

STRI news

May 30, 1997

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

TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

Tuesday, Jun 3, noon seminar speakers will be Suzanne Manrubia and Ricard Solé, visiting scholars from Universidad Politécnica de Catalunya

Models of Macro-Evolution

BAMBI SEMINARS

Mon, Jun 2, Bambi seminar speaker will be Ricard Solé, Universidad Politécnica de Catalunya

Models of Rainforest Dynamics

Thursday, Jun 5, Bambi seminar speaker will be Conrad Labanderira, SI Museum of Natural History

Insect Herbivory from the Mid-Cretaceous Flora: Evidence for the Early Radiation of Insects on Angiosperms

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

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Robert Srygley, University of Washington, Jun 1 - Oct 31, to study the orientation of butterflies migrating across the Caribbean and Panama; the mating behavior of owl butterflies, and butterfly systematics, at Gamboa.
- Michael Ryan, University of Texas, Jun 1-30, to study the evolution of communication in the Túngara toadlets, in Gamboa.
- Marie Massa, University of Utah, Jun 1 - Jul 1, to work with Phyllis Coley on the deterrence of fungi and herbivores in young leaves with different developmental patterns, at BCI.
- Susan Kidwell, and Roberto Cipriani, University of Chicago, Jun 1 - Jul 10 to study the molluscan taphonomy and rewater geochemistry of tropical siloclastic and carbonate sediments, Western Caribbean, in San Blas. They will be stationed at Ancon.



On Thu, May 29, a presentation by insurance broker Mercedes Paniza de Cossú was offered to the STRI personnel to inform about a new medical plan. In the photo, Carmen Sucre makes an introduction to the meeting

••• El jueves 29 de mayo, Mercedes Paniza de Cossú, de Seguros Paniza, presentó un nuevo plan de seguro médico al personal de STRI. En la foto, Carmen Sucre, de la Oficina de Recursos Humanos, ofrece unas palabras de introducción a la reunión.

(Foto: M.A. Guerra)

- Ralf Kersanach, Mellon Postdoctoral fellow the Natural History Museum, U.K., Jun 1 - May 31, to study the resolving species boundaries in corals, at Naos.
- Nicole De Crapeo, Barbara Center, and Claudia Vanderbilt, University of Florida, Jun 1-15, to work on taxonomic descriptions and surveys of Panamanian *Schistochus* spp, found in *Ficus* spp., at BCI.
- Thomas Lambert, University of Wisconsin, Jun 2 - Jan 24, to study the spacing patterns of a tropical forest rodent, *Proechmys semispinosus*, at Gigante.
- Conrad Labanderira, SI National Museum of Natural History, Jun 2 - 18, to visit STRI facilities and present seminars.
- Jennifer Freund, University of Wisconsin, Jun 2 - Dec 20, to work with Gregory Adler in the project of limiting and regulating factors in populations of a tropical forest rodent, *Proechmumys semispinosus*, at BCI and Gamboa.
- Gregory Gilbert, STRI research affiliate from the University of California, Jun 2 - Aug 31, to study the importance of pathogen-mediated selection on the genetic diversion and structure of tropical tree populations, in Gamboa and BCI.

- Fernando Bretos, Florida, Jun 2 - Aug 8, to work as an intern with Joe Wright on plant post interactions in the understory and in the canopy of tropical dry and wet forests, at Tupper.
- José Méndez, Aquarius, Miami, Jun 2-10, to evaluate the Culebra Marine Exhibition Center aquaria.
- Julie Denslow, Mellon fellow from Louisiana State University, Jun 3-30, to study the forest structure across a tropical chromosome and the effects of light and litter on seedling dynamics across a rainfall gradient, at BCI and Gamboa.
- Satya Malialcal, Louisiana State University, Jun 3-30, to work with Julie Denslow, at BCI.
- Damian Elias, University of Arizona, Jun 4 - Aug 31, to work on an on-going comparative survey of behavioral interactions between females of solitary and social sweat bees, at BCI, on a Latino Internship.
- Helene Mueller-Landau, Short-term fellow from Princeton University, Jun 5 - Sep 9, to study the interspecific differences in sapling growth as a function of light availability, at BCI.
- Lowen Cattolico, Princeton University, Jun 6 - Jul 31, to study the model of fig pollinating wasps—parasitic wasp system considering specific aspect of parasitic wasps and interspecific relatedness, at BCI.
- Elise Stratton, University of Hawaii, Jun 6-11, to work with Guillermo Goldstein on the environmental and physiological regulation of water flux through a tropical forest ecosystem, at BCI.
- David Jenkins, SI National Zoo, and Adrian Cerezo, SI Amazonia Science Gallery, Jun 6-11, to visit STRI facilities and learn about our programs.
- Suzanne Williams, STRI post-doctoral fellow from the Australian Institute of Marine Sciences, Jun 6-14, to study the patterns of molecular divergence exhibited by snapping shrimps across the Isthmus of Panama, at Naos.

Departures

- Stanley Heckadon, Jun 1-7, to Miami, to attend the Western Hemisphere Environmental Conference, then to Cartagena, Colombia, for meetings.

Cientec '97

STRI is one of the various institutions featured at CIEN-TEC '97, the Science and Technology Fair, an event for the whole family, from May 29 to Jun 1, 10am - 8pm, en ATLAPA ••• *STRI es una de las muchas instituciones presentándose en CIEN-TEC '97, la Feria de Ciencia y Tecnología, un evento para toda la familia, del 29 de mayo al 1 de junio, de 10am a 8pm, en ATLAPA.*

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

From the Visitor Services Office

We remind all our visitors that in Panama it is required to have with you, at all times, a photo I.D. that indicates age (passport or a valid driver's license). A STRI I.D. alone is not adequate since it is only an identification card within STRI and has no official meaning for the Panamanian authorities. Panama has curfew laws in place that affect all persons under 18. Authorities have also implemented road checks where they verify I.D.s, validity of driver's licenses, etc. If you are asked for identification by any Panamanian authority, please comply. We would appreciate all staff and visitors passing on this information, especially to newcomers. If you have questions, please call the VSO, 227-6022 exts. 2248 or 2249, or the Security Office, exts. 2243 or 2246.

MISCELLANEOUS

STRI June Birthdays

Hely C. Cortez	2	Klaus Winter	
Argelis Ruiz-Guevara	2	David West	15
Nereida Hernández	2	Maritza Perurena	15
Rolando Pérez	4	Aureliano Valencia	16
Bonifacio De León	5	Shawn McCafferty	22
Gabriel Abrego	7	Leo van Valkenhoeft	29
Gloria Maggiori	7	Carmen Sucre	30
José Carlos Espino	7		

Open Your Heart ••• *Abra su Corazón*

Would you consider opening your heart to a child, yet unborn and already orphan of father? That's the case of Eduardo Sierra's unborn child. She will be born in early June and she will have the same needs of any new born. The Office of Human Resources is assembling a basket filled with baby items and invites all of us to participate ••• *¿Abriría usted su corazón a una niña que aún no ha nacido y ya es huérfana de padre? Este es el caso de la hija de Eduardo Sierra, que nacerá a principios de junio y tendrá las mismas necesidades de cualquier recién nacida. La Oficina de Recursos Humanos está preparando una canastilla y nos invita a todos a participar.*

Misa de Novenario por Eduardo Sierra

El lunes 2 de junio de 1997 a las 2p.m. en la Comunidad de Llanito Verde, será la Misa de Novenario por Eduardo Sierra. Desde la Panadería Tita de La Chorrera saldrá un bus que transportará a las personas que deseen participar de este acto piadoso.