On Thu, Jan 30, STRI inaugurated its Center for Tropical Palaeoecology and Archaeology (CTPA) on Gorgas Street, Ancon, Panama City. In the background photo, Ira Rubinoff welcomes the members of the scientific community, scholars and government authorities who attended the event. On the left, Marco Alvarez shows his shell collection, one of the exhibits at the opening. On the right, SI Provost Dennis O'Connor, presents Jeremy B.C. Jackson, director of the CTPA, with the "Secretary's Exceptional Service Gold Medal", for his scientific accomplishments at the Smithsonian. El jueves 30 de enero, STRI inauguró su Centro de Paleoecología y Arqueología Tropical en la ciudad de Panamá. En la foto de fondo, Ira Rubinoff da la bienvenida a miembros de la comunidad científica, académicos y autoridades gubernamentales presentes en el evento. A la izquierda, Marco Alvarez muestra su colección de caracoles, una de las exhibiciones preparadas para la inauguración. A la derecha, Dennis O'Connor, "Provost" del Smithsonian, hace entrega de la "Medalla de Oro por Servicios Excepcionales del Secretario del Smithsonian" a Jeremy B.C. Jackson, director del CTPA, por sus logros científicos.
TUPPER CENTER SEMINAR

Tue, Feb 25, noon seminar speaker will be Chris Wills, University of California at San Diego

The Important Role of Natural Selection in Shaping the Genomes of AIDS Viruses

CHARLA SMITHSONIAN DEL MES

STRI y el Patronato del Parque Natural Metropolitan invitan a la Charla Smithsonian del Mes que sera dictada por Allen Herre el dia miércoles, 26 de febrero a las 7:30pm, en el Salón Las Oropéndolas

Los Higuerones: Una Ventana a Las Leyes del Bosque
Para mayor información favor llamar al 232-5516.

BAMBI SEMINAR

Monday, Feb 24 (please note change of date), Bambi seminar speaker will be Chris Wills, at 7:15pm, BCI

Species-Herd Immunity: A New Model for the Maintenance of Rain Forest Diversity

Transportation and dinner reservations are essential. Please call BCI at 272-2124.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

I want to remind all STRI personnel and visitors that the STRI APO address can be only used for official business and no personal correspondence or packages can be received... Recuerdo a todos que el personal de STRI y a nuestros visitantes que el dirección APO de STRI es únicamente para correspondencia oficial y no puede recibir correspondencia personal ni paquetes via APO. - Ina Rubinoiff

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Richard Meinzer, University of Hawaii, Feb 23-15 Mar, to work on the environmental and physiological regulation of water flux through a tropical forest ecosystem, at BCI.
- Frank Haemersch, University of Tübingen, Feb 25-30 May, to work on the home range activity patterns and roost site selection in the frog-eating bat, Trachops cirrhosus, on BCI.
- Kenneth Clifton, University of California, Feb 25-13 May, to study the fertilization kinetics of green algal genetic release, at San Blas.

- Daniel Fromm, At & T Laboratories in New Jersey, Feb 26-19 Mar, to carry out studies of isolated population of Brachyrhaphis terrabensis and B. episcopi with implications for conservation of a possible point endemic at Naos, and work on the Cichlid, primarily Cichlasoma (Archocentrus) pattern languages, in Chiriqui.
- Lisa Angeloni, University of California, Feb 27-15 Mar, to study the mating behavior and sexual selection in opisthobranchs, in San Blas.
- Roberta Rubinoiff, SI director for Fellowships and Grants, Feb 28, to attend the fellowships’ meeting.
- Bertrand Schatz, STRI short term fellow from the University of Paul Sabatier, France, to carry out a field study of predator strategy in the ant Ectatomma ruidum, at Tupper.
- Cecile Bockholdt, University of Tübingen, Mar 1-30 May, to study the roost selection, activity pattern and home range in the neotropical long-eared bat, Tonatia silvicola, at BCI.
- Rene Brodie, Pre-doctoral fellow from the University of Washington, Mar 1-1 Jun, to study the morphological changes and terrestrial invasion: ontogenetic allometry in Coenobita compressus, at Naos.
- Kyle Harms, Mellon postdoctoral fellow from Princeton University, Mar 1, 1997 to Mar 1999, to study the links between soil fertility forest productivity and species diversity, at Gamboa and BCI.
- Bret Weinstein, University of Michigan, Mar 1-1 May, to study the roosting and feeding ecology of three species of neotropical rats, at BCI.

Departures

- Mireya Correa, Feb 23-1 Mar, to San Jose, Costa Rica, to visit the National Museum and attend meeting of the Board of Directors of the Asociación de Herbarios de Mesoamerica y el Caribe.
- Stanley Heckadon, Feb 23-3 Mar, to Bogor, Indonesia, to attend annual meetings of the Board of Trustees of the Center for International Forestry Research, CIFOR.

STRI IN THE NEWS


Installation of a new crane in Ft. Sherman on the Atlantic side will be completed next month. The project, financed by the Danish government, will allow scientists to compare the humid forest canopy on the Atlantic, with the dry forest canopy at Parque Metropolitano. The background photo shows the site and development of the installation process last week. On the right, Joe Wright, Steve Mulkey and a visitor examine tree roots exposed by the excavation.

**NEW STRI PUBLICATIONS**


**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Se Alquila Casa en La Chorrera**

Tres recámaras, baño, terraza posterior y patio cercado, disponible desde abril. Interesados favor llamar a Axel Calderón al 253-5024, después de horas de trabajo.

(*) We regret that we were unable to publish the STRI News from Jan 17, 1997 to date. Please send your news to the STRI Office of Education, at the Tupper Center.

United States Congressman Joe Skeen, Chairman at the Subcommittee on Agriculture Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies (right) visited BCI during a trip to Panama. Also in the photo are Tony Coates, Stanley Rand and Harry Barnes  *** Joe Skeen, (derecha) congresista de los Estados Unidos, miembro del Subcomité de Desarrollo en Agricultura Rural, la administración de Alimentación y Drogas y agencias afines (derecha) visitó Barro Colorado durante un viaje a Panamá. En la foto aparecen también Tony Coates, Stanley Rand y Harry Barnes.

(Foto: M.A. Guerra)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

| Wed, Feb 26 | STRI Monthly Lecture at the Metropolitan Park |
| Mon, Mar 3-Fri, Mar 7 | SI Office of Plant Services Team Visit to Meet with Facilities' Personnel |
| Tue, Mar 4 | Memorial Service for Dr. Martin H. Moynihan (1928-1996), STRI Director from 1956-1974 |
| Tue, Mar 4 | Annual Fellowship Meeting |
| Wed, Mar 5 | America’s Society and Council of the Americas Visit to BCI |
| Fri, Mar 7 | Earthwatch Board Meeting in Boston |
| Mon, Mar 10-Thu, Mar 13 | Tropical Forest Canopy Symposium |
| Sun, Mar 16-Sat, Mar 22 | 8th International Council of Zooarchaeology Meeting |

"In archaeology you uncover the unknown. In diplomacy you cover the known."

Thomas Pickering