

STRI news

January 26, 1996

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TUPPER CENTER SEMINAR

Tue, Jan 30, noon seminar speaker will be Kenneth Clifton, STRI research affiliate
The Difference Between Parrotfish and Gazelles

Abstract

In the parrotfish, social interactions determine dispersion, hence, resource variability is the result rather than the cause of dispersion. But in the gazelle, resource variability and physiological factors run the show. Social interactions are secondary.

BAMBI SEMINAR

Thursday, Feb 1, Bambi seminar speaker will be Todd Capson, University of Utah, Conference Hall, BCI, at 7:30pm

Bioprospecting in Panamanian Rainforests

☛ If you wish to give a Bambi, please contact Mitch Allen, new seminar coordinator ("Bambi Jefe") at BCI. Please remember that transportation and dinner reservations are essential.

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Ann Cleveland, STRI's short-term fellow from Northern Arizona University, Jan 29-29 Jul, to study the feeding physiology and ecology of territorial herbivorous damselfishes, at San Blas.
- Alan Verde, Florida Institute of Technology, Jan 29-29 Jul, to work with Ann Cleveland, at San Blas.
- Bill Robertson and wife Alicia from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation accompanied by Lisa Barnett of STRI, Jan 30-5 Feb, to visit STRI research projects.
- Maria Alejandra Jaramillo, Universidad de Los Andes, Feb 5-30 Apr, to work with Joe Wright in the evaluation of the reproductive status for selected tree species in the BCI forest plot.



Participants of the Molecular Biology Workshop Panama-Costa Rica held at the Tupper Center from Jan 22-23 gathered for a group shot at the Tupper Corotu Plaza on Mon, Jan 22. The workshop was organized by the University of Costa Rica, STRI, the University of Panama and Santa Maria University to exchange information between molecular laboratories in both countries. Eldredge Bermingham (center) served as coordinator to the workshop. (Photo: M.A. Guerra)

- James Luteyn, New York Botanical Garden, Feb 1-28, to conduct studies on the Ericaceae of the tropics, at Tupper.
- Diane Neudorf, York University, Feb 1-31 Mar, to work with Eugene Morton in the study of individual territoriality in two tropical birds, in Gamboa.
- Ernest Williams, Harvard University, Feb 1-1 Apr, to visit STRI and consult with colleagues. He will be stationed in Gamboa.
- Frank Almeda, Tomas Daniel and Ivan Valdespino, California Academy of Sciences, to conduct floristic and monographic studies of Melastomataceae, Acanthaceae and Pteridophytes, at Tupper.
- Jaime Cavellier, Universidad de Los Andes, Feb 2-29, to work with Richard Meinzer on the environmental and physiological regulation of water flux through a tropical forest ecosystem, on BCI.

At Cayos Cochinos, Honduras

- Sean Griffin, STRI fellow from Boston University, Feb 1-30 Apr, to work on effects of sunlight on the progression of black Disease.

Departures

- David Roubik, Jan 29-9 Feb, to Costa Rica, to teach a course at the Organization for Tropical Studies, OTS.

FROM THE SECRETARY • DEL SECRETARIO

*Taken from "Outlook for Smithsonian Funding"
January 18, 1996*

"We have been receiving confusing and conflicting signals about Federal funding of Smithsonian operations -as if the recent shutdowns were not enough! Only one thing is sure: that these are probably the toughest times Smithsonian finances and personnel have faced in many years.

I wanted you know that we will communicate the real news about our continued funding as soon as it is determined. "... we are seeking clarification about the meaning of the current Continuing Resolution that limits funding after January 26... and assessing its potential impact on the Institution. At the same time, we are emphasizing to Washington officialdom the integral nature of Smithsonian operations and the damage that would be caused to the Institution by limiting funding..." "Finally, we are seeking to devise and implement legislative approaches that would solve our problems. We are hard at work on these issues and will update you as soon as we can" ••• *Hemos estado recibiendo señales confusas y conflictivas sobre el uso de fondos federales para operaciones en el Smithsonian, ¡como si el reciente cese de labores no fuese suficiente! Sólo hay una cosa segura: estos son probablemente los tiempos más duros que el Smithsonian y su personal ha enfrentado en muchos años.*

Quiero que sepan que estaremos comunicándoles las noticias reales sobre el mantenimiento de nuestros fondos tan pronto como sea determinado. "... estamos tratando de lograr que se aclare la presente Resolución de Continuidad que limita los gastos después del 26 de enero... y midiendo el impacto que esto puede tener en la Institución. Al mismo tiempo estamos haciendo énfasis sobre la naturaleza integral de las operaciones del Smithsonian al gobierno, y los daños que podrían resultar al limitar los gastos..." "Finalmente, estamos tratando de formular y trabajar en estrategias legislativas que puedan solucionar nuestros problemas. Estamos trabajando fuerte en todo esto, y los mantendremos informados tan pronto estemos en la capacidad."

*Tomado de "Vistas sobre el Presupuesto para el Smithsonian"
18 de enero de 1996*

AT THE OFFICE OF EDUCATION

En la Oficina de Educación, No. 340

You may find information on courses, congresses, training opportunities, fellowships, etc, that is too long to publish. Some of this information concerns:

- Graduate Assistantships in Bryology
- '96 courses at the University of Michigan Biological Station.

- International Congress on the Biology of Fishes
- '96 Summer course and educational programs at the Bermuda Biological Station for Research, Inc.
- '96 JIRCAS Visiting Fellowship Program, Japan.
- IBC World Summit on Agricultural Biotechnology.
- IBC Executive Briefing on Sustainable Development.
- The Chase S. and Stella Osborn Research Fellowship.
- Research Experiences for Undergraduates at the University of Michigan Biological Station, Summer '96.

FROM THE EDITOR • AL LECTOR

As you may have noticed, the STRI newsletter editorial staff tried a number of different ways to keep you informed of the news, and at the same time save paper and time in the production of the traditional newsletter, during the past weeks. But due to the nature of STRI, the number of our visitors, publications, seminars and other activities, a bi-weekly newsletter proved to be insufficient. On the other hand, a newsletter for groupwise only is of little use to those not in the lan. As of this week, we will be printing the STRI news again every Friday, preferably two pages only. The text of the news will be available via groupwise also ••• *Como habrán notado, el personal a cargo del "newsletter" de STRI experimentó, durante las últimas semanas, diferentes formas de mantenerlos al corriente de las noticias, y al mismo tiempo ahorrar papel y tiempo en la producción del "newsletter" tradicional. Pero dada la naturaleza de STRI, el número de nuestros visitantes, publicaciones, seminarios y otras actividades, imprimir las noticias cada dos semanas demostró ser insuficiente. Por otro lado, las noticias via "groupwise" no llegan a todos. A partir de esta semana, volveremos a imprimir el "STRI news" todos los viernes, preferiblemente en una sola hoja. El texto de las noticias también aparecerá en groupwise.*

MISCELLANEOUS

For Sale ••• Se Vende

- BMI Stair Tech 302 exerciser with scan, count, time distance, tempo calorie and load meter. Almost new. \$120. Call Marcos Guerra or Maria Luz at 261-0701.
- Two industrial fans: w/tall stand \$100. Short stand \$85 (still w/guarantee) Interested may call Marcos Guerra or Maria Luz Calderón at 261-0701.
- Juego de sala en ratán blanco (sofá, dos sillas y mesita) \$200.00. Interesados favor llamar a Mercedes Denis.