

# STRI newsletter

January 14, 1994

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá

No. 2

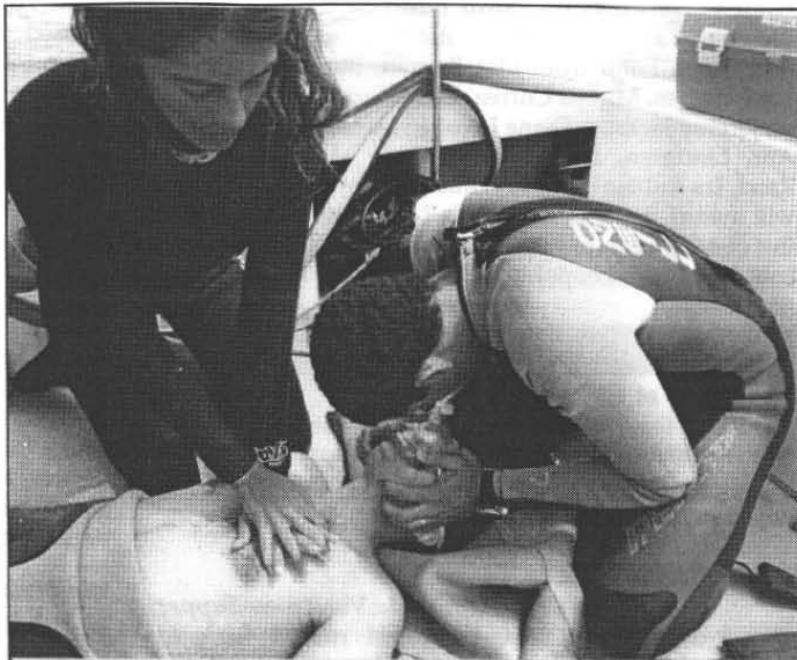
## TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

Tue, Jan 18, noon seminar speaker will be Juan L. Maté T., Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, University of Miami

### *Elevated Temperature and Nutrient Effects on three Eastern Pacific (Panama) Reefcorals*

#### Abstract

Of the three species tested, *Pocillopora damicornis*, the major reef building coral in the eastern Pacific, suffered the highest mortality as a result of higher (10-20 C above ambient) temperatures and nutrient levels (25-30 x ambient). *Psammocora stellata* and *Porites panamensis* showed much greater resistance than the fast growing *Pocillopora*. Temperature increases were more important than nutrient increases but the additive elevated levels of nutrient produced higher mortalities in all three.



*José Espino, diving officer, shows resuscitation techniques during a rescue course for divers on Wed, Jan 5, around Taboga Island ••• José Espino, director de buceo, muestra técnicas de resucitación durante un curso de rescate para buzos, llevado a cabo el miércoles 5 de enero en aguas de Isla Taboga.*  
(Foto: M.A. Guerra)

## ESPECIAL

La Universidad de Panamá y STRI invitan a la conferencia de Olga F. Linares

### *El Bosque Tropical, Su Gente y Sus Recursos: Interacciones Bioculturales*

Jueves 20 de enero, 5:30pm en la Sala "Ricardo Miró", Biblioteca Interamericana Simón Bolívar, Universidad de Panamá.

## PEOPLE

### Arrivals

- Lisa and Daniel Petit, Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, Jan 15-1 Mar, to study impacts of land use on neotropical migratory birds wintering in Panama, at Gamboa.
- Deedra McClearn, Shannon Horan and William Rose, Cornell University, Jan 15-15 Mar, to survey mammal communities at three forestal sites in the BCNM, on BCI.

### Reminder ••• Recorderis

Mon, Jan 17 is the celebration of Martin Luther King's birthday and a holiday for STRI ••• *El lunes 17 de enero se conmemora el nacimiento de Martin Luther King y es un día feriado para STRI.*

- Dennis Hall, Northern Illinois University, Jan 16-15 Apr, to study the microclimatic influence upon epiphytic bryophyte communities, on BCI.
- Peter Wrege, Cornell University, and assistants Jessica Garb and Marc Kramer, Jan 15-31 Jul, to work with Steve Emlen, in Gamboa.
- Karen Diele, Julius-von-Sachs Institut fuer Biowissenschaftern, Jan 17-20 Feb, to work with Rainer Wirth, on BCI.
- Paul Allen, Cornell University, Jan 17-Feb 15, to study population ecology of tropical swallows, in Gamboa.
- Jason Schulerbrandt, Graduate Student fellow from the University of California at Berkeley, Jan 19-29 Mar, to study the sexual plasticity and reproductive substrate use in the cichlid fish *Aguidens coeruleopunctatus*, in Gamboa.
- Cheryl Morrison, graduate student fellow from Florida State University, Jan 20-30 Apr, to study the morphological, molecular and reproductive differentiation among geminate species of snapping shrimp separated by the Isthmus of Panama, at Naos and San Blas.
- Lila Fishman, Princeton University, Jan 20-20 Feb, to study the effect of local mate density on reproductive success of understory shrubs, on BCI.

### Departures

- Ira Rubinoff, Jan 17-24, to Washington D.C. on official business at SI.
- David a Jeanne Zeh, Jan 18, to Houston, TX, after several years at STRI.

### Alan P. Smith Fellowship Fund

We greatly appreciate contributions to the Alan P. Smith Fellowship Fund from Lisa Barnett, Biff Bermingham, Tony Coates, Mireya Correa, Lucy Dorick, Nelida Gomez, Jeremy Jackson, Diane Jukotsky, James R. Karr, Mary Ann Lindgren, Lidia Mann, Maria Morello, Stanley Rand, Ira Rubinoff, Chris Willie and Gloria Zelaya. STRI will award the fellowship to a Latin American Scholar this coming year, to conduct research at STRI. Send your contribution to Leopoldo Leon or Lucy Dorick.

## THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

### New Fees at STRI

All STRI fees have been revised. New fees will be effective on April 1, 1994, and will be applicable to all, including for those already at STRI. Copies of the list of new fees will be available from the facilities' secretaries.

### Procurement Back to Tupper

#### *Oficina de Compras de Vuelta en Tupper*

The Procurement Office personnel moved back to Tupper this past week. They wish to thank all the administrative personnel for their efforts to make their stay comfortable at Tivoli ••• *La Oficina de Compras se mudó nuevamente a Tupper esta semana. Por este medio desean agradecer al personal de Tivoli por su hospitalidad durante los meses que duró la remodelación de sus oficinas.*

### At the Tupper Center

- Tue, Jan 18 ■ Noon seminar by Juan L. Maté, Auditorium.  
 ■ TREC Meeting, Small Meeting Room, 1pm.  
 Thu, Jan 20 ■ OEC Slide Show, Auditorium, 3pm.  
 Fri, Jan 21 ■ CTFS workshop meeting, Small Meeting Room 1:30pm.

### At the Culebra Marine Reserve

- Tue, Jan 18 *Escuela José de San Martín, Panamá*  
 Wed, Jan 19 *Escuela Jhepta Duncan, Panamá*  
 Thu, Jan 20 *Escuela Jhepta Duncan, Panamá*  
 Fri, Jan 21 *Escuela Federico A. Velásquez, Panamá*  
 Sat, Jan 22 *Curundu High School, Curundu, Panama*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Brian Keller: ESA's First Executive Director

On April 1, 1994, Brian Keller will become the Ecological Society of America's (ESA) first Executive Director. Keller received his Ph.D. in ecology at the

Johns Hopkins University in 1976 where his research focused on the ecology of sea urchins and sea grass communities. He held research positions at Scripps Institution of Oceanography and at Yale University, and in 1984 became acting head of the Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory in Jamaica. He worked as project manager of a six-year oil spill study at STRI. "We are absolutely delighted to have an individual of such high caliber and enthusiasm on board," said ESA President Jerry Franklin... "Brian will play a crucial role as the Society continues to expand its range of activities to include making the products of our scholarship more accessible to policy-makers and the public at large". As ESA's Executive Director, Keller will manage the Society's Headquarters in Washington D.C., and work to expand ESA's current activities. Keller, with ESA's President, will represent the Society to the executive and legislative branches of government, federal agencies, public and private foundations, and the general public. **ESA News**

### Maestría en Ecología en Panamá

La Facultad de Ciencias y Tecnología de la Universidad Santa María La Antigua en Panamá, iniciará próximamente un programa de Maestría en Ecología con materias en educación ambiental y en administración de recursos naturales. Para mayor información, llamar al Profesor Julio Calderón, coordinador del programa, al teléfono en la USMA 36-1311. ext 187 ó 222.

## POSICION ABIERTA

### Asesor • Area Protegida Cayos Miskitos

La Corporación Caribbean Conservation busca un asesor permanente para el equipo técnico de planificación del Area Protegida de Cayos Miskitos (ACPM) en Nicaragua. Su función será la de brindar el asesoramiento necesario para el cumplimiento efectivo de las tareas del APCM dentro del proceso de elaboración del plan de manejo. Deberá poseer un título académico mínimo de licenciatura, tres años de experiencia en manejo y planificación de áreas protegidas, capacidad de trabajar por largos períodos en condiciones difíciles y bajo presión, dominio del inglés y el español, uso de computadoras (procesador de palabras, gráficas y hojas electrónicas), habilidad para escribir informes y documentos, y capacidad para tratar personas de diversas culturas. Tiempo mínimo de trabajo: 9 meses. Lugar: Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua. Salario de \$2,400-2,900, transporte de ida y vuelta y viáticos. Para mayor información, escriba a Jeanne A. Mortiner, Caribbean Conservation Corporation, P.O. Box 2866, Gainesville, Florida 32602-2866.

## NEW STRI PUBLICATIONS

Current Research in Phytolith Analysis:  
Applications and Paleoecology

edited by:

Deborath M. Pearsall and Dolores R. Piperno

—Paleobotanical studies are assuming an increasingly important role in archaeology, providing information on prehistoric social structures and environments, as well as on economic concerns. This volume presents the latest applications of phytolith analysis in archaeology and paleoecology. It demonstrates the impressive versatility of the discipline, as phytoliths are now being used to directly date cultural strata and document the earliest creation of cultural landscapes in the tropics—

MASCA Research Papers in Science and Archaeology. Volume 10. 1993. Cloth \$35.00. MASCA, The University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, 33rd and Spruce Streets, Philadelphia, PA 19104

- Duke, Norman C. 1993. "Mangrove Floristics and Biogeography." *Tropical Mangrove Ecosystems (Series: Coastal and Estuarine Studies 21)*.
- Knowlton, Nancy and Jackson, Jeremy B.C. 1993. "Inbreeding and Outbreeding in Marine Invertebrates." In: *Natural History of Inbreeding and Outbreeding: 200-249*, edited by N.W. Thornhill. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Pearsall, Deborah M. and Piperno, Dolores R. 1993. *Current Research in Phytolith Analysis: Applications in Archaeology and Paleoecology*. Philadelphia: MASCA Research Papers in Science and Archaeology, Vol 10.
- Roubik, David W. 1993. "Tropical Pollinators in the Canopy and Understory - Field Data and Theory for Stratum Preferences." *Journal of Insect Behavior* 6: 6.
- Sevenster, Jan G. and Van Alphen, J.M. 1993. "A Life History Trade-Off in *Drosophila* species and Community Structure in Variable Environments." *Journal of Animal Ecology* 62: 720-736.
- Sevenster, Jan G. and Van Alphen, J.M. 1993. "Coexistence in Stochastic Environments Through a Life History Trade Off in *Drosophila*." *Lecture Notes in Biomathematics* 98: 155-172.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**Exposición Sobre Medio Ambiente y Biodiversidad**

La Universidad de Panamá y STRI presentan la exposición "Medio Ambiente y Biodiversidad" del 20-27 de enero. Inauguración: jueves 20 a las 5pm, Sala "Ricardo Miró, Biblioteca Interamericana Simón Bolívar. Todos están invitados.

**Jaguar Sighting on BCI**

A melanistic jaguar was seen in the 50 ha plot on BCI by Jim Dalling. It was a dark brown animal, with no orange on it but with the characteristic black spots clearly visible; it was a meter long plus the tail. Jim saw it at quadrat 20-05 in the plot, which is just south of post 8 on the Armour trail. The animal was walking slowly west parallel to the trail when first spotted. Jim was able to get within 30 m before the animal saw him and ran off. This sighting confirms a number of recent reports of jaguar footprints in various parts of BCNM over the past few months, including those of a pair of animals, possibly a mother with her offspring. **CTFS News**

**Zehs' New Address**

David and Jeanne Zeh are leaving STRI on Jan 18. They will return for the period of Jun-Aug 1994, to continue research at STRI. Their new addresses are: David W. Zeh, Department of Biology, University of Houston, Houston, Texas 77204-5513. Tel (713) 743-2690 • Fax (713) 743-2636. Jeanne A. Zeh, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Rice University, Houston, Texas 77251. Tel. (713) 527-4922 • Fax (713) 285-5232.

**Servicio de Edición para Documentos Técnicos**

Nilce de Cerezo ofrece sus servicios de edición y diagramado para documentos técnicos en WordPerfect, con terminado en impresora láser. Para información, Tel 20-8559, o en la Oficina de Educación.

**Collage Musical • Temporada de Verano**

El Theater Guild de Ancón y la Asociación Nacional de Conciertos, presentan a Ken Sarch, Oliver y Annette Klein, Quinteto, Soni Volcán y Estudiantes del Conservatorio de Oberlin. Viernes 14 y sábado 15 de enero, 8pm. Boletos en Librería Argosy, Asociación de Conciertos, Allegro y Theater Guild \$5. y \$3. para estudiantes.

**For Sale**

Overhauled computer 286, Mini-tower, color monitor. Needs new driver. \$300 o.b.o. Call Marcos Guerra after working hours at 61-0701.

## The Ombudsman

—a source to solving your problem.

### What is an Ombudsman?

The Ombudsman is a neutral party to whom employees can bring any work-related problem, concern or complaint that cannot be resolved through normal channels. The Ombudsman will respect confidentiality when requested, will listen to the problem and discuss steps to take to help you reach a fair solution.

### Why was an SI Ombudsman created?

The Smithsonian Institution considers its employees one of its most valuable resources and is committed to providing employees a good working environment. Part of this commitment involves making sure that each employee's concerns are heard. The position of Ombudsman was created to provide a vehicle by which any employee could feel free to bring any work-related problem or concern with the expectation of a fair hearing.

### The Ombudsman can help you...

As a mediator. As a sounding board. As a neutral voice. As an impartial ear. As a confidential advisor. As a resource for assistance.

### To talk with the Ombudsman...

Please call, write or make an appointment. The Ombudsman can be reached at (202)357-3261 (this number is serviced by an answering machine 24 hours a day when the Ombudsman is not available in person) or at Room 2101 A & I Building, MCR 425, Washington D.C. 20560.

### Who is the Ombudsman?

Chandra Heilman, a member of the Assistant Secretary for Finance and Administration Quality Team, has been the Institution's Ombudsman since 1983. She has a background in counseling and personnel work. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Hawaii with a B.A. in sociology and pursued graduate studies at the University of Wisconsin in counseling and guidance. She has been with the Smithsonian Institution since 1978.

## Tribuno del Pueblo

—una fuente para solucionar su problema.

### ¿Qué es un "Ombudsman" (Tribuno del Pueblo)?

El(la) "Ombudsman", es un funcionario neutral, al que los empleados pueden llevar sus problemas o quejas de trabajo, que no pueden resolverse a través de los canales regulares. El "Ombudsman" respetará su confidencialidad, escuchará su problema y discutirá los pasos a seguir para ayudarle a lograr una solución justa.

### ¿Por qué fue creada la posición en Smithsonian?

El Smithsonian considera a sus empleados uno de sus recursos más valiosos, y está comprometido a crear un buen ambiente de trabajo. Parte de este compromiso requiere que todas las preocupaciones de los empleados se escuchen. La posición de "Ombudsman" se creó para ofrecer un vehículo por el cual cualquier empleado se sienta en libertad de traer cualquier problema de trabajo con la seguridad de ser escuchado imparcialmente.

### El(la) Ombudsman puede ayudarle...

Como mediador. Como una fuente segura. Como una voz neutral. Como un oído imparcial. Como un consejo confidencial. Como una fuente de asistencia.

### Para hablar con el(la) "Ombudsman"

Llame, escriba o haga una cita. El teléfono de la "Ombudsman" es el (202) 357-3261 (este número tiene una grabadora 24 horas al día cuando la "Ombudsman" no está disponible en persona), o en la Oficina 2101, A&I Building, MCR 425, Washington D.C. 20560.

### Quién es la "Ombudsman"

Chandra Heilman, un miembro del "Quality Team" de la Oficina del Subsecretario para las Finanzas y Administración, ha sido la "Ombudsman" para el Smithsonian desde 1983. Tiene experiencia en consejería y trabajo con personal. Se graduó con honores de la Universidad de Hawaii en Sociología, y siguió estudios de postgrado en la Universidad de Wisconsin de consejería. Trabaja en el Smithsonian desde 1978.