

# STRI news

February 16, 1996

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute • Apartado 2072, Balboa, Panamá • Tel. 227-6022 • Fax 232-5978

## TUPPER CENTER SEMINAR

Tue, Feb 20, noon seminar speaker will be Geffen Eli, University of Tel Aviv  
*The Use of Microsatellite analysis in Mammalian Behavioral Studies*

**Abstract**  
Microsatellites are short sequence repeats that are randomly distributed in the genome. Highly polymorphic microsatellites are common in most mammals. We use microsatellite analysis to determine parentage, calculate the level of relatedness within and between various social groupings and hierarchies, estimate the extent of extra-pair copulation, and calculate reproductive success. In this talk, I will review our statistical methodology, and provide some empirical examples from our recent studies.

## BAMBI SEMINAR

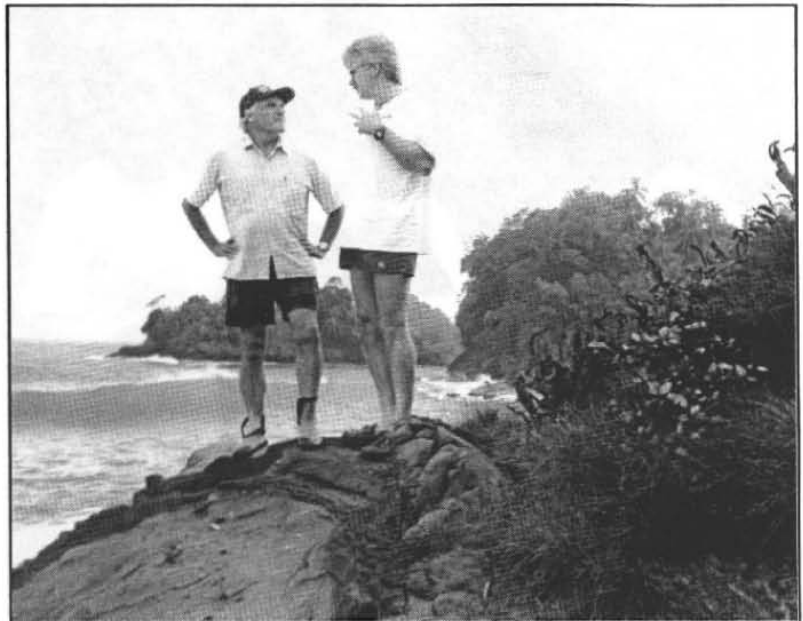
Thu, Feb 22, Bambi seminar speaker will be Jose Luis Andrade, at BCI  
*Drought Adaptations of Tropical Epiphytes*  
Transportation and dinner reservations are essential. Call BCI at 272-2142.

## NAOS LABS LUNCHEON

- Fri, Feb 16, Naos luncheon seminar will speaker be Irby Lovett, University of Pennsylvania  
*Warbler Blood Smear Across a Phylogeny*
- Fri, Feb 23, Naos luncheon seminar speaker will be Vittorio Lucchini, Institute Nazionale per Fauna Selvatica, Italy  
*Hermit Hummingbirds and their Hidden Phylogeny*

### The Corotu Restuarant

Will close on Tue, Feb 20, due to the celebration of Carnival ••• *El Restaurante Corotú cerrará el martes 20 de febrero en celebración de los Carnavales.*



During a recent visit to Panama, Bill Robertson, Program Officer at the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation visited a number of STRI projects. In the photo, Tony Coates explains some of his findings on the geological history of the islands of the Bocas archipelago ••• Durante una reciente visita a Panamá, Bill Robertson, de la Fundación Andrew W. Mellon visitó varios proyectos de investigación de STRI. En la foto, Tony Coates le explica algunos de sus hallazgos sobre la historia geológica de las islas de Archipiélago de Bocas del Toro. (Foto: M.A. Guerra)

## PEOPLE

### Arrivals

- Eleven students from York University, Feb 17-2 Mar, for a field course on tropical ornithology, at Gamboa.
- Gerald Urquhart, University of Michigan, Feb 19-6 Apr, to conduct a palaeocological investigation of patterns of disturbance and regeneration in hurricane and fire damaged tropical swamp forests, at Tupper.
- Christoph Schubart, University of Bielefeld, Germany and José Cuestas, University of Seville, Spain, Feb 20-17 Mar, to study the ecology, morphology and systematic of semi-terrestrial brachuran crabs from Panama, at Naos.

### At the Library ••• En la Biblioteca

The Library will remain closed from Friday, February 16 at 2:30pm through Tuesday, February 20 at 8am, for maintenance work ••• *La Biblioteca cerrará sus puertas a partir del viernes 16 de febrero a las 2:30pm hasta el lunes a las 8am, para realizar trabajos de mantenimiento.*



María Leone, de la Oficina de Visitantes de STRI, entregó recientemente las llaves de la Estación Jorge L. Arauz en la Reserva Forestal de Fortuna en la provincia de Chiriquí a Daniel Solís, guardabosques jubilado del IRHE, quien brindará apoyo a los visitantes de la Reserva. (Foto: José Ramón Perurena)

### NEW STRI PUBLICATIONS

- Pandolfi, John M. 1995. "Geomorphology of the Uplifted Pleistocene Atoll at Henderson Island, Putcairn Group." *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society* 56: 63-77.
- Smith, J. Andrew C. and Winter, Klaus. 1996. "Taxonomic Distribution of Crassulacean Acid Metabolism." In: *Crassulacean Acid Metabolism: Biochemistry, Ecophysiology and Evolution*: 427-436, edited by Klaus Winter and J.A.C. Smith. Berlin: Springer.
- Winter, Klaus and Smith, J. Andrew C. 1996. "An Introduction to Crassulacean Acid Metabolism. Biochemical Principles and Ecological Diversity." In: *Crassulacean Acid Metabolism: Biochemistry, Ecophysiology and Evolution*: 1-13, edited by Klaus Winter and J.A.C. Smith. Berlin: Springer.
- Winter, Klaus and Smith, J. Andrew C. 1996. "Crassulacean Acid Metabolism. Current Status and Perspectives." In: *Crassulacean Acid Metabolism: Biochemistry, Ecophysiology and Evolution*: 389-426, edited by Klaus Winter and J.A.C. Smith. Berlin: Springer.
- Zotz, Gerhard and Winter, Klaus. 1996. "Seasonal Changes in Daytime versus Nighttime CO<sub>2</sub> Fixation of *Clusia unitana* in situ." In: *Crassulacean Acid Metabolism: Biochemistry, Ecophysiology and Evolution*: 312-323, edited by Klaus Winter and J.A.C. Smith. Berlin: Springer.

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### For Internet Users

The STRI's Center for Tropical Forest Science recently established a homepage at the World Wide Web. The address is: <http://www.si.edu/organiza/centers/str-i/forest/ctfs.htm>

#### Volunteer Available

Botanist with experience as field research assistant in vegetation sampling and plant identification seeks volunteer work at STRI. Available immediately, until May. Interested please contact the STRI Office of Education at the Tupper Center.

#### Summer Research Assistantship Sought

University of Pennsylvania biology major student, fluent in English, German, French and Spanish will visit Gamboa for a tropical ecology course Jun 9-25. Seeks opportunity to do field work in marine or terrestrial animal biology. For more information, please contact the STRI Office of Education, or call Hilary Dove at (202) 333-5033 • Fax (202)333-5023

#### Needed for an Exhibit

##### *Se Necesitan para Exhibición*

Live dog ticks of all sizes. We need some fully fed and some still flat. Place them and a small amount of moist paper into a small, tightly closed container with *no holes*, and give them to the Tupper receptionist. Thank you, A. Aiello ••• *Garra-patas de perro vivas de todos tamaños. Se necesitan bien alimentadas y también las que todavía están achatadas. Favor colocarlas en un contenedor pequeño bien cerrado, sin aperturas y entréguelas a la recepción del Centro Tupper. Gracias, A. Aiello.*

#### For Sale ••• *Se Vende*

Mtn bike, Trek 990, air/oil suspension, crmo d/butted frame 18" shimano xt shifters, \$650, o/b/o. Neil Davies, Naos.