

## Tupper seminar

Tuesday, August 29, noon seminar speaker will be Robert Stallard, U.S. Geological Survey

**Weathering versus transport limited erosion: a tale of two catchments**

## Bambi seminar

Thursday, August 31, Bambi seminar speaker will be Steve Paton, STRI

**BCI weather explained: sunshine, little children and big storms**

## Arrivals

Florian Schmidt, University of Ulm, Germany, Aug 28 - Sep 30, to work with Elisabeth Kalko on bat project, on BCI.

Robert Percy, University of California at xxx, Aug 28 - Sep 7, to work on the integration of canopy and hydraulic architecture in *Psychotria* species along light and moisture gradients, on BCI.

Herta Westerman, University of Würzburg, Aug 29 - Oct 20, to study the ecophysiological research of non-vascular organisms in the tropical rainforests, on BCI, Fortuna and Gamboa.

Jonathan Wilson, University of California at Santa Barbara, Aug 31 - Jan 15, to work with Lukas Schaerer on a preliminary investigation for a study of parasite induced adaptive shift in sex allocation in a sequential hermaphrodite fish, in Bocas del Toro and mainland.

Takeuchi Mikayo and Kuniko Arakawa, Japan, Aug 29-31, to visit BCI as scouts for an Asahi TV series "Spaceship Earth" of the Gendai Group, Tokyo.

# STRI news 2000



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

[www.stri.org](http://www.stri.org)

August 25, 2000



## Nélida Gómez elected as ISCE councilor

Staff scientist Nélida E. Gómez was recently elected councilor of the International Society of Chemical Ecology's Executive Committee for 2000-2003. The announcement was made at the Society's 17<sup>th</sup> annual meeting on Poços de Caldas, Brazil, held from August 15-19.

(Photo by Marcos A. Guerra)

Nélida Gómez, científica de STRI, fue elegida consejera en el Comité Ejecutivo de la Asociación Internacional de Ecología Química para 2000-2003. El anuncio se hizo durante la XVII Reunión Anual de la Asociación en Poços de Caldas, Brasil, que se llevó a cabo del 15 al 19 de agosto

## Nélida Gómez elegida consejera por ISCE

### BCI Harpy Eagle killed

"James", a three-year old male Harpy Eagle introduced onto BCI on June, 1999 by STRI and The Peregrine Fund, died as the result of shot wounds received when it wandered away from Barro Colorado Nature Monument, on Friday, August 18. James was rescued alive in Gigantillo and taken to the Harpy Eagle Project Center, where he died. The bird carried a radio transmitter which had provided data that could not have been obtained by simple observations. According to Alberto Palleroni, director of the Neotropical Raptor's Center project, this was a great loss since many resources and studies were invested in James. ANAM official Ricardo Rivera emphasized that the Harpy Eagle is an endangered species, and a Panamanian national symbol. (Taken from *La Prensa*, 21 August, 2000)



(Photo: The Peregrine Fund)

"James", águila harpía macho de tres años, liberado en BCI en junio de 1999 por STRI y el Fondo Peregrino, murió por heridas de bala al alejarse del Monumento Natural de Barro Colorado, el viernes 18 de agosto. James fue rescatado con vida en Gigantillo y trasladado al Centro del Proyecto del Águila Harpía, donde murió. El ave portaba un radio

## More arrivals

David Barker, postdoctoral fellow from the University of Colorado, Sep 1 - Dec 31, to study the use of chlorophyll fluorescence techniques to assess successional status of plants growing in a tropical rainforest, on BCI.

George Pearson, short-term fellow from the University of Kansas, Sep 1 - Nov 30, to study the first Panamanians and the role of the Isthmus during the peopling of the New World., at Naos.

## New STRI publications

Peñafiel A., Marcos A. and Johnson, Aura E. 2000. Diversidad y abundancia de los roedores del área recreativa Lago Gatún, Provincia de Colón. Tesis. Panamá: Universidad de Panamá.

Svenning, Jens C. 2000. "Small canopy gaps influence plant distributions in the rain forest understory." *Biotropica* 32: 252-261.

Svenning, Jens C. 2000. "Growth strategies of clonal palms (Arecaceae) in a Neotropical rain forest, Yasunf, Ecuador." *Australian Journal of Botany* 48: 167-178.

Ventocilla, Jorge. 2000. "El Pelicano." *El Espíritu de San Felipe* 1(1): 6.

## STRI in the news

"Desaparecen los anfibios", by Sofia Kalormakis. *La Prensa* Lunes 7 de agosto, 2000: 3B

"Censo de árboles en Panamá", by Mario Andrés Muñoz. *La Prensa* Sábado 19 de agosto, 2000: 1B.

transmisor (número 007), que suministró información que nunca se hubiera podido registrar con simples observaciones. De acuerdo a Alberto Palleroni, director del proyecto del Centro de Rapaces Neotropicales, la muerte de James es una pérdida de magnitud, pues se habían invertido muchos recursos e investigaciones en esta ave. Ricardo Rivera, director de Patrimonio Natural de ANAM, resaltó que el águila harpía, considerada el ave nacional de Panamá, se encuentra en peligro de extinción.

## Matan águila harpía de BCI

## Donación

Recientemente, STRI hizo una donación al Patronato de Panamá Viejo, para que la arqueóloga Beatriz Rovira hiciera un viaje al Museo Nacional de Historia Natural del Smithsonian en Washington, DC. La visita fue coordinada por la Oficina de Asuntos Externos para Agosto 13-23.

## McGill internships program

McGill University's semester program in Panama request that students work on Thursday and Friday in Panamanian organizations. The next period for this internships will be from January 5 - April 6, 2001. The programs aims to offer students with a practical experience, promote inter-cultural communication and provide the host organization with an useful project. Those interested in having interns from McGill, please contact the STRI's Office of Education at the Tupper Center.

Win \$25 per name!

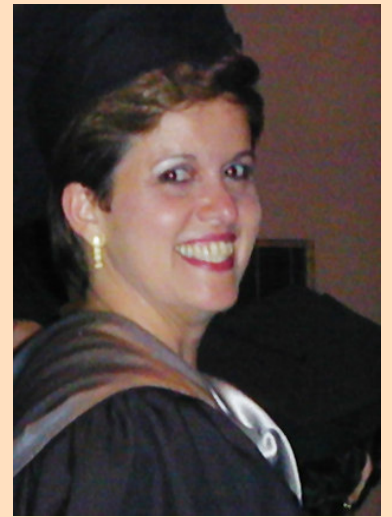
STRI bookstores at Tupper, Culebra and BCI deserve proper names! We are looking for creative alternatives evocative of the STRI's mission. English or Spanish, but easy to remember and pronounce. Make your suggestion before September 1<sup>st</sup> at the Tupper Bookstore or via email to [floresl@tivoli.si.edu](mailto:floresl@tivoli.si.edu).

¡Gane \$25 por nombre!

Las librerías de STRI en Tupper, Culebra y BCI ¡merecen su nombre! Buscamos alternativas creativas que evoquen la misión de STRI. Inglés o español, pero fáciles de recordar y pronunciar. Haga sus sugerencias antes del 1ro de septiembre en la Librería de Tupper, o via email a [floresl@tivoli.si.edu](mailto:floresl@tivoli.si.edu).

## Miscellaneous:

Se vende por motivo de viaje: Jeep Cherokee '96 beige, 4ptas, estándar, CD player, excelentes condiciones \$9,500 o mejor oferta. Edith Salgado, cel. 617-8042



## Congratulations and farewell!

STRI's protocol officer Edith Salgado obtained a bachelor's degree in English with a major in translation, on August 19, at the Universidad Latina de Panamá. Edith started working for STRI at External Affairs in October 1996. She also worked at the Visitor's Services Office and at the Office of Education. On February 1999 she accepted her present position under the supervision of Elena Lombardo. Edith was instrumental at the retirement party on December 1999, the Secretary's visit in March 2000, and the Arawak seminar in May. Edith is leaving STRI with husband José Antonio Ardón-Castro, who was transferred by

## September birthdays/Cumpleaños

|                  |    |                  |    |
|------------------|----|------------------|----|
| Audrey Smith     | 1  | Gabriela Jones   | 10 |
| Biff Birmingham  | 2  | Suzanne Lao      | 11 |
| Jaime Sierra     | 5  | Luis Turner      | 14 |
| Ricardo Beteta   | 5  | William Eberhard | 15 |
| María V. Arrocha | 6  | Gladys Quintero  | 17 |
| Antonio Reina    | 6  | Jonas Jiménez    | 21 |
| Ruben López      | 7  | Xiomara de Ulloa | 22 |
| María Stapf      | 8  | José Deago       | 27 |
| Nayda Flores     | 8  | José Herrera     | 27 |
| Virgilio Sánchez | 9  | Lastenio Guzmán  | 28 |
| Carlos Tejada    | 9  | Marla Díaz       | 30 |
| Nicolás Sugasti  | 10 | Mirna Fernández  | 30 |