

STRI news

September 26, 1997

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

TUPPER CENTER SEMINARS

Tuesday, September 30, seminar speaker will be John S. Pearse, University of California, Santa Cruz, at 11am

Stability and Flux in the Rocky Intertidal of Central California: A 24-year Comparison

At 1pm, seminar speaker will be Viki Pearse, University of California Santa Cruz

Tracking Trichoplax: Placozoans as Elusive Ancestors and as Living Animals

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Jason Curtis, postdoctoral fellow from the University of Florida, Sep 29 - Apr 30, to study the climatic and environmental history of the Amazon basin since the Last Glacial Maximum, at Ancon.
- Francis Mayle, University of Lancaster, U.K., to work with Paul Colinvaux, at Ancon.
- Heidi Banford, The College of William and Mary, Virginia, Oct 2 - Oct, 1998, to study the historical zoogeography of *Scomberomorus* (Teleostei: Scombridae) from the Atlantic and Eastern Pacific: A Molecular Approach, at Naos.

Departures

- Argelis Guevara, Sep 26 - Oct 1, to Sabanita de Montes de Oca, Costa Rica, to attend the *Taller Regional para la Conservación de las Tortugas Marinas en Centroamérica*.
- Ira Rubinfoff, Sep 30 - Oct 11, to Washington D.C., on official business at SI.
- Noris Salazar, Oct 1-5, to Santafé de Bogotá, D.C., Colombia, to attend the Flora Neotropica Meetings.
- Mireya Correa, Oct 1-5, to Santafé de Bogotá, D.C., Colombia, attend the Flora Neotropica Meetings.



Panamanian legislators of the Panama Canal Affairs and the Foreign Relations commissions, their staff and advisors, visited Barro Colorado, to learn about STRI activities on the Island, on Wed, Sep 24. In the photo, Nélida Gómez, STRI, guides one of the groups during their visit ••• Legisladores panameños de las comisiones de Asuntos del Canal y de Relaciones Exteriores, visitaron Barro Colorado para conocer sobre las actividades de STRI en la Isla. En la foto, Nélida Gómez, STRI, guía uno de los grupos durante su visita.

(Foto: M.A. Guerra)

- Anthony Coates, Oct 1-24, to Washington D.C., on official business at SI, and to Salt Lake City, UT, to attend meetings of the Geological Society of America.

Congratulations ••• Felicidades

To Alberto and Xenia Guerra, for the birth of their son Diego Alejandro, on Friday, September 19 ••• *A Alberto Guerra y Xenia Saavedra de Guerra, por el nacimiento de su hijo Diego Alejandro Guerra Saavedra, el viernes 19 de septiembre, con un peso de 7lbs, 8 onzas.*

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

From the Director's Office ••• De la Oficina del Director

The STRI's Office of Human Resources is creating a database of STRI's contract employees. For this purpose a questionnaire has been created and distributed to all facilities. Contract employees may obtain this form their facility's secretary. Please complete and send it to the Office of Human Resources by September 30, 1997 ••• *La Oficina de Recursos*

Humanos de STRI está creando una base de datos con los empleados contratistas del Instituto. Para ello se diseñó un cuestionario el cual se distribuyó en todas las instalaciones. Los empleados contratistas deben pedirlo a la secretaria de su estación de trabajo, llenarlo y devolverlo a la Oficina de Recursos Humanos antes del martes 30 de septiembre.

Access to Galeta ••• Para Entrar a Galeta

Anyone planning to go to Galeta must have a valid ID and must be on the Access Roster. To be put on the Roster contact Ricardo Thompson or Marissa Batista in advance. The vehicle you plan to use must have adequate insurance. Proof of insurance (copy) will be requested once you enter the Galeta Island DOD Facility which begins at the access road ••• *Todo aquel que planea ir a Galeta deberá portar su carnet de identificación de STRI válido y apuntarse en la lista de acceso. Para ello, deberá ponerse en contacto con Ricardo Thompson o Marissa Batista con tiempo. El vehículo que llevará deberá estar asegurado adecuadamente. Una copia del seguro del carro será solicitada una vez en los predios de las instalaciones del Departamento de Defensa en la Isla Galeta, que empieza en la entrada del camino de acceso.*

NEW STRI PUBLICATIONS

- Colinvaux, Paul A. 1997. "An Arid Amazon?" *Tree* 12(8): 318-319.
- Colinvaux, Paul A., Bush, Mark B., Steinitz-Kannan, Miriam and Miller, Michael C. 1997. "Glacial and Postglacial Pollen records from the Ecuadorian Andes and Amazon." *Quaternary Research* 48: 69-78.
- West, Stuart A., Herre, E. Allen, Compton, S.G., Godfrey, H.C.J. and Cook, J.M. 1997. "A Comparative Study of Virginité in Fig Wasps." *Animal Behaviour* 54: 437-450.

FROM THE HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE

1997 Combined Federal Campaign

This year's campaign will run from October 15 through November 24. The theme of the campaign is "It All Comes Back to You!", and Ann Bay, Director of the Smithsonian Office of Education, has agreed to serve as this year's Vice Chair. The goal for this year's campaign has been set at \$275,000, and STRI's participation and support will help achieve this goal. As soon as the campaign materials are received, they will be distributed

to all the facilities. This year, the campaign leaders are: Audrey Smith, for Tupper and Ancon, Daniel Millán for BCI, Osmila Sánchez for Naos, and Carmen Sucre for Tivoli and general coordination.

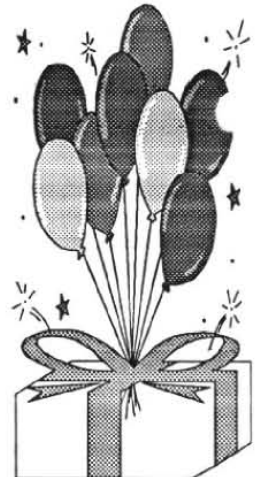
ANNOUNCEMENTS

XXIII Reunión Anual de Interciencia

La XXIII Reunión Anual de Interciencia se celebrará en Panamá, el 17 de octubre. Del 15 al 17 de octubre se llevarán a cabo jornadas científicas con temas de interés nacional e internacional. Para asistir a estas jornadas favor ponerse en contacto con APANAC, Tel. 236-1311, ext. 125 ó 136.

STRI October Birthdays

Fernando Bouche	1
Héctor Guzmán	2
David Roubik	3
Mónica Alvarado	3
Lisa Barnett	3
Celideth De Leon	5
Allen Herre	6
Francisco Guanti	8
Stanley Heckadon	9
Ricardo Racines	11
Jorge Ventocilla	12
Andrés Ramos	17
Enrique Moreno	20
Fernando Oglivie	22
Doris Martiz	22
Daniel Millán	26
Richard Cooke	28



MISCELLANEOUS

From BCI ••• De Barro Colorado

We are accepting donations to help Jesús Antonio Valdéz from Las Pavas, who had worked at BCI in different projects (nature trail, etc.) and had a severe accident that immobilize him. Please leave your donation with Orlando Hernández at Tupper and Oris Acevedo, at BCI ••• *Estamos aceptando donaciones para Jesús Antonio Valdéz, de Las Pavas, quien ha trabajado diferentes proyectos en Barro Colorado (el sendero natural, etc.) y tuvo un accidente severo que le ha dejado inmóvil. Cualquier donación puede dejarse con Orlando Hernández en Tupper o con Oris Acevedo, en Barro Colorado.*