**Caribbean coral found active against malaria by ICBG team**

In collaboration with colleagues from the University of Puerto Rico and Florida State University in Panama, STRI research associate Todd Capson, coordinator of STRI’s International Collaborative Biodiversity Groups (ICBG), published an article in the *Journal of Natural Products* entitled “Briarellins J-P and polyanthellin A: new eunicellin-based diterpenes from the Gorgonian coral *Briareum polyanthes* and their antimalarial activity” (Ospina *et al*., vol. 66: 357-363). This publication is part of the Panama ICBG research program designed to find treatments for cancer, HIV, malaria, leishmaniasis and American trypanosomiasis in marine and terrestrial ecosystems, with support from the NSF, NIH and USDA. ICBG researchers test plants and marine organisms, namely sponges, soft corals, and blue green algae for chemical compounds, that may prove to be useful treatments against these diseases. In this case, Abimael D. Rodríguez and his colleagues from the University of Puerto Rico isolated the active components from the Caribbean Gorgonian coral, *Briareum polyanthes*.

Using a novel biological assay that detects antimalarial activity and which was developed in the laboratory of ICBG participant, Eduardo Ortega in Panama, they showed that there were elements in the coral that have potent activity against one of the parasites that causes malaria. (pdf file available at calderon@tivoli.si.edu).
From Accounting//De Contabilidad

María Lorena Cabrera from the Accounting Department was appointed payroll assistant, replacing Hely Cortez. A new accounts payable assistant will be hired in her place.

Job opportunities//Posiciones abiertas

Marine scientific manager for Naos Marine Laboratories (bilingual). The selected candidate will oversee day-to-day operations of scientific support, manage scientific installations and common equipment, general use laboratories and supplies, and oversee the proper functioning of the physical installations, vehicles and boats. Applications will be received until April 18. Please see the requirements at www.stri.org

Accounts payable assistant (bilingual). The accounts payable assistant will be posted at Tivoli, and will conduct everything related to the process of paying bills, conciliate bank statements, and attend suppliers. The candidates must have approved at least three years in Accounting or Business Administration, have one to three years experience paying bills, capacity to work under stress, ability to communicate with suppliers, use computers, electronic spreadsheets, etc. Applications will be accepted until April 25.

Webmaster: STRI seeks a talented in-house webmaster to take charge of our website. The position offers an extremely attractive opportunity for the candidate to construct (internal and external) and develop exceptionally designed, cutting-edge web sites to build and connect the international field of science with the design of the Institute’s web sites. Interested please see the candidates’ requirements at www.stri.org. Applications will be received until April 25.

Training opportunities//Entrenamiento

The Santa Fe Institute announces the opening of a competition for several international fellowships to foster future development of academic and interdisciplinary research activities in targeted countries throughout the world. Two-year term fellowships will be awarded from Oct 1, 2003 to Sep 30, 2005. Fellowships will be awarded to outstanding graduate students, postdoctoral students, and junior or senior level researchers currently affiliated, on a full-time basis, with an academic institution within India, China, Russia or other former Soviet Union countries, Africa, Eastern Europe, or Latin America. Applicants should have experience in, and/or a high level of interest in, the study of complex adaptive systems in an interdisciplinary environment. It is expected that award recipients will continue their research and/or academic activities within their home country during the fellowship term, and after the fellowship expires. More information at http://www.santafe.edu/sfi/education/indexInternational.html or contact Mary Jane West-Eberhard, Nélida Gómez or Adriana Bilgray.