

STRI news '98

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute • P.O. Box 2072, Balboa, Panama • Tel 227-6022 • Fax 232-5978 • May 15

TUPPER CENTER SEMINAR

No noon seminar scheduled for Tue, May 19. If you wish to give a seminar, please contact Neal Smith at smithn@tivoli.si.edu

BAMBI SEMINAR

Thursday, May 21, Bambi seminar speaker will be Jenny Apple, University of Utah
The Effects of Variation in Resource Availability on an Ant-caterpillar Mutualism and its Impact

Transportation and dinner reservations are essential. Please call BCI at 272-2124 or e-mail: bambi@bci.si.edu

NAOS LUNCHEON

For information about the Naos Luncheon seminars, visit <http://160.111.136.12/NaosLuncheonSchedule.html>

PEOPLE

Arrivals

- Nigel Asquith, Duke University, May 16-29, to study the abiotic and biotic limits to tree regeneration at sites around Gatun Lake, on BCI.
- Melissa Panger and Linda Wolfe, University of California, May 18 - Aug 15, to study the effects of postural regulation on white-face capuchin *Cebus capucinus*, hand use patterns across variable habitats, on a Mellon Exploratory Research Award, at BCI.
- David Morrel and James McLaughlin, from the SI Office of Protection Services, May 18-22, on official business at STRI.
- Michael Dillon, University of Texas, May 19 - Aug 15, to join the Túngara frog project, on a STRI internship, in Gamboa.



Students who are participating in the University of Pennsylvania field course taught by Irby Lovette (standing) in Gamboa, visit the Tupper Center on Thursday, May 14, to register for their 3-week stay ••• *Estudiantes que participan en el curso de campo que dicta Irby Lovette (de pie) en Gamboa, visitan el Centro Tupper el jueves 14 de mayo, para registrarse para su estadía de tres semanas.* (Foto: M.A. Guerra)

- Joseph Beieri, and Bryan Eya University of California, May 20-31, to conduct faunal studies in Central American Coleoptera: Panama, at Tupper.
- Helen Hull-Sanders, University of New Orleans, May 20 - Aug 11, to study the relationship of leaf cutter ants to understory dynamics of tree-fall gaps, on BCI.
- Debra Murray, Short-term fellow from Louisiana State University, May 20 - Jun 20, to study the evolutionary relationships of Euptychine butterflies (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae), at Tupper.
- Juan Posada, University of Florida, May 21 - Aug 21, to study the acclimation of leaf photosynthetic traits in canopy tree with contrasting architectures, at Tupper.

Reminder to All Visitors ••• Para todos los Visitantes

Checks drawn under the Chase Manhattan Bank account in Panama must be cashed locally. They are not accepted in the United States. For more information please contact ossaml@tivoli.si.edu ••• *Los cheques girados a la cuenta del Chase Manhattan Bank de Panamá deben ser depositados o cambiados en Panamá. Estos cheques no son aceptados en los Estados Unidos. Mayor información en ossa@tivoli.si.edu*

Send your news and comments about the STRI news to calderom@tivoli.si.edu

Departures

- Amalia Herrera, May 17 - Jun 7, to Washington D.C., to work at the National Museum of Natural History, then to New York, to work at the American Museum of Natural History.

FROM THE SECRETARY

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Refugio (Will) I. Rochin as Director of the Smithsonian Center for Latino Initiatives... He will begin work at the Smithsonian in early August. As Director of the Center for Latino Initiatives, Dr. Rochin will oversee a variety of projects at the Smithsonian designed to increase awareness of the role and contributions of Latinos programs, collections and studies..." •• *Es un placer para mí anunciar la elección de Refugio (Will) I. Rochin como director del Centro de Iniciativas para Latinos del Smithsonian... Empezará a trabajar en el Smithsonian a principios de Agosto. Como director del Centro, el Dr. Rochin estará a cargo de una variedad de proyectos del Smithsonian diseñados para aumentar el conocimiento público del papel y las contribuciones de los latinos en la historia y cultura de los Estados Unidos. Esto incluye exhibiciones, programas, colecciones y estudios...*

I. Michael Heyman

POSITION AT STRI

Applicants are invited for the position of Resident Manager (RM) of the Bocas del Toro Marine Station. The Marine Station will soon be established to support marine research and education programs in the Bocas del Toro region. The RM's position is to manage the Station's facilities and staff to serve these programs. The incumbent will be STRI's senior support staff person permanently on site and will officially represent Smithsonian interests in Bocas. Duties include day to day operations of the Station, hire and supervise local support staff, provide orientation to users, manage the Station's budget and petty-cash, and act as liaison with other STRI staff and departments. The qualifications of the successful candidate are proven management experience; a minimum of an undergraduate degree in biology or appropriate subject; good communications skills in English and Spanish; working knowledge to operate boats, vehicles, SCUBA compressors, generators, pumping systems, radios, etc. He/she will also be willing to become well versed in the natural habitats, to learn to safely navigate the local waters and perform at-sea rescues and first aid. The duty station is Isla Colon, Bocas del Toro. The position is contract, full time. The salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. Applicants should

submit a CV, a letter of application, describing their work experience plus names and phone numbers of three referees. Application closing date: June 1, 1998. Submit applications to the Office of Human Resources, STRI, P.O. Box 2072, Balboa, Panama, or bring personally to Tivoli. More information at sucrec@tivoli.si.edu or perurenm@tivoli.si.edu

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Open Season

The current thrift savings plans open season provides TSP investors with their semiannual opportunity to review their accounts and make sure that their investments reflect the level of risk that they desire. During the TSP open season, which runs from May 15 through Jul 31, eligible federal employees will have a chance to reallocate or change the level of TSP investments. The necessary forms to make changes in the TSP allocations are available in the Office of Human Resources. More information at sucrec@tivoli.si.edu

For Tupper Users •••Para Usuarios del Tupper

The Tupper Computer Room was reorganized. We have pentium computers with Windows 95, GroupWise, Netscape, Corel Suite WordPerfect, etc. Please sign in advance in the reservation board and read all the policies for the use of these facilities. More information at urriolar@tivoli.si.edu •••El salón de computadoras del Tupper ha sido reorganizado. Contamos con 5 computadoras pentium con Windows 95, GroupWise, Netscape, Corel Suite WordPerfect, etc. Favor reservar el uso de las computadoras en el tablero de reservaciones y leer todas las reglas para el uso de este equipo. Mayor información con urriolar@tivoli.si.edu

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IV Congreso Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología

10 al 12 de septiembre de 1998, Hotel Continental SENACYT, APANAC y CYTED anuncian el IV Congreso Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología en Panamá. Habrá conferencias magistrales, simposios, comunicaciones libres, sesión de carteles y mesas redondas. Los trabajos enviados serán evaluados por un comité científico. El cupo es limitado. La aceptación se basará en la calidad de la presentación y la prontitud en recibirlos. Fecha tope para el resumen es el 17 de julio, impreso con alta calidad y como archivo de Word (diskette o correo electrónico). Para obtener el panfleto inscripción y mayores detalles, visite la Oficina de Educación de STRI o comuníquese directamente con el Comité organizador congreso@senacyt.gob.pa en SENACYT o con jaen@ancon.up.ac.pa en APANAC.