



# STRINNEWS

MAY 8, 2015



## Researchers ask if plant neighbors are relatives to predict disease

Full story: [www.stri.si.edu/issuu.com/strinews/panama](http://www.stri.si.edu/issuu.com/strinews/panama)

High biodiversity tropical forests, like this one at the Smithsonian research station on Barro Colorado Island in Panama, may be the result of a struggle between plants and their diseases. By proposing that the degree of genetic relationship between plant community members affects the outcome of disease outbreaks, Parker et al. come one step closer to a model that predicts disease outcomes.

Los bosques tropicales de alta biodiversidad, como éste en la estación de investigación del Smithsonian en isla Barro Colorado en Panamá, puede ser el resultado de una lucha entre las plantas y sus enfermedades. Al proponer que el grado de relación genética entre miembros de la comunidad vegetal afecta el resultado de los brotes de enfermedades, Parker et al. logran un paso más hacia un modelo que predice resultados de la enfermedad.

### SEMINARS

#### TUPPER SEMINAR

Tue, May 12, 4pm

Damian Elias

UC Berkeley

Tupper Auditorium

Orchestrating the score: Multimodal communication in jumping spiders

#### PALEOTALK

Wed, May 13, 4pm

Stewart Redwood

CTPA

History of sea level rise in the Gulf of Panama

#### BAMBI SEMINAR

Thu, May 14, 7:15pm

Damian Elias

UC Berkeley

Barro Colorado Island

Natural history and dynamic sexual selection in the jumping spider *Phidippus clarus*



### WHAT'S HAPPENING AT STRI?

#### FIELD COURSES and SPECIAL EVENTS

#### Field Course - University of Copenhagen - Tropical Behavioral Ecology and Evolution

Contact person: Rachele Adams

May 3 - 28

#### APRORENANB-CEASPA Capacitación local en apoyo al manejo del Humedal Damani-Guariviara y la isla Escudo de Veraguas-Degó - Bocas del Toro Marine Station

Contact person: Charlotte Elton

May 11-12

#### Panamanian Golden Frog Population Modeling Workshop

Contact person: Roberto Ibáñez

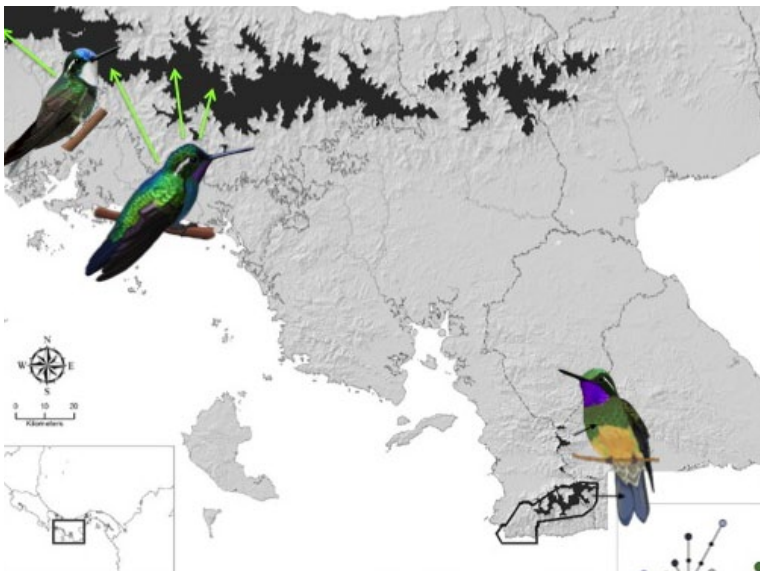
May 12 - 15

#### Biodiversity day

Bocas del Toro Marine Station

Contact person: Marlon Smith

May 22



Daniel Buitrago from STRI collections gave a presentation at the Regional University Center at Los Santos on April 22 celebrating Earth Day. Among participants of the event were Ministerio del Ambiente, UIP, IDIAP and STRI. The topics covered were groundwater, Climate Change, El Niño effects and drought resistant seeds for agriculture.

**El 22 de abril, Daniel Buitrago de las colecciones de STRI, participó con una presentación en el Auditorio del Centro Regional Universitario de Los Santos en conmemoración del Día Mundial de la Tierra. Este evento se dio con la participación del Ministerio del Ambiente, UIP, IDIAP y el Smithsonian. Los temas incluyeron: Agua Sub-terráneas, Escenario de Cambio Climático, Impactos del Fenómeno de El Niño y Semillas resistentes a la sequía para la agricultura**



## NEW HIRES AT STRI

**We want to congratulate our new hires /  
Deseamos felicitar a nuestros compañeros**

### **Electrician / Electricista**

Jose Morales

### **Data gathering / Captador de Datos**

Aristela Vergara  
Maria Fernanda Vinasco

### **Associate Director for Adnimnistration and Finances / Directora Asociada de Administracion y Finanzas**

Corina Guardia

### **Boat Mechanic / Mecánico de Botes**

César Zaldivar

### **Boat Mechanic Assistant / Ayudante de Mecánico de Botes**

Luis A. Cubilla

### **Research Technician I / Técnico de Investigación I**

Deyvis Gonzalez

### **Research Technician IV / Técnico de Investigación IV**

Alicia Ibáñez

### **Office Clerk / Oficinista**

Tanyusha Grenald  
Ariel Camaño

### **Office Administrator / Administradora de Oficina**

Rebecca Rissanen

### **Research Assistant II / Asistente de Investigación II**

Rodolfo Flores  
Amaranto Cabezón

### **Program Coordinator / Coordinadora de Programa**

Crystal Di Miceli

### **Program Manager/ Administradora de Programa**

Heidi Ross

### **Administrative Assistant I / Asistente Administrativa I**

Nerea Nieto

## ARRIVALS

Mark Schutze  
Queensland University of  
Technology  
CTFS arthropod initiative  
**Barro Colorado Island**

Maria Eckenweber  
University of Ulm  
Cultural transmission of social  
vocalizations in greater sac-winged  
bats, *Saccopteryx bilineata*  
**Barro Colorado Island**

Kenneth Contreras  
Universidad Autónoma de  
Chiriquí  
Do Lianas Cause Chronic Disturbance  
and Alter Successional Trajectories in  
Tropical Forests?  
**Agua Salud**

Grant Rogers  
Heriot-Watt University  
Historia Natural de las Tortugas  
**Naos Marine Lab**

Angie Estrada  
Virginia Polytech Inst. & State  
University  
Panama Amphibian Rescue and  
Conservation Project  
**Tupper**

Corinne Zawacki, Houston Sudekum  
and Mysia Dye  
Tulane University  
When do divergent mate preferences  
lead to reproductive isolation?  
**Bocas Del Toro**

Sylvia Mathiasen  
Copenhagen University  
Boris Baer  
The University of Western Australia  
Evolutionary ecology of fungus  
growing ants  
**Gamboa**

William Ludt  
Louisiana State University  
Moises Bernal  
University of Texas at Austin  
Understanding Incipient Speciation in  
the Eastern Pacific  
**Naos Marine Lab**

Kayla Seltzer  
Duke University

Manu Sanjeev  
Indian Institute of Science Education  
and Research

Andre Szejner  
University of Florida  
The Genomics of Speciation and  
Adaptation

## DEPARTURES

Matthew Larsen, Rachel Collin and  
Jorge Aleman  
To Bocas Del Toro  
To attend a CEASPA event and the  
STRI Unit Director's reception

Patrick Jansen  
To Washington DC  
For meetings on Conservation  
Commons and on eMammal

Jefferson Hall  
To Washington DC  
To participate in a workshop to  
help develop the Smithsonian  
Conservation Commons

Ben Turner  
To Stoors, CT  
To attend a workshop

Jacob Slusser  
To Pedasi, Los Santos  
To visit ELTI's Azuero research  
training sites and provide Leadership  
Program follow-up at Pedasi, Los  
Santos.

Alicia Ibáñez and Rodolfo Flores  
To Veraguas Province, Coiba and  
Santa Fe  
To supervise trail construction in  
Coiba National Park and collect  
a new plant species in Santa Fe,  
Veraguas Panamá

## PUBLICATIONS

Fernández-Marín, H., Nash, D. R.,  
Higginbotham, S., Estrada, C., Zweden,  
J. S. van, d'Ettorre, P., Wcislo, William T.  
and Boomsma, J. J. 2015. Functional role  
of phenylacetic acid from metapleural  
gland secretions in controlling fungal  
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Leslie, H. M., Basurto, X., Nenadovic,  
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Finkbeiner, E., Hinojosa-Arango, G.,  
Moreno-Báez, M., Nagavarapu, S.,  
Reddy, S. M. W., Sánchez-Rodríguez,  
A., Siegel, K., Ulibarria-Valenzuela, J.,  
Weaver, A. H. and Aburto-Oropeza,  
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ecological systems framework to assess  
sustainability. *Proceedings of the National  
Academy of Sciences*, doi:10.1073/  
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K., Bloomfield, K. J., Tjoelker, M. G. and  
Kitajima, K. 2015. Global convergence  
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thermal acclimation across time and  
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nph.13417

Hoyos, N., Monsalve, O., Berger, G.  
w., Antinao, J. L., Giraldo, H., Silva, C.,  
Ojeda, G., Bayona, G., Escobar, J. and  
Montes, C. 2015. A climatic trigger for  
catastrophic Pleistocene–Holocene  
debris flows in the Eastern Andean  
Cordillera of Colombia. *Journal of  
Quaternary Science*, 30(3): 258–270.  
doi:10.1002/jqs.2779

Ingle, S. J., Reina, R. G., Bermingham,  
E. and Johnson, J. B. 2015. Phylogenetic  
analyses provide insights into  
the historical biogeography and  
evolution of Brachyrhaphis fishes.  
*Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*,  
doi:10.1016/j.ympev.2015.04.013

Chen, C. R., Hou, E. Q., Condrón, L.  
M., Bacon, G., Esfandbod, M., Olley, J.  
and Turner, B. L. 2015. Soil phosphorus  
fractionation and nutrient dynamics  
along the Coolooloal coastal dune  
chronosequence, southern Queensland,  
Australia. *Geoderma*, doi:10.1016/j.  
geoderma.2015.04.027

Meyer, N., Esser, H. J., Moreno, R., van  
Langevelde, F., Liefing, Y., Oller, D. R.,  
Vogels, C. B. F., Carver, A. D., Nielsen, C.  
K. and Jansen, P. A. 2015. An assessment  
of the terrestrial mammal communities  
in forests of Central Panama, using  
camera-trap surveys. *Journal for  
Nature Conservation*, doi:10.1016/j.  
jnc.2015.04.003

Roberts, K., Defforey, D., Turner, B.  
L., Condrón, L. M., Peek, S., Silva,  
S., Kendall, C. and Paytan, A. 2015.  
Oxygen isotopes of phosphate and  
soil phosphorus cycling across a 6500  
year chronosequence under lowland  
temperate rainforest. *Geoderma*,  
doi:10.1016/j.geoderma.2015.04.010

Stefanski, S. F., Shi, X., Hall, J.S.,  
Hernandez, A. and Fenichel, E. P. 2015.  
Teak–cattle production tradeoffs for  
Panama Canal Watershed small scale  
producers. *Forest Policy and Economics*,  
doi:10.1016/j.forpol.2015.04.001

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Questions/comments  
Preguntas/comentarios



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