

Tupper seminar

Tuesday, April 13, noon seminar speaker will be Charlotte Jander, Uppsala University, Sweden
Title to be announced

Bambi seminar

Please check GroupWise for information on the next Bambi.

Arrivals

Ruth Dickau, Temple University, Apr 12-30, to study the subsistence and early agriculture in prehistoric Panama: evidence from starch and macro-remains, at the CTPA, Ancon.

Irby Lovette and Jason Mobley, Cornell University, Apr 12-22, to study the levels of genetic differentiation in bird species in Bocas del Toro.

Jason Weir, University of British Columbia, Apr 12 - May 10, to work with Irby Lovette, at Bocas.

Briget Greiner and Eric Warrant, University of Lund, Sweden, Apr 14-22, to study visual processing in nocturnal bees and wasps, on BCI.

Thomas Cronin, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Apr 14-18, to work with Briget Greiner, on BCI.

Doekele Stavenga, University of Groningen, The Netherlands, Apr 14-22, to work with Briget Greiner, on BCI.

Ana Maria Llorens, University of Florida, Apr 16 - Jul 10, to work with Kaoru Kitajima, on BCI.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

www.stri.org

April 9, 2004



UK ambassador in Panama James Malcolm visited STRI on Wednesday, April 7, to donate the book *Arboles de Centroamérica* [Central American trees] to the STRI Library and meet with STRI officials in order to strengthen the relationship between the British government and STRI. The book, edited by Jesus Cordero and David Boshier was published by the Oxford Forestry Institute in the United Kingdom and CATIE in Costa Rica. According to STRI's Library director Vielka Chang-Yau, this book is a comprehensive botanical manual and will prove to be an excellent research tool for students and professionals. The photo shows (from the left) Stanley Heckadon-Moreno, Vielka Chang-Yau, director Ira Rubinoff, ambassador Malcolm and Georgina de Alba.

El embajador del Reino Unido en Panamá James Malcolm visitó STRI el miércoles 7 de abril, para donar el libro *Arboles de Centroamérica* a la Biblioteca de STRI y reunirse con funcionarios de STRI para fortalecer la relación entre el gobierno británico y este instituto. El libro, editado por Jesús Cordero y David Boshier, fue publicado por el Instituto Forestal Oxford en el Reino Unido y CATIE en Costa Rica. De acuerdo a la directora de la Biblioteca, Vielka Chang-Yau, el libro es un manual botánico completo y probará ser una excelente herramienta de investigación para estudiantes y docentes. En la foto aparecen (desde la izquierda) Stanley Heckadon-Moreno, Vielka Chang-Yau, el director Ira Rubinoff, el embajador Malcolm y Georgina de Alba.

Galeta online!

On Tuesday, April 6, work to install internet at STRI's Marine Laboratories at Galeta Point was completed. Stanley Heckadon Moreno, director of STRI's Office of Communications and Public Programs and the staff at Galeta thank Francisco Rivera, Fernando Bouche, Tania Quiel, Luis Moreno and other members of OIT for this long awaited service that greatly improves the communications at this field station for its employees and visiting scientists.

Departures

S. Joseph Wright, Apr 9-11 to Miami, to attend meeting to organize a neotropical national ecology observatory network.

Eldredge Bermingham Apr 12-15, to Washington DC, to attend the SI Molecular Evolution fellowship review.

John Christy, Apr 15-19, to Ithaca, to attend an NSF sponsored workshop at Cornell University.

Condolences

To Gabriel Jácome and his family, for the loss of his father, Thomas Humberto Jácome, on March 27 in Panama.

New publications

Baker, Timothy R., Phillips, Oliver L., Malhi, Yadvinder, Almeida, Samuel, Arroyo, Luzmila, Di Fiore, Anthony, Erwin, Terry L., Higuchi, Niro, Killeen, Timoty J., Laurance, Susan G., Laurance, William F., Lewis, Simon L., Monteagudo, Abel, Neill, David A., Nunez Vargas, Percy, Pitman, Nigel C.A., Silva, Natalino A., and Vasquez Martinez, Rodolfo. 2004. "Increasing biomass in Amazonian forest plots." *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London* 359: 353–365.

Bay, L.K., Choat, J. Howard, van Herwerden, L., and Robertson, D. Ross. 2004. "High genetic diversities and complex genetic structure in an Indo-Pacific tropical reef fish (*Chlorurus sordidus*): evidence of an unstable evolutionary past?" *Marine Biology* 144(4): 757–767.

El martes 6 de abril se completó el trabajo para instalar internet en el Laboratorio Marino de Galeta de STRI. Stanley Heckadon Moreno, director de la Oficina de Comunicaciones y Programas Públicos y el personal de Galeta agradecen a Francisco Rivera, Fernando Bouche, Tania Quiel, Luis Moreno y otros miembros de OIT por este esperado evento que mejora grandemente las condiciones de esta estación de campo para su personal y científicos visitantes.

Tropical forests and global atmospheric change

Scientists have shed new light on the impact of global environmental changes on remote tropical forests with studies that show that the rates of growth and death of trees in pristine forests across the Amazon have accelerated substantially in recent decades. The scientists also demonstrate that the tropical forests globally have warmed by half a degree in the last 20 years and warn that this is expected to increase by a further three to eight degrees by the end of the century, with dangerous implications for the forests, climate change and human welfare. The papers are published in a themed issue, "Tropical Forests and Global Atmospheric Change", of the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London* (March), compiled and edited by Oliver Phillips and Yadvinder Malhi. The issue includes five articles by STRI researchers Susan and Bill Laurance, Richard Condit, Salomon Aguilar, Andres Hernandez, Suzanne Lao, Rolando Perez, and more. The STRI articles are available from calderom@si.edu



Trees and lianas at a tropical forest in Barro Colorado Island, Panama // Arboles y lianas en el bosque tropical de la Isla de Barro Colorado en Panamá.

Investigadores han arrojado nuevas luces sobre el impacto de los cambios ambientales globales en bosques tropicales remotos con estudios que demuestran que las tasas de crecimiento y muerte de árboles en bosques vírgenes del Amazonas han aumentado substancialmente durante las últimas décadas. Estos científicos también demostraron que los bosques tropicales se han calentado de forma global en medio grado en los últimos 20 años y se espera que se caliente entre tres y ocho grados más para finales de siglo. Los artículos fueron publicados en el número de marzo de *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London* "Bosques tropicales y el cambio ambiental atmosférico", compilado y editado por Oliver Phillips and Yadvinder Malhi. El número incluye cinco artículos por los investigadores de STRI Bill y Susan Laurance, Richard Condit, Salomón Aguilar, Andrés Hernández, Suzanne Lao, Rolando Pérez y más. Los artículos pueden obtenerse de calderom@si.edu

Bocas inaugurates public program

On Friday, April 2, STRI's Bocas del Toro Marine Station opened the exhibit *Coral Reefs: Caribbean Connections*, during the inauguration of its public program. The event was attended by local authorities, representatives from non-government organizations and the private sector in Bocas del Toro. Scientist in charge Rachel Collin and STRI's scientific coordinator at Bocas Gabriel Jácome welcomed the visitors and highlighted all public programs carried out by STRI in Panama, on BCI, Culebra, Galeta, and now in Bocas del Toro, western Panama. The Station will open to the public on Fridays from 3-5pm.



More publications

Chave, Jerome, Condit, Richard, Aguilar, Salomon, Hernandez, Andres, Lao, Suzanne, and Perez, Rolando. 2004. "Error propagation and scaling for tropical forest biomass estimates One contribution of 17 to a Theme Issue 'Tropical forests and global atmospheric change'." *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London* 359(1443): 409-420.

Franz, Nico M. 2004. "Analysing the history of the derelomine flower weevil—*Carلودovica* association (Coleoptera: Curculionidae; Cyclanthaceae)." *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* 81(4): 483-517.

Kawakita, Atsushi, Sota, Teiji, Ito, Masao, Ascher, John S., Tanaka, Hiroyuki, Kato, Makoto, and Roubik, David W. 2004. "Phylogeny, historical biogeography, and character evolution in bumble bees (*Bombus*: Apidae) based on simultaneous analysis of three nuclear gene sequences." *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 31: 799–804.

Laurance, William F. 2004. "Forest–climate interactions in fragmented tropical landscapes." *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London* 359: 345–352.

Lewis, S.L., Phillips, O.L., Baker, T.R., Lloyd, J., Malhi, Y., Almeida, S., Higuchi, N., Laurance, William F., Neill, D. A., Silva, J.N.M., Terborgh, John, Lezama, A. Torres, Vasquez Martinez, R., Brown, S., Chave, J. Kuebler, C., Nunez Vargas, P., and Vinceti, B. 2004. "Concerted changes in tropical forest structure and dynamics: evidence from 50 South American long-term plots." *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London* 359: 421–436.

El viernes 2 de abril, la Estación Marina de STRI en Bocas del Toro abrió al público la exhibición: *Arrecifes Coralinos: Unidos por el Caribe*, durante la inauguración de su programa público. El evento fue presenciado por autoridades locales, representantes de organizaciones no-gubernamentales y el sector privado en Bocas del Toro. La científica a cargo de la Estación el coordinador científico de STRI en Bocas, Gabriel Jácome, dieron la bienvenida a los visitantes enfatizando en todos los programas públicos que lleva a cabo STRI en Panamá, en BCI, Galeta, Culebra y ahora en Bocas del Toro, al oeste de Panamá. La Estación abrirá al público todos los viernes de 3-5pm.

Training opportunity at UC, Santa Cruz

The Center for Tropical Research in Ecology, Agriculture, and Development (CentTREAD) offers two fellowships for one-quarter (3 months) post-graduate residence at the University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC) during the 2004-2005 academic year. Graduate students, recent university graduates and environmental professionals from tropical and subtropical nations who have not received degrees from and are not enrolled in US universities are eligible to apply. Fellows will participate in graduate courses related to their interests, attend seminars, and work with UCSC research groups to develop collaborations with CentTREAD affiliates. CentTREAD fosters interdisciplinary research and training to understand tropical environmental issues and develop ecologically-based, economically viable, culturally respectful, nonexploitative solutions that serve as a foundation for future generations. More information at <http://centread.ucsc.edu>. Fellows will be granted round-trip transportation, tuition, and a \$1000 per month living stipend. To apply, please send a CV, a personal statement describing educational and research experience, future goals, and reasons for interest in participating in the program, and a confidential letter of recommendation from someone familiar with your academic performance or research. Application materials can be sent electronically to STRI research associate Gregory Gilbert at ggilbert@ucsc.edu

NEO symposium

Ten students from STRI-McGill University Neotropical Environmental Option program will present the results of their research in an open symposium on Friday, April 16 at the Tupper Center, from 8:30am to 12:30pm. Talks include studies on land use, soil arthropods, management of national parks, the expansion of the Panama Canal, plant-insect interactions, evolution of *Hypoplectrus*, testing for incipient speciation, and visual selection on male guppy coloration.

Diez estudiantes del Programa de STRI-McGill "Opción Ambiental Neotropical (NEO) presentarán el resultado de sus investigaciones en un simposio abierto al público el viernes, 16 de abril en el Centro Tupper, de 8:30am - 12:30pm. Los estudios incluyen uso de tierras, artrópodos de suelo, administración de parques nacionales, la expansión del Canal de Panamá, interacciones entre insectos y plantas, la evolución de *Hypoplectrus*, pruebas de especiación incipiente y selección visual sobre coloración de olominas machos.

More publications

Mueller, Ulrich G., Poulin, Jessica, and Adams, Rachelle M. 2004. "Symbiont choice in a fungus-growing ant (*Attini*, Formicidae)." *Behavioural Ecology and Sociobiology* 15(2): 357-364.

Phillips, O.L., Baker, Timothy R., Arroyo, Luzmila, Higuchi, N., Killeen, T.J., Laurance, William F., Lewis, S.L., Lloyd, J., Malhi, Y., Monteagudo, A., Neil, D.A., Nunez Vargas, Percy, Silva, J.N.M., Terborgh, J., Vasquez Martinez, Rodolfo, Alexiades, M., Almeida, S., Brown, S., Chave, Jerome, Cominsky, J.A., Czimczik, C.I., Di Fiore, A., Erwin, T. L., Kuebler, C., Laurance, Susan G., Nascimento, Henrique E.M., Olivier, J., Palacios, W., S., Patino., Pitman, N.C.A., Quesada, C.A., Saldias, M., Torres Lezama, A., and Vinceti, B. 2004. "Pattern and process in Amazon tree turnover, 1976–2001." *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London* 359: 381-407.

Sumner, Seirian, Aanen, D.K., Delabie, J.H.C., and Boomsma, Jacobus J. 2004. "The evolution of social parasitism in *Acromyrmex* leaf-cutting ants: a test of Emery's rule." *Insectes Sociaux* 51(1): 37-42.

Van Tassell, James L., and Baldwin, Carole C. 2004. "A review of the gobiid genus Akko (Teleostei: Gobiidae) with description of a new species." *Zootaxa* 462: 1-15.

For sale

Beige BMW 523i, 2001, full extras, leather seats, sun roof, automatic transmission, 40,000km, \$19,000. Interested please call Luis Saavedra at 613-2737.