

# STRI newsletter

January 7, 1994

SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE - Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá

No. 1

## TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

Tuesday, January 11, noon seminar speaker will be Jeremy B.C. Jackson, STRI  
*Constancy and Change of Life in the Sea*

### Abstract

Speciation and extinction occur in pulses so that groups of species come and go in packages that persist for millions of years. Turnover of half the species of tropical American planktonic foraminifera, reef corals and bryozoans occurred 2 million years ago with the onset of northern hemisphere glaciation, but subsequent stronger glacial cycles had little lasting effect. There is no necessary correlation between the magnitude of environmental change and the ecological and evolutionary response.

## PEOPLE

### Arrivals

- Dolores Piperno, Jan 10, returns to STRI.
- Susan Munch, Albright College, Jan 10-18, on a field course at Gamboa and Gigante.
- Stuart West, Imperial College, London, Jan 11-15 Apr, to work with Allen Herre, at BCI.
- Heinrich Krause, Short-term visitor from University of Dusseldorf, Germany, Jan 11-28 Feb, to study photoinhibition in leaves of tropical plants, at Tupper.
- Steve Emlen and Natalie Demong, Cornell University, Jan 14-5 Jul, to carry out studies of female-based sexual selection on the social behavior of Jacana, at Gamboa.

### Departures

- Eldredge Bermingham, Jan 10-26, on official business to Costa Rica.
- Jose Espino, Jan 12-17, to New Orleans, Louisiana, to attend the 1994 Equipment Manufacturing Association Show.



*Celideth de León helps "Crummy Old Year" down the stairs towards a party organized by administrative personnel, on Dec 30 ••• Celideth de León ayuda al "Año Viejo" a bajar las escaleras camino a una fiesta organizada por los empleados de la administración para darle un último adiós a 1993, el 30 de diciembre.* (Foto: M.A. Guerra)

## THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

### At the Tupper Center

- Tue, Jan 11
- Noon seminar by Jeremy B.C. Jackson, Auditorium.
  - Scientific Staff Meeting, Large Meeting Room, 1:30pm.
- Wed, Jan 12
- Administrative Managers Meeting, Large Meeting Room, 2pm.

### At the Culebra Marine Reserve

- Mon, Jan 10 Instituto Rubiano, Panamá  
Tue, Jan 11 Instituto Rubiano, Panamá  
Wed, Jan 12 Instituto Rubiano, Panamá  
Thu, Jan 13 Escuela John F. Kennedy, Chitré, Herrera  
Fri, Jan 14 Escuela de Química, Universidad de Panamá  
Sat, Jan 15 Panama Canal College

### Reminder ••• Recorderis

Beginning Jan 3, STRI implemented the SI ID policy. Please wear your ID at all times when on Smithsonian premises. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated ••• *A partir del 3 de enero, STRI puso en ejecución la política del Smithsonian sobre el uso de identificaciones. Use su carnet de identificación de STRI todo el tiempo mientras se encuentre en cualquier instalación del Smithsonian. Agradecemos su cooperación.*

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### Scientific Diving Course

#### *Curso de Buceo Científico*

An entry level scientific diving course for STRI employees and volunteers starts on Jan 24. The 100-hour course will cover all requirements for a Smithsonian Scientific Diving certification. Applicants must have their supervisor's approval to take the course during working hours. For more information, please call Diving Officer José Espino, or Marissa Batista, at Naos ••• *El 24 de enero se iniciará un curso de buceo científico a nivel introductorio para empleados y voluntarios de STRI. Los interesados en tomar el curso deberán tener la autorización de sus supervisores para tomar el curso durante horas de trabajo. Para mayor información llamar al José Espino, director de buceo, o Marissa Batista, en Naos.*

## FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY

### JIRCAS Visiting Research Fellowship Program

The Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences (JIRCAS) (formerly Tropical Agriculture Research Center) is implementing research programs pertaining to agriculture, forestry and fisheries in collaboration with various organizations and institutions located in all the developing regions in order to contribute to the development of sustainable agriculture compatible with the preservation of the environment on a global scale. Fellowships are available for 1) Development of techniques for environmental control by using plants and microorganisms specific to the tropics and subtropics. 2) Studies on the mechanism of heat-tolerance of tropical and subtropical crops. 3) Identification and evaluation of salt-tolerant crops; and 4) Evaluation and development of long-term conservation techniques of genetic resources of vegetatively propagated crops in the tropics and subtropics. Applicants should be nationals of developing countries, be currently employed in a research organization, and be engaged in research relating to tropical or subtropical agriculture and forestry, in principle; hold a Ph.D. degree, and have adequate command of English or Japanese. Deadline for application: March 15, 1994. For more information, please visit the STRI Office of Education at the Tupper Center.

## POSITION AVAILABLE

### Applied Cultural Anthropologist

The National Park Service, Washington Office, is looking for an Applied Cultural Anthropologist for the Applied

Ethnography Program, to work with professional peers and archaeologists and curators to implement the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) in units of the National Park System. The selected candidate will provide leadership and direction for the implementation of the NAGPRA, will formulate, communicate and monitor servicewide program policies, strategies, goals, objectives and activities; develop guidelines, standards and procedures; develop budget estimates and justifications; and design program evaluations. Will prepare courses, workshops and seminars; and will collaborate with regional ethnographers, curators, and archaeologists. Salary starts around \$40,298. For more information on duties, qualifications and application form, please visit the STRI Office of Education, at Tupper Center.

## NEW STRI PUBLICATIONS

- Clifton, Kenneth E. and Robertson, D. Ross. 1993. "Risks of Alternative Mating Tactics." *Nature* 366 (December 9): 520.
- Ibáñez, D., Roberto and Solís, F.A. 1991 [1993]. "Las Serpientes de Panamá: Lista de Especies, Comentarios Taxonómicos y Bibliografía." *Scientia (Panamá)* 6(2): 27-52.
- Linares, Olga E. 1993. "State and Household Crops Among the Jola (Diola) of Senegal." In: *Configuration of Power*: 160-180, edited by J.S. Henderson and P.J. Netherly. Ithaca: Cornell University Press.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Looking for Summer Job

David Kemp, college senior, is looking for a summer job at STRI. He worked previously for Allen Herre on BCI. PADI certificate, boat license, Panamanian Driver's license, very familiar with flora and fauna of Panama. Will be available from late May to mid August. References available. For more information, please call 87-6382.

### Last Minute News from Washington • Ultimas

Paul Colinvaux is recovering rapidly, and today he and Llewellyn are travelling to Boston, where he will continue to receive care for approximately three months. Their address in Boston is: 20 Brooks Road, Woods Hole, MA 02543 ••• *Paul Colinvaux se recupera rápidamente, y hoy viajan él y Llewellyn a Boston, donde seguirá en tratamiento por cerca de 3 meses más.*

### The year in review...

At STRI, 1993 was a year of accomplishments and farewells. We celebrated the BCI's 70th anniversary, hosted three international congresses and formalized agreements for scientific collaboration with Universidad Santa Maria in Panama, the Universidades Estadual de Campinas in Brazil, the National Institute of Education of Nanyang Technological University in Singapore, the Sarawak Forestry Department and the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia...



Signing of new agreement with USMA



Alan P. Smith



Vielka Vergel



Nuestros Bosques: Nuestra Herencia

## 1993



CAM '93 Conference



Héctor Guzmán



PEP Conference

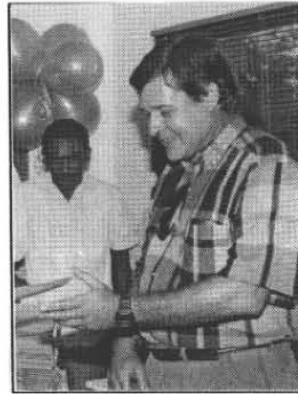
New public programs were initiated to communicate the value of the tropics for both terrestrial and marine environments. Culebra was visited by over 4000 students and many members of the community. We hosted two major exhibits at the Tupper Center, and these travelled to other sites in Panama. We welcomed visits by the Smithsonian National Board, the World's Presidents Organization, and scholars and students from all over the world...

*...more on the year in review*

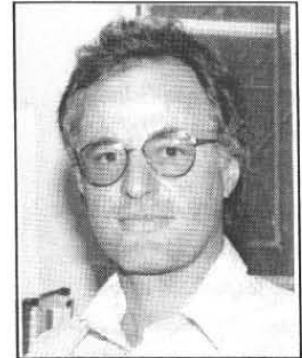
Gilberto Ocaña, Vielka Vergel and Arcadio Rodaniche, authors and support to many causes, retired this year. We had the irreparable loss of Alan Smith, though we are working hard to keep his dreams alive. We welcomed Harry Barnes and José Ramón Perurena into the fold and celebrated the 20th anniversary of Ira Rubinoff's leadership...



*Gilberto Ocaña*



*Arcadio Rodaniche*



*Harry Barnes*

**1993**



*At the Culebra Marine Reserve*



*BCI's 70th Anniversary*



*Flora Neotropica Conference*



*World's Presidents Organization*

*The work of STRI scientists was highlighted in international scientific journals and newspapers, from Science and Nature to The New York Times and The Economist.*