

Tupper seminar

Tuesday, April 17, noon seminar speaker will be Mathieu Joron, University of Leiden.

Polymorphism in Mullerian mimicry: theoretical predictions and empirical data on *Heliconius numata*

Bambi seminar

Thursday, April 19, Bambi seminar speaker will be Dina Dechmann, University of Zuerich

Influence of roost choice on the social behaviour and genetic population structure of *Tonatia silvicola*: the plan

Arrivals

Maria Cristina Santos, University of Coimbra, Portugal, Apr 15 - May 27, to work with Melvin Tyree's project "Integration of canopy and hydraulic architecture in *Psychotria* species along light and moisture gradients, on BCI.

Steve Pacala and teaching assistant Stuart Sandin, Princeton University, April 15, to teach Biology of Coral Reefs to students at the Princeton Panama semester in field biology.

Suzana Ketelhut, INPA, Brazil, Apr 15 - May 10, to work with Yves Basset on vertical gradients of insect diversity in the rain forests: communities of insect herbivores: feeding on mature leaves vs. seedlings, at Tupper.

Johanne Berthianme, Bird Observatory of Tadaussac, Canada, Apr 15 - Jul 31, to work with Douglas Robinson on avian extinction and persistence in fragmented tropical landscapes, in Gigante.

Korinna Pohl, Universität Würzburg, Germany, to work with Gerhard Zotz on growth and survival of hemiepiphyte roots in aroids, on BCI.

Simone Geyer, Universität Würzburg, Apr 16 - Jun 11, to work with Gerhard Zotz on the ecology of tropical epiphytes, on BCI.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

www.stri.org

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Deputy director Cristián Samper in Panama

New STRI deputy director, Cristián Samper will arrive in Panama on Monday, April 16. Before coming to STRI he was the director of the Alexander Von Humboldt Institute in Santafé de Bogotá. He studied in Universidad de Los Andes in Colombia and completed his Ph.D. in biology in 1992 at Harvard with the dissertation, "Natural disturbance and plant establishment in an Andean cloud forest". As deputy director at STRI he will assume administrative and research responsibilities and will form new research networks with other institutions forging local and international alliances for tropical research and conservation. The STRI community will welcome him at an in-house get together at the Corotu Plaza on Thursday, April 19 from 4-6pm. Everyone is invited.

Cristián Samper, nuevo subdirector de STRI llegará a Panamá el lunes, 16 de abril. Antes de venir a STRI fungía como director del Instituto Alexander Von Humbolt en Santafé de Bogotá. Estudió en la Universidad de Los Andes en Colombia y completó su doctorado en Harvard en 1992 con la tesis "Disturbios naturales y el establecimientos de plantas en un bosque andino nuboso". Como subdirector en STRI asumirá responsabilidades administrativas y de investigación y formará nuevas redes de investigación con otras instituciones para formar nuevas alianzas locales e internacionales en favor de la investigación en los trópicos y la conservación. Toda la comunidad de STRI está invitada a una bienvenida informal el jueves 19 de abril, de 4-6pm en Plaza Corotú

STRI, UDP and Berger will evaluate PC watershed

The Panama Canal Authority (ACP) awarded the contract to evaluate the Panama Canal watershed to The Louis Berger Group, the University of Panama and STRI. The group was selected to carry out the studies due to their proposed methodology and socio-environmental standards. The study aims to provide baseline data on the flora, fauna and cultural aspects of the western region of the Canal watershed, and will provide information to guide the future decisions for the area.

La Autoridad del Canal de Panamá otorgó el contrato para evaluar la Cuenca del Canal al Grupo Luis Berger, la Universidad de Panamá y STRI. El grupo fue seleccionado para llevar a cabo estos estudios debido a la metodología propuesta y a sus estándares socio-ambientales. El estudio suministrará la información base sobre fauna, flora y aspectos culturales de la región occidental de la Cuenca del Canal de Panamá que brindará información necesaria para guiar futuras decisiones para el área.

More arrivals

Officials from SI Office of Physical Plant, Sheryl Kolasinski and Derek Ross, April 16-20, to visit STRI and consult with OPP staff in STRI. Also coming are SI Office of Contracting director John Cobert with Paulette Pressley, Supervisory Contract specialist and Attorney advisor Tracy Drew, Dough Hall and Kim Workman from the Office of Protective Services, Mark Hankewycz, superintendent at ADESTA

Communications and Daryl Briton and Peter Brake, US Army Corps. of Engineers.

Melvin Tyree, University of Vermont, Apr 17-26, to work on the integration of canopy and hydraulic architecture on *Psychotria* species along light and moisture gradients, on BCI.

Adolfo Borges, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Apr 17 - May 10, to study the molecular phylogeny of the scorpion genus *Tityus kock* in northern South America, at Naos.

Sir David Attenborough with Sue Storey, Mike Salisbury, Justine Evans and Trever Gosling, Apr 18-24, to film a segment of the BBC series "Life of Mammals" on Barro Colorado and on the crane in Parque Natural Metropolitano.

Departures

David Roubik, Apr 17-22 to Paris, France, to attend the meetings of the scientific committee of Silvolab, a new tropical research institute run by INRA.

Fernando Santos-Granero, Apr 17-23, to New Orleans, to attend the meetings of the Society for American Archaeology.

Levinson family visit to STRI

Eight members of Frank Levinson's family visited STRI as part of a special tour to the Smithsonian's scientific facilities. Frank Levinson is the founder of Finisar Corporation, a producer of gigabit fiber optic used in communication networks and cable TV. Their visit to STRI results from their interest in technology and the advancement of science at the Smithsonian.

Ocho miembros de la familia de Frank Levinson visitaron STRI como parte de un "gran tour" a los centros de investigación del Smithsonian. Frank Levinson es el fundador de Finisar Corporation, productores de fibra óptica gigabit usada en redes de comunicación y televisión de cable. Su visita a STRI resulta de su interés por la tecnología y el avance de la ciencia dentro del Smithsonian.

SI invites Rivera to ITM Committee

After dissolving a committee of twelve that included Francisco Rivera, STRI's OIT director, SI invited him to conform the new Information Technology Management Committee. The ITMC provides advise and assistance to the Chief Technology Officer at SI to establish and implement management policies, procedures, practices and standards of SI automated information systems and supporting information technology infrastructure.

Luego de disolver un comité de doce personas que incluía a Francisco Rivera, director de Informática de STRI, SI lo invitó a conformar el nuevo Comité de Administración de Informática (ITMC). ITMC ofrece consejo y asistencia al director de Informática de SI para el establecimiento y puesta en marcha de políticas de administración, procedimientos, prácticas y estándares en sistemas de informática y su infraestructura.



Capitan: Jorge Aranda
Edwin Andrade
Erick Lam
Mirza Murillo
Marco Díaz
Nibia Ríos
Angel Aguirre
Antonio Reina
Tania Quiel
Marcel Epailly
Luis Turner
Jennifer Saucedo
Gabriela Jones
Apolinar Guerrero "Polo"
Milton García

Finales del torneo de Voleyball en STRI: la Copa Rotativa Mercedes Arrollo, se quedó en Tupper. ¡Felicitaciones!

More departures

Dolores Piperno. Apr 18-22, to New Orleans, to attend the meetings of the Society for American Archaeology.

Héctor Guzmán, Apr 18-29, to Venezuela, to continue bioerosion experiments in reefs and to work with samples at the Universidad Simón Bolívar.

New publications

Bekkevold, D., and Boomsma, J.J. 2000. "Evolutionary transition to a semelparous life history in the socially parasitic ant *Acromyrmex insinuator*." *Journal of Evolutionary Biology* 13(4): 615-623.

Murakami, T., Higashi, Seigo, and Windsor, Donald. 2000. "Mating frequency, colony size, polyethism and sex ratio in fungus-growing ants (*Attini*)." *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* 48(4): 276-284.

Rohwer, Sievert, Bermingham, Eldredge, and Wood, Christopher. 2001. "Plumage and mitochondrial DNA haplotype variation across a moving hybrid zone." *Evolution* 55(2): 405-422.

Roubik, David W. 2001. "Ups and down in pollinator populations: When is there a decline?" *Conservation Ecology* 5(1): 2.

Santos-Granero, Fernando. 2000. "The sisyphus syndrome, or the struggle for conviviality in native Amazonia." In J. Overing & A. Passes (Ed.), *The anthropology of love and anger*. London: Routledge.

Miscellaneous

Roommate wanted to share a spacious duplex in Allbrook, starting May 1. Quiet area with nearby forests and wildlife, convenient location if you work in Naos or Tupper. Call Chris at 315-0471

Also wanted: responsible house/dog/cat sitter for Jun-Aug. Call Marialuz Calderon or e-mail calderom@tivoli.si.edu