



STRI NEWS

NEW APPOINTMENT

Dr. Michael H. Robinson has been appointed Assistant Director of STRI effective February 1, 1980, upon his return from Papua New Guinea. Dr. Robinson will also serve as Acting Director during Dr. Rubinoff's sabbatical beginning next June.

A world authority on the ecology and behavior of tropical arthropods, Dr. Robinson has been a member of the STRI staff for 13 years, since completing his doctoral degree at Oxford Univ. under Niko Tinbergen.

As announced by Dr. Rubinoff, the Office of the Assistant Director at STRI will be filled from now on, on a rotating basis, thus allowing a number of people to gain administrative experience and to shape more directly STRI policy. This will also have the advantage of not interrupting irretrievably a scientist's research activities.

STRI NEARER TO ITS GOAL IN COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

The Office of the Combined Federal Campaign of the Panama Canal Commission has just advised us that the Campaign will be extended until Dec. 14, 1979. STRI's goal is \$770, but to date we have only collected \$671. Please send your contribution to the Office of the Director ASAP.

ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

NOVEMBER 24 - Leaving Mr. Tony Kohlrus and Mr. Madison Smith, who will be returning to D.C.

Messrs. Smith and Kohlrus will like to THANK all at STRI for their cooperation and hospitality during their stay here.

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NOVEMBER 25 - Leaving Dr. Don Windsor to attend meetings of Entomological Society in Denver, Colorado. He will be back around Nov. 30th.

NOVEMBER 25 - Leaving Ms. Argelis Ruiz to attend the World Conference on Sea Turtle Conservation in Washington, D.C. She will be back around Dec. 2nd.

SEMINAR

The luncheon seminar on Tuesday, Nov. 27th, will be given by Andrea Worthington, University of Washington, who will be speaking on:

"Seasonal availability of bird-dispersed fruit"

This seminar will be in the Ancon Conference Room.

*Also leaving Dr. C. Handley and family.

ASSISTANT AVAILABLE

Ms. Rochelle B. Renken would be interested in working as a field or lab assistant for any scientist or student at STRI. She has a B.S. in Fisheries and Wildlife Ecology, and is presently working as Field and Lab Technician at the Department of Animal Ecology of Iowa State University. She also has basic knowledge of Spanish. For further information, her resume is available in the Office of the Director.

WANTED

2-3 bedroom apartment or house for rent. Must vacate present quarters by 31 Dec. Please call Mrs. D. Highsmith at 52-5669 or 52-2490.

A GLOSSARY OF THE JARGON USED AT THE OTS MEETING IN PANAMA - NOV. 16-17, 1979

- "to impact" - affect
- "speak to the subject" - talk about
- "impacted on" - affected
- "prioritized" - ordered
- "the bottom line" - lastly
- "to be ivory-towered" - aloof
- "grantmanship operation" - writing proposals for money

by Dr. N. Smith

ANOTHER STAFF CONTRIBUTION

....Placing a domestic turkey in an enclosure the investigator first subjected it to the fumes of carbide and water, followed by carbon bisulphide and then a sponge soaked in chloroform. His final test was to place a saucer filled with hot, dilute sulphuric acid in the enclosure with the turkey. To the saucer of acid he then added one ounce of potassium cyanide. The reaction resulting in prussic acid became so violent that the experimenter considered the neighborhood unsafe. The turkey became violently ill and died. FROM THIS TEST THE AUTHOR CONCLUDED THAT BIRDS CANNOT SMELL.....

From an old scientific paper on the behavior of turkey vultures.

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