

Tupper seminar

Tuesday, noon seminar speaker will be Carl Rettenmeyer, University of Connecticut

Behavior of army ants and their arthropod guests

Barro Colorado Island has been the site for most of the fundamental discoveries about the biology and behavior of army ants (*Ecitoninae*) and their arthropod commensals. Although these ants are probably the most important predators in all tropical forests, they have been largely ignored and misrepresented in ecological and popular accounts of these forests. The incredible numbers of thousands of species of insects, mites, and millipedes are just starting to be discovered. Slides will show many examples.

Bambi seminar

Thursday, July 13, Bambi seminar speaker will be Hermógenes Fernández, Universidad de Puerto Rico

How queens begin their colonies: perspectives on the mechanisms used by ants cultivating fungi

Como las reinas inician sus colonias: perspectivas de los mecanismos usados por las hormigas cultivadoras de hongos.

A talk in two languages with no simultaneous translation.

Arrivals

Nicole Kime, University of Texas at Austin, July 8 - 15, to study female mating preferences in the tungara frog, in Gamboa.

James Nieh, Harvard University, Jul 9-24, to study the evolution of recruitment communication in stingless bees, on BCI and Gamboa.

STRI news 2000



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

www.stri.org

Panamá, July 7, 2000

STRI recognized by ANAM



The Peregrine Fund attended the event with a juvenile barby eagle in recovery (Photo: Marcos A. Guerra)

El Fondo Peregrino llegó al evento con un águila barbía juvenil actualmente en recobro.

Ricardo Anguizola, general administrator of the Panamanian National Authority for the Environment (ANAM), presented a plaque to Elena Lombardo, special assistant to the director, in recognition for STRI's continued support of their efforts to conserve Panama's natural resources during a ceremony to celebrate the end of the natural resources month, at the Tupper Center, on Wednesday, July 5. Also recognized for their contributions were the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) the United Nations Development Program UNDP, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Bank for International Development (BID), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Intern-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences (IICA) and non-governmental organizations like The Peregrine Fund, The Audubon Society, and Panama's National Association for the Conservation of Nature, (ANCON). ANAM also presented certificates and pins to eco-tourism agencies, high-schools, professors and their most

distinguished officials working for conservation and environmental education. The winners of several children's contests, one of the activities organized during the month dedicated to the environment were announced.

Ricardo Anguizola, administrador general de la Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente de Panamá, ANAM, hizo entrega de una placa a Elena Lombardo, asistente especial del director, en reconocimiento por el apoyo de STRI en sus esfuerzos por conservar los recursos naturales de Panamá, durante una ceremonia por el final del mes del ambiente, el miércoles 5 de julio en el Centro Tupper. Otras instituciones reconocidas por sus contribuciones fueron la Agencia para el Desarrollo Internacional de los Estados Unidos (USAID), el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD), el Programa Ambiental de las Naciones Unidas (UNEP), la Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura (UNESCO), el Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID), la Agencia para el Desarrollo Internacional de Canadá (CIDA), El Instituto Interamericano para las Ciencias Agrícolas, y organizaciones no-gubernamentales como el Fondo Peregrino, la Audubon, y la Asociación Nacional para la Conservación de la Naturaleza de Panamá, ANCON. ANAM también entregó certificados y pines de reconocimiento a empresas de eco-turismo, colegios, docentes, sus funcionarios más distinguidos en conservación y educación ambiental, y anunció los ganadores de los concursos para niños, una de las actividades organizadas para junio, el mes de los recursos naturales.

ANAM reconoce apoyo de STRI

More arrivals

Brian Dunphy, University of Georgia, Jul 10 - 13, to study the phylogeography of *Bursera simaruba* and *Hymenaea courrbaril*, on BCI and mainland.

Departures

Richard Cooke, Jul 8-21, to Warsaw, Poland, to attend the International Congress of Americanists, and then to London, to work at the Institute of Archaeology and the British Museum library.

Ira Rubinoff, Jul 9-14, to Washington, DC, on official business at SI.

New STRI Publications

Collins, Laurel S. 1999. "The Miocene to recent diversity of Caribbean benthic foraminifera from the Central American isthmus." *Bulletins of American Paleontology* 357: 91-107.

McNeill, D.F., Coates, Anthony G., Budd, Ann F. and Borne, P.F. 2000. "Integrated paleontologic and paleomagnetic stratigraphy of the upper Neogene deposits around Limon, Costa Rica: A coastal emergence record of the Central American Isthmus." *Geological Society of America Bulletin* 112(7): 963-981.

STRI in the news

Barro Colorado: Monumento natural inviolable, por Indalecio Rodríguez. *El Universal*, July 6, 2000, "Magazine" pag. C-1, Panamá.

A night with the Smithsonian in Bocas

With the collaboration of IPAT (Panamanian Institute for Tourism), STRI organized the first outreach activity for Bocas' public program, "A Night with the Smithsonian" on Isla Colón, Bocas del Toro, from Monday, June 26 - Friday, June 30, at the facilities of CEFATI (IPAT's Center for the Facilitation of Tourism and Interpretation). Every night, Argelis Ruiz, from the Office of Education, staff scientist Nélida Gómez and Luis Mou, scientific coordinator at the Bocas facility, briefed the visitors on STRI activities, presented the video "History of Two Oceans" produced by Expedición de Venezuela and RPC Televisión featuring the work of STRI scientists in Panama, and answered questions. The program was attended by 108 members of the community including students, local authorities, staff from hotels and restaurants, tourists, and senior citizens.

Con la colaboración del IPAT (Instituto Panameño de Turismo), STRI organizó la primera actividad del programa público de Bocas, "Una noche con el Smithsonian" en Isla Colón, Bocas del Toro, del lunes 26 al viernes 30 de junio, en las instalaciones de CEFATI (Centro de Facilitación Turística e Interpretación del IPAT). Cada noche, Argelis Ruiz, de la Oficina de Educación, Nélida Gómez, científica, y Luis Mou, coordinador científico en la estación de Bocas de STRI, dieron presentaciones sobre las actividades de STRI, presentaron el video producido por Expediciones de Venezuela y RPC Televisión "Historia de dos océanos", y contestaron preguntas. El programa recibió un total de 108 personas incluyendo miembros de la comunidad, estudiantes, autoridades locales, personal de hoteles y restaurantes, turistas y jubilados.



(Photo: Nélida Gómez)

STRI-Universidad Gigante field course for biology students



(Photo: Marcos A. Guerra)

Participants in the 1999 STRI-University of Panama Gigante Field Course gathered recently at the Tupper Exhibit Hall to receive course books and certificates. This field course, held on an annual basis, is one of STRI's educational programs for local university students. In the photo, one of the students receives her certificate from Gilma Candanedo de López, director for International Cooperation at the University of Panama. Also at the ceremony were (from the left) STRI's associate director Georgina de Alba, staff scientist Mireya Correa, STRI and University of Panama, and Katia Silvera, the course coordinator, an alumna of the course now studying towards her Ph.D. at the University of Florida.

Recientemente, los participantes del Curso de Introducción a la Biología de Campo de STRI y la Universidad de Panamá se reunieron para recibir las memorias del curso y sus certificado en el Salón de Exhibiciones del Tupper. Este curso de campo, que se lleva a cabo todos los años, es uno de los programas educativos de STRI para estudiantes universitarios locales. En la foto, Gilma Candanedo de López, directora de Cooperación Internacional de la Vicerrectoría de Investigación y Postgrado de la Universidad de Panamá, entrega el certificado a una de las participantes. En la ceremonia también estaban (desde la izquierda) Georgina de Alba, directora asociada de STRI, la científica Mireya Correa, STRI y Universidad de Panamá, y Katia Silvera, la coordinadora del curso, quien tomó el curso en el pasado y ahora está estudiando para obtener su doctorado en la Universidad de Florida.

STRINFO reminder

STRINFO is an electronic address in GroupWise to send your news, contributions, new publicaciones, etc., to be disseminated through the STRI news, STRI research news flash, STRI web-page, the SI Torch, local and international newspapers, etc.

STRINFO es una dirección electrónica de GroupWise, para enviar sus noticias, contribuciones, nuevas publicaciones, etc., para diseminarlas a través del STRI news, el STRI research news flash, la página de web de STRI, el Torch, periódicos locales e internacionales, etc.