

STRI news '99

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute Weekly Newsletter

Panama, September 3, 1999

Tupper Seminar

Tuesday, September 7, noon seminar speaker will be Louis Bernatchez, Université Laval, Québec, Canada

Integrating Molecular Genetics and Ecology in Studies of Adaptive Radiation: Whitefish, Coregonus sp. as a Case Study

Bambi Seminar

Information on the next Bambi will be available via GroupWise. For reservations call BCI at 272-2124 or E-mail: Bambi

Arrivals

Karen Lips and Jeanne Robertson, Southern Illinois University, Sep 5 - Oct 30, to investigate the spread and causes of amphibians declines in tropical America, on mainland.

- Sabine Spehn, Universität Tübingen, Sep 7 - Jul 31, to study the mechanisms of coexistence of two insectivores gleaning bats (Phyllostomidae: *Micronycteris hirsuta* and *Tonadina bidens*): Resource and habitat use and prey detection, on BCI.
- Robert Stallard, U.S. Geological Survey, Colorado, Sep 10 - Oct 10, to continue a long-term monitoring of biochemical cycles in watersheds on BCI.
- Rachel Adams, University of Maryland, Sep 10 - Oct 1, to work with Ulrich Muller, on the evolution and ecology of the attine ant-fungus symbiosis, in Gamboa. Mechthild Bueche, Universität Würzburg, Sep 10 - Nov 20, to work with Gerhard Zotz on the epiphyte community structure

Fourth Thesis from Cerro Juan Díaz Archaeological Project

Native American biology student Máximo Jiménez, from the Ngobe nation in Panama, successfully defended his undergraduate thesis on Thursday, August 26, at the University of Panama, with a near perfect score (98/100). The thesis' title was *Aprovechamiento Precolombino de la Fauna de Vertebrados en Cerro Juan Díaz, Panamá (300700 d.C.)* [Precolumbian Exploitation of the Vertebrate Fauna at Cerro Juan Díaz, Panama (AD 300700)]. A grant from the SI Womens' Committee helped Jiménez analyze these materials. This is the fourth Latin American undergraduate thesis that has resulted from Richard Cooke's Cerro Juan Díaz archaeological project, which since 1992 has been reconstructing the lifeways and mortuary customs of a pre-Columbian village on the central Pacific coast of Panama.

On July, 1999, Claudia Díaz won top marks at the Universidad de los Andes, in Santafé de Bogotá, Colombia, for her thesis: *Estudio Bioantropológico de Rasgos Mortuorios en la Operación 4 del Sitio Arqueológico Cerro Juan Díaz, Panamá* (Bioanthropological Analysis of Mortuary Features in Operation 4 at Cerro Juan Díaz, an archaeological site in Panama). In 1998, Diana Carvajal obtained her degree with the thesis *Análisis de Cuatro Componentes en el Rasgo CH Excavado Mediante la Microestratigrafía (Cerro Juan Díaz, Panamá)* [Analysis of Four Components of Feature Ch Excavated by Microstratigraphic Techniques (Cerro Juan Díaz, Panama)], and in 1995, Luis Alberto Sánchez graduated with the thesis *Análisis Estilístico de Dos Componentes Cerámicos de Cerro Juan Díaz: su Relación con el Surgimiento de las Sociedades Cacicales en Panamá* (Stylistic Analysis of Two Ceramic Components at Cerro Juan Díaz and its Relationship to the Development of Chieftdom Level Societies in Panama).

and dynamic in a tropical wet forest, in Ft. Sherman.

- Ann Budd, Steve Cairns, John Dawson and Donald McNeill, Panama Paleocology Program, Sep 10-20, to continue research activities in Bocas del Toro with Anthony Coates.
- Cameron Currie, predoctoral fellow from the University of Toronto, Sep 10-20, to study the parasitism of attine fungal gardens, in Gamboa.
- Elisabeth Kalko, Universität Tübingen, Sep 10 - Oct 25, to continue research on the echolocation and foraging behavior of neotropical bats, on BCI and mainland.

New Baby!



Congratulations

to Harry and Penny Barnes for the birth of their daughter Alexandra Marion, on Friday, September 3rd. Alexandra weighed 7lb, 11oz ●●● Nuestras felicidades a Harry y Penny Barnes, por el nacimiento de su hija Alexandra Marion, el viernes 3 de septiembre. Alexandra pesó 7 lb, 11oz

Congratulations

To Arturo Dominici, aquarist at the Culebra Marine Exhibition Center for obtaining a M.S. degree in marine

ecology at the University of Costa Rica, on August 25. His thesis was on the population structure of reef fishes in the Gulf of Papagayo, Guanacaste, Costa Rica ••• Felicitaciones a Arturo Dominici, acuarista del Centro de Exhibiciones Marinas de Punta Culebra, por el título de Maestría en Ecología Marina en la Universidad de Costa Rica, el 25 de agosto. Su tesis fue sobre la estructura poblacional de los peces de arrecife del Golfo de Papagayo, Guanacaste, Costa Rica.

New at STRI

We welcome Lina González, STRI's new digital imaging laboratory technician, under the supervision of scientific coordinator Rainedo Urriola. Lina has a bachelor's degree in graphic design from the University of Panama and a master's degree in multimedia at Humber College, Toronto. She started working at STRI on Thursday, September 2nd ••• Le damos la bienvenida a Lina González, nueva técnica encargada del laboratorio de imágenes digitales en STRI, bajo la supervisión de Raineldo Urriola. Lina se graduó en la Universidad de Panamá como diseñadora gráfica y obtuvo una maestría en multimedia en Humber College, Toronto. Empezó a trabajar en STRI el jueves 2 de septiembre.

Cooperativa

Funcionarios de la Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito EDIOACC, R.L. visitarán STRI para suministrar información sobre sus servicios a los empleados de STRI, el miércoles 15 de septiembre a las 3pm en el Auditorio del centro Tupper. Todos están invitados.

New Publications

Cox, M.L., and Windsor, Donald M. 1999. "The first instar larva of *Aulacoscelis* sp. and *Megascelis puella* Lacordaire (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Aulacoscelinae, Megascelinae) and their value in the placement of the Aulacoscelinae and

Megascelinae". In: *Advances in Chrysomelidae Biology* 1: 51-70, edited by M.L. Cox. Leiden, The Netherlands: Backhuys Publishers.

Eberhard, William G., and Huber, Bernhard A. 1998. "Courtship, copulation, and sperm transfer in *Leucauge mariana* (Araneae, Tetragnathidae) with implications for higher classification". *Journal of Arachnology* 26(3): 342-368.

Korine, Carmi, and Arad, Ze'ev. 1999. "Changes in milk composition of the Egyptian fruit bat, *Rousettus aegyptiacus* (Pteropodidae), during lactation". *Journal of Mammalogy* 80(1): 53-59.

Roberts, Tyson R. 1998. "Systematic revision of the balitorid loach genus *Sewellia* of Vietnam and Laos, with diagnoses of four new species". *Raffles Bulletin of Zoology* 46(2): 271-288.

Zotz Gerhard, Reichling P., and Krack, S. 1999. "Another woody hemiepiphyte with CAM: *Havetiopsis flexilis* Spruce ex Planch. & Tr. (Clusiaceae)". *Flora* 194: 215-220.



3RD IN A SERIES OF SHORT ARTICLES

Is your PC compliant with year 2000? To check if your PC is compliant with year 2000, you can run a "Y2K testing utility" at <http://www.firmware.com>. Save the program and run it. It will let you know if your Real Time Clock and BIOS are compliant. If your PC is not compliant, you must upgrade your BIOS. You will find additional information in internet according to your hardware.

Y2K CRITICAL TEST DATE

You can evaluate possible Y2K vulnerabilities starting 9/8/1999. It must successfully roll over 9/9/1999, and to 9/10/1999.

"John Koskinen, chair of President Clinton's Council on Year 2000 Conversion, said he was increasingly confident that basic U.S. Infrastructure—notably telephones, power, and aviation—would handle the date change without significant disruptions."

At STRI, every computer user will be responsible for his/her computer. The Office of Information Technology (OIT) will provide the information needed for this transition, upon request. Don't take any chances! Contact Tania Quiel, OIT, STRI • Tel. 212-8152 • E-mail: quielt@tivoli.si.edu

3RO DE VARIOS ARTICULOS

¿Cómo saber si su computadora es compatible con el año 2000? Una manera es correr la aplicación "Y2K Testing Utility" que se encuentra en <http://www.firmware.com> Este programita le dirá si su reloj y BIOS son compatibles. Si no son compatibles, deberá actualizar el BIOS de su computadora. Puede encontrar mucha otra información en Internet.

FECHAS CRÍTICAS

Una manera de predecir si su computadora experimentará fallas con el cambio al año 2000 será a través de fechas vulnerables. La primera de estas fechas empieza el 8 de septiembre de 1999. Su computadora deberá pasar exitosamente del 8 al 9 de septiembre y del 9 al 10 de septiembre de 1999.

En STRI, cada usuario de computadoras será responsable con su computadora. La Oficina de Informática (OIT) le suministrará toda la información necesaria para la transición al pedirla. ¡No arriesgue! Consulte a Tania Quiel, OIT, STRI, Tel 212-8152 • E-mail: quielt@tivoli.si.edu