

Tupper seminars

Tuesday, May 16, noon seminar speaker will be Cliff Cunningham, Duke University
Comparing population histories of North Atlantic marine invertebrates.

We have collected mitochondrial sequence data for several important intertidal invertebrates from both sides of the North Atlantic. In four cases we have evidence consistent with a recent colonization of North America from Europe. In four cases we have evidence of long population histories in North America. By assembling sets of taxa with congruent histories we hope to identify generalities about North Atlantic marine biogeographies.

Bambi seminar

Please check your bulletin board and Group Wise to learn about the next Bambi seminar.

Arrivals

Catherine Pringle and Dana Drake, University of Georgia, May 13-21, to work on a pre-extirpation study of the role of stream-dwelling frogs, on mainland.

J. Dennis O'Connor, SI Undersecretary for Science, May 14-17, to meet with scientific staff to discuss programs at STRI.

Susan McRae, STRI postdoctoral fellow, May 14 - Jul 15, to continue research on the ecological factors affecting reproductive strategies in a tropical population of Moorhens, at Tupper and Gamboa.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

May 11, 2000

Forest ecologist Steve Hubbell joins STRI scientists

Steve Hubbell, internationally known forest ecologist at the University of Georgia and STRI's research associate since 1989, accepted a part time position on the STRI scientific staff, effective July 2000. He will keep his position in Georgia, where he will work nine months a year, dedicating the three remaining months to research at STRI with the Center for Tropical Forest Science (CTFS). Hubbell (UCLA, Berkeley Ph.D., 1969) worked for STRI from 1982-1988. He started publishing results from his research at STRI on canopy tree diversity in 1983, with staff scientist Robin Foster. Since then he has published more than 60 articles on research done at STRI in specialized journals; one of the latest, featured on the cover of *Science* (1999), was co-authored with Robin Foster, S.T., O'Brien, Kyle Harms, Rick Condit, B.

Weschler, Joe Wright and Suzanne Lao. Hubbell is one of the founders of the BCI forest dynamic 50-hectare plot established in 1980 that pioneered pantropical efforts that resulted in the establishment of the CTFS in 1990. We expect him to return to Panama in June.



El ecólogo forestal Steve Hubbell se une al cuerpo de científicos en STRI

Steve Hubbell, autoridad internacional en ecología forestal en la Universidad de Georgia, e investigador asociado a STRI desde 1989, aceptó una posición de tiempo parcial como científico de STRI, a partir del mes de julio. Hubbell mantendrá su posición en Georgia donde trabajará nueve meses del año, dedicando los tres meses restantes a sus investigaciones en STRI con el Centro de Ciencias Forestales del Trópico, CTFS. Hubbell (doctorado de UCLA, Berkeley, 1969) trabajó en STRI de 1982-1988. Empezó a publicar los resultados de sus investigaciones en STRI sobre diversidad de árboles del dosel en 1983 con el científico Robin Foster. Desde entonces ha publicado más de 60 artículos sobre sus investigaciones en STRI en revistas importantes; una de las últimas, que logró cobertura en la portada de *Science* (1999), la publicó junto con Robin Foster, S.T. O'Brien, Kyle Harms, Rick Condit, B. Weschler, Joe Wright y Susy Lao. Hubbell fue uno de los co-fundadores de la parcela de dinámica de bosques de 50 hectáreas en Barro Colorado establecida en 1980, que dio inicio a los esfuerzos a escala panorámica sobre dinámica de bosques en los trópicos, y que resultó en el establecimiento del CTFS en 1990.

More arrivals

Jane Hutton, McGill University, May 14 - Jun 10, to work with Catherine Potvin, on management of traditional use plants of the Ipeti-Embera communities, in Darien.

Peter Glynn, Peggy Fong, Juan Maté, Tyler Smith and Sean Theodosiums, May 14, to participate on a research cruise aboard the *RV Urracá*.

Gwen Keller, visiting student from the University of Georgia, May 15 - Apr 15, to study the consequences of *Wolbachia* infection in natural populations of tropical leaf beetles, at Tupper.

Jeanne Robertson, Southern Illinois University, May 15 - Aug 15, to study the population genetic structure of the neotropical glass frog, *Centrolene prosoblepan*, on mainland.

Louis Santiago, short-term fellow from the University of Florida, May 15 - Aug 15, to study leaf functional characteristics along an environment gradient: energy and longevity character syndromes, at Tupper.

Kyle Summers and Tim Kennedy, East Carolina University, May 14 - Aug 30, to study the geographic divergence in *Dendrobates pumilio* in the Bocas del Toro Archipelago.

Departures

S. Joseph Wright, May 16-25, to Ecuador, to visit the Yasuni field station.

STRI news

The STRI news is published weekly by STRI's Office of Education, Tupper Center. Editor: Marialuz Calderon calderom@tivoli.si.edu

Kevan Mantell, new diving officer at STRI

We welcome to STRI Kevan Mantell who assumed the position of diving officer on Monday, May 8th after being selected through an international search. Mantell is an Panamanian resident born in England, who a wealth of professional diving experience gained in numerous locations worldwide working as divemaster, chief instructor, search-and-salvage diving, documentary diving, scientific diving, etc. Please address all diving related matters to Kevan Mantell at e-mail: mantellk@naos.si.edu , telephone at 212-8726.

Le damos la bienvenida a STRI a Kevan Mantell, quien asumió la posición de director de buceo el lunes 8 de mayo, luego de una selección a nivel internacional. Mantell es inglés residente en Panamá quien trae consigo una gran experiencia en buceo adquirido en diferentes lugares del mundo donde ha realizado innumerables tareas como buzo, instructor de buceo, buceo de rescate y salvamento, buceo de filmación, supervisor y coordinador de buceo investigativo. Cualquier asunto relacionado con actividades de buceo deben ser dirigidas a Kevan Mantell, correo electrónico mantellk@naos.si.edu, tel. 212-8726.

Kevan Mantell, nuevo director de buceo

Fund-raising for STRI Library

The annual Spencer Baird Society's Benefactors' Dinner, "The Panama Canal and the American Imagination: Past, Present and the Future," will take place on Wednesday, May 17 at the SI Castle, Washington, D.C. The event will feature discussions by Panamanian Ambassador Guillermo Ford Boyd, Honorable Howard H. Baker Jr., who was involved in the Canal Treaties ratification, and Stanley Heckadon, as key note speaker for STRI. The Spencer Baird Society, named after SI Assistant Secretary and second Secretary Spencer Baird (1878-1887) is the most important donor organization for SI Libraries. The event has been organized to pledge a petition for the necessary funds to enable STRI's Library to face new challenges of the 21st century. In the afternoon of that same day, the SI Libraries and STRI will offer a free public lecture program at Carmichael Auditorium, National Museum of Natural History with William Worthington, curator of the exhibit *Make the Dirt Fly! Building the Panama Canal*, Eric Zencey, author of *Panama* (1995), Paul Sutter, health and environmental history professor presently working on a book on U.S. sanitary program in Panama, and Stanley Heckadon, who will present the results of the recently completed Panama Canal Monitoring Project.

La cena anual para donantes de la Sociedad Spencer Baird, "El Canal de Panamá y la Imaginación de los Americanos: Pasado, presente, y el futuro" será el miércoles 17 de mayo en el Castillo del Smithsonian en Washington, D.C. El evento presentará discusiones por Guillermo "Billy" Ford Boyd, embajador de Panamá en Estados Unidos, Howard H. Baker, Jr., quien participó en la ratificación de los Tratados del Canal, y Stanley Heckadon, como orador de fondo, por STRI. La Sociedad Spencer Baird, que debe su nombre al sub-secretario y más adelante segundo secretario del Smithsonian (1878-1887), es la organización benefactora más importante para las bibliotecas del Smithsonian. El evento ha sido organizado para hacer una petición a esta sociedad para lograr los fondos necesarios para habilitar a la Biblioteca de STRI a enfrentar los retos del siglo 21. En la tarde de ese mismo día, STRI y las bibliotecas del Smithsonian ofrecerán un programa de conferencias gratis en el Auditorio Carmichael del Museo Nacional de Historia Natural, con William Worthington, a cargo de la exhibición "Que se levante el polvo: construyendo en Canal de Panamá", Eric Zencey, autor de "Panamá" 1995, Paul Sutter, profesor de historia de salud y ambiente que trabaja actualmente en un libro sobre el programa sanitario de los Estados Unidos en Panamá, y Stanley Heckadon, quien presentará los resultados del recién concluido proyecto de monitoreo en la cuenca del Canal de Panamá.

Petición de fondos para la biblioteca de STRI