

Tupper seminar

Tuesday, February 15, noon seminar speaker will be Pablo Eyzaguirre, International Plant Genetic Resources Institute
Title to be announced

Bambi seminar

Thu, Feb 17, Bambi seminar speaker will be Gail Fraser, York University
Sexual selection and parental care in a monogamous seabird, the Crested Auklet

Bettina Engelbrecht is the new Bambi "Jefe". Please contact her for additional information on Bambi seminars.

Arrivals

Nancy Knowlton, STRI, Feb 15 - Mar 4, to continue research in Panama and attend the fellowships selection.

Departures

William Wcislo to Costa Rica, Feb 15-24, to teach a field course at the invitation of the Organization of Tropical Studies, OTS.

TV

El Canal al día: segmento sobre el laboratorio marino de Naos, domingo 13 de febrero, 11:30am, Canal 11 y el martes 15, 8pm, Canal 11. Se repetirá el miércoles 16, 7:30pm, Canal 5, y el sábado 19 en Chiriquí, por TVN (ver programación).

STRI news 2000

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

February 11, 2000

Honorary professorship degree to Ira Rubinoff



Photo by Biff Bermingham

Rector Stanley Muschett (center) and the academic community of *Universidad Católica Santa María La Antigua*, USMA, in Panama, conferred honorary professorship degrees to Ceferino Sánchez former rector of the Universidad of Panama director of SENACYT (first from the left), and STRI director Ira Rubinoff, on Thursday, February 10. During the ceremony, held at the auditorium of the university's building for research and graduate studies, Rubinoff accepted the distinction "...on behalf of the thousands of scientists from Panama and around the world who have contributed to the knowledge of Panama's natural history under the auspices of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute."

This is the first time USMA confers honorary professorship degrees in its 35-year history. According to its statutory mandates, "honorary professors are those personalities who have extensively contributed to promoting human values, science and culture, either in

Panama or outside the country, and have been nominated by the university's rector following the recommendation of the academic council and the board of directors. Both Sánchez and Rubinoff received this distinction for their contributions to research development in Panama.

Rubinoff accepted the distinction "...on behalf of the thousands of scientists from Panama and around the world who have contributed to the knowledge of Panama's natural history under the auspices of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute."

USMA confiere grado de profesor honorario a Ira Rubinoff

El rector Stanley Muschett, y la comunidad académica de la Universidad Católica Santa María La Antigua, USMA, de Panamá, confirieron profesorado honorario a Ceferino Sánchez, decano, rector y vice-rector (retirado) de la Universidad de Panamá (primero de izquierda a derecha) y al director de STRI, Ira Rubinoff, el jueves 10 de febrero. Durante la ceremonia, llevada a cabo en el auditorio de la USMA, Rubinoff aceptó la distinción "...en nombre de los miles de científicos de Panamá y de todo el mundo que han contribuido a engrandecer el conocimiento de la historia natural de Panamá bajo los auspicios del Instituto Smithsonian de Investigaciones Tropicales."

Esta es la primera vez que la USMA confiere profesorado honorario en su historia de 35 años. De acuerdo a los estatutos de la USMA, "son profesores honorarios aquellas personalidades que, habiendo contribuido en grado eminente a la promoción de los valores humanos, la ciencia y la cultura, dentro o fuera del país, han sido nombrados como tales por el Rector, previa recomendación del Consejo Académico y aprobación de la Junta de Directores. Ambos, Sánchez y Rubinoff recibieron esta distinción por sus contribuciones al desarrollo de la investigación.

New publications

Basset, Yves. 1999. "Diversity and abundance of insect herbivores collected on *Castanopsis acuminatissima* (Fagaceae) in New Guinea: relationships with leaf production and surrounding vegetation". *European Journal of Entomology* 96: 381-391.

Coldwell, Douglas D., Baird, Craig R., Lee, Byron, and Milton, Katharine. 1999. "Scanning electron microscopy and comparative morphometrics of eggs from six bot fly species (Diptera: Oestridae)". *Journal of Medical Entomology* 36(6): 803-810.

Novotny, V. and Basset, Yves. 1999. "Body size and host plant specialisation: a relationship from a community of herbivorous insects from New Guinea". *Journal of Tropical Ecology* 15, 315-328.

Diving buddy

David Kline will need a diving buddy from Feb 18 - Mar 14 in Bocas. Interested please contact him at the Marine Biology Research Division 0202, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92093-0202 Office: (858)822-2486; lab 858)822-2790 email dkline@ucsd.edu

STRI photos on Panamanian stamps



A stamp series of coleopterists was presented by COTEL Panamá (Dirección de Correos y Telégrafos de Panamá), on Thursday, February 10, at the Exhibit Hall, Tupper Center. The photographs were taken by STRI photographer Marcos A. Guerra, to specimens under study by Don Windsor. La Dirección General de Correos y Telégrafos de Panamá presentó a STRI una serie de estampillas de coleópteros el jueves 10 de febrero en el Salón de Exhibiciones del Centro Tupper. Las fotos fueron tomadas por Marcos A. Guerra, fotógrafo de STRI, a especímenes bajo estudio por Don Windsor.

fotos de STRI en estampillas panameñas

Post for research ecologist

The Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory of the Southern Research Station in North Carolina seeks a postdoctoral ecologist for a 2-year position, GS-11 level (\$41,834 + standard federal benefits). The incumbent will participate on ongoing team-research focused on understanding responses of watershed ecosystems to anthropogenic and natural disturbances. Potential research projects include riparian zone function and restoration, prescribed burning effects, carbon and nutrient cycling in forested ecosystems, etc. Also, the office holder will have the opportunity to develop independent projects based on Coweeta's long-term data bases.

Strong candidates will have academic training in forest ecology at the Ph.D level, skills in quantitative analyses (modeling and multivariate statistics), ecosystem level analyses, and the ability to communicate effectively both in

writing and presentations at professional meetings. This is an early call to participate. Interested please send a letter of interest and CV to James M. Vose, Project Leader, USDA Forest Service, Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory, 3160Coweeta Lab Rd, Otto, NC 28763.

Electronic transfers at the National Bank

STRI employees with accounts at the National Bank will be able to receive their salary through the recently implemented electronic fund transfer service in this bank. Those who already sent their ACH forms to the Accounting Department, please notify them if accounts are active Employees with new accounts in this bank, please contact Lorena de Cabrera to fill the necessary forms.

Los empleados de STRI que tengan cuentas corrientes en el Banco Nacional, pueden recibir ahora sus cheques a través del sistema de transferencia electrónicas recientemente instalado en este banco. Aquellos que ya había enviado las formas ACH a

Contabilidad para recibir sus cheques en el Banco Nacional, favor notifique si su cuenta está activa. Aquellos que tengan cuentas nuevas en este banco, pónganse en contacto con Lorena de Cabrera para llenar las formas necesarias.

selling...buying...?

Servicios Profesionales y Avalúos offer services to the STRI community, to rent, buy, or sell in Panama and reverted areas (Herrick, Clayton, etc.) Will help in the purchasing process of ARI houses. Fully bilingual: eugeniaurena@hotmail.com or call at cel 618-7376.

For sale: 6-year old duplex in Colinas del Golf, 3br, 3bath, family room, terrace, full fence, excellent conditions, valued in 95,000, will sell for 85,000 o.b.o. For more information please call Juan Dutari (BCI) a.w.h. 217-1681, 217-6606 617-8776. **For sale:** Nissan Sunny, 1988, automatico, A/C de fábrica, buen estado general. Negociable. Helena Fortunato, tel. 212-8057/233-5259