

## Special seminar

Tuesday, May 4, at 1pm seminar speaker will be Frederic Austerlitz, University of Paris  
**Using genetic markers to estimate the pollen dispersal curve and variance in plant reproductive success**

## Bambi seminar

Thursday, May 6, Bambi seminar speaker will be Frederic Austerlitz, University of Paris  
**Impact of colonization processes on genetic diversity: differences between annual plants and tree species**

## Arrivals

Jacobus Boomsma, Sophie Armitage, Susanne Den Baer and Boris Baer, University of Copenhagen, May 1-15, to study evolutionary ecology of fungus-growing ants, in Gamboa.

Daniele Fanelli, Italy, May 1 - Jul 31, to work with Seirian Sumner, at Naos and BCI.

Hans Kelstrup, University of Copenhagen, May 1 - Jul 31, to work with Seirian Sumner, at Naos.

Michiel Dijkstra, University of Copenhagen, May 2-20, to work with Jacobus Boomsma, in Gamboa.

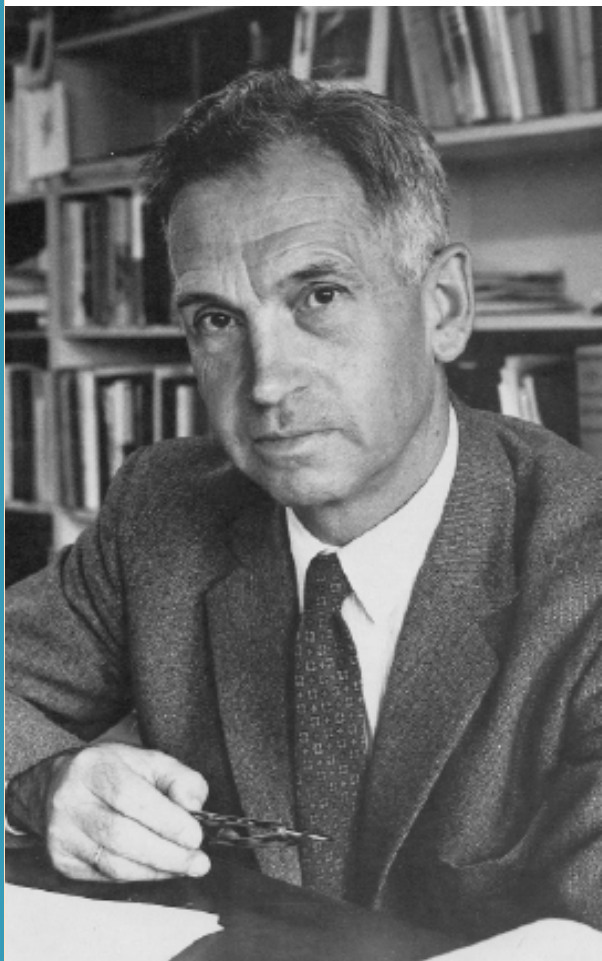
Lourdes Moreno-Martínez, Universidad Carlos Albizu, Puerto Rico, May 3-7, to study the relationship between alimentary disorders and species-place, on BCI.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

[www.stri.org](http://www.stri.org)

April 30, 2004



## Rubinoff and West-Eberhard are invited speakers for Ernst Mayr centenary

The Museum of Comparative Zoology (MCZ) at Harvard University will hold a one-day symposium and reception in honor of professor Ernst Mayr's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday (July 5, 2004) and his many outstanding contributions to evolutionary biology, on Monday, May 10. The symposium, to be held at the Geological Lecture Hall, University Museum, include speakers Walter Bock, Douglas Futuyma, Andrew Knoll, Lynn Margulis, Axel Meyer, Ira Rubinoff, Kerry Shaw, Frank Sulloway, and Mary Jane West-Eberhard. Mayr is author to more than 45 books including *What Makes Biology Unique* (2004); *Acquiring Genomes: A Theory of the Origins of Species* (2003); *What Evolution is* (2002); *The Birds of Northern Melanesia: Speciation, Ecology, and Biogeography* (2001); *Systematics and the Origin of Species from the Viewpoint of a Zoologist; With a New Introduction; Leonhard Rauwolf: Sixteenth-Century Physician, Botanist, and Traveler* (1999); *The Evolutionary Synthesis: Perspectives on the Unification of Biology; This is Biology: The Science of the Living World*

(1998); *Evolution and the Diversity of Life: Selected Essays* (1997); *One Long Argument: Charles Darwin and the Genesis of Modern Evolutionary Thought* (1993); *Toward a New Philosophy of Biology* (1989); *Growth of Biological Thought* (1985); *On the Origin of Species: A Facsimile of the* (1975); *Populations, Species, and Evolution* (1970). His first book, *List of New Guinea birds* was published in 1941 by the American Museum of Natural History, New York. (Photo: MCZ).

El Museo de Zoología Comparativa (MCZ) de la Universidad de Harvard celebrará un simposio de un día y una recepción en honor de los 100 años del profesor Ernst Mayr (5 de julio, 2004) y sus sobresalientes contribuciones a la biología evolutiva, el lunes 10 de mayo. El simposio, que se llevará a cabo en el Salón de Conferencias Geológicas del Museo de la Universidad, incluye a los conferencistas Walter Bock, Douglas Futuyma, Andrew Knoll, Lynn Margulis, Axel Meyer, Ira Rubinoff, Kerry Shaw, Frank Sulloway, y Mary Jane West Eberhard. Mayr es autor de más de 45 libros. Algunos de los títulos de sus libros más recientes, incluyendo el libro *What Makes Biology Unique* [Qué hace a la biología única] publicado en 2004, aparecen italicizados en la versión en inglés de esta noticia. Su primer libro, *List of New Guinea Birds* [Lista de las aves de Nueva Guinea], fue publicado en 1941, por el Museo Americano de Historia Natural de Nueva York.

## Departures

Director Ira Rubinoff, May 4-14, to Miami, to meet with the University of Miami, then to New York and Boston for meetings with donors and potential donors, and to attend Ernst Myer's centenary celebration, at Harvard.

## New publications

Denny, A. Jay, Franks, Nigel R., and Edwards, Keith J. 2004. "Eight highly polymorphic microsatellite markers for the army ant *Eciton burcheilii*." *Molecular Ecology Notes* 4.

Heckadon-Moreno, Stanley. 2004. "Un astrónomo en Darién, 1888." "*Epocas*" *Segunda Era* (Supplement to *La Prensa*) 19(3): 10-11.

Heckadon-Moreno, Stanley. 2004. "Exploraciones en Darién de Ernesto Restrepo Tirado, 1887." "*Epocas*" *Segunda Era* (Supplement to *La Prensa*) 19(4): 2-3.

Jones, F. A., Poelchau, M.F., Bouck, A.C., and Hubbell, Stephen P. 2004. "Eight microsatellite markers for the neotropical tree *Luehea seemannii* (Tiliaceae)." *Molecular Ecology Notes* 4: 5-8.

## Cars for sale

1992 Honda Civic, 120000 km, black, \$3100 neg. For info e-mail Andrew Moeser at [andrew.moeser@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:andrew.moeser@mail.mcgill.ca) or call 212-8830.

Chevrolet Cavalier '99 \$3,850.00 negociable. For more information please contact Isis Estribí.



Speakers from a number of local non-governmental organizations involved in sustainable development projects spoke at a gathering organized by PRORENA (Native Species Reforestation Project), STRI, Panama's City of Knowledge and the Peace Corps on Friday, April 23. Topics included: an environmental history of Panama, sustainable development in Panama's Darien region, the San Lorenzo development project, and reforestation. On Saturday they celebrated the inauguration of a new seedling plot at Gamboa with members of the STRI staff (see photo above).

Conferencistas de varias organizaciones no-gubernamentales que llevan a cabo proyectos de desarrollo sostenible, hablaron en una reunión organizada por PRORENA (Programa de Reforestación con Especies Nativas de STRI), la Ciudad del Saber y el Cuerpo de Paz, el viernes 23 de abril. Los tópicos que se discutieron incluyeron la historia ambiental de Panamá, el desarrollo sostenible en la Región de Darién, el proyecto de desarrollo de San Lorenzo, y la reforestación. El sábado 24 de abril celebraron la inauguración de un nuevo semillero en Gamboa, con miembros del personal de STRI (ver la foto de arriba).



Winning photo (first place) in the Research category (professional) of SI's staff photo contest by Christian Ziegler.

Foto ganadora del primer lugar de la categoría de investigación (profesional) del concurso de fotografía del personal del Smithsonian, por Christian Ziegler.

## May birthdays

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Annette Aiello     | 1  |
| Todd Capson        | 1  |
| Aurelio Virgo      | 1  |
| Maribel González   | 2  |
| Rodrigo Núñez      | 3  |
| John Christy       | 4  |
| Steve Paton        | 5  |
| Angel Aguirre      | 5  |
| Ernesto Peña       | 7  |
| Pablo Flores       | 8  |
| Rigo A. Hurtado    | 12 |
| Rodolfo M. Murillo | 12 |
| Juan Barría        | 13 |
| Juan B. Dutary     | 13 |
| Juan Martínez      | 13 |
| Gabriel Jácome     | 13 |
| Luis D. Ureña      | 15 |
| Gilberto Howell    | 15 |
| Rigoberto Sánchez  | 16 |
| José De Gracias    | 16 |
| Alejandro Arze     | 17 |
| Ubaldo Pimentel    | 17 |
| Angélica Elizondo  | 19 |
| Adalberto Gómez    | 20 |
| Julio Santos       | 22 |
| Inez Campbell      | 22 |
| Doroteo Machado    | 22 |
| Emilio Mariscal    | 22 |
| Marcos Valdez      | 27 |
| Elizabeth Losos    | 28 |
| Oscar Jiménez      | 29 |
| David Roiz         | 29 |
| Noriel Camarena    | 30 |
| Nancy Knowlton     | 30 |
| Elina de García    | 31 |

## Last minute news

TV channel 2, *La Prensa* and Radio Caracol will join efforts on Sunday, May 2 (Election Day) to broadcast relevant information. Stanley Heckadon-Moreno has been invited to participate as expert in Panamanian environmental policy. Tune in at 2pm!

Canal 2, *La Prensa* y Radio Caracol se unirán el domingo 2 de mayo (Día de las Elecciones) para transmitir información relevante. Stanley Heckadon-Moreno ha sido invitado a participar como experto en políticas ambientales de Panamá. ¡Sintonícese a las 2pm!