SEMINARS - ANCON CONFERENCE ROOM

Tuesday, October 25, noon seminar speaker will be DAVID WAKE, University of California, Berkeley.

Evolutionary Diversification and Ecological Geography of the Tropical Salamanders.

Abstract: Tropical salamanders are known only from the New World, and all are members of a single lower level taxon, the supergenus Bolitoglossa (with over 150 species). Significant adaptive radiation has occurred, centering around 3 areas: SE Mexican Plateau and Northern Oaxaca; Nuclear Central America; Talamanca Central America. Elevation zonation is much more important than in extratropical regions. Systematic sampling along elevational transects disclosed unexpected novel species and adaptations, and clarified some aspects of community organization.

That same evening, at 7 p.m., NANCY KNOWLTON will give the scientific staff seminar. All staff and visitors are welcome.

Multiple Stable States and the Population Biology of Caribbean Staghorn Coral.

Abstract: A variety of theoretical models predict the possibility of multiple stable states in interactions between a predator and its prey. The population biology of staghorn coral and its predators fits many of the assumptions and predictions of such models.

NEXT WEEK

Tuesday, November 1, noon seminar speaker will be MARVALEE WAKE, University of California at Berkeley.

Limbless Amphibians of the Tropics: the Biology of Caecilians.

ARRIVING

October 24 – 28, PHILLIP REISS, Director, SI Office of Design and Construction, to visit STRI construction projects.

DEPARTING

October 26 – November 8, SYLVIA CHURGIN, to Washington D.C. on official business.

ANNOUNCEMENT

ALAN P. Smith will be Acting Director on October 24–31.

NEW PUBLICATIONS BY STRI STAFF, FELLOWS AND RESEARCH ASSOCIATES


DE LA OFICINA DE PERSONAL

Si esta interesado en obtener informacion o cotizaciones relacionadas con seguros de vida o 'seguros de jubilacion', los asesores de seguros de la Aseguradora Mundial se han puesto a la orden para cualquier entrevista personal. Las personas interesadas pueden comunicarse con Carmen Suarez en la Oficina de Personal de STRI.

FROM THE COMPUTER SPECIALIST

The Smithsonian Institution has a collection of Public Domain software available to all SI employees. STRI's computer specialist has a catalog of the software. If interested, contact Francisco Rivera at Tivoli.

FROM GALAETA LABORATORY

Currently Galeta's sole working telephone is 89-3619. Radio calls (from Tivoli or Naos) can be made on days when the telephone line is down, or in emergency situations.

For one week, beginning October 24, the road from the Galeta entrance gate to the laboratory will be under repair. During this time no vehicles will be allowed to transit so visitors will have to walk from the entrance to the lab. Anyone travelling with equipment, please coordinate with Ricardo Thompson.

ON LEAVE

Ira Rubinoff, Oct. 24 – Nov. 2