

## Tupper 4pm seminar

Tuesday, January 18, 4pm seminar speaker will be Gert Fricker, University of Heidelberg, Germany  
**Benefits and risks of phytopharmaceuticals**

## Bambi seminar

Please check Group Wise for information on the next Bambi.

## Arrivals

Fernando Soley, intern from the University of Costa Rica, Jan 15 - Mar 15, to study the possible role of substrate vibration in social dominance interactions and food exchange in female bees with Bill Wcislo, at Tupper.

Corinne Richards, University of Michigan, Jan 15 - Feb 13, to use mark-recapture and matrix modeling techniques to analyze population structure and dynamics of the Panamanian golden frog, at El Valle and El Cope.

Adriana Bravo, volunteer from Louisiana State University, Jan 16, to work with Christoph Meyer, on BCI.

Angela Sjollem, intern from Wisconsin, Jan 17 - Feb 17, to work with Elisabeth Kalko, on BCI.

Chrystal Healy, NEO fellow from McGill University, Jan 18 - Aug 31, to work on the Sardinilla Project.

Rachel Page, University of Texas at Austin, Jan 18 - May 15, to predator assessment of prey cues: Frog-eating bats and frog calls, on BCI.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

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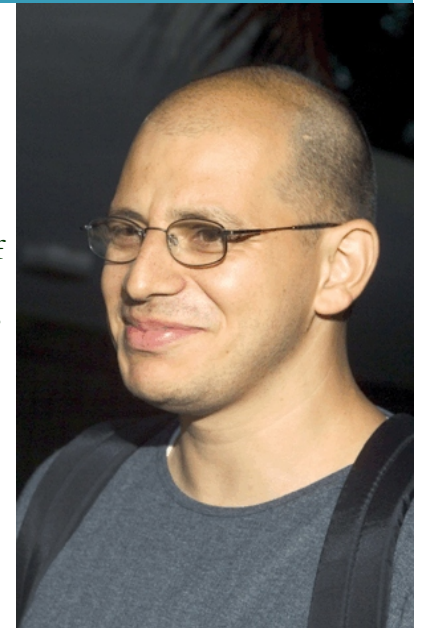
January 14, 2005

## Jaramillo selected for position of paleobiologist

Biostatigrapher Carlos Jaramillo, 35, from Instituto Colombiano de Petróleo [Oil Colombian Institute] in Bucaramanga, was selected to fill STRI's new endowed Chair of Paleobiology, effective April, 2005. Jaramillo was born in Santafé de Bogotá. He is married to Maria Ines Barreto, and has a three-year old son, Camilo Ivan. Jaramillo graduated in Geology at Universidad Nacional de Colombia in 1992, followed by a master's degree in Geology from the University of Missouri-Rolla, in 1995. In 1999, he obtained a Ph.D. in Geology/Botany from the University of Florida.

His undergraduate and master papers were related to Cretaceous-Paleogene dinoflagellate cyst paleoecology from tropical and subtropical latitudes. His doctorate dissertation focused on the response of tropical plants to the Eocene global warming. Jaramillo studies the causes, patterns, and processes of tropical biodiversity at diverse scales of time and space. He intends to address questions from a paleobiological perspective (mainly using pollen, spores and dinoflagellates), a point of view that is largely needed to understand and predict the behavior of biota in tropical ecosystems.

Currently, Jaramillo conducts the projects "Paleogene palynology of Colombia, South America: Biostratigraphic, sequence stratigraphic and paleogeographic"; "Evolution of the mangrove ecosystem during the Quaternary in the Tribuga Gulf, Choco, Colombia"; and Tectonism and its role in the evolution of the Andes biota. More information at <http://cgares.org.carlos/>



Carlos Jaramillo, 35, bioestatígrafo del Instituto Colombiano de Petróleo en Bucaramanga, fue seleccionado para ocupar la nueva posición de paleobiólogo en STRI, a partir de abril de 2005. Nacido en Santafé de Bogotá, está casado con María Inés Barreto y tiene un hijo de tres años, Carlos Iván. Se graduó de Geología en la Universidad Nacional de Colombia en 1992, seguido por una maestría en Geología en la Universidad de Missouri en Rolla, en 1995. En 1999, obtuvo su doctorado en Geología/Botánica, de la Universidad de Florida.

Sus tesis de licenciatura y maestría estuvieron relacionados con la paleoecología de esporas dinoflageladas del Cretáceo-Paleogeno de latitudes tropicales y subtropicales. Su tesis de doctorado se concentró en la respuesta de plantas tropicales al calentamiento global del Eoceno. Jaramillo estudia las causas, patrones y procesos de la biodiversidad tropical a diversas escalas en tiempo y espacio. Su objetivo es responder cuestionamientos con una perspectiva paleobiológica (usando mayormente polen, esporas y dinoflagelados), un

punto de vista muy necesario para entender y predecir el comportamiento de seres vivos en ecosistemas tropicales.

Actualmente, Jaramillo lleva a cabo los proyectos de investigación "Palinología del Paleoceno de Colombia, Sur América: Bioestatigrafía, secuencia estratigráfica y paleogeográfica"; Evolución de ecosistemas de manglares en el Período Cuaternario en el Golfo de Tribuga, en el Chocó de Colombia"; y Tectonismo y su papel en la evolución de la flora y fauna de los Andes. Más información en la pagina de web <http://cgares.org.carlos/>

## More arrivals

Alexandre Monro, Natural History Museum, London, UK, Jan 18 - Mar 15, to conduct a *Flora Mesoamericana* collecting trip to Cerro Fábrega, Parque Nacional La Amistad.

Stefan Schnitzer, University of Minnesota, Jan 21, to study the ecology of lianas and their role in forest regeneration, at Gigante.

## Departures

Eldredge Bermingham, Jan 16 - Feb 10, to the US on vacation, and to Washington DC, on official business at SI.

John Christy, Jan 19-22, to Lincoln, Nebraska, to present seminars to staff and students of the University of Nebraska.

## Congratulations!

To Stefan Klose from the University of Ulm, Germany doing bat research on BCI with Elisabeth Kalko, who was granted an Endeavour Australian-Europe Post-graduate Student Award. He will study the relationship between physiology and life history in the context of global climatic change, using the endemic Australian grey-headed flying fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) as a model system to investigate the physiological plasticity, constraints and limits inherent to life histories.

## New publications

Andrefouet, Serge, and Guzman, Hector M. 2004. "Coral reef distribution, status and geomorphology-biodiversity relationship in Kuna Yala (San Blas) archipelago, Caribbean Panama." *Coral Reefs Online*.

## NEO students participate in McGill annual symposium

Four of the five speakers that participated in McGill University Biology Department's Graduate Students Research Symposium "Conservation, Ecology, Evolution and Behaviour (CEEb)" held last month in Montreal, are members of STRI's McGill Neotropical Environmental Option (NEO).

Panamanian Luis Fernando De Leon and Canadian Nathan Millar, whose advisor is STRI deputy director Eldredge Bermingham, presented "Testing for incipient speciation: Gene flow between beak morphs in Darwin's finches" and "Visual selection and private signaling in the guppy *Poecilia reticulata*", respectively.

Meaghan Murphy, from the US, talked about "Neighbor effects, tree diversity and soil respiration in a Panamanian plantation" and Malena Sarlo, Panama, spoke on "Soil litter fauna in a biodiversity plantation." Their advisor is STRI research associate Catherine Potvin, from McGill.



Cuatro de los cinco expositores del simposio anual de estudiantes graduados del Departamento de Biología de la Universidad de McGill "Conservación, Ecología, Evolución y Comportamiento" que se llevó a cabo el mes pasado en Montreal, son miembros del Programa NEO de STRI y McGill.

El panameño Luis Fernando De León y Nathan Millar de Canadá, cuyo asesor es Eldredge Bermingham presentaron "Examen de especiación incipiente: flujo genético entre la morfología de picos y los pinzones de Darwin" y "Selección visual y señalización particular en *Poecilia reticulata*", respectivamente.

Meaghan Murphy, de EU presentó "Efectos de cercanía, diversidad de árboles y respiración de suelos en una plantación panameña", y Marlena Sarlo, de Panamá habló sobre "Fauna de material orgánico de suelos en una plantación de biodiversidad. La asesora de Murphy y Sarlo es Catherine Potvin, investigadora asociada a STRI de la Universidad de McGill.



## STRI-Elektra fellows from Colon graduate

Denis Gomez and Haidy Perez obtained their bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Panama Regional Center, Colon, in December 2004. Their thesis "Estimate of macro-algae richness and abundance in Punta Galeta coral reefs: Fifteen years after an oil spill" is based on the methodology and information gathered by STRI staff scientist John Cubit, who conducted research projects in Galeta from the late 1970's to 1989. Gomez and Perez are the first biologists of the Colon campus graduated thanks to STRI-Elektra Fellowships in Marine Science, that allowed them to conduct their research at Galeta. The

photo show the new biologists presenting a copy of their thesis to OCAPP director Stanley Heckadon-Moreno.

Denis Gómez y Haidy Pérez obtuvieron su licenciatura en Biología de la Universidad de Panamá en el Centro Regional de Colón, en diciembre de 2004. Su tesis "Estimación de la riqueza y abundancia de macroalgas en los arrecifes de Punta Galeta, 15 años después de un derrame de petróleo" se basa en la metodología e información obtenida por el científico de STRI, John Cubit, quien realizó investigaciones en Galeta desde finales de los '70 hasta 1989. Gómez y Pérez son las primeras biólogas del campus universitario de Colón que se graduán gracias a las Becas STRI-Elektra en Ciencias Marinas, permitiéndoles hacer investigación en Galeta. La foto muestra a las nuevas biólogas entregando copia de su tesis al director de OCAPP, Stanley Heckadon-Moreno.



## More publications

Hugues, William O.H., Peterson, Klaus S., Ugelvig, Line V., Pedersen, Dorte, Thomsen, Lene, Poulsen, Michael, and Boomsma, Jacobus J. 2004. "Density-dependence and within-host competition in a semelparous parasite of leaf-cutting ants." *BMC Evolutionary Biology* Online.

Langer, Philipp, Molbo, Drude, and Keller, Laurent. 2004. "Polymorphic microsatellite loci in Allodapine bees for investigating the evolution of social behaviour." *Molecular Ecology Notes* 4(2): 303-305.

Lessios, Harilaos A. 2004. "Diadema antillarum populations in Panama twenty years following mass mortality." *Coral Reefs* Online

Meinzer, Frederick C., James, Shelley A., and Goldstein, Guillermo. 2004. "Dynamics of transpiration, sap flow and use of stored water in tropical forest canopy trees." *Tree Physiology* 24(8): 901-909.

Moran, Amy L. 2004. "Egg size evolution in tropical American acid bivalves: The comparative method and the fossil record." *Evolution* 58(12): 2718-2733.

Weinbeer, Moritz, and Kalko, Elisabeth K.V. 2004. "Morphological characteristics predict alternate foraging strategy and microhabitat selection in the orange-bellied bat, *Lamproncycteris brachyotis*." *Journal of Mammalogy* 85(6): 1116-1123.

## Miscellaneous

Albrook apartment for rent, two bedrs, one bath, furnished.. Quiet area. Available immediately \$600. Please call Chimene at 276-6621 or cel. 674-6621

For sale: Toyota 4-runner 1988, 4wd; \$2,700 negotiable, available immediately. Rhett Harrison at. 314-9237 [harrisonr@si.edu](mailto:harrisonr@si.edu)

## Frugivores and Seed Dispersal workshop

The 4th International Symposium and Workshop on Frugivores and Seed Dispersal: Theory and its application in a changing world" will be held from July 9-16, 2005 at the Nathan Campus of Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia. There will be approximately 35 plenary speakers as well as open sessions, poster sessions and workshops. The plenary speakers have been selected to cover a broad range of geographical areas, plant and animal groups, and approaches, e.g. evolutionary aspects, field ecology, genetics, modelling. For more information please visit: <http://www.learnaboutwildlife.com/frugivory2005.htm>



## Game Wardens Day



STRI and Panama's Environmental Authority (ANAM) will celebrate Game Wardens Day on Tuesday, January 18, at the Fire Department Gym in Gamboa. The event will be attended by representatives of ANAM game wardens and the Ecological Police. Also attending are ANAM general administrator Ligia Castro and Stanley Heckadon-Moreno, director of STRI's Office of Communications and Public Programs. Welcoming remarks and words by officials and game warden representatives will be followed by a series of sports events.

STRI celebrará el Día del Guardabosques el martes, 18 de enero, en el Gimnasio del Cuerpo de Bomberos en Gamboa. El evento contará con la asistencia de representantes del Cuerpo de Guardaparques de la Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente de Panamá (ANAM) y la Policía Ecológica. También asistirán Ligia Castro, administradora general de ANAM, y Stanley Heckadon-Moreno, científico y director de la Oficina de STRI de Divulgación y Programas Públicos. Luego de un acto con palabras de bienvenida por funcionarios y representantes de los guardabosques y guardaparques, se llevarán a cabo una serie de eventos deportivos.

## STRI Volleyball season 2005

STRI is opening its Volleyball season on Friday, January 14 at 5pm at the Tupper Center parking lot. All members of the STRI community are invited to join the STRI's summer Volleyball League. Interested in joining the different teams, please contact Oris Acevedo, on BCI (212-8901), Axel Calderon, at Naos (212-8826), and Erick Lam (212-8078) Luis Turner (212-8122) or Jennifer Saucedo (212-8188), at Tupper. Please wear your STRI ID.

STRI inaugurará la temporada de Volleyball el viernes, 14 de enero, en el Estacionamiento del Centro Tupper. Todos los miembros de la comunidad de STRI están invitados a unirse a la Liga de Verano de Volleyball de STRI. Los que están interesados en unirse a los diferentes equipos, favor ponerse en contacto con Oris Acevedo, en BCI (212-8901), Axel Calderón en Naos (212-8826), y Erick Lam (212-8078) Luis Turner (212-8122) ó Jennifer Saucedo (212-8188), en Tupper. Favor de portar el carnet de identificación de STRI







## Sixth census of BCI's Forest Dynamic Plot just began

STRI's Center for Tropical Forest Science (CTFS) began the sixth census of Barro Colorado Island 50 hectare Forest Dynamic Plot (FDP) this month, under the supervision of Rolando Pérez and Salomon Aguilar. The team also includes nine research technician from Panama, a volunteer from Canada, and a biologist from Iquitos, in the Peruvian Amazon.

The first census of the BCI plot was done in 1981-83. Studies based on information gathered from censuses on 17 FDP plots in 14 countries throughout Latin America, Asia and Africa, show how tropical forests regenerate, how they can be managed and conserved, and how to maintain their rich diversity.

During the census, every woody stem with a one centimeter diameter at breast height and above (1.33m) is tagged, measured, mapped and identified to the species level. CTFS researchers use the data as basis for silvicultural, socio-economic, and ecological research, providing information for environmental decision-making.

El Centro de Ciencias Forestales del Trópico de STRI (CTFS) inició el sexto censo de la Parcela de Dinámica de Bosques (FDP) este mes, bajo la supervisión de Rolando Pérez y Salomón Aguilar. El equipo también incluye a nueve técnicos de investigación panameños, una voluntaria de Canadá y un biólogo de Iquitos, del Amazonas peruano.

El primer censo de la parcela de BCI se llevó a cabo en 1981-83. Estudios basados en información obtenida de censos en 17 parcelas de 14 países en América Latina, Asia y Africa, muestran cómo los bosques tropicales se regeneran, cómo deben manejarse y conservarse, y cómo mantener su rica diversidad.

Durante los censos, cada especie de árbol con más de un centímetro de diámetro es marcado, medido, localizado e identificado. Los investigadores del CTFS utilizan la información como base de investigaciones silviculturales, socioeconómicas y ecológicas, suministrando información para la toma de decisiones ambientales.

