

Tupper seminar

Tuesday, August 8, Tupper seminar speaker will be Susan Laurance. **Effects of linear clearings on movements and community composition of Amazonian understory birds.**

Bambi seminar

Please check your bulletin boards and GroupWise for information about the next Bambi.

Arrivals

William Laurance, STRI scientist working in Manaus, Brazil, and wife Susan, Ph.D. candidate doing research on Amazonian bird ecology, Aug 1-9, to visit STRI and present seminars.

James Mallet, University College, London, Aug 1 - 31, to work on the genealogy of speciation in *Heliconius* butterflies, in Gamboa.

Adolfo Borges, visiting scientist from Universidad Central de Venezuela, Aug 8 - Sep 17, to work on the molecular phylogeny of the scorpion genus *Tityus* kock in northern South America, at Naos.

Sandra Knapp and Alex Monro, The National History Museum, U.K., Aug 1 - Sep 1, to work on the Flora Mesoamericana: Taxonomy of Solanaceae, in Gamboa.

Brenda Lin, Princeton University, Aug 2-30, to carry out a project on water quality control, at the Galeta Laboratories.

Jeanne and David Zeh, University of Nevada, Aug 2-25, to work on the project "Parent-of-origin gene expression in a viviparous arthropod?" in Gamboa.

Alan Savitzky, short-term visitor from Old Dominion University, VA, and wife Barbara, Aug 4-18, to work on the elastin fibers in the vocal sac of anuran amphibians, in Gamboa.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute www.stri.org Panamá, August 4, 2000

IPAT explores Culebra's attractions



Photo: Luisa Villalaz

Lioriola de Córdoba, general manager of the Panamanian Institute for Tourism (IPAT) (right, foreground) and advisors, visited Culebra to learn about programs at the Marine Exhibition Center, on Tuesday, July 11. The visit was organized to explore possibilities for collaboration between IPAT and STRI. Also in the photo (from the left) are Mónica Alvarado and Argelis Ruiz, and in the background, Georgina de Alba, STRI, Tomás Sossa, IPAT, Elena Lombardo and Laura Flores, STRI, and Américo de la Guardia, IPAT

Lioriola de Córdoba, gerente general del Instituto Panameño de Turismo, IPAT (a la derecha en primer plano), visitó Culebra con dos de sus asesores, para conocer los programas que se llevan a cabo en el Centro de Exhibiciones Marinas, el martes 11 de julio. La visita fue organizada para explorar las posibilidades de colaboración entre el IPAT y STRI. También en la foto (de izquierda a derecha) están Mónica Alvarado y Argelis Ruiz, y en segundo plano Georgina de Alba, STRI, Tomás Sossa, IPAT, Elena Lombardo y Laura Flores, STRI, y Américo de la Guardia, IPAT.

IPAT explora atractivos de Culebra

Robinson receives honorary degree

The University of Westminster, London, UK, will award an honorary degree of Doctor of Science to SI National Zoological Park emeritus director Michael H. Robinson in recognition for his outstanding contributions to science, conservation and biodiversity, on November 30, 2000.

La Universidad de Westminster en Londres conferirá un grado honorario de Doctor en Ciencias a Michael H. Robinson, director emérito del Parque Zoológico Nacional de los Estados Unidos, SI, por sus valiosas contribuciones a la ciencia, la conservación y la biodiversidad, el 30 de noviembre de 2000.

Robinson recibe grado honorario

Photo: M.A. Guerra Image: Lina González



More arrivals

Katja Uebschaer, University of Ulm, Germany, Aug 5 - Sep 30, to work with Elizabeth Kalko on the bat research program, on BCI.

Cesar Grefa, Anelio Loor, Silvenio Mamaliacta and Jairo Zambrano, Yasuni Station, Ecuador, Aug 6 - Oct 6, to participate in the CTFS tree census, on BCI.

Ana Horta, volunteer from Argentina, Aug 8-18, to work with Roberto Cordero on the integration of canopy and hydraulic architecture in *Psychotria* species along light and moisture gradients, on BCI.

Departures

Hector Guzmán to Jamaica, Aug 1-17, to participate in the AGRRA 2000 workshop.

Congratulations

To Luis Gilberto Polanco, who recently received his bachelor's degree in business with a major in accounting, from the University of Panama.

New publications

Sun, Lixing, Wilczynski, Walter, Rand, A. Stanley and Ryan, Michael J. 2000. "Trade-off and long-distance communication in túngara (*Physalaemus pustulosus*) and cricket (*Acris crepitans*) frogs." *Behavioral Ecology* 11(1): 102-109.

Hau, Michaela, Wikelsi, Martin, Soma, Kiran K. and Wingfield, John C. 2000. "Testosterone and year-round territorial aggression in a tropical bird." *General and*

11th Gigante Field Course

The STRI-University of Panama annual field course "Introduction to Field Biology" for local undergraduate biology students began on Monday, July 24, to continue until Sunday, August 6. The course, held on Gigante Peninsula, BCNM, includes the participation of 12 students from the University of Panama and one student from Universidad Metropolitana de Puerto Rico. This 15-day course, based on OET tropical biology course model, is designed to train future biologists to conduct research projects on ecology, behavior and physiology in the field. It is being coordinated by Katia Silvera, from the University of Florida, with the participation of instructors from the University of Panama, Janzel Villalaz and Yolanda Aguila, and Oris Acevedo, Rafael Aizprua, Dora Alvarez, Margarita Beltrán, Roberto Cordero, Astrid Ferrer, Milton García, Edgardo Garrido, Nelida Gomez, Stanley Heckadon, Chriss Jiggins, Beth King, Steve Paton, Juergen Perger, Juan Posada, Lou Santiago, Jennifer Saucedo, Sonia Tejada, Wibke Thies, and Bill Wcislo, from STRI.

El curso anual de STRI y la Universidad de Panamá "Introducción a la Biología de Campo" para estudiantes locales de biología empezó el lunes 24 de julio y finalizará el domingo 6 de agosto. El curso, que se lleva a cabo en la Península de Gigante, MNBC, incluye la participación de 12 estudiantes de la Universidad de Panamá y uno de la Universidad Metropolitana de Puerto Rico. Este curso de 15 días, basado en el modelo de cursos de biología tropical de la Organización para Estudios Tropicales, está diseñado para entrenar futuros biólogos en investigaciones de campo en ecología, comportamiento y fisiología. Está coordinado por Katia Silvera, de la Universidad de Florida y cuenta con instructores de la

Universidad de Panamá, Janzel Villalaz y Yolanda Aguila, y Oris Acevedo, Rafael Aizprua, Dora Alvarez, Margarita Beltrán, Roberto Cordero, Astrid Ferrer, Milton García, Edgardo Garrido, Nélica Gémez, Stanley Heckadon, Chris Jiggins, Beth King, Steve Paton, Juergen Berger, Juan Posada, Lou Santiago, Jennifer Saucedo, Sonia Tejada, Wibke Thies y Bill Wcislo, de STRI.

The STRI's Center for Tropical Forest Science annual newsletter *Inside CTFS* - Summer 2000 was recently published. This issue of *Inside CTFS* features the biodiversity of tropical ecology, and includes articles on the



Yasuni plot in Ecuador, the BCI plot, Lambir Hills in Sarawak, Malaysia, the Nanjenshan Nature Reserve in Taiwan, the Sinharaja Forest in Sri Lanka, comparative and management studies, etc.

At Cerro Juan Díaz

Cerro Juan Diaz archaeological site in La Villa de Los Santos received 75 visitors during the month of July. They were briefed on the progress of the excavations being conducted under the leadership of Richard Cooke, during the past 8 years.

El sitio arqueológico de Cerro Juan Díaz en La Villa de Los Santos recibió 75 visitantes durante el pasado mes de julio. Los visitantes recibieron información sobre el progreso de las excavaciones que se realizan bajo el liderazgo de Richard Cooke, durante los últimos 8 años.

Make a note!

■ *R.V. Urraca* telephone line (when docked on BCI): 212-8941, or extension 8941

■ *Jacana* cell phone : 626-5912



Correction

STRI news, July 14, 2000, p1

Mireya Correa, Luis D'Croz, Jim Dalling, William Grauel, Héctor Guzmán, Omar López, **Juan Maté**, Martín Mitre, Eduardo Montenegro, Noris Salazar and María Stapt, STRI, participated in the development of the first vegetation map of Panama produced by the Panamanian government.

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