

Tupper seminar

Tuesday, March 9, noon seminar speaker will be Rachel Collin, University of Chicago
Paradigms of invertebrate larval biology: Do slipper snails break the rules?

Bambi seminar

Thursday, March 15, Bambi seminar speaker will be Jens-Christian Svenning, University of Aarhus, Denmark and Bob Stallard, U.S. Geological Survey, Colorado

Plant distributions in a complex tropical forest landscape (BCI)

Arrivals

Fred Bidlespach, University of Washington, March 9-24, to work with Mark Wishnie on the characterization of riparian vegetation and stream structure in sub-basins of the Panama Canal watershed, in Gamboa.

Jeffrey Foster and Scott Schlossberg, University of Illinois, March 10-25, to work with Jeff Brawn in monitoring the dynamics of avian communities and populations in Central Panama.

Thomas Meredith, McGill faculty, Mar 11 - Apr 18, to teach a course on environmental management at McGill Panama Field Study semester in Panama.

James Karr, University of Washington, Mar 11-29, to work with Jeff Brawn in monitoring the dynamics of avian communities and populations in Central Panama.

Bonita Perry, SL Libraries, Mar 11-16, to work with library staff and consult with scientists and the administration.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

www.stri.org

March 9, 2001

Internet at STRI: 30 times faster

As part of the network upgrade recently completed in Panama, STRI was connected to a local ISP (PSI-Net) that increased the speed from 128 KBPS to 2 MBPS (30 times faster) on Monday, March 5. STRI's Office of Information Technology also installed and configured a new Firewall that protects the STRI networks from unauthorized access. This upgrade that uses a local Internet provider will save STRI more than \$380,000 per year. If you have questions about the Internet services please contact Tania Quiel, program manager at 212-8152 In the photo, Francisco Rivera, Fernando Bouche and Tania Quiel from OIT explain the advantages to STRI news. (Foto: Marcos A. Guerra)



Como parte de una actualización de la red de Internet que se completó recientemente en Panamá, STRI se conectó a un servidor local IPS (PS-Net) que aumentó la velocidad de 128 KBPS a 2MGPS (30 veces más) el lunes 5 de marzo. La Oficina de Informática de STRI también instaló y configuró un nuevo "Firewall" que protege las redes de STRI del uso no autorizado. Esta actualización, que usa un servidor local, ahorrará \$380,000 a STRI anualmente. Para mayor información sobre los servicios de Internet consulte a Tania Quiel, administradora del programa al tel. 212-8152. En la foto, Francisco Rivera, Fernando Bouche y Tania Quiel de OIT describen las ventajas a STRI news.

Eighteen students from the Organization for Tropical Studies field course in Tropical Ecology (for Spanish speakers) visited STRI facilities from March 6-9. The group, housed on Barro Colorado Island, had a chance to interact with STRI staff and to identify options for future field studies. In the photo, an OTS student browses through the bookstore's shelves.

(Photo: Marcos A. Guerra)

Dieciocho estudiantes del curso de campo "Ecología Tropical" (para hispanoparlantes) de la Organización para Estudios Tropicales (OET) visitaron las instalaciones de STRI del 6 al 9 de marzo. El grupo, que se alojó en Barro Colorado, tuvo la oportunidad de relacionarse con el personal de STRI y apreciar las posibilidades para futuras investigaciones de campo. En la foto, un estudiante de OTS examina los libros de la Librería Corotú.



More arrivals

Twelve members of SI Women's Committee, Mar 15-21, to visit STRI facilities and meet with staff. Founded in 1966, the Women's Committee advances the interests of the Smithsonian Institution through fund-raising activities and special projects. At present, the committee is composed of 60 active members, 74 resource members and 42 sustaining members.

John Albert Uy, University of California, Mar 15 - Apr 15, to study the signal evolution and speciation in manakins (*Manacus* spp.), in Gamboa.

Almut Kelber, Universität Lum, Germany, Mar 16-30, to continue research on the visual guided orientation in bees of the genus *Megalopta*.

Charlene Fuller and Fred Yost, University of Connecticut, Mar 16-24, to work with Carl Rettenmeyer on the behavior of army ants and their commensals, on BCI

New publications

Cooper, Mark I. And Telford, Steven R. 2000. "Copulatory sequences and sexual struggles in Millipedes." *Journal of Insect Behavior* 13(2): 217-230.

Jennions, Michael D., and Polakow, Daniel A. 2001. "The effect of partial brood loss on male desertion in a cichlid fish: an experimental test." *Behavioral Ecology* 12(1): 84-92.

Laurance, William F. 2001. "Tropical logging and human invasions." *Conservation Biology* 15(1): 4.

Farji-Brener, A.G. 2001. "Why are leaf-cutting ants more common in early secondary forests than in old-growth tropical forests? An evaluation of the palatable forage hypothesis." *Oikos* 92(1): 169-177.



New aquaria in Galeta

Thanks to a donation from two young Colon Free Zone businessmen, James Smith Cain and Surse Pierpoint, Galeta Marine Lab inaugurated its new glass aquaria for exhibiting colorful coral reef fishes. The inauguration took place on Friday, February 9. (Photo: Ines Campbell)

Gracias a una donación de dos jóvenes empresarios de la Zona Libre de Colón, James Smith Cain y Surse Pierpoint, el Laboratorio Marino de Galeta inauguró su nuevo acuario de vidrio para exhibir peces de colores de arrecifes. El evento tuvo lugar el viernes 9 de febrero.

Nuevos acuarios en Geleta

IFARHU: Becas internacionales

El IFARHU invita a la comunidad de STRI a concursar para las becas del programa regular de adiestramiento de la Organización de Estados Americanos, OEA. El objetivo de estas becas es ofrecer a los profesionales panameños la oportunidad de ampliar sus conocimientos científicos y tecnológicos para formarlos como agentes multiplicadores en beneficio del desarrollo nacional. Las becas son completas: incluyen pasaje ida y vuelta donde la universidad seleccionada por el candidato esté ubicada, gastos de subsistencia, materiales de estudio, etc. Para mayor información favor ponerse en contacto con IFARHU, tel. 269-6666, Fax 263-6101.

Coordinadores para CYTED

SENACIT invita a STRI a presentar propuestas para la elección de cargos de coordinador para el Programa Iberoamericano para Ciencia y Tecnología para el Desarrollo (CYTED) en los sub-programas de Acuicultura, Biotecnología, Biomasa como Fuente de Productos Químicos y Energía, Catálisis y Absorbentes, Tecnología de Materiales, Microelectrónica, Química Fina Farmacéutica, Diversidad Biológica, Tecnología de Viviendas de Interés Social, Corrosión-Impacto Ambiental sobre Materiales, y Gestión de la Investigación y el Desarrollo Tecnológico. Interesados en aplicar para alguna de estas posiciones favor ponerse en contacto con Stanley Heckadon-Moreno en Tívoli. Mayor información en www.cyted.org. Se recibirán aplicaciones hasta el 30 de mayo.

STRI in the news

"Retracing the maize: Tracking corn's origins can yield vital clues to New World history" *Dallas Morning News* (Sunday, March 5). Electronic version at www.dallasnews.com/science/ Alexandra Witze presents statements from Dolores Piperno and other members of the team who discovered 7,000 to 10,000 year-old remains of domesticated corn in several Mexican caves as reported in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (Feb. 13)

Tupper exhibits

STRI's exhibit "The Smithsonian in Panama: 90 Years of Tropical Biology" is now on view at the Tupper Center Exhibit Hall with "Vanishing Amphibians Desaparecen los anfibios" and the Exposición Pictórica de Jorge Luis Arauz Monday-Friday, 9am - 4pm

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A partir de hoy, viernes 9 de marzo, la página de web de STRI podrá ser visitada en español.



Published weekly by the STRI's Office of Information
Marialuz Calderon, editor
Adriana Bilgray, assistant editor
Georgina de Alba, director

Headline photo: *Tarhon felderii*
(Apatelodidae)
by Annette Aiello