program, which will build the environmental conservation and management capacity of individuals, communities and institutions in regions of high biological diversity in tropical forests.

The program will focus on the training of field workers in conservation, park managers, officials concerned with energy, infrastructure services and natural resources, and environmental policy makers and community leaders.



Short courses, workshops and field trips will take place at the program's principal sites in Panama City and Singapore, where Yale and STRI already work together, as well as at field sites in South and Southeast Asian and Central and South American regions.

Con una donación de \$4.8 millones del Lisbet Rausing Charitable Fund, la Universidad de Yale ha establecido un programa de entrenamiento en liderazgo ambiental para promover la conservación de la biodiversidad en bosques tropicales en Asia y Centro y Sur América .

El Instituto de Recursos Tropicales en F&ES, en asociación con el Centro de Ciencias Forestales del Trópico de STRI coordinarán el programa, que se basará en la

conservación ambiental y la capacidad de administración individual, de comunidades e instituciones en regiones con bosques de gran diversidad biológica.

El programa se enfocará en el entrenamiento de trabajadores de campo en conservación, administradores de parques, funcionarios relacionados con la energía, servicios de infraestructura y recursos naturales, tomadores de decisiones y líderes comunitarios.

Cursos cortos, talleres y viajes al campo se llevarán a cabo en los principales lugares del programa en la ciudad de Panamá y Singapur, donde Yale y STRI ya trabajan juntos, al igual que en otros puntos en el sur y sureste de Asia y en regiones de América Central y Suramérica.

During the month of Natural Resources
the Culebra Nature Center
Amador Causeway

presents the exhibit

“Research for conservation”

Open to the public
from Tuesday to Friday, 1-5pm

Saturday and Sunday from 10am - 6pm
Information: 212-8793

En el mes de los Recursos Naturales
el Centro Natural de Punta Culebra,
Calzada de Amador

presenta la exhibición

“Investigar para Conservar”

Abierto al público
de martes a viernes de 1-5pm

Sábados y domingos de 10am a 6pm
Información: 212-8793

The occult life of things

Story: Fernando Santos-Granero
Edited by M Alvarado and ML Calderon
Photo: MA Guerra

Before playing them, Yanessa men offer manioc beer, coca leaves and tobacco juice to the panpipes in order to 'raise' their spirit. Thus, when they are played the vivifying breath/strength of the solar divinity is disseminated to all the beings and things located in their vicinity.

STRI staff scientist Fernando Santos-Granero is organizing a symposium titled "The Occult Life of Things" to be held at the International Congress of Americanists (Seville, July 2006).

Native Amazonians conceive of animals, plants and many objects as subjectivities possessed of a social life. This 'animic' view of the world is coupled with a 'perspectival' outlook by which all types of beings and things view themselves as human, while they regard other beings and things as non-human.

The proposed symposium intends to examine the occult life of things; occult because the lives of things are extra-ordinary, and occult because their human-shaped personas are normally not visible to lay people.

This is the case of the Yanessa panpipes depicted in the picture, which are thought to be animated by the all-encompassing soul of the creator Sun God.

está asociada a una visión 'perspectivista' por la cual todos los seres y cosas se ven a sí mismos como humanos, mientras que ven a los otros como no-humanos.

El simposio tiene por objetivo analizar la vida oculta de las cosas; oculta porque la vida de las cosas es extra-ordinaria, pero también porque la esencia de forma humana de las cosas no es visible en condiciones normales.

Este es el caso de las flautas de pan que aparecen en la foto, las cuales se cree están animadas por el alma universal del dios creador solar.

Antes de tocarlas los hombres yanessa les ofrecen chicha de yuca, hojas de coca y jugo de tabaco a fin de 'levantar' su espíritu. De esta manera cuando las flautas son tocadas el aliento/fuerza vivificante de la divinidad solar es difundido hacia todos los seres y cosas que se encuentran en su proximidad.

El científico permanente de STRI, Fernando Santos-Granero está organizando un simposio titulado "La vida oculta de las cosas" que tendrá lugar en el Congreso Internacional de Americanistas (Sevilla, Julio 2006).

Los nativos amazónicos consideran que los animales, las plantas y muchos objetos son subjectividades que poseen una vida social. Esta visión 'animista' del mundo

