

STRI news

April 19, 1996

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

TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

No noon seminar scheduled for Tue, Apr 23.

NAOS LABS LUNCHEON

Friday, April 26, Naos Marine Laboratories Luncheon seminar speaker will be Michael McCartney, Sloane postdoctoral fellow

How Reproductive Isolation Evolves in Sea Urchins: Cellular and Molecular Studies

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Hubert Herz, Julius von-Sachs Institute, Mar 28-15 Nov, to work with W. Beyschlag on the influence of leaf-cutting ants on light interception and canopy photosynthesis in crowns of tropical trees, at BCI.
- Francesco Gattesco, University of Milan, Mar 31-30 Sep, to continue a study of thrips (Insecta: Thysanoptera) living in flowers in two different forests in Panama, at BCI.
- Javier Pavon, Universidad de Alcalá de Henares, Apr 1-30 Jun, to work on the competition intensity, vegetative growth and reproductive effort in some diecious and bisexual species of the tropical rainforest of BCI.
- Erik Lindquist, Ohio State University, Apr 1-30 Jun, to study the acoustic and visual communication in the earless Panamanian golden frog, at Tupper.
- Douglas Altshuler, Perdue University, Apr 4-20 Aug, to work on plant-ant interactions: effects on pollination and fruit removal, at BCI.
- Boris Leyman, Julius von-Sachs Institute, to work with W. Beyschlag, at BCI.
- Ted Schultz, SI National Museum of Natural History, Apr 21-5 May, to do research on the evolutionary history of the fungus-growing ants (Myrmicinae: Attini) and their fungi.



Aníbal Velarde (center) Naos scientific coordinator, with Secretary Heyman (from the left) Under-Secretary Connie Newman and SI Provost J. Denis O'Connor (right) after being honored as STRI's "Unsung Hero" at a ceremony on Wednesday, March 27, at the S. Dillon Ripley Center Lecture Hall, at Washington D.C. ••• Aníbal Velarde (centro) coordinador científico de los Laboratorios de Naos junto con el Secretario Heyman (de izquierda a derecha), la Subsecretaria Connie Newman y el "Decano" del Smithsonian J. Denis O'Connor (a la derecha) luego de ser honrado como "Héroe Desconocido" de STRI, en ceremonia en el Centro Dillon Ripley en Washington D.C., el miércoles 27 de marzo.

(Foto: Ana María Ford)

Departures

- Richard Condit, Apr 19-8 May, to Zaire, to consult with colleagues of the Wildlife Conservation Society.
- Elena Lombardo, Apr 22-28, to Washington D.C., on official business at SI.
- John Christy, Olga Linares, David Roubik and Mary Jane West-Eberhard, Apr 25, to Washington D.C., to participate at a workshop to discuss a new Smithsonian initiative on environmental research, at SI.
- Tony Coates, Apr 25, to Washington D.C., to participate as one of the guest speakers at the National Academy of Sciences Symposium "Looking Back, Looking Forward: 150 Years of Science at the Smithsonian Institution." Also there will be Ira Rubinoff, Olga Linares and Mary Jane West-Eberhard.

On Sabbatical in Australia

Biff Bermingham left to Australia for nine months on March 31. He will be at the University of Queensland with Craig Moritz. His new address is c/o Dr. Craig Moritz, Department of Zoology, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland 4072, Australia

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Reminder from the Director

May 1 is the deadline for the Collection-based Research Program Grant for supporting staff research based on SI collections in the arts and humanities. The maximum is \$10,000, 1-year grants.

Jacana's New Schedule ••• Nuevo Horario de "Jacana"

The "Jacana's" schedule changed on week-days on April 1. It leaves Gamboa at 7:15am to arrive at BCI at 7:45am. In the afternoon leaves BCI at 3:40pm, to arrive in Gamboa at 4:20pm. These changes were required to integrate the BCI ferry service with the SACA bus service to Gamboa. The changes represent a net loss of 5 min per day on the island, but are important to allow employees the use of public transportation. Your cooperation is be appreciated ••• *El horario de la "Jacana" cambió de lunes a viernes a partir del 1 de abril. Sale de Gamboa a las 7:15am y llega a BCI a las 7:45am. En la tarde sale de BCI a las 3:40 y llega a Gamboa a las 4:20pm. Los cambios fueron necesarios para integrar el servicio de transporte de la "Jacana" con el servicio de buses de SACA, y aunque representan una pérdida de 5 min. diarios en la Isla, son importantes para el uso de los empleados del transporte público. Se agradece su cooperación.*

From BCI ••• De Barro Colorado

When visiting BCI, please be aware that, since space in the "Jacana" is running almost at full capacity, reservations are necessary. Since the navigation laws of the Panama Canal do not allow overload in ships, you may be left in Gamboa or BCI. Allow yourself extra time to arrive at the dock. All passengers must be on board 5 minutes before departure, both from Gamboa to BCI and back. Do not wait for the horn at BCI. Launch operators are not responsible to wait for late passengers. If you miss the boat at BCI, you will be charged for the night at BCI or the special boat (if available). All these measures are important for the normal flowing of people from and to BCI. Thanks for your cooperation.

De la Oficina de Recursos Humanos

Se les avisa por este medio a todos los trabajadores "wage grade" de STRI que el ajuste salarial correspondiente al presente año se está procesando en el National Finance Center (NFC) y se espera que esté listo para el período de pago #8, con fecha retroactiva al #1.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Telephone System at Naos

The Naos Laboratories now have the new telephone automated attendant system. But, for the system to be effective, you must use the extension numbers. A list of all extension numbers of the Naos personnel is available via groupwise. If you are not connected to the lan, please ask the secretary of your facility to provide you with a copy. Your cooperation is highly appreciated.

Part-Time Position at the Tupper Center

A part-time secretary (typing) position opened at the Tupper Center for May 1 to Sep 30. The selected person must be bilingual (English and Spanish), perform clerical support and typing duties, assist the reception desk, the scientific seminar coordinator, the scientific coordinator and the Tupper manager. Salary: \$250.00 per month. Interested contact the Human Resources Office at Tivoli for more information, or send your c.v. to HRO, STRI, P.O. Box 2072, Ancón, Panamá lo later than April 24th.

Día de la Tierra

La USIS le invita a celebrar el Día de la Tierra el próximo lunes 22 de abril con la presentación del servicio de Internet de Sinfonet (cómo acceder la página) de 12:00-1:00pm y la charla "De la Dinámica del Bosque a la Reforestación" a las 5:30pm por Salomón Aguilar, Rolando Pérez y Adriana de León del CTFPS, en la Biblioteca Amador Washington.

DE LA UNIVERSIDAD DE PANAMA

El Centro de Investigaciones Farmacognósticas de la Flora Panameña invita a la comunidad de STRI a la conferencia magistral "Plantas de los Quechuas de Alto Napo en Ecuador y sus Actividades Biológicas" por Ricardo Guerrero, catedrático de Farmacognosia, en el Salón 207 de la Facultad de Farmacia, el próximo jueves a las 3pm. Mayor información en el tele-fax 269-7655.

Last Minute...

Olga Linares and Martin Moynihan have e-mail in France: i:"linareso@ilink.fr"