

## Tupper seminar

Tuesday, January 30, noon seminar speaker will be Steven Orzack, visiting senior scholar from the Fresh Pond Research Institute in Cambridge, MA  
**The comparative biology of sex ratio evolution in a parasitic wasp**

## Bambi seminar

Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, Bambi seminar speaker will be Steven Orzack

**Reproductive effort in variable environments or environmental variation *is* for the birds**

## Arrivals

Members of the Smithsonian National Board, Jan 28 - Feb 6, for a study tour at STRI.

SI Secretary Lawrence Small, Undersecretary for Science Denis O'Connor and Anthony Coates, director of Scientific Research Programs, Jan 28 - Feb 6, for the SI National Board meetings.

Louis Santiago, University of Florida, Jan 28 - Jul 1, to study leaf physiological characteristics and decomposition among various growth forms at the Sherman crane, in Tupper.

Guillermo Goldstein, University of Hawaii, Jan 29 - Feb 12, to work on the functional convergence and constraints in regulation of transpiration and carbon assimilation in tropical forest canopy trees, at Tupper and



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

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

January 26, 2001



(Photo: Marcos A. Guerra)

La junta directiva del Instituto Panameño de Turismo (IPAT) realizó su reunión mensual en el Centro de Exhibiciones Marinas en Punta Culebra el miércoles 25 de enero para conocer sobre sus programas, ya que el IPAT contribuirá con \$150,000 para una exhibición en el lugar. En la foto, miembros de la junta directiva del IPAT y funcionarios de STRI caminan en la veranda de la Casita, disfrutando la vista de la entrada del Canal de Panamá en el Pacífico.

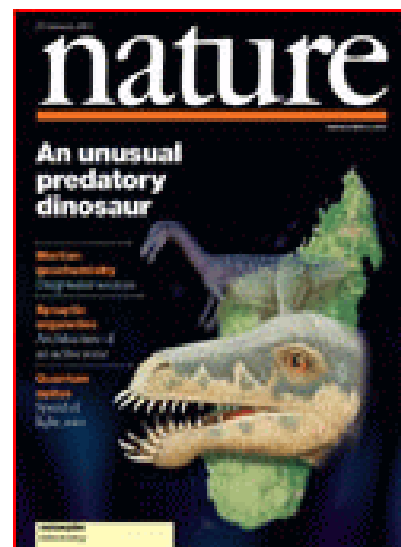
The Panamanian Tourism Institute (IPAT) held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 25 at the Culebra Marine Exhibition Center to learn about its programs since IPAT will be contributing \$150,000 to an exhibit at the site. In the photo, members of IPAT's board of directors and STRI officials walk on the veranda to enjoy the view of the Pacific entrance to the Panama Canal.

## Testing Hamilton's rule with competition between relatives

West, Stuart A.\* Martyn G. Murray\*, Carlos A. Machado†, Ashleigh S. Griffin\* & Edward Allen Herre‡  
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In this article, Hamilton's rule that related individuals should show less aggression towards closer kin is tested using fig wasps in fig fruits as example. They are ideal for this research because amongst the different species, the levels of relatedness and the levels of aggression vary. For supplementary information hit:

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v409/n6819/>



Nature 409 (January 25, 2001): 510-513 in Letters to Nature.  
[www.nature.com](http://www.nature.com)

## More arrivals

Scott Powell, short-term fellow from the University of Connecticut, Feb 1, to do research on the predatory raids of army ants on leaf cutter ants, on BCI.

Natalia Olivo, Universidad de la República Uruguay, Feb 1-15, to work on Frereric Meinzer's project on Tupper and BCI.

Randal Moore, intern from Auburn University, Feb 1 - Apr 15, to work with Mike Robinson, in Gamboa.

Sharon Hall, short-term fellow from University of Colorado, Feb 1-15, to study the effect of topography on dissolved organic and inorganic element dynamics in tropical forest soils, on BCI.

Marylene Boulet, McMastern University, Feb 1-28, to work on defining migration routes of the Yellow Warbler using genetic and stable isotope tags, in Gamboa.

Twelve students from Princeton University and teacher assistant Marty Martin, Feb 2 - May 2, for the Panama field course.

Manuel Redling, Germany, Feb 2 - May 2, to work with Juergen Berger as volunteer, on BCI.



Published weekly by the STRI  
Office of Education  
Marialuz Calderon, editor  
Adriana Bilgray, assistant editor  
Marcos A. Guerra, photographer  
Georgina de Alba, director

Headline photo: *Polythrix roma*  
(Hesperiidae) by Annette Aiello



Thanks to recent donations from the “Friends of Galeta”, members of the business community in Colon, STRI's Marine Lab in Galeta Island has a new reliable water supply system that serves the laboratory, the dormitory and the Visitor Center, and a new glass aquaria to display reef fish from the Caribbean. Photo: Marcos A. Guerra

Gracias a donaciones recientes de los “Amigos de Galeta”, miembros de la comunidad mercantil de Colón, el Laboratorio Marine de Isla Galeta de STRI cuenta con un sistema de agua confiable durante las 24 horas que sirve al laboratorio, los dormitorios y el Centro de Visitantes. También se adquirió e instaló un nuevo acuario de vidrio para exhibir peces del arrecife caribeño.

## New STRI publications

Calderon, Angela I., Angerhofer, Cindy K., Pezzuto, John M., Farnsworth, Norman R., Foster, Robin, Condit, Richard, Gupta, Mahabir P. and Soejarto, Djaja D. 2000. “Forest plot as a tool to demonstrate the pharmaceutical potential of plants in a tropical forest of Panama.” *Economic Botany* 54(3): 278-294.

Heiser, J.B., Moura, R. L. and Robertson, D.R. 2000. “Two new species of creole wrasse (Labridae: *Clepticus*) from opposite sides of the Atlantic.” *Aqua* 4: 67-76.

Laurance, William F., Perez-Salicrup, Diego, Lovejoy, Thomas E. 2001. “Rain forest fragmentation and the structure of Amazonian liana communities” *Ecology* 82(1): 105-116.

May, Robert M. and Stumpf, Michael P.H. 2000. “Species-area relations in tropical forests.” *Science* 290(December 15): 2084-2086.

Plotkin, Josua B., Potts, Matthew D., Leslie, Nandi, Manokaran, N., LaFrakie, James, and Ashton, Peter S. 2000. “Species-area curves, spatial aggregation, and habitat specialization in tropical forests.” *Journal of Theoretical Biology* 207: 81-99.

## STRI in the news

**Brazil says it will not let Amazon become a 'sanctuary'.** 2001. *New York Times* Monday, January 22. —Brazilian government response to an article published by William Laurance and colleagues from STRI's BDFPP, in *Science* January 19.

**Brazil Aide Pledges Care in Amazon Plans** REUTERS January 25, 2001 — “João Paulo Silveira, the development ministry official in charge of the \$40 billion plan in Brazil, said the government would study the probable environmental impact of all projects envisaged.... He promised that if environmental damage is feared, projects will be altered....”

## STRI exhibits

STRI's exhibit “Vanishing Amphibians” will be transferred to the Tupper Center Exhibit Hall, on Friday, January 26 until February 15.

## February birthdays

Marlena Isabel López	1
Fernando Santos Granero	1
Mireya Correa	6
Gilberto Batista	6
Ernesto Cordovez	7
Gloria Zelaya	7
Karl Kaufmann	8
Enrique Martinez	9
Roberto Borrell	10
Luis Carlos Lopez	10
Isis Ivancic	12
Santos Lemos	13
Georgina de Alba	15
Elías Murillo	16
Edwin Andrades	16
Gilberto Murray	16
Laura Flores	17
Walter C. Dillon	18
Rigoberto Blake	23
Edmundo Ayarza	25
Ernesto Camarena	26
Vielka Chang-Yau	29