

STRI newsletter

November 25, 1994

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá

No. 46



STRI scientists and administrators gathered for a group photo during a three-day retreat in Taboga Island to discuss present issues at STRI and future plans ••• El personal científico de STRI y miembros de la administración se reunieron para la foto de grupo durante una convivencia de tres días en Isla de Taboga con el objeto de discutir las actividades presentes del Instituto y sus perspectivas futuras.

(Foto: Neal G. Smith)

TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

Tuesday, November 29, noon seminar speaker will be Daniel Suman, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, University of Miami

Mangrove Ecosystem Management and Legislation in Central America

Abstract

I offer a comparative analysis of the legal mechanism regulating human activity in mangroves. I will suggest future legislative actions.

- ☛ The noon seminar will be held at the Conference Hall, since the Auditorium is being repaired. Coffee will be served at 11am before the seminar.

BAMBI SEMINAR

Thursday, December 1st, Bambi seminar speaker will be José Luis Andrade, University of California at Los Angeles, at 7:30pm

Water Relations in Epiphytic Cacti

Please arrange transportation with BCI.

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Ten students and two professors from Universidad del Valle, Colombia, Nov 27-3 Dec, to visit STRI as a center for excellence in the region.
- Irit Zohar, Short-term visitor from Tel-Aviv University, Israel, Nov 28-1 Mar, to study the prehistoric fishing practices in taxonomically rich tropical waters, at Naos.
- Walter Carson, University of Minnesota, Dec 1-1 Mar, to work with Steve Hubbell's project at BCI.
- John Sutter, U.S. Geological Survey, Dec 1-6, to participate with Anthony Coates on a field trip to Bocas del Toro.

- Nancy Suttentfield, SI Assistant Secretary for Finance and Administration and Rick Johnson; Ardelle Foss and David Short from the Office of Sponsored Projects; and Leslie Casson, Elard Phillips and Chung Yang, from the Office of the Comptroller, Dec 2-8, on official business to STRI.

Departures

- Stanley Heckadon, Nov 22-26, to Paris, to attend the meeting of the Program Committee of CIRAT-FORET, the French Tropical Forestry Research Institute, to represent Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Anthony Coates, Nov 26-1 Dec, to Washington D.C. on official business at SI.
- Jeremy Jackson, Nov 26-4 Dec, to Paris, to consult with colleagues at the Museum of Natural History and do some fund raising for the Coral Reef Symposium.
- Ira Rubinoff, Nov 30-7 Dec 7, to Washington D.C. on official business at SI, then to Nassau, Bahamas, to participate in the First Meeting of the Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Charla Sobre el SIDA

Con motivo del Día Internacional del SIDA, las Doctoras Rosalía Quintero y Omaira Dorati de Rodríguez, del Departamento de Epidemiología de la Caja de Seguro Social, presentarán una charla titulada "El SIDA y la Familia", el día martes, 6 de diciembre a las 3pm en el Auditorio del Centro Tupper. Todos los empleados de STRI y sus familiares están invitados. Se solicita por este medio a todos los supervisores a permitir asistir a todos los empleados a este importante evento.

At the Tupper Center

- Mon, Nov 28 ■ *Taller Sobre la Evaluación de PE-MASKY*, Large Meeting Room, 8am.
- Tue, Nov 29 ■ *Taller Sobre la Evaluación de PE-MASKY*, Large Meeting Room, 8am.
- Noon seminar by Daniel Suman, Conference Hall.

At the Culebra Marine Reserve

- Tue, Nov 29 *Escuela Carmen Solé Bosch*
- Wed, Nov 30 *Escuela Carmen Solé Bosch*
- Thu, Dec 1 *Ciudad del Niño*
- Fri, Dec 2 *Colegio Anglo-Mex*
- Sat, Dec 3 *Club Rotarac de Panamá*

At the Barro Colorado Island Station

- Sat, Nov 26 Groups from ANCON and Panama.
- Sun, Nov 27 Group from Panama
- Sat, Dec 3 *Grupo de Ecología de la Facultad de Biología de la Universidad de Panamá*
- Sun, Dec 4 Group from Panama

Héctor Guzmán and Gabriel Jácome to Surfside

Hector Guzmán and Gabriel Jácome will be in their new offices at the Surfside Building in Naos on Monday, Nov 28. Please send their correspondence to Naos. To reach them by phone, please call the Naos switchboard, since the whole Surfside facility is not yet completed.



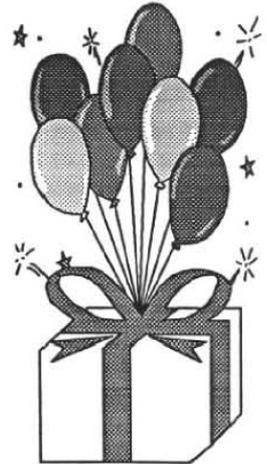
Corrección

Judy Smith, del "Credit Union" tiene un nuevo número de fax: el (202)786-2318, pero para retirar dinero de sus cuentas se seguirá usando el número anterior, (202)479-3877.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STRI December Birthdays

Dionisio Oses	4	★
Nicolás Almanza	6	
Luis Castillo	6	
Mirna Samaniego	8	
José Ramón Perurena	12	
Luis Cruz	13	
Andrés Ramos	17	
Ira Rubinoff	21	
Yira Ventocilla	22	
José Núñez	22	
Anibal Velarde	22	
Adriana Bilgray	24	
Raúl Ríos	25	
Elizabeth Sánchez	26	
Mario Santamaría	27	



Obituary

by Neal G. Smith

Theodore R. Dudley, Senior Botanist at the National Arboretum died Nov 17th at Bar Harbor, Maine. He leaves his wife Dr. Bettina (nee corning) Dudley and two sons, Dr. Robert Dudley (former STRI fellow from the University of Texas) and Christopher (graduate student at Yale University). Ted and I were graduate students at Cornell when Bettina was an undergraduate.

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

Legislative Changes in Leave Entitlements

Several major changes in Federal leave benefits were signed into law in late October. Specific guidelines for implementing these changes will be issued by the Office of Personal Management (OPM) in the near future and Office of Human Resources (OHR) will share them with organizations and all employees. In the meanwhile, the following is a summary of the basic provisions of these new laws.

- The Federal Employees Family Friendly Leave Act enacted on October 22, 1994, expands the use of sick leave by permitting most employees to use a total of up to 104 hours of sick leave each year to: (1) provide care for a family member as a result of physical or mental illness, injury, pregnancy, childbirth, or medical, dental or optical examination or treatment, or (2) to make arrangements or attend the funeral of a family member. Under the Act, all covered full-time employees will be able to use a total of up to 40 hours (five workdays) of sick leave each year for family care or bereavement purposes. (Part-time employees are also covered on a pro rata basis.) In addition, a covered full-time employee who maintains a balance of at least 80 hours of sick leave will be able to use an additional 64 hours (eight workdays) of sick leave for these purposes. The Act will become effective on December 22, 1994. There are no provisions for retroactive application. Please note that this change is being implemented on a three-year trial basis. At the end of that time, Congress will decide whether or not to continue it based on recommendations of OPM.
- Sick Leave for purposes related to adoption of a child has been enacted into law and is retroactive to September 30, 1991, which is the date the original test program of this benefit ended. As soon as guidance is received, OHR will issue instructions to organizations on processing requests to retroactively substitute sick leave for annual leave or leave without pay. The last change provides employees with up to seven days each year of excused absence to serve as a bone-marrow or organ donor. This provision became effective September 30, 1994.
- Until the official guidelines are received at STRI for the implementation of these changes, employees are hereby requested to present the appropriate medical certificate, as required in each individual case.

Please consult any doubt with the STRI Office of Human Resources, at the Tivoli Building.

Nuevas Leyes sobre Tiempo por Enfermedad

A finales de octubre, se pasaron leyes importantes sobre beneficios federales de tiempo por enfermedad (*sick leave*). Instrucciones específicas para ponerlos en práctica serán preparadas por la Oficina de Administración de Personal (OPM) y la Oficina de Recursos Humanos en Washington (OHR) las distribuirá a todas sus dependencias y empleados. Mientras tanto, resumiremos las provisiones básicas de estas nuevas leyes:

- La Ley "Family Friendly Leave para Empleados Federales" del 22 de octubre de 1994, amplía el uso del *sick leave*, permitiendo a la mayoría de los empleados a usar hasta 104 horas de *sick leave* al año para: (1) cuidar a un miembro de su familia por enfermedad física o mental, accidente, embarazo, parto, o por examen o tratamiento médico, dental u óptico, o (2) hacer arreglos o asistir al funeral de un miembro de su familia. De acuerdo con la Ley, los empleados cubiertos, de tiempo completo, podrán usar 40 horas (cinco días laborables) de *sick leave* cada año por cuidados o duelo en su familia (el beneficio para empleados de tiempo parcial es en forma proporcional). Además, un empleado de tiempo completo que esté cubierto, que mantenga un balance mínimo de 80 horas de *sick leave*, podrá usar 64 horas adicionales (ocho días laborables) de *sick leave* para estos propósitos. La Ley se hará efectiva el 22 de diciembre de 1994. No se han hecho provisiones para arreglos retroactivos. Estos cambios se pondrán a prueba por tres años. Al final de dicho período, el Congreso decidirá si la dejan, basándose en las recomendaciones que al respecto haga OPM.
- Quedó establecida como ley que se puede usar *sick leave* durante trámites de adopción, retroactivo al 30 de septiembre de 1991, cuando terminó el período de prueba de este programa. Tan pronto se reciban las pautas, OHR enviará instrucciones a todas sus dependencias sobre el manejo de solicitudes para substituir retroactivamente el tiempo de vacaciones o licencias sin pago, por *sick leave*. Este último cambio concede a los empleados hasta siete días por año de ausencias pagadas para donar médula ósea u otros órganos. Esta provisión se hizo efectiva el 30 de septiembre de 1994.
- Hasta tanto se reciban las instrucciones en STRI para la consecución de estos cambios, se solicita a todos los empleados presentar las correspondientes certificaciones médicas, según sea cada caso individual.

Para mayor información sobre lo anterior, favor de consultar a la Oficina de Recursos Humanos, Tivoli.

NEW STRI BOOKLIST

- Anthropometry: the individual and the population / edited by SJ Ulijaszek & CGN Mascie-Taylor. GN51.A59 1994X STRI.
- Archaeological method / Evzen Neustupny. CC75.N47 1993X STRI.
- Archaeological theory: who sets the agenda? / Norman Yoffee & Andrew Sherratt. CC72.A65 1993X STRI.
- The Art of stoneworking: a reference guide / Peter Rockwell. NB1208.R63 1993X STRI.
- Cell surface and extracellular glycoconjugates: structure and function / edited by DD Roberts & RP Mecham. QP702.G577C45 1993X STRI.
- Cerro Palenque: power and identity on the Maya periphery / RA Joyce. F1435.1.C42J69 1991X STRI.
- Cheetahs of the Serengeti Plains: group living in an asocial species / TM Caro. QL737.C23C35 1994X STRI.
- Computation of biomolecular structures: achievements, problems and perspectives / DM Soumpasis & TM Jovin, eds. QP517.M3C63 1993X STRI.
- Craft and the kingly ideal: art, trade, and power / MW Helms. GN492.2.H46 1993X STRI.
- The Development of the Inca state / BS Bauer. F3429.1.C9B38 1992X STRI.
- Ecological morphology: integrative organismal biology / edited by PC Wainwright & SM Reilly. QH351.E37 1994X STRI.
- Exploitation of environmental heterogeneity by plants: ecophysiological processes above- and belowground / edited by MM Caldwell & RW Pearcy. QK905.E96 1994X STRI.
- A Field guide to the shallow-water echinoderms of the British Isles / BE Picton. QL383.4.G7P611 1993 STRI.
- Foodplants of world Saturniidae / SE Stone. QL561.S2S87 1991 STRI.
- The Inadequate environment: nitrogen and the abundance of animals / TCR White. QH545.N5W48 1993X STRI.
- Inca civilization in Cuzco / RT Zuidema. F3429.3.S6Z8213 1990X STRI.
- Inca religion and customs / by Father Bernabe Cobo; translated & edited by Roland Hamilton. F3429.C58213 1990X STRI.
- Indian Lepidoziineae (A taxonomic revision) / D.Sharma & SC Srivastava. QK555.L4553 1993 STRI.
- Individuals, populations and patterns in ecology / edited by SR Leather et al. QH540.I39 1994 STRI.
- The Mixe of Oaxac: religion, ritual, and healing / FJ Lipp. F1221.M67L57 1991X STRI.
- Moss flora of Central America, Part 1. *Sphagnaceae-Calymperaceae* / Bruce Allen with contributions from Noris Salazar Allen et al. Ref QK542.A1A42 1994 V.1 STRI.
- Nursery technology for agroforestry: application in arid and semiarid regions / edited by Sunil Puri & PK Khosla. SD398.N97 1993 STRI.
- Perspectives on biodiversity: case studies of genetic resource conservation and development / CS Potter et al., eds. QH75.P46 1993 STRI.
- Phylogeny, ecology, and behavior: a research program in comparative biology / DR Brooks & DA McLennan. QH367.5.B76 1991X STRI.
- Phytochemistry and chemotaxonomy of lichenized ascomycetes - A festschrift in honour of Siegfried Huneck / edited by GB Feige & HT Lumbsch. QK581.P57 1993 STRI.
- Queen number and sociality in insects / edited by Laurent Keller. QL496.Q84 1993X STRI.
- Reading the shape of nature: comparative zoology at the Agassiz Museum / MP Winsor. QL71.U62C358 1991X STRI.
- Seasonality and human ecology: 35th Symposium volume of the Society for the Study of Human Biology / edited by SJ Ulijaszek & SS Strickland. GF51.S46 1993X STRI.
- The Wanano Indians of the Brazilian Amazon: a sense of space / JM Chernela. F2520.1.G72C47 1993X STRI.