

SEMINAR NEWS

The luncheon seminar on Tuesday, October 2nd, will be given by HUGH CAFFEY, Smithsonian Postdoctoral Fellow, from the University of Sidney. He will speak on: Patterns in the settlement and early survival of rocky intertidal barnacles or the lack there of

ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

October 1 - Arriving, DONALD FEENER, Postdoctoral Fellow from the University of Iowa. He will be at BCI for one year studying: "Defense strategies against competitors, predators and parasites in a tropical ant community."

October 1 - Arriving, ANNE MAHLER, University of Miami, on a STRI Short term Fellowship, for 3 months on BCI. She will conduct a study of prey capture in sympatric *Micrathena* spp (Araneae, Araneidae).

October 1 - Arriving, SEIJI TANAKA, from Ohio State University, to collaborate with Dr. H. Wolda for one year.

October 2 - Leaving, FRANK MORRIS and CARMEN SUCRE on official business to the SI, Washington, D.C. Ms. Sucre will be gone for one week, and Dr. Morris will be away until October 15.

From October 2 - 8, SERGIO LEON, director of Corcovado National Park in Costa Rica, will visit BCI.

LIBRARY NEWS

New books received:

-Angehr, G. R. Role of interference competition in the organization of a guild of Panamanian hummingbirds. Ann Arbor, 1980.

-Biology of bats of the New World family Phyllostomatidae. Texas Tech University, 1976-1979, Part 1-3.

-Ecological communities: conceptual issues and the evidence. Princeton University Press, 1984.

-Melia, M. B. Distribution and provenance of polymorphs in northeast Atlantic aerosol and bottom sediments. Ann Arbor, 1980.

-Mission zoologique belge aux îles Galápagos et en Ecuador, 1964-1965. Tervuren; 1970, pt. 2-3.

-Nobel, P. S. Biophysical plant physiology and ecology. San Francisco, 1983.

-Odum, E.P. Ecología 3rd ed. Mexico City, Interamericana, 1984.

-Perspectives in plant population ecology. Sunderland, Mass, Sinauer Associates, 1984.

-Sowers, Arthur Edward. Effects of silicic acid analogs on silica body production and wall.

-Terborgh, John. Five new world primates. Princeton, University Press, 1983.

CALENDAR FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

OCTOBER 1984						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

October 2 Scientific staff meeting at 9:30 am in the Ancon Conference Room.

October 5 - Monthly administrative meeting at 3:30 pm in the Tivoli Conference Room.

October 8 - Celebration of Columbus Day (U.S.) is a holiday for STRI employees.

October 11 - (Day of the Revolution) is a Panamanian national holiday. The presidential inauguration will be on this date. STRI will observe a liberal leave policy.

October 12 - (Columbus Day) Banks, and government offices in Panama will be closed.

ARGELIS RUIZ will be on leave during the month of October. AUDREY SMITH will be replacing her at the Naos Lab.

ROSA ZAMBRANO will be on leave during the coming month.

BIENVENIDA

We welcome MARIA LORENA OSSA, who will begin working as receptionist at the Tivoli offices on October 1st. A graduate of Balboa High School, she is currently studying accounting at the Universidad Santa María. Before coming to STRI she was a receptionist at the accounting firm of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Co.

NOTICES

-Staff, visitors and fellows are reminded to carry their special residency permits (or tourist cards) with them at all times. Immigration authorities are conducting sporadic spot checks on the streets and requesting persons to show their documentation.

-Remember to check expiration dates on all your official documents (passport, driver's license, special residency permit etc.). You should notify Ms. E. Lombardo a month before your residency permit expires. There is a \$25/month fine for expirations.

-A VIVITAR camera and flash mount were left in the Rand's mailbox at Gamboa, addressed to Ms. A. Rand. Since Ms. Rand doesn't know to whom it belongs, she would appreciate if the person who left it there would call her at 56-6235.

-More than 30 representatives from the U.S. and the Caribbean area will attend the meetings of the WIDER CARIBBEAN SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION NETWORK to be held in Panama Oct. 14-19.

The meetings will be held at the Instituto de Geociencia, University of Panama. ARGELIS RUIZ, who is in charge of coordinating these meetings, has been trying to find lodging for persons attending the meetings. Anyone willing to provide accommodations for one or more participants should contact Argelis at 25-9710.

RECOVERED

The nose of D.R. Robertson, from an attack by an orange-chinned parakeet last month at the San Blas station.

SIBUP CONGRESS

The SOCIEDAD DE INVESTIGACIONES BIOLÓGICAS DE LA UNIVERSIDAD DE PANAMA will be holding their III Congress for Biology Students from Oct. 1 - 5. Talks will be given by the following STRI participants; A. Rodaniche, R. Richmond, D. Roubik, A. Ruiz, O. Vallarino, J. Ventocilla, D. Windsor, D. Werner. The program will be posted on bulletin boards.

REMARKS By Dr. Robert McC. Admas, at his installation as ninth secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, September 17, 1984.

French historians have taught us to distinguish between structures and conjectures, between the almost-glacial movement of customs or institutions along gentle slopes of change and the flow of transitory events that largely monopolizes our attention. Particularly for one who works with the depersonalized data of archaeology, it is natural to think that events are dust, as Fernand Braudel, has put it, that the future is largely shaped by the slowly accumulating mass of individually imperceptible changes. Yet that leaves little role for leadership, for the creative response, for the goals around which we know that people come together. It excludes the possibility of our valuing and understanding the extraordinary changes Mr. Ripley has brought to the Smithsonian, in matters of spirit as well as substance. It may well exclude an understanding of the important symbolic place that the Smithsonian has come to occupy in American life.

So a moment of transition like this drives one to think of the two themes of change and continuity, opposed to one another and yet always linked. More concretely at this moment, with those themes in mind, I find myself looking admiringly backward as well as forward. Concealed with the changes Dillon brought, it seems to me, is a basic resonance to enduring issues and alternative ways of dealing with them that are inherent in our stated purposes and even in our existence --- that are already identifiable, in fact, at the moment when the institution was first conceived.

Consider the breadth of our activities. It may be hard to believe now, but there was not a little grumbling when the Smithsonian magazine was first inaugurated. Enough grumbling so that I heard about it in Chicago at the time, even though the Smithsonian in the early 70's was only on the peripheries of my field of communication. Where did it say in the charter, some initially asked, that the Smithsonian had any business appealing to a broadly national public through a popular magazine? Well, the past supplies an answer to that kind of strict constructionism. Listen to John Quincy Adams (no relative, though I'd be glad to claim him!) during the Congressional debates on establishing the Smithsonian.

A colleague inquired of the gentleman from Massachusetts as to the power under the Constitution by which Congress was authorized to accept and administer James Smithson's fund. "If the gentleman (from S. Carolina) will point me to the power in the Constitution of the U.S. to annex Texas," Adams replied, "I will answer his question." Pressed further, he added that he "could find in the Constitution many clauses authorizing Congress to provide for the common defense and general welfare. What means are more efficient to this end than the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men?" That is the truly understanding, confident and venturesome spirit, I submit, in which the Smithsonian has become so important a part of the American tradition. Certainly it is the spirit in which Mr. Ripley brought it to the present, flourishing state in which, with this key, it falls to me.

Let me take a last moment for a further example of how issues reappear and resonate throughout Smithsonian history. It is an example reflecting the difficult and controversial choices that have been faced in the past --- and that surely will crop up in new forms again and again. The Chief Justice has spoken of what I suppose is the classic version of the Smithsonian's charter, Joseph Henry's "Programme of Organization" in his first annual report in 1847. The two objectives of the Institution, to increase and diffuse knowledge, should not be confounded with one another, Henry wrote. The enlargement of the existing stock of knowledge by the discovery of new truths was the Smithsonian's first responsibility. These it would diffuse among men, secondly, by scholarly and scientific publication.

Recently William Bird, a young historian with our National Museum of American History, has published a provocative further look into the intellectual background of this position. He argues, I think convincingly, that Henry's position need to be understood in the context of the advancing specialization and professionalization of American science that Henry correctly perceived as an important requirement in the mid-nineteenth century. If we go back a generation earlier, however, to the time when James Smithson composed his will, the intellectual context was very different. "Every man is a valuable member of society, who, by his observations, researches, and experiments, procures knowledge for men," Smithson wrote in one of his notebooks. The implication is that the long-run health of science does not rest exclusively with a small professional elite, nor with the Smithsonian seeking to advance knowledge with the resources of its staff alone. The diffusion of knowledge, a valid goal in itself, is also a means to a further end. It multiplies the number of researchers, widens the range of inquiry, assures the public's readiness to support their work, and hence powerfully enhances the chances for new discoveries. The increase and diffusion of knowledge are in some respects ultimately bound together, in other words. In the long run --- and I confess an archaeological preference for thinking in the long run --- each can flourish only as the other flourishes.

That too, I think, is part of the spirit in which this Institution has become something of which we can all be proud. Changing circumstances surely will dictate periodic shifts in emphasis from one direction to the other, but neither the increase nor the diffusion of knowledge can be permanently or decisively favored at the expense of the other without loss to both. With the help --- and I might say, the instruction --- of a splendid staff, a deeply committed Board of Regents, and a host of generous supporters, I'll do my best to carry on this tradition.