

STRI newsletter

April 10, 1992

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá

No. 15

TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

Tuesday, April 14, noon seminar speaker will be Mark Bush, STRI Mellon Fellow.

Krakatau: The recovery of a tropical forest ecosystem

Abstract

Krakatau (Krakatoa), Indonesia, was sterilized by a volcanic eruption in 1883. Since then these islands have provided the best example of primary colonization of a forest ecosystem, and a natural laboratory in which to study island biogeographic processes. In the 107 years since the eruption more than 350 higher plant species, 60 species of butterfly and 40 species of bird have returned to the islands. When writing 'The theory of island biogeography', MacArthur and Wilson used Krakatau as their prime example of colonization and extinction leading to an equilibrium species number.

Mark Bush has been collecting plant, bird and butterfly data for the islands since 1979 and will apply his data sets to a consideration of the theory of island biogeography and the rate of recovery in isolated ecosystems following massive disturbance.

Next Week

Noon seminar speaker for Tuesday, Apr 21, will be José Luis Arauz, Univ. de Barcelona.

Los cereales en el secano mediterráneo: algunas implicaciones ecofisiológicas.

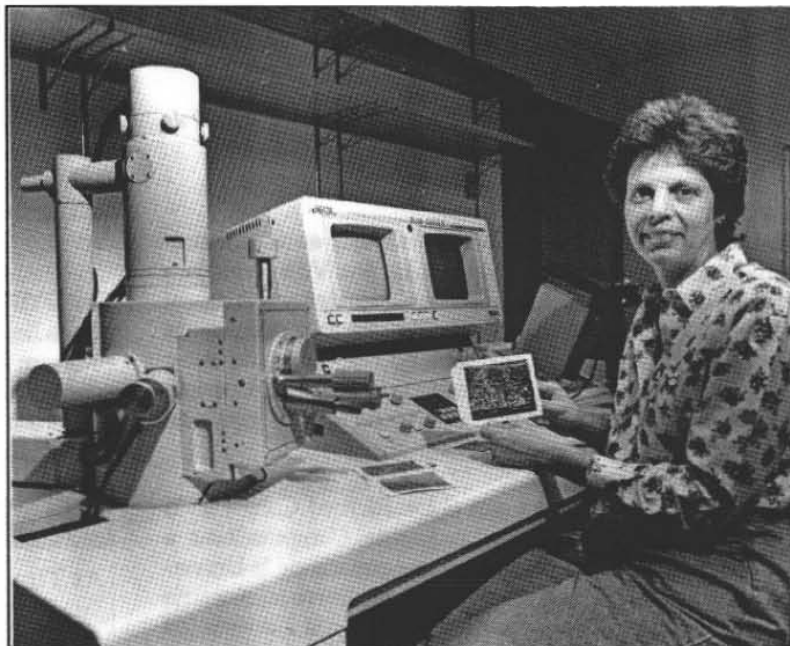
PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Ruben Roa, Exxon fellow, Univ. of Concepcion, Chile, Apr 19-Oct 19, to work on morphological plasticity of the carnivorous sea urchin *Eucidaris tribuloides* (Lamarck) as related to food ration and composition.
- Steve Travers, Short-term fellow, Univ. of California at Santa Barbara, Apr 15-Jul 15, to work on pollen-tube competition and the potential for sexual selection in tropical plant species on BCI.

Departures

- Egbert Leigh, staff scientist, Apr 13-May 5, on official business to present seminars at various universities and to work at the SI International Center.



A scanning electron microscope was recently installed at the Tupper complex and the first pictures were taken last week. The machine will make it possible for investigators to obtain photographs of high magnification and resolution from their particular study organisms and plants. Dolores Piperno will be coordinator of the SEM facility at STRI ••• Un microscopio electrónico se instaló recientemente en el Centro Tupper, y esta semana se tomaron las primeras fotografías. La máquina permitirá a los investigadores obtener fotografías altamente magnificadas y con gran resolución. Dolores Piperno será la coordinadora para el uso del microscopio en STRI.

(Foto: M.A. Guerra)

Carmen E. Turner, Smithsonian Under Secretary, Dies

Carmen E. Turner, under secretary of the Smithsonian since mid-December 1990, died on April 9 of cancer. She was 61 years old. Mrs. Turner died in Washington Hospital Center.

"We have lost a wise, compassionate, wonderfully dedicated and far-seeing leader, friend and colleague," Robert McC. Adams, Secretary of the Smithsonian said. "In the all-too-brief period of service to the Smithsonian that was allowed to her, she humanized and transformed our ideas of management itself. It is given to very, very few among us to make the permanent improvements she did in diverse institutions whose purpose is to serve and reach out to people. Her spirit and example will live on in our work."

As under secretary of the Smithsonian, Turner was the Chief Operating officer and second ranking official at the Smithsonian.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Holiday ••• *Día Feriado*

Good Friday, April 17, is a STRI Holiday ••• *El 17 de abril, Viernes Santo, es un día feriado en el STRI.*

Nuevos Empleados

María Josefa Villar comenzará a trabajar en el Instituto como asistente del Dr. Colinvaux. La Sra. Villar trabajará medio tiempo desempeñando funciones de secretaria, así como trabajos de investigación, en los laboratorios de Tupper. La Sra. Villar está trabajando actualmente en su tesis de biología en la Universidad de Panamá. Durante 1986 y 1987 trabajó con el proyecto de iguana verde en el Instituto.

Suzanne de Lao trabajará con el Dr. Richard Condit en la posición de Analista Programador de Computadoras a partir del 19 de abril. La Lic. Lao es egresada de la Universidad de California, Los Angeles donde obtuvo su maestría en Bioestadística. Tiene una licenciatura de la Universidad de California en Santa Barbara en Bioquímica. Antes de trabajar como contratista en Tupper, ella trabajó en el Proyecto de Derrame de Petróleo con el Dr. Keller como Analista de Datos por un año aproximadamente. También trabajó en el Gorgas Memorial Laboratory como Consultora en Bioestadística y Gerente de Base de Datos.

Library News ••• *De la Biblioteca*

The STRI Library will close on Good Saturday, April 18 ••• *La Biblioteca cerrará el Sábado Santo, 18 de abril.*

From the Visitor Services Office

De la Oficina de Visitantes

Scientific collection and research carried out throughout the Republic of Panama, including the national parks, with the exception of Barro Colorado Nature Monument (BCNM), requires a permit from IN.RE.NA.RE. Export of dead or live specimens collected in any part of the Republic of Panama, including BCNM, needs an export permit. The permits are processed through María Morello, Visitor Services Office, Tupper Building.

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Las colectas e investigaciones científicas efectuadas en todo el territorio de Panamá, con la excepción del Monumento Natural de Barro Colorado, deben tener un permiso de IN.RE.NA.RE. Las exportaciones de especímenes vivos o muertos, colectados en todo el territorio panameño, incluyendo el Monumento de Barro Colorado, necesitan un permiso de exportación. Los permisos se procesan por medio de María Morello, Oficina de Visitantes, Tupper.

Renovations at the Tupper Conference Center

Beginning April 13 in the Exhibit Hall and April 20 in the Auditorium, renovations will be carried out in the Tupper Conference Center, to replace the ceiling in the Auditorium and install a bookstore in the Exhibit Hall. Due to the renovation work, events such as seminars will be moved to another location that will be announced in a timely manner.

For SYSTAT Users

Those having a SYSTAT license, wishing to upgrade the program to 5.03 at no charge, should send the disk labels from Disk 1 of the SYSTAT packages to SYSTAT, Inc., 1800 Sherman Ave., Evanston, IL 60201-3793. For more information, call Raineldo Urriola.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

At Tupper Center

Tue, Apr 14	Scientific Staff Meeting, 9:30 am, Large Meeting Room
Wed, Apr 15	<i>Amigos de la Biblioteca</i> Meeting, 9 am, Small Meeting Room
	Smithsonian National Associates Program, 10 am, Exhibit Hall and Auditorium

Environmental Sciences Program

The Environmental Sciences Program of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute funds research on biological and physical monitoring, long-term studies of ecological processes, and other related phenomena, including those relevant to global change and the conservation of biological diversity. The program is specially appropriate for research that requires a longer time-line than can be reasonably funded by Scholarly Studies, other Smithsonian programs, or other competitive grant programs like those of NSF.

Terrestrial studies are limited to moist lowland forests in the Barro Colorado Nature Monument (BCNM), and marine studies are confined to those at Galeta Point on the Atlantic coast, to studies in the vicinity of STRI's San Blas research station in Kuna Yala, and to Naos on the Pacific coast.

Who can apply? Proposals may be submitted by the research staff of the Smithsonian Institution, by research associates of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI), and by outside investigators when sponsored by a member of the STRI Staff.

For how long? Grants are awarded for up to five years.

When can I submit? Proposals are due on June 1st, 1992.
To whom? Ten copies of each proposal should be sent to:
 Dr. Anthony Coates, Deputy Director, Smithsonian Tropical
 Research Institute, Unit 0948, APO AA 34002-0948

Biologists Needed

Naturalists/guides are needed to accompany Amazon trips during the next U.S. summer and fall. The trips are adventure travel with a biology/nature emphasis, highlighted by a riverboat ride that travels 600 miles on the Amazon River from Peru to Brazil and back. The trip lasts 10 days, 9 nights from the USA (with first and last night in Miami). A few persons are also needed for Galapagos guides/naturalists.

A good, teaching knowledge of tropical flora and fauna and conversational Spanish are required. Benefits include a free trip plus stipend of \$100-\$800 (depending on the size of the group).

If you have a Master's Degree or Ph.D. (professors or graduate students are welcome) enjoy teaching lay people about tropical biology, and are interested in a great, working vacation, please contact International Journeys, Inc., 11595 Kelly Rd. Fort Myers, FL 33908, Tel: 800-622-6525, Fax: 813-466-7685.

CURSOS

Cursos en la Universidad de Panamá

La Facultad de Ciencias Naturales y Exactas, Laboratorio de Microbiología Experimental y Aplicada, de la Universidad de Panamá está organizando un seminario-taller denominado "Biotecnología Ambiental de Microorganismos en Aguas Superficiales Subterráneas" a realizarse del 20 al 24 de abril de 1992.

Profesores encargados: Dr. Charles Gerba, Jaime Naranjo, Dr. Gary Toranzos, Dr. Ricardo de León y Dr. Joan Bray Rose.

Categoría de participantes: Licenciatura en Biología o equivalente.

Número de participantes: 30.

Costo de la Inscripción: Profesores y Profesores Asistentes y Técnicos de la Universidad de Panamá: \$40. Otros profesionales: \$60.

Costo del Seminario: Materiales de Laboratorio \$300. Materiales didácticos, fotocopias y otros \$500.

Beca para Curso Marino

El Instituto para la Formación y Aprovechamiento de los Recursos Humanos (IFARHU), se complace en informar, que la Secretaría General de la Organización de los Estados Americanos (OEA) y el Gobierno de Chile ofrecen el Curso "Fitoplancton Marino con Énfasis en el



This is the new Potain crane recently installed in the Parque Natural Metropolitano. This new crane will provide researchers access to a broader canopy area ••• Esta es la nueva grúa Potain recientemente instalada en el Parque Natural Metropolitano. Esta nueva grúa permitirá a los investigadores tener un mayor acceso al dosel del bosque.

(Foto: M.A. Guerra)

Grupo de las *Bacilla-Riophyceae*", a realizarse en la Universidad de Concepción, Facultad de Ciencias Biológicas y de Recursos Naturales, a partir del 1 de julio de 1992, por espacio de tres semanas. La OEA provee el pasaje aéreo y el gobierno de Chile, a través de la Universidad de Concepción, provee la estadía a los becarios. Se ha fijado el 13 de abril de 1992 como fecha límite para recibir las solicitudes en el IFARHU.

Los interesados pueden dirigirse al Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales, Cooperación y Asistencia Técnica, ubicado en el corregimiento de Ancón, Edificio IFARHU Ancón.

STRI NEW BOOKLIST

- Alkaloid biology and metabolism in plants / George R. Waller and Edmund K. Novacki.
QK898.A4W34X STRI.
- Americans before Columbus: Ice-Age origins: selected papers from the First Columbian Quincentenary Symposium, Smithsonian Institution, September 26, 1987 / compiled and edited by Ronald C. Carlisle.
E61.C68 1987X STRI.
- The Atlantic continental margin: U.S. / edited by Robert E. Sheridan, John A. Grow.
QE71.A88 1988 STRI.
- The Caribbean region / edited by Gabriel Dengo, J.E. Case.
QE220.C27 1990 STRI.
- The Development and evolution of butterfly wing patterns / H. Frederik Nijhout.
QL562.N54 1991X STRI.
- The Eastern Pacific Ocean and Hawaii / edited by E.L. Winterer, Donald M. Hussong, Robert W. Decker.
QE350.4.E13 1989 STRI.
- Ecosystems of Florida / edited by Ronald L. Myers and John J. Ewel.
QH105.F6E26 1990X STRI.
- Editing your newsletter: how to produce an effective publication using traditional tools and computers / Mark Beach.
PN4784.N5B4 1988X STRI.
- Evolutionary instability: logical and material aspects of a unified theory of biosocial evolution / Gebhard Geiger.
GN281.4.G45 1990X STRI.
- Interpretation and explanation in the study of animal behavior / edited by Marc Bekoff and Dale Jamieson.
QL751.I57 1990X STRI.
- Managing protected areas in the tropics / compiled by John and Kathy MacKinnon, Graham Child and Jim Thorsell; International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources and the United Nations Environment Programme.
QH75.M25 1986 STRI.
- Minding the carbon store: weighing U.S. forestry strategies to slow global warming / Mark C. Trexler.
QC981.8.G56T817 1991 STRI.
- Nature conservation. 2, The role of corridors / edited by Denis A. Saunders and Richard J. Hobbs.
QH77.A8N28n 1991 STRI.
- Ofidios de Colombia / C. Pérez-Santos y A.G. Moreno.
QL666.O6S23 1988 STRI.
- Paleontology of vertebrates / Jean Chaline.
QE841.C4513 1990X STRI.
- Plant defenses against mammalian herbivory / editors, R. Thomas Palo, Charles T. Robbins.
SB292.A2P56 1991X STRI.
- A Practical guide to the Euphausiids of the world / A. de C. Baker, B. P. Boden, E. Brinton.
QL444.M338B167 1990 STRI.
- Protecting the global environment: funding mechanisms: appendices.
QC981.8.G56P96 1989 Suppl. STRI.
- Revision of Hieracium (Asteraceae) in Mexico and Central America / John H. Beaman.
QK495.C74B36 1990 STRI.
- Seashells of Southeast Asia / R. Tucker Abbott.
QL426.A85A128 1991 STRI.
- Shallow-water sponges of the western Bahamas / Felix Wiedenmayer.
QL372.2.B34W53 STRI.
- Shrimps, lobsters, and crabs / Dorothy E. Bliss.
QL444.M33B6 1990X STRI.
- The Subsidy from nature: palm forests, peasantry, and development on an Amazon frontier / Anthony B. Anderson, Peter H. May, and Michael J. Balick.
HD9769.B323A453 1991X STRI.
- Symposium on progress in marine research in the Caribbean and adjacent regions, Caracas, Venezuela, 12-16 July 1976: papers on oceanography, meteorology, geology and geo-physics = Simposio sobre adelantos en las investigaciones marinas en el Caribe y regiones adyacentes, Caracas, Venezuela, 12-16 julio 1976: contribuciones sobre oceanografía, meteorología, geología y geofísica / edited by Harris B. Stewart, Jr.
GC278.5.C3.S98 1976 STRI.
- Verbal art in San Blas: Kuna culture through its discourse / Joel Scherzer.
PM3743.1.S54 1990X STRI.