



SEMINARS - ANCON CONFERENCE ROOM

Tuesday, **June 6**, noon seminar speaker will be HECTOR GUZMAN, STRI Oil Spill Project.

Does Oil Affect Reef Corals?
The Panamanian Spill.

Abstract: We studied the short-term effects of the Bahia Las Minas spill on common shallow subtidal reef corals. Total coral cover and species diversity decreased significantly in relation to oiling. Frequency and size of recent injuries on massive corals increased with level of oiling and decreased with depth. Growth of 3 massive species (Porites astreoides, Diploria strigosa, and Montastrea annularis, but not Siderastrea siderea) was less on oiled reefs in the year of the spill than the 9 previous years. This is the first demonstration of harmful effects of an oil spill on subtidal reef corals.

NEXT WEEK

Tuesday, **June 13**, noon seminar speaker will be JUAN DIEGO LOPEZ GIRALDO, INDERENA, Colombia.

A View of Some Colombian National Parks.

Un Vistazo a Algunos Parques Nacionales Colombianos.

ARRIVALS

June 6 - 16, LAURA BEAL, to set up Dr. Eldredge Bermingham's lab at Naos.

June 8 - November 30, CATHERINE CRAIG, Yale University, and her assistant MARY DERR, to study the influence of insect visual capability on the evolution of spider foraging strategies.

DEPARTURES

May 27 - June 23, NICHOLAS SMYTHE, on vacation in the U.S. and to attend the Meetings of the American Society of Mammologists in Fairbanks, Alaska, June 11-15.

June 3 - 18, LUIS TURNER, to Washington, D.C. to attend a procurement training course and on annual leave.

June 4 - 13, DAVID WEST, to Miami to attend a course at the Sea School and to visit the U.S. Coast Guard and vendors of marine equipment.

June 5 - 10, FERNANDO PASCAL and EDMUNDO RODRIGUEZ to Washington D.C. to attend training courses.

JUNE 1989						
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CALENDAR

June 5 - World Environment Day

June 20 - STRI Academic Board Meeting

NEW PUBLICATIONS BY STRI STAFF, FELLOWS AND RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Guttman, S.I. and L.A. Weigt. 1989. Electrophoretic evidence of relationships among Quercus (oaks) of eastern North America. Can. J. Bot. 67: 339-351.

WANTED - A VOLUNTEER

Volunteer needed to assist Dr. Robertson at Naos with preparation of larval fish otoliths for microscopic study of larval ages. Interested candidates should fill out application at the Education Office.

ANNUAL LEAVE

Georgina de Alba, June 5 - 9

INFORMATION FOR PIPELINE ROAD USERS

Pipeline Road repairs by ANCON and INRENARE have continued. The bridge over Rio Macho was recently repaired, and work is currently underway on the next two bridges before Rio Aguas Salud, the bridges over Rio Pilon and Rio Guacharo. The sides of the road have also been cleared up to this point to facilitate driving.

GLOBAL 500 AWARD

The United Nations Environmental Program initiated several years ago a series of awards for environmental achievement they called the **Global 500**, which would honor 500 individuals and organizations over the years 1987-1991. This year PEMASKY (Proyecto de Estudio para el Manejo de Areas Silvestres de Kuna Yala) was selected to receive this award for their efforts in the conservation of natural resources and the environment.

The official award ceremony will be held June 5, World Environment Day, in Brussels, but a symbolic ceremony took place May 30 in Panama City. Present were the three caciques from the Comarca de Kuna Yala, PEMASKY and Kuna representatives, representatives from the United Nations, Panamanian ministries and environmental organizations, including members of the STRI staff.

During the ceremony PEMASKY announced the **Ist Interamerican Indigenous Congress on Conservation of Natural Resources and Environment** which will take place November 6-12, 1989 in ATLAPA.

This is the first time an individual or organization in Panama receives this prestigious award.

1989 SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION FELLOWSHIP APPOINTMENTS AT STRI

Postdoctoral Fellows

THOMAS MITCHELL AIDE, Late Pleistocene Origin of the Central American Flora

PIERRE-MICHEL FORGET, Seed Dispersal by Large Rodents in South-American Tropical Forests

FRANK J. JOYCE, Nest-Site Selection by Two Species of Neotropical Social Wasps

ROBERT G. ROWAN, Molecular Evolution of Coral Zooxanthellae

Predoctoral Fellows

ROBERTO IBANEZ, Synchronized Calling in Centrolenella granulosa and Smilisca sila (Amphibia, Anura)

KENNETH G. JOHNSON, Testing for Natural Selection on Corals: Patterns of Skeletal Morphology, Fertility, and Genetic Variation in Natural Populations of Manicina areolata (Scleractinia)

KAORU KITAJIMA OKADA, A Community-wide Study of Tropical Tree Seedlings: the Ecological Consequences of the Structure-Physiology Relationships of Cotyledons

ELLEN M. SMITH, The Evolution of Parental Care: A Multidisciplinary Approach in Some Dendrobatid Frogs

ERNESTO F. WEIL, Morphologic and Genetic Variation of Porites (Anthozoa, Scleractinia) Across the Isthmus of Panama

Graduate Student Fellows

ANDREW PETER MARTIN, Molecular Evolutionary Genetics of Sharks: Calibration of the Rate of Molecular Evolution

KEVINA VULINEC, The Evolution of Horns and Correlated Behaviors in New World Dung Beetles of the Genus Copris Muller (Coleoptera : Scarabaeidae)

HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHS



Alexander Wetmore (right) was the sixth Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution and author of Birds of Panama (4 vols.) and Birds of BCI. Watson M. Perrygo (left) was his collector. This is a 1939 field photograph taken in Panama.



View of Alexander Wetmore (right) and Watson Perrygo (right) working with bird specimens in El Valle, Panama.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LONG-TERM RESEARCH - NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

The National Science Foundation has developed several opportunities that can be used to enrich the research activities at long-term ecological research (LTER) sites.

1989 International Travel Grants for Graduate Students

200 travel awards are available to enable outstanding graduate students nearing completion of their doctoral studies (or those receiving a Ph.D. after 1985) to attend two-week NATO Advanced Study Institutes in Europe (tel. 202-357-7536)

Fellowship Opportunities in Environmental Biology for New Ph.D.'s

The deadline for 1990 is around August 1, 1989. One of the objectives of this program is to "encourage the young scientist to move to a new institution and research environment in order to benefit from new experiences and exposure to new concepts". (Postdoctoral Fellowships, Rm 215, Biotic Systems and Resources, NSF, 1800 G Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20550)

Mid-Career Fellowship Opportunities in Environmental Biology

The deadline for 1990 will be around December 1, 1989. The program encourages

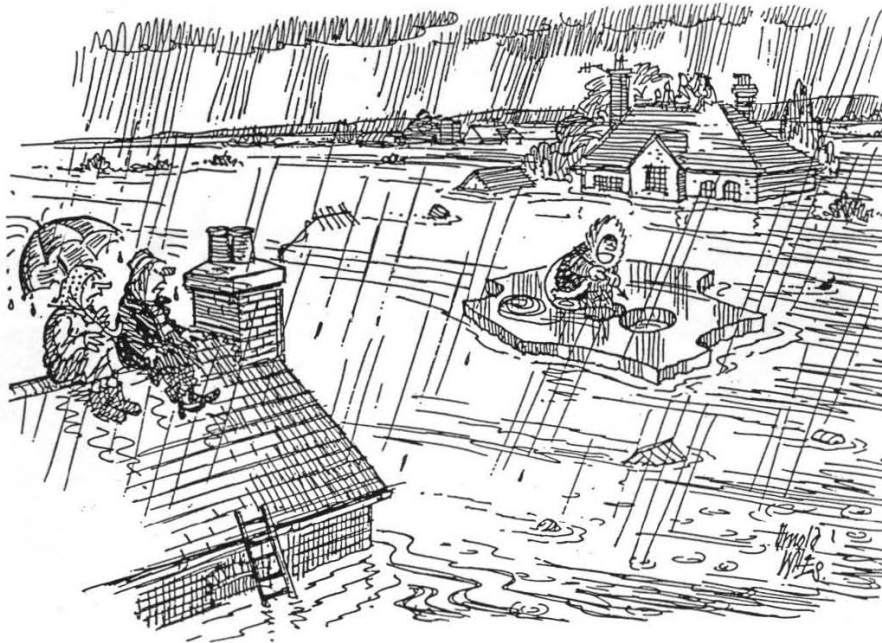
experienced scientists to move temporarily to a new institution and research environment or learn new research methods, techniques, or concepts. It also promotes scientific collaborations, both domestic and international, including interdisciplinary ventures. (BSR Mid-Career Fellowships, Rm 215, Biotic Systems and Resources, NSF)

Program for Long and Medium Term Research at Foreign Centers of Excellence

The deadline for 1990 will be around January 1, 1990, and the opportunity is limited to U.S. nationals who earned a Ph.D. within six years before the visit starts. The purpose is to encourage collaborative research relationships with foreign countries and to facilitate access to foreign centers and scientists through research visits from 3 to 15 months. (Division of International Programs, NSF)

Supplements for Research at Long-Term Ecological Research Sites

The deadline for 1990 will be about November 15, 1989. This opportunity is limited to scientists with an active NSF grant in ecology, population biology and physiological ecology, or ecosystems to work at an LTER site at another institution. (Dr. Thomas Callahan, NSF, tel. 202-357-9596)



"Well, I'd heard about the Greenhouse Effect and the possible melting of the Polar ice-caps, but..."