

## Tupper seminar

Tue, Oct 19, noon seminar speaker will be Donald H. Feener, University of Utah  
**Dominance, discovery and decapitation: In search of general rules for ant communities**

## Bambi seminar

Information on the next Bambi will be posted in GroupWise.

## Arrivals

Virginia Miller, University of Chicago, Illinois, Oct 16 - Jan 1, to study the evolution of morphological complexity in cheilostome bryozoans, at the CTPA.

Alexander Barron, Princeton University, Oct 18 - Dec 15, to study the pattern and controls on nitrogen fixation in a tropical forest, on BCI.

Franck Dedine, University of Wisconsin, Oct 18 - Dec, to collaborate with Allen Herre on the Wolbachia project, at Naos, Tupper and BCI.

Ian Wang, intern from Cornell University, Oct 18 - Dec 23, to work with STRI's postdoctoral fellow Andrew Crawford, at Naos.

Jessica Pearce, University of Utah, Oct 19-28, to conduct an analysis of the chemical ecology of host specificity in ant parasitoids, on BCI.

Lela Stanley, Princeton University, Oct 19 - Dec 15, to work with Alexander Barron, on the BCNM.

Raymond Gabriel, University of Oxford, Oct 22-28, to study the Theraphosinae of the Republic of Panama, at Bocas.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

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

October 15, 2004



Photos: The dock before (inset) and after. (Enjoy a selection of Bocas photos at the Tupper reception since Monday, October 18.)

It seems like only yesterday that STRI was anticipating the formal inauguration of the Bocas Research Station. Now, on October 15th, the first anniversary of the inauguration, it is astounding to see how far we have come in such a short time.

This year we have seen an amazing progress in construction and infrastructure development at the Station, with the completion of a new dock, seawater system, maintenance building, SCUBA building and office area. Sites have been prepared for the construction of two scientists residences for researchers, and plans are being made to dismantle the old "sawmill" building that served as the lab before the completion of the new laboratory building in 2003.



Fotos: el muelle antes (recuadro) y después. (Disfrute de fotos de Bocas en la recepción del Tupper desde el lunes, 18 de octubre).

Parece que fue ayer cuando en STRI esperábamos la inauguración formal de la Estación de Investigaciones de Bocas. Hoy, 15 de octubre, al primer aniversario de su inauguración, es sorprendente ver qué tan lejos hemos llegado en tan corto tiempo.

Este año ha sido testigo de gran progreso en construcción y desarrollo de infraestructura en la Estación, como el nuevo muelle, el sistema de agua salada, el edificio de mantenimiento y SCUBA y área de oficinas. Se han preparado lugares para la construcción de residencias para investigadores y hay planes para dismantlar la vieja edificación del aserrío que sirvió de laboratorio antes de terminar el nuevo edificio de laboratorios en 2003.

## Departures

Jorge Ventocilla, Oct 4-8, to Brazil, to present seminars at Universidad del Estado de São Paulo and Universidad Federal Rural de Rio de Janeiro.

Fernando Pascal, Oct. 11-15, to Washington DC, on official business at SI.

Herbert Sedelmeier and Marlene Flores, Oct. 17-23, to Washington DC, to attend training on contracting regulations.

## Correction

William F. Laurance and family, Oct 9 - Nov 27, to Australia, where he will be lecturing at the University of Queensland, Griffith University-Nathan, and Griffith University-Gold Coast, and working on publications.

## Condolences

To Jorge Luis González and his family, for the loss of his mother Agustina Quiroz de Gonzalez, on Tuesday, October 12, in Boquete, Chiriquí.

## New publications

Childress, Stephen and Dudley, Robert. 2004. "Transition from ciliary to flapping mode in a swimming mollusc: Flapping flight as a bifurcation in *Rev.*" *Journal of Fluid Mechanics* 498: 257-288.

Dudley, Robert, and Dickinson, Michael. 2004. "The Comparative Biology of Ethanol Consumption: An Introduction to the Symposium I." *Integrative and Comparative Biology* 44(4): 267-268.



Photos: The shop before (left) and after.

Fotos: El taller antes (izquierda) y después.



The number of scientific visitors has almost doubled: from 1868 person days in FY 2003 to 3147 in FY2004 and 130 visiting researchers and students. The Bocas Station contributed 17 papers to the STRI bibliography in 2003 and we already have logged 11 papers for 2004. From a scientific point of view, the Station has benefitted from the permanent presence of Gabriel Jácome and Plinio Gondola whose expertise make a major contribution to each visitor's experience. The Station hosted courses from Princeton and from Florida International University, and a workshop on invertebrate taxonomy.

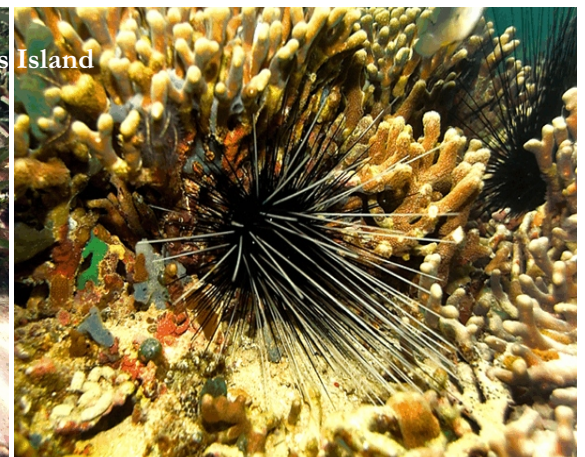
FY2004 also marked the initiation of Bocas Research Station's public programs. This includes a monthly local lecture series, Station tours, visiting school groups and educational activities in the Bocas Children's park and the *Feria del Mar* [Sea Fair].

I would like to take the opportunity on Bocas Research Station's first birthday to thank the staff Gabriel Jácome, Plinio Góndola, Arcadio Castillo, Urania González, Doroteo Machado, Gilberto Murray, Vielka Downer, Marlon Smith, and Lucia Lasso. And everyone on the STRI staff who has provided support for the Station. Congratulations on making the Station's first year a smashing success!

El número de científicos visitantes casi se duplicó: de 1868 personas/día en el año fiscal 2003, a 3147 en el 2004, sumando 130 investigadores y estudiantes. La Estación de Bocas ha contribuido con 17 publicaciones en 2003 y lleva 11 en 2004. Desde el punto de vista científico, la Estación se ha beneficiado de la presencia permanente de Gabriel Jácome y Plinio Góndola, cuyos conocimientos han contribuido a la experiencia de cada visitante. La Estación albergó cursos de Princeton y de Florida International University, y un taller sobre taxonomía de invertebrados.

El año fiscal 2004 marcó el inicio de los programas públicos de la Estación de Bocas. Esto incluye charlas mensuales, recorridos por la Estación, visitas de grupos escolares y actividades en el parque infantil de Bocas, así como la Feria del Mar.

Aprovecho esta oportunidad del primer aniversario de la Estación de Bocas del Toro para agradecer al personal, Gabriel Jácome, Plinio Góndola, Arcadio Castillo, Urania González, Doroteo Machado, Gilberto Murray, Vielka Downer, Marlon Smith, y Lucía Lasso. Y a todos aquellos en STRI que han ofrecido su apoyo para la Estación. ¡Felicitaciones a todos por hacer del primer año de la Estación un éxito rotundo!



## More publications

Novotny, Vojtech, Miller, Scott E., Leps, J. Leps, Basset, Yves, Bito, Darren, Janda, Milan, Hulcr, Jirir, Damas, Kipiro, and Weiblen, George D. 2004. "No tree an island: the plant-caterpillar food web of a secondary rain forest in New Guinea." *Ecology Letters* 7(11): 1090-1100.

O'Dea, Aaron, Herrera-Cubilla, Amalia, Fortunato, Helena, and Jackson, Jeremy B.C. 2004. "Life history variation in cupuladriid bryozoans from either side of the Isthmus of Panama." *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 280: 145-161.

Pennington, R. Toby, and Dick, Christopher W. 2004. "The role of immigrants in the assembly of the South American rainforest tree flora." *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London Online*.

Van Bael, Sunshine, Aiello, Annette, Valderrama, Anayansi, Medianero, Enrique, Samaniego, Mirna, and Wright, S. Joseph. 2004. "General herbivore outbreak following an El Niño-related drought in a lowland Panamanian forest." *Journal of Tropical Ecology* 20(6): 625-633.

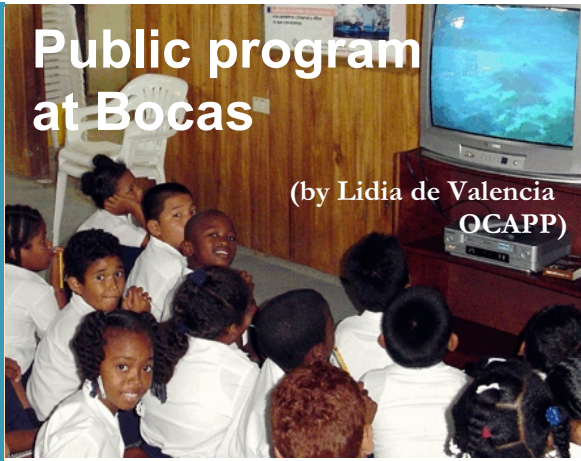
## Miscellaneous

For rent: Albrook apartment, two bedr one bath. Furnished. Quiet neighborhood. Available in Jan 2005. \$600. Interested please call Chimene Longwater at 276-6621 or 674-6621.

Beauty parlor service for your dogs in your home. Tick and flea control for house, patio and apartments. Call Max Polastre at 627-3550. Highly recommended.

## Public program at Bocas

(by Lidia de Valencia OCAPP)



Even though the Bocas Station was formally inaugurated in October 2003, STRI's efforts in environmental education on Colon Island began in the 90's under the leadership of Argelis Ruiz from the Office of Education. STRI participated for the first time in *Feria del Mar* [Sea Fair] in 1998, same year the *Smithsonian Week* was launched with a daily attendance of 100 students. Today's public program at Bocas was opened to the public in April 2004 with the exhibit *Our reefs: Caribbean connections*. Since then, the Station opens its doors every Friday for programmed school groups and the general public. STRI's Bocas Station is one of the highlights for tourists on the Island and fondly considered by the local community, thanks to its public program. STRI's education efforts on Bocas have focused on the conservation of natural resources through the organization of workshops for docents and educational activities for children.

## Seminar on marine protected areas

STRI, UNESCO, ANAM, Mar Viva and ANCON invite the STRI community to the seminar Management of Marine Protected Areas, from October 21-23, at Tupper. The seminar is organized by Jon Day, director of Conservation, Biodiversity & World Heritage Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. The seminar will bring together individuals from Australia, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Ecuador involved or interested in the management of Marine Protected Areas. Participants in the seminar include Carlos Manuel Rodríguez, minister of Environment and Energy from Costa Rica, Mario Piu, the previous director of the Galapagos Marine Reserve; Park directors from Isla del Coco, three MPAs in Colombia, STRI's Héctor Guzmán, as well as representatives from ANAM, the Panama Maritime Authority and others. Simultaneous translation will be available. Interested please contact Erika Garibaldo at 212-8157, [garibale@si.edu](mailto:garibale@si.edu).

STRI, UNESCO, ANAM, Mar Viva y ANCON invitan a la comunidad de STRI al seminario de Manejo de Areas Marinas Protegidas, que se llevará a cabo del 21 al 23 de octubre, en Tupper. El seminario es organizado por Jon Day, director de la Autoridad de Conservación, Biodiversidad y Patrimonio de la Humanidad, Parque Marino de la Gran Barrera de Arrecifes. El evento reunirá personas vinculadas o interesadas en el manejo de áreas marinas protegidas de Australia, Costa Rica, Panamá, Colombia y Ecuador. Los participantes incluyen a Carlos Manuel Rodríguez, ministro de Ambiente y Energía de Costa Rica, Mario Piu, ex-director de la Reserva Marina de Galápagos, directores de parque de Isla del Coco, tres administradores de parques en Colombia, Héctor Guzmán de STRI, así como representantes de ANAM, la Autoridad Marítima de Panamá y otros. Habrá traducción simultánea. Los interesados deben ponerse en contacto con Erika Garbaldo al 212-8157, [garibale@si.edu](mailto:garibale@si.edu).

## Programa público en Bocas



A pesar que la Estación de Bocas se inauguró formalmente en Octubre de 2003, los esfuerzos de STRI en educación ambiental en Isla Colón empezaron en los 90, bajo el liderazgo de Argelis Ruiz, de la Oficina de Educación. STRI participó por primera vez en la Feria del Mar en 1998, el mismo año que se inició el programa *Una Semana con el Smithsonian*, donde participaron 100 estudiantes cada día. El programa público de Bocas actual empezó con la inauguración de la exhibición *Nuestros arrecifes: Unidos por el Caribe* en abril de 2004. Desde entonces, la Estación abre sus puertas cada viernes para grupos escolares y el público en general. La Estación de STRI en Bocas es un punto focal para turistas de la Isla y es muy apreciada por la comunidad, gracias a su programa público. Los esfuerzos de educación de STRI en Bocas se han concentrado en la conservación de los recursos naturales a través de la organización de talleres para maestros y actividades educativas para niños.