

SEMINARS - ANCON CONFERENCE ROOM

Tuesday, September 20, noon seminar speaker will be JUAN CARLOS NAVARRO, Asociación Nacional para la Conservación de la Naturaleza (ANCON).

ANCON, Conservation and the Private Sector in Panama.

Abstract: It would be hard, if not impossible, to invent a country whose future depends more clearly on the protection and conservation of its natural resources than Panama: the Panama Canal, the country's key economic asset, runs on fresh water; 80% of Panama's electricity is generated by hydroelectric plants; and its key agricultural exports depend on a stable climate and environment. The urgency of conserving Panama's natural heritage and the public sector's limited resources point to a clear need for private sector involvement. The National Association for the Conservation of Nature is a private, apolitical, non-profit conservation group founded in 1985 to help protect biological diversity in Panama, through its projects in Soberania, Chagres, Darien, Amistad and Bastimentos National Parks, as well as Panama's Official Conservation Data Center (CDC).

NEXT WEEK

Tuesday, September 27, noon seminar speaker will be MICHAEL KELLER, Princeton University.

Tropical Biogeochemistry and World Atmosphere.

ARRIVALS

Arrived last week, CARL HANSEN, STRI Photo Dept. chief, after a four month leave in the U.S.

DEPARTURES

September 19 - 28, DAVE ROUBIK to Cancun, Mexico, to continue studies of bees in collaboration with Dr. Roger Villanueva at CIQEO.

September 20 - 28, GILBERTO OCAÑA to Bogota, Colombia, to attend the International Symposium OCOBIOS Colombia 88 sponsored by INDERENA, then to Cali to visit the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT).

WEDDING BELLS

Belated congratulations to Carl Hansen and Ginger Gier, who were married this August in Montana. Ms. Gier lives in Austin, Texas.

PIPELINE ROAD UPDATE

Repair of the bridges over the rivers Siryestes and Mendoza have been completed. Starting this week until October 12, ANCON and INRENARE will be repairing the areas of the road damaged by heavy equipment earlier this year. Use of the road during this time should be kept to a minimum.

SCHOLARLY STUDIES AWARDS

Recently three members of the scientific staff received Scholarly Studies Awards:

ALAN SMITH and JOSEPH WRIGHT, "Drought Responses in Tropical Forest Plants", 2 years.

NICHOLAS SMYTHE, "Studies of the Paca (Agouti cuniculus) in Captivity", 1 year.

ROSS ROBERTSON, "The Importance of Seagrass Beds to Coral Reef Fishes: Larvae Habitats, Juvenile Nurseries, and Cover while Migrating between Reefs", 2 years.

NEW PUBLICATIONS BY STRI STAFF, FELLOWS AND RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Cole, K.S. and D.R. Robertson. 1988. Protogyny in the caribbean reef goby, Coryphopterus personatus: gonad ontogeny and social influences on sex-change. Bulletin of Marine Science, 42(2): 317-333.

Tanaka, S. and H. Wolda. 1988. Oviposition behavior and diel rhythms of flight and reproduction in two species of tropical seed bugs. Proceedings of the Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie Van Wetenschappen, series C, Vol. 91, No. 2.

Wolda, H. and M. Wong. 1988. Tropical insect diversity and seasonality: sweep-samples vs. light-traps. Proceedings of the Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie Van Wetenschappen, series C, Vol. 91, No. 2.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Visits to the Darien National Park should be coordinated through Maria Morello at Tivoli. INRENARE needs 2-3 weeks advance notice to make arrangements. For example, a horse is required for travel within the park in the wet season.

DEATH OF ALICE THE TAPIR

ALICE, the tapir, was scheduled to leave the island of Barro Colorado for Summit Gardens following a decision to eliminate feeding of all animals on the island. But island residents noticed that Alice was having problems swallowing and began to lose weight. She was quickly taken off BCI on September 10 and transported to Summit where she received veterinary treatment by Drs. Nate Gale and Monica Brenes.

Alice died on Monday, September 12. An autopsy found that she had developed abscesses of the liver and kidneys, and also around her molars. Some say, however, that she died of a broken heart from being taken off the island.

According to Fausto Bocanegra, Alice had been on BCI since 1964 when Dr. Martin Moynihan brought several tapirs to the island. Alice leaves behind several offspring, 3 males and one female, living in the wild on BCI.

Mealtimes will be less exciting without her presence, but perhaps stories of her antics will be the subject of conversations for many years to come.

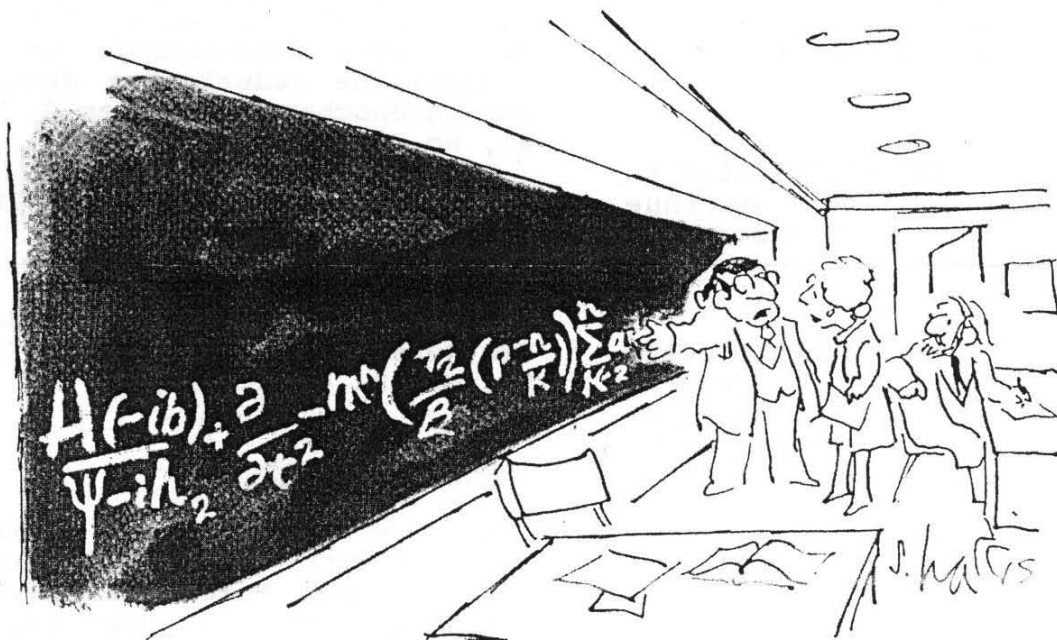
LAST MINUTE INFORMATION

Beginning September 23, the 22-0211 Tivoli telephone number will no longer exist. 28-0614 will be the new telephone number.

All STRI apartment users please be aware that STRI apartments in Gamboa, Diablo and Ancon will be fumigated on Friday, September 23.

STRI has two new PANAFAX machines as follows:

Director's Office 62-4167
Naos Marine Lab 28-0516



"But this is the simplified version for the general public."