

STRI newsletter

October 8, 1993

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá

No. 41

TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

No noon seminar scheduled for Tuesday, October 12.

PARQUE METROPOLITANO

Sat, Oct 9, Neal G. Smith will speak on *El Fenómeno Natural más Espectacular de América Central*
Salón de las Oropéndolas, PNM, 9:30am.

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Andrew Roper, Washington and Lee University, Sep 24-May 1994, to work as an assistant to Gregory Adler on BCL
- Njamkhishig Sambuughin, Mongolia, Oct 13-12 Nov, to work on the Amerind Project, specifically to do a molecular analysis of Mongolian populations to find possible founder populations for the Americas.

Departures

- Rick Condit, Oct 14-18, to Washington D.C., to attend the CTFs meeting.
- Ira Rubinoff, Oct 14-23, on official business at SI, Washington D.C.

THINGS TO KNOW

At Tupper Center

Tue, Oct 12 Scientific Staff meeting, Large Meeting Room, 1:30pm.

At the Culebra Marine Reserve

Wed, Oct 13 *Colegio Jhepta B. Duncan*, Chorrillo, 8:30-11:30am.

Thu, Oct 14 *Colegio San Patricio*, 8:30-11:30am.

Fri, Oct 15 *Escuela Manuel Urbano Ayarza*, Colón, 8:30-11:30 am.

Reminder ••• Recorderis

Monday, October 11, is the celebration of Columbus Day and a STRI holiday. The library will close on Sat, Oct 9, to allow its personnel a long week-end ••• *El lunes 11 de octubre se celebra el Día de la Hispanidad, y es un día libre para STRI. La biblioteca de STRI no laborará el sábado 9 de octubre.*



Participants of the Pole-Equator-Pole (PEP) Workshop gathered at the Tupper Corotú Plaza on Friday, Oct 1, with organizers Paul Colinvaux, STRI, and Vera Makgraf, National Science Foundation ••• Los participantes del Congreso "Pole-Equator-Pole" (PEP), se reunieron el viernes 1 de octubre en la Plaza Corotú del Centro Tupper con los organizadores del evento.
(Foto: M.A. Guerra)

Festival Mundial de las Aves: Panamá, un Paraíso Ecoturístico

Bajo la iniciativa de la Bird Life International, la Fundación Natura de Panamá, la Universidad Latinoamericana de Ciencias y Tecnología y el Instituto Panameño de Turismo (IPAT) organizaron el Festival Mundial de las Aves (8-10 de Octubre) que se inaugurará el viernes 8 de octubre en el Teatro La Huaca de ATAPLA a las 7:00pm, con el auspicio de la Sociedad Audubon de Panamá y Instituto Smithsonian de Investigaciones Tropicales.

Los expositores ese día serán Norita Scott Pezet y William Adsett, Audubon, Leticia de Polo, INRENARE, Lorna Gómez de Engleman, Audubon, Stanley Heckadon, STRI, y Francisco Delgado, Bird Life International.

El sábado 9 de octubre se abrirán al público exhibiciones educativas, y charlas por Neal G. Smith, STRI, Alvaro Uribe, Universidad de Panamá, Francisco Delgado, Wilberto Martínez, Darío Tovar y Gary Voucher y Líder Sucre de la Audubon. Luego de cada presentación se podrá visitar el Mirador del Parque Metropolitano donde la Audubon tendrá un puesto de observación para celebrar el Día Interamericano del Ave Migratoria.

El día domingo 10 de octubre habrán giras de observación y estudio de aves. El programa completo se encuentra en los murales de STRI.

From the Visitor Services Office***De la Oficina de Visitantes***

Maria Morello, Assistant Manager at the VSO, will be on leave from November 8-22. If anyone is planning on collecting, exporting or importing specimens or samples during that period, please submit an application form on time so it can be processed *** *Maria Morello de la Oficina de Visitantes estará ausente del 8-22 de noviembre. A aquellos que planean realizar colectas o importar/exportar especímenes durante ese período, se les recomienda someter sus aplicaciones con tiempo para que se puedan procesar a tiempo.*

Maintenance/Work Order Requests at Tupper

Work-order request forms are located next to the manager's office at Tupper for everybody's convenience. All work-order request must be channelled through Audrey Smith and not directly to the maintenance personnel. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Missing * *Extraviada***

A blue long paper trimmer is missing from Vielka Vergel's office. If anybody has seen or borrowed the trimmer, please return it to Vielka. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated *** *Una cortadora de papel, azul larga, se ha extraviado de la oficina de Vielka Vergel en Tupper. Se le agradecerá al que la tomó prestada que la regrese lo más pronto posible.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS**Biodiversity: From 1986 to the 21st Century**

The world faces a crisis of declining biological diversity. To date, perhaps only 10-20% of the biological species on Earth have even been described. Since each species is an encyclopedia of genetic information, and the biosphere is maintained by an intricate web of interactions among these species, it is critical to mankind's long-term survival that we identify and understand them. However, the number of scientists trained in the systematics, ecology and evolution of specific groups of organisms is insufficient to carry out an inventory of the Earth's biological species. To address these problems, five greater Washington D.C. organizations, the National Museum of Natural History, SI, the American Type Culture Collection, the Agricultural Research Service, USDA, the University of Maryland at College Park and the Maryland Biotechnology Institute, formed the Consortium for Systematics and Biodiversity, that plans to become a premier research and training group. An inaugural symposium for Systematics and

Biodiversity will be held at the Ripley Center, Smithsonian Institution, on Nov 18-19 as the first joint activity. A workshop is being planned for early 1994.

For details and registration information, please contact the STRI Office of Education, at Tupper Center. For additional information about the Symposium, please contact Marjorie Reaka-Kudla, Department of Zoology, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742, Tel. (301) 405-6944.

Biodiversity Measuring and Monitoring Course

The second international Biodiversity Measuring and Monitoring course organized by the Smithsonian and the Biosphere Biodiversity Program will be held at the Smithsonian Conservation and Research Center, Front Royal, Virginia. The course will teach participants how to establish procedures for measuring and monitoring biodiversity, how to design sampling programs and analyze data in each field, how to develop monitoring protocol, and finally, how to implement the management strategies necessary for an area. Twenty participants will be accepted worldwide; the course will be in English although most instructors and bilingual (English-Spanish). The instructors are well known specialists from the Smithsonian Institution and other organizations. The tentative dates are May 2-3 Jun, 1994. Application deadline is Dec 12, 1993. Total cost is \$3,200 (not including airfare). A limited number of fellowships will be available. Graduate students, senior undergraduates and professionals in the biological or environmental sciences may apply. For more details please contact the STRI Office of Education at Tupper Center, or write, call or fax: Francisco Dallmeier, SI/MAB Program, International Center, Smithsonian Institution, 1100 Jefferson Dr., NW, Suite 3123, Washington D.C. 20560. Tel: (202)-357-4793. Fax: (202)-786-2557. E-Mail FGD@IC.SI.EDU.

Nature Tourism Secretary/Administrative Assistant

A nature tourism agency seeks a secretary • administrative assistant with a college degree and work experience, fluent in English and Spanish, with knowledge on Lotus 123 and accounting. Interested send resume to: Apartado 465, Panama 9A.

Se Vende por Viaje

Mesa ovalada de centro de marmol y bronce, \$100. Juego de mesitas de rattán, \$250. Butaca giratoria de rattán, \$100. Cuadro (reproducción) de bodegón comprado en el Museo del Prado. Para información llame a Noris García, 69-4508, después de las 6pm.

NEW STRI PUBLICATIONS

- Braekman, J.C., Remacle, A. and Roisin, Yves. 1993. "Soldier Defensive Secretion of Three Amitermes Species." *Biochemical Systematics and Ecology*, 21(6/7): 661-666.
- Devillers, P., Ouellet, H., Seutin, G. and others. 1993. *Norms Français des Oiseaux du Monde*. Editions Multi-Monde, Ste-Foy, Quebec, et Editions Chabaud, Bayonne, France. xv + 452p.
- Quintero A., Diomedes and Cambra, T. 1993. "Anolis tripidogaster (NCN) Behavior." *Herpetological Review* 24(3): 104-105.

JOB OPORTUNITIES

Faculty Position

The School of Field Studies seeks a marine resource management professional for a permanent full-time position of Resident Faculty at the Center for Marine Resource Management in South Caicos Island, starting on January 1994. The position entails presenting the marine resource/management aspects to the curriculum, working with an interdisciplinary team of faculty (marine ecologist and ecological anthropologist), a field assistant, two interns and various support staff. The case studies comprising the semester program are related to Fisheries Management and Aquaculture; Park Resource Assessment and Monitoring and Environmental Impact Assessment. Qualifications include a Ph.D. (or M.S. with years of practical experience). Two years field research in the Caribbean or similar ecosystem, outstanding undergraduate teaching background and the ability to live under spartan field conditions for extended periods of time. To apply fax CV and a detailed letter explaining skills and experience to the Marine Resource Management Search 93, The School for Field Studies, 16 Broadway, Beverly, MA 019-15, Fax (508) 927-5127.



Argelis Ruiz Guevara and Maria Luz Calderón from the Office of Education, participated at the "XXX Feria Agropecuaria, Turística y del Mar" on Bocas del Toro from Sep 30-3 Oct. The STRI booth presented fossils, samples and poster sessions of the Panisthmian Paleontological Project, photographs on STRI research activities throughout Panama, and relevant publications ••• Argelis Ruiz Guevara y Maria Luz Calderón de la Oficina de Educación participaron en la "XXX Feria Agropecuaria, Turística y del Mar" en Bocas del Toro del 30 de septiembre al 3 de octubre. La caseta de STRI presentó fósiles, muestras y sesiones de afiches del Proyecto de Paleontología Pan-Istmica, fotografías de las actividades de investigación de STRI en Panamá y publicaciones relevantes.

(Foto: Argelis Ruiz-Guevara)

Ecologist, Resource Manager and Socio/Economist

The School for Field studies seeks an Ecologist, a Resource Manager and a Socio/Economist, to teach at their centers on Kenya (Wildlife Management Studies), South Caicos, British West Indies (Marine Resource Studies), Costa Rica (Center for Sustainable Development), Australia (Rainforest Studies) and Island Management (Location to be arranged). The qualifications include a Ph.D. (Masters degree plus 4 years of applied experience), 2 years teaching at the undergraduate level, 12 months experience in the region, necessary language skills, group leadership skills, ability to live in a remote field setting for extended periods of time, demonstrated commitment to conservation management issues and a desire to change the lives of students. All positions are residential. To apply send curriculum vitae and a detailed letter explaining skills and experience with the appropriate case study to SFS/CF, 16 Broadway, Beverly, MA 01915 or fax: (508) 927-5127.

"Nature, to be commanded, must be obeyed."

Sir Francis Bacon, *Novum Organum*

From the Office of Human Resources ••• *De la Oficina de Recursos Humanos*

Safe and Secure

Keeping company secrets safe and secure is of the utmost importance —and it is the responsibility of everyone in the office and work site. It is your responsibility to "keep quiet" about institute policies, procedures, and plans unless the official word has been given to release them. It is also your responsibility to take a number of daily security measures to prevent the theft of materials or ideas.

Take the following test to determine the "security level" in your work area. See if you can answer a safe and secure "yes" to each question:

1. Do I restrict keys to those in the office/shop who need them?
2. Do I know who has keys to which locks in the office/shop?
3. Do I keep my keys in a safe place at all times?
4. Do I insist that filing cabinet keys be removed from their locks after cabinets have been opened for the day?
5. Do I make certain that anyone reporting a lost key and asking for a replacement is authorized to have one?
6. Do I keep a record showing which people have what keys (including dates and times in and out)?
7. Do I remember to put my personal belongings (purse, bag, etc.) in a desk or file drawer each morning?
8. Do I shred important papers before discarding them in waste baskets?
9. Do I clear my desk of important papers every night and place them in a locked drawer or cabinet?
10. Before leaving the office/shop for the day, do I make sure all doors, windows, drawers, locks, etc., are secured?

Sense of Humor

Air travel will be much safer when they eliminate the automobile ride between the city and the airport.

Hasta la proxima!

Seguridad y Tranquilidad

Es sumamente importante guardar la confidencialidad de los asuntos de la institución —y esto es responsabilidad de todos y cada uno de nosotros en la oficina o lugar donde trabajemos. Es responsabilidad de cada cual "guardar silencio" sobre los reglamentos, procedimientos y planes de la institución, a menos que se haya dado autorización oficial para divulgarlos. También es responsabilidad de cada uno tomar ciertas medidas de seguridad para prevenir el robo de materiales o de ideas.

Hágase la siguiente prueba para determinar el "nivel de seguridad" que hay en su área de trabajo. Trate de ver si puede contestar un rotundo "sí" a cada pregunta:

1. ¿Limito el uso de llaves a aquellos en la oficina o el taller que las necesitan?
2. ¿Sé quiénes son los que tienen las llaves de determinadas cerraduras o candados en la oficina o el taller?
3. ¿Guardo mis llaves siempre en un lugar seguro?
4. ¿Insisto en quitar las llaves de los gabinetes, una vez éstos hayan sido abiertos en la mañana?
5. ¿Me aseguro de que cualquiera persona que informe sobre una llave perdida y solicite un reemplazo de la misma esté autorizada para tenerla?
6. ¿Mantengo información por escrito sobre quiénes tienen cuáles llaves (incluyendo fechas y horas de entradas y salidas)?
7. ¿Me acuerdo de colocar mis objetos personales (cartera, maletín, etc.) dentro de algún escritorio o gabinete todas las mañanas?
8. ¿Destruyo cualquier papel importante antes de desecharlo en un cesto de basura?
9. ¿Despejo mi escritorio todos los días y coloco los papeles importantes en una gaveta o gabinete cerrado?
10. Antes de salir de la oficina o el taller al final del día, ¿aseguro las puertas, ventanas, gavetas, candados, etc.?

Sentido del Humor

Los viajes por avión serán mucho más seguros cuando eliminen el trayecto en automóvil entre la ciudad y el aeropuerto.

Carmen