

STRI newsletter

March 26, 1993

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá

No. 13

CRASSULACEAN ACID METABOLISM INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP



Ira Rubinoff, director, STRI, welcomed participants to the Crassulacean Acid Metabolism International Workshop (CAM '93) on Monday, Mar 22, at the Tupper Center Auditorium ••• Ira Rubinoff, director del STRI, ofreció la bienvenida a los participantes del Congreso de Plantas CAM (CAM '93) el día lunes 22 de marzo en el auditorio del Centro Tupper.

(Foto: M.A. Guerra)



Participants to the CAM '93 gathered between sessions for group photo at the Corotu Plaza, Tupper Center. Fourth and fifth from the left are Andrew Smith, Oxford, U.K., and Klaus Winter, STRI, who organized this congress jointly with Alan P. Smith, STRI ••• Los participantes del CAM '93 se reunieron en la Plaza Corotú del Centro Tupper para la foto oficial de grupo del Congreso. Andrew Smith, Oxford, U.K. y Klaus Winter, STRI, (cuarto y quinto de izquierda a derecha, primera fila) organizaron este congreso junto con Alan P. Smith, del STRI.

(Foto: M.A. Guerra)

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Robert McC. Adams, SI Secretary, and Ruth Adams, Mar 29-Apr 5, to attend the biannual meetings of the Smithsonian National Board and to visit STRI facilities and research projects.
- Constance Newman, SI Undersecretary, Robert Hoffman, SI Assistant Secretary for Science and Thomas Lovejoy, SI Assistant Secretary for External Affairs, Apr 1-7, to visit STRI facilities and attend the Smithsonian National Board meetings.
- Alice Burnette, SI Assistant Secretary for Institutional Initiatives, Apr 1-5, to attend the Smithsonian National Board meetings.
- Stephen Swearer and G. Prawdzik, University of California, Santa Barbara, Mar 29-Jun 30, to work on mechanisms and impact of egg inviability in tropical labrids, in San Blas.
- D. Wayne Meadows B. Probit, Apr 1-Sep 15, to work on economics of territory clustering in the coral reef damselfish, in San Blas.
- Kyle Harms, Princeton University, N.J., Mar 15-Sep 15, to work on resource heterogeneity and the establishment of non-pioneer tree species, on BCI.
- Janna Ellingson, University of Texas, Austin, Apr 1-Aug 31, to work on male coloration in a diurnal gecko, in Gamboa.

No noon seminars are scheduled for Tuesday Mar 30 nor April 6.

Wedding Bells ••• Boda

Juan Diego López, former STRI fellow and Ascención Romero Gotor will be married on April 24 in Murcia, Spain ••• *Juan Diego López, antiguo becario del STRI, se unirá en matrimonio con Ascención Romero Gotor el día sábado 24 de abril en Murcia, España.*

Correction ••• Corrección

STRI intern Carlos Machado was accepted to the Ph.D. program at the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department, University of California, Irvine ••• *Carlos Machado, asistente de investigación del STRI fue aceptado en el programa de doctorado del Departamento de Ecología y Biología Evolucionaria de la Universidad de California, Irvine.*

THINGS YOU SHOULD NOW**Tupper Events**

- Mar 29: Fellowship review meeting, 1:30 pm, Small Meeting Room.
 Mar 30: Meeting to discuss *Curso de Metodología de Campo*, 10 am, Large Meeting Room.
 Mar 31: DoDDS Lecture *Conversations at the Smithsonian* by Stanley Rand, 3:30 pm, Auditorium.
 Apr 2: Smithsonian National Associates Board (SNAB) meeting, 12 noon, Auditorium.
 SNAB lunch, 1 pm, Exhibit Hall.
 SNAB reception, 7 pm, Exhibit Hall and Corotu Plaza.
 Apr 3: SNAB meeting, 8:30 am, Exhibit Hall.

Nuevos Números de Teléfono y Fax

Los nuevos números de teléfono del Plan de Acción Forestal Tropical de Panamá en Altos de Curundú, Ave. Ascanio Villalaz, Edif. #501 (C-D), son los siguientes:

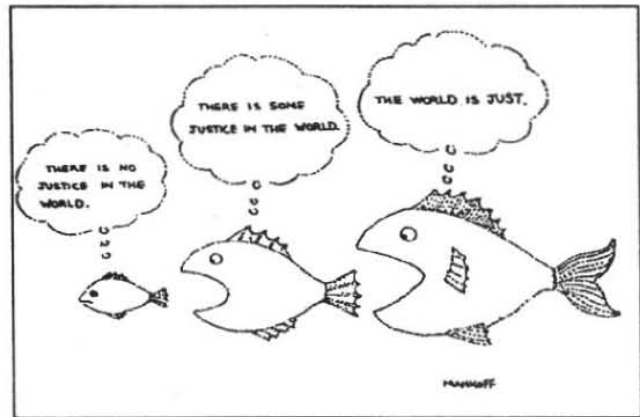
Teléfonos: 32-6619 y 32-6637

Fax: 32-6650

ANNOUNCEMENTS**Upward Mobility Opportunity at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center**

The program will develop a trainee into a landscape ecologists coordinating work among the disciplines of geography, ecology, and computer science. The employee would focus on using computerized geographic information system (GIS) technology to study geographic patterns of environmental variables and spatial patterns of living systems, particularly in the Chesapeake Bay region. Through a combination of on-the-job training and formal education in a local graduate

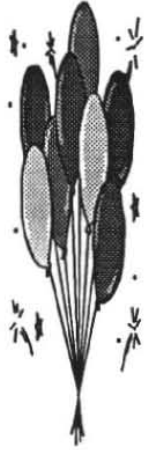
program, the successful trainee would become a research scientist directing an independent research program and collaborating with other Smithsonian scientists. We encourage applications from ambitious Federal employees wishing to advance careers in environmental research. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. The program is open to current Smithsonian Federal employees with one year of permanent, continuous service, and qualification at the GS-5 or GS-7 level as an ecologist, biologist, chemist, or geographer. Please refer to Smithsonian Announcement number UM 93-3000Q or phone 202-287-2475 for complete information on eligibility, application procedures and training. Call Donald E. Weller at 301-261-4190 for more information on GIS work at SERC. The closing date for applications is Mar 9, 1993.

Ecology 2, New Book by Paul Colinvaux

Ecology 2, the first book from the new Center for Tropical Paleocology at STRI, was published on March 15. This is Colinvaux's third ecology text, replacing his *Ecology* of 1986 and his *Introduction to Ecology* of 1973. It has three more chapters (29) than the 1986 book (26) and is 37 pages shorter, having thus met the author's private goal of expanded coverage with less words. Published in the week of the CAM conference at STRI, it is appropriate to note that the text has some claims to be up to date on CAM, including as it does a reference to Winter, 1993. But the book actually attempts a survey of the whole field of ecology, particularly reviewing current ideas in the maintenance of both populations and diversity. The new chapters are on food webs, the oceans, and the ecology of the human condition. By some curious circumstance paleoecology, particularly the history of the Amazon basin and the Isthmus of Panama, seems to have received more emphasis than in ecology texts by other authors.

STRI April Birthdays

Nelson Hernández	1
Diomedes Abrego	1
Axel Calderón	2
Arcadio Rodaniche	2
Neal Smith	3
Mercedes Arosemena	3
Miguel Estribí	6
Dolores Piperno	7
Gabriel Martínez	9
Marcela Vargas	10
Efraín Domínguez	12
América Staff	14
Ismael González	23
Brian Keller	26
Marcos Guerra	27



Grant Awarded

STRI received a grant from Wildlife Conservation International, to support a socio-economic and land use project in the Las Pavas area.

Education Technician

The selected candidate should provide technical and specialized support to the Educational Coordinator with fellowship, internship and volunteer programs. The person should be able to handle correspondence in English and Spanish, work on drafts of translations, and proposals; handle the filing system and provide support for all fellows and interns. Completely bilingual, ability to communicate, and knowledge about the activities and programs at STRI. Should also be proficient in WP51. This is a permanent position, IS-4. Salary \$16,393. Interested candidates should send C.V. and references to Education Technician, Office of Human Resources, STRI ••• *La persona seleccionada deberá proporcionar apoyo técnico y especializado a los programas de becas, de voluntarios y otros relacionados con educación. Esto requiere capacidad para redactar correspondencia en español e inglés, hacer borradores de traducciones, preparar propuestas e informes de la Oficina de Educación, mantener un sistema de archivos y darle seguimiento a los problemas y asuntos de los becarios e internos. Requisitos indispensables:*



Eldredge Bermingham, STRI, explains how the molecular biology laboratory is used to train Latin American interns to James Early (left), SI Assistant Secretary for Education and Public Service, Rex Ellis, SI Director of Museum Programs and Ann Bay, Director, SI Office of Elementary and Secondary Education ••• Eldredge Bermingham del STRI, explica cómo se usa el laboratorio de biología molecular para entrenar becarios latinoamericanos a James Early (izquierda), Sub-Secretario para Educación y Servicio al Público, Rex Ellis, Director de Programas en los Museos y a Ann Bay, Directora de la Oficina de Educación Primaria y Secundaria, de la Institución Smithsonian. (Foto: M.A. Guerra)

bilingüe (español • inglés), habilidad para comunicarse bien con las personas, conocimientos sobre las actividades y programas de STRI. Conocimiento de computadoras y el programa de procesamiento de palabras Word Perfect 5.1. Esta es una posición permanente, de fondos privados, a nivel IS-4. Salario \$16,393 anual. Enviar curriculum vitae con referencias recientes a Education Technician, Oficina de Recursos Humanos, STRI.

Assistant Director, the 2050 Project

An assistant director is sought for the 2050 Project, a 4-year international research project on sustainability organized jointly by the World Resources Institute, the Brookings Institution and the Santa Fe Institute. The study will examine the concept of sustainability in an integrated way, including environmental, economic, and social aspects, exploring both desirable future conditions and the transitions needed to reach them by the year 2050. The project will involve conventional analysis, non-linear adaptive modeling construction and analysis of detailed scenarios and institutes in all major regions of the world. The Assistant

Director will be based at World Resources Institute in Washington, DC and will report to the Project Director. The Assistant Director's responsibilities include intellectual contributions to the project, management of staff, and oversight of contracted studies. The Assistant Director must have a strong interest in issues of sustainability, relevant professional skills, and the ability to deal effectively with a variety of constituencies. He or she is expected to have a PhD in a relevant discipline and at least 5 years experience or the equivalent. Experience with policy research or formulation in developing countries is desired. Applications from non-U.S. citizens are welcome. Address inquiries and applications to: Dr. Rob Coppock, Director, the 2050 Project, 1709 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. WRI is an equal opportunity employer.

For Sale ••• Se Vende

Nissan Bluebird 1987. White, 4 doors, automatic, 1.8 l. gasoline, power steering, doors and windows. \$96,000 km. \$5,600. Meticulously maintained. If interested please call Smith at 26-5597 after 7 p.m.
 ••• Auto Nissan Bluebird de 1987. Blanco, de 4 puertas, automático, 1.8 l. gasolina, timón hidráulico y puertas y ventanas automáticas. Interesados llamar al 26-5597 después de las 7p.m. a la familia Smith.

STRI NEW PUBLICATIONS

- Burns, Kathryn A. 1993. "Analytical Methods Used in Oil Spill Studies." *Marine Pollution Bulletin* 26(2):68-72.
- Colinvaux, Paul. 1993. *Ecology 2*. New York: John Wiley and Sons. 688p.
- Dudley, Robert. and Rand, A. Stanley. 1992. "Underwater Sound Production in a Neotropical Anuran, *Physalaemus pustulosus* (Leptodactylidae)." *The International Journal of Animal Sound and its Recording* 4: 211-216.
- Herrera, A. and Jackson, Jeremy B.C. 1992. "Environmental versus Taxonomic Variation in Lophophore Morphology of Panamanian Cheilostome Bryozoans." *Marine Biology* 112: 99-106.
- Hughes, D.J. and Jackson, Jeremy B.C. 1992. "Distribution and Abundance of Cheilostome Bryozoans on the Caribbean Reefs of Central Panama." *Bulletin of Marine Science* 51(3): 443-465.
- Jackson, Jeremy B.C. "Pleistocene Perspectives on Coral Reef Community Structure." *American Zoologist* 32: 719-731.
- Leigh, Egbert G. and De Alba, Georgina. 1992. "Barro Colorado Island, Panama, Basic Research, and Conservation." *The George Wright Forum* 9(3 & 4): 32-45.

From: *365 Ways to Save our Planet*
 • Page-a-Day Calendar •

BIG ISSUE: OCEAN DUMPING

Perhaps it's the vastness of the oceans that deceives us. For ages we've poured sewage, garbage, industrial waste, and agricultural runoff into the sea, and have seen little in the way of ill effects. Now that's changing. Fishermen report more and more of their catch marked by bizarre pocks and lesions. Algae blooms are noted in many areas. Coasts are marred by garbage washups. Numerous "dead zones" of water lack the dissolved oxygen necessary to sustain life. If the oceans are to remain havens for life, we must stop polluting them.