

Tupper seminar

Tue, Feb 4, noon seminar speaker will be D. Ross Robertson, STRI

Shorefishes of the tropical eastern Pacific: a bilingual information system on CD-ROM

Behavior discussion group

Tue, Feb 4, at 1:30pm the group formerly-known as "Behavior Discussion Group" will meet in the Tupper meeting room. Jan Shellman will discuss a manuscript on genomic conflict.

Bambi seminar

Thu, Feb 6, Bambi seminar speaker will be Lawren Sack, Harvard University
Driving forces for diversity in plant and forest structure: leaf "hydrology" and seedling resource-response

Arrivals

Gregorio Dauphin, short-term fellow from the University of Goettingen, Germany, Feb 1-Apr 30, to study the hepatics and hornworts of BCI.

Louis Santiago, University of Florida, Feb 1-25. To study leaf characteristics along an environmental gradient, at Tupper.

Paola Campanello, Randal Villalobos and David Woodruff, Feb 1-Mar 15, to work with Guillermo Goldstein, on BCI.

Lisa Addington, intern from the University of Arizona, Feb 1 - May 1, to work with Rachel Collin, on Bocas.

Eugene Morton, Brigit Stutchbury and Bonnie Woolfenden, SI National Zoological Park, Feb 1-15, to study Why tropical birds are different: sex roles, nesting synchrony, and extra-pair mating, on BCI.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

www.stri.org

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Samper to NMNH

Director Ira Rubinoff announced the appointment of deputy director Cristián Samper, as new director of the National Museum of Natural History, effective April 6. "...Samper has provided STRI with a remarkable focus and has helped it address many new opportunities. Notable among these are increased cooperation with Latin American scientific organizations, development of Tropical Pacific affiliated research and conservation facilities, development of a strategic plan including a mission, vision, five-year goals, and the reorganization of STRI's management teams." We wish him success with this new challenge.

El director Ira Rubinoff anunció la selección del subdirector Cristián Samper como el nuevo director del Museo Nacional de Historia Natural del Smithsonian, a partir de 6 de abril. "...Samper logró darle un enfoque admirable a las actividades de STRI y coadyuvó a que el Instituto identificara numerosas oportunidades novedosas. Entre ellas, de suma importancia es el fortalecimiento de la cooperación con las organizaciones científicas de América Latina, el desarrollo de afiliaciones con instalaciones de investigación y conservación en el Pacífico tropical, el desarrollo de un plan estratégico, incluyendo una misión, visión, metas para los próximos cinco años y la reorganización de equipos administrativos en STRI." Le deseamos mucho éxito en este nuevo reto.

SI officials visit pier in Gamboa

William Brubaker, director of Facilities, Engineering and Operations (first photo at right) and Sheryl Kolasinski, Project Manager (not in the photos) visited STRI's new pier in Gamboa, on Thu, Jan 30. Director Ira Rubinoff briefed the visitors on the importance of this project to tropical research, making BCI forests some of the most accessible in the world. STRI This facilities will be fully operational when collective transportation to the pier is arranged.



William Brubaker, director Instalaciones, Ingeniería y Operaciones (derecha) y Sheryl Kolasisky, Administradora de Proyectos (no aparece en las fotos) visitaron el nuevo puerto de STRI en Gamboa, el jueves, 30 de enero. El director Ira Rubinoff explicó la importancia de este proyecto para las investigaciones tropicales, al lograr que los bosques de BCI unos de los más accesibles del mundo. Estas instalaciones entrarán en operación para todos cuando se arregle el transporte colectivo hasta el nuevo puerto.

More arrivals

Anna Mazzaro, Feb 1-17, to work with Jacalyn Giacalone, on a life video broadcast version of The Rainforest Connection, on BCI.

Instructor Greg O'Mullen and 7 students from Princeton University, Feb 1- to participate at Princeton Field semester in Panama.

Victoria Collins, UK, Feb 2 - Apr 30, to work with Tim Carruthers, on Bocas del Toro.

Lynn Martin and Paola Capece, Princeton University, Feb 2, to study immunological comparisons of house sparrow, in Gamboa.

Eric Kulmala, Montclair University, Feb 3-7, to work with Jacalyn Giacalone, on BCI.

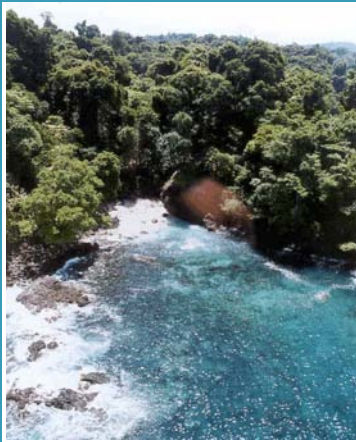
Tim Green, Tom Fitz and Tania Dorritz, BBC Natural History Unit, Feb 3 - Mar 3, to film projects for "Animal Camera" series, on BCI.

Leonida Fuzani and Tim Billo, Feb 3 - 28, to work with Barney Schlinger, in Gamboa.

Matjaz Kuntner and Irene Sereg, George Washington University, Feb 3-11, to conduct a comparative study ob biology and orb-web plasticity of *Nephila clavipes* and related spiders, with implications fir the phylogeny of Nephiline spiders, on BCI.

Corey Tarwater, University of Illinois, Feb 3 - Ago 3, to work with Jeff Brawn in monitoring the dynamics of avian communities.

Katia Silvera, University of Florida, Feb 3 - Apr 30, to work on the variation in flora oil-reward compounds among neotropical orchids, in Fortuna.



Playita Selvatica, by Todd Capson

STRI assists Panama to submit Coiba as a World's Natural Heritage site

With the assistance of STRI research associate Todd Capson and Sonia Montenegro, ANAM submitted to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and

Cultural Organization (UNESCO) an application to add the Coiba National Park (CNP) to the list of World Heritage Sites. The park, located in the Gulf of Chiriqu, houses Ensenada Maria reef, the second largest coral reef in the Tropical East Pacific (160 ha) and the largest in the Central American region.

According to the World Heritage Convention, "Natural Heritage Sites" are those that possess outstanding physical, biological, and geological features; habitats of threatened plants or animal species and areas of value on scientific or aesthetic grounds or from the point of view of conservation. Last year, Capson received funds from Conservation International to support a feasibility study to place buoys to delimit the boundaries of CNP, a system of radars to allow ANAM personnel to detect illegal fishing.

Con el apoyo del investigador asociado a STRI, Todd Capson y Sonia Montenegro, ANAM presentó una aplicación a la Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura (UNESCO) para incluir al Parque Nacional Coiba (PNC) en la lista de sitios de Patrimonio Mundial. El parque, localizado en el Golfo de Chiriquí, alberga la Ensenada María, el arrecife coralino segundo en tamaño del Pacífico Oriental Tropical (160 ha) y el más extenso de la región centroamericana. De acuerdo a la Convención de Patrimonio Mundial, los Sitios de Patrimonio Naturales son aquellos que poseen características físicas, biológicas y geológicas extraordinarias; hábitats de especies de plantas o animales en peligro de extinción, y áreas de gran valor científico o estético, o desde el punto de vista de la conservación, El año pasado, Capson recibió fondos de Conservation International, para apoyar un estudio de factibilidad para colocar boyas en los límites del PNC, un sistema de radares que permite que el personal de ANAM pueda detectar la pesca ilegal.

February birthdays

Fernando Santos-Granero	1	Isis Ivancic	12
Mireya Correa	6	Santos Lemos	13
Gilberto Batista	6	Georgina de Alba	15
Gloria Zelaya	7	Edwin Andrades	16
Ernesto Cordovez	7	Gilberto Murray	16
Karl Kaufmann	8	Elías Murillo	16
Enrique Martínez	9	Walter Dillon	18
Roberto Borrell	10	Rigoberto Blake	23
Luis Carlos Lopez	10	Ernesto Camarena	26
Alberto Isaac Castillo	12	Vielka Chang-Yau	29

More arrivals

Guillermo Goldstein and Fredrick Meinzer, University of Miami, Feb 6-11, to study functional convergence and constraints in regulation of transpiration and carbon assimilation in tropical forest canopy trees, at Tupper and BCI.

Barney Schlinger an T. Gaslow, University of California, Feb 7-20, to study hormonal and neural control of a sexually dimorphic behavior, in Gamboa.

New publications

Leigh, Jr., Egbert Giles. 2003. "Social conflict, biological ignorance, and trying to agree which species are expendable." In Kareiva, Peter, and Levin, Simon A. (Eds.), *The importance of species: Perspectives on expendability and triage*. 239-259. Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press.

Pearson, Georges A., and Cooke, Richard G. 2002. "The role of the Panamanian land bridge during the initial colonization of the Americas." *Antiquity* 76(294): 931-932.

Rompere, Ghislain. 2002. "Las aves del fragmento Achiotte-Sur, Panamá y las implicaciones para la conservación." *Mesoamericana* 6(1-2): 14-24.

Santos-Granero, Fernando. 2002. "Boundaries are made to be crossed: The magic and politics of the long-lasting Amazonian/Andes Divide." *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power* 9(4): 545-569.

Tyree, Melvin. 2003. "Wallenberg Prize acceptance speech. The future of biology: Reason for concern?" *Plant Physiology* (1): 3-5.