

STRI news

February 21, 1997

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



Fotos:
M.A. Guerra

On Thu, Jan 30, STRI inaugurated its Center for Tropical Paleocology 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 Paleocología 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.

Researchers at the CTPA

- Tony Coates and Xenia Guerra
- Paul Colinvaux, Enrique Moreno, Eduardo Montenegro and Maria Josefa Villar
- Richard Cooke and Lourdes Veja
- Jeremy B.C. Jackson, Helena Fortunato and Amalia Herrera
- Dolores Piperno and Irene Holst

Audrey Smith, Manager
Gabriela Jones, Receptionist

Tel. 227-6022
Fax: 262-2014

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 Metropolitano invitan a la Charla Smithsonian del Mes que será dictada por Allen Herre el día 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 todo el personal de STRI y a nuestros visitantes que la dirección APO de STRI es únicamente para correspondencia oficial y no puede recibirse correspondencia ni paquetes via APO.* Ira Rubinoff

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 Haemsch, University of Tubingen, 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 nominals *Brachyrrhaphis 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 Rubinoff, 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 predatory strategy in the ant *Ectatomma ruidum*, at Tupper.
- Cecile Bockholdt, University of Tubingen, Mar 1-30 May, to study the roost selection, activity pattern and home range in the neotropical long-eared bat, *Tonatia silvicola*, at BCI.
- Renae 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

- "Pollen Grains Cast New Light on Climatic History of Amazon Basin", by Sally Pobojewski. *The Torch*, January 1997: 3.
- "A Few Miles of Land Arose from the Sea —and the World Changed", by John F. Ross. *Smithsonian*, December 1996: 112-120.



Fotos: M.A. Guerra

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.

Julio Polo (left) is mainly in charge of the installation of the new crane. On Sep 17, 1996, Patrick Miller, SI director of the Office of Physical Plants presented him with an special award for "creating a civil and respectful workplace", as part of the 150th SI anniversary celebrations, in Washington D.C. • Julio Polo (izquierda) está a cargo de la instalación de la nueva grúa. El 17 de septiembre de 1996, Patrick Miller, director de OPP en SI, le entregó un premio especial en Washington, D.C. "por crear un ambiente de trabajo civil y respetable", como parte de los 150 años de SI.

NEW STRI PUBLICATIONS

- Chai, Peng, Harrykison, Rakjesh and Dudley, Robert. 1996. "Hummingbird Hovering Performance in Hyperoxic Heliox: Effects of Body Mass and Sex." *The Journal of Experimental Biology* 199: 2745-2755.
- Graham, Jeffrey B., Aguilar, Nancy, Dudley, Robert and Gans, Carl. 1997. "The Late Paleozoic Atmospheric and the Ecological and Evolutionary Physiology of Tetrapods." In: *Amniote Origins*: 141-167. Academic Press.
- Guzmán, Héctor M. and Jarvis, Kym E. 1996. "Vanadium Century Record from Caribbean Reef Corals: A Tracer of Oil Pollution in Panama." *Ambio* 25(8): 523-526.
- Heckadon-Moreno, Stanley. 1997. "Exploraciones de Henri Pittier en las Savanas de Chepo y las Selvas de Bayano, 1911." *Epocas* Segunda Era: Febrero.

Jones, John. 1996. "Plant Remains, Analysis of." In: *The Oxford Companion to Archaeology*: 569-570, edited by Brian M. Fagan. New York: Oxford University Press.

Mariaux, Jean and Braun, Michael J. 1996. "A Molecular Phylogenetic Survey of the Nightjars and Allies (Caprimulgi-formes) with Special Emphasis on the Potoos (Nyctibiidae)." *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 6(2): 228-244.

Morton, Eugene S. and Derrickson, Kim C. 1996. "Song Ranging by the Dusky Antbird, *Cercomatra tyrannina*: Ranging Without Song Learning." *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* 39: 195-201.

Otero, L. Daniel and Aiello, Annette. 1996. "Descriptions of the Immature Stages of *Adelpha alata* (Nymphalidae)." *Journal of the Lepidopterists' Society* 50(4): 329-336.

Robertson, D. Ross. 1996. "Egg Size Relation to Fertilization Dynamics in Free-Spawning Tropical Fishes." *Oecologia* 108: 95-104.

Roubik, David and Winter, Klaus. 1996. "A Study of Flowering and Pollen Characteristics in a Tropical Herb Under Elevated CO₂ Treatment." *Tropics* 6(1/2): 149-152.

Smith, W. John and Smith, Anne Marie. 1996. "Vocal Signalling of the Great Crested Flycatcher, *Myiarchus crinitus* (Aves, Tyrannidae)." *Ethology* 102: 705-723.

Vallarino, Oscar and Weldon, Paul J. 1996. "Reproduction in the Yellow-Bellied Sea Snake (*Pelamis platurus*) from Panama: Field and Laboratory Observations." *Zoo Biology* 15(3): 309-314.



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)

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.

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