

## Tupper seminar

Tue, Sep 14, noon seminar speaker will be Carlos Peres, University of East Anglia, UK  
**Demographic threads to non-timber: Resource extraction in Amazonian Forest**

## Bambi seminar

Thu, Sep 16, Bambi seminar speaker will be Carlos Peres, University of East Anglia.

### Title to be announced

We welcome Meg Crofoot (Harvard), new Bambi Jefe. Thanks to Scott Mangan for a job well done!

## Conservation forum

Tue, Sep 14, 2pm, Tupper's Large Meeting Room, by Nélida Gómez, STRI (in Spanish)

### Introduction for the environmental decision-makers course: Overview of environmental problems and opportunities in Panama

After the talk there will be a period to discuss about other conservation issues.

## Arrivals

Donald Feener, University of Utah, Sep 12 - 18, to conduct an experiment analysis of the chemical ecology of host specificity in ant parasitoids, on BCI.

Culum Brown, University of Edinburgh, UK, Sep 15 - Oct 6, to study the variation in learning and memory ability: the role of predation pressure and other ecological variables, in Gamboa.

Tamara McGovern, Friday Harbor Labs, WA, Sep 15 - Dec 3, to study clonal reproduction and sex ratio evolution in the brittle star *Ophiactis savignyi*, at Bocas.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

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

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## First Lady and minister Blades visit Galeta

Panama's first lady Vivian de Torrijos and Tourism minister Rubén Blades visited STRI's Marine Laboratory at Galeta Point, on Friday September 3<sup>rd</sup>, her first official visit to Colon after the new government took office on September 1<sup>st</sup>. The First Lady shows great interest in children's education and tourism. The party also included Colon governor Olga Lina Quijada, Colon Free Zone new director Nilda Quijano, and members of the local business community. The group was welcomed by director Ira Rubinoff and briefed on Galeta's scientific and educational programs by OCAPP director Stanley Heckadon-Moreno. STRI marine research associate Juan Mate offered an appealing explanation on the natural history of echinoderms of the coast on Colon. After walking through the mangrove and cutting the ribbon to inaugurate the new boardwalk, the First Lady commented she had seldom seen so much work accomplished with so little resources and so few people. In the photo (from the left) are Rubinoff, Torrijos, Heckadon, Helena Fortunato, Blades, Argelis Ruiz, Alejandro Arze and Elena Lombardo.

Vivian de Torrijos, esposa del presidente panameño y el ministro de Turismo, Rubén Blades visitaron el Laboratorio Marino de Galeta de STRI el viernes, 3 de septiembre, durante su primera visita oficial a Colón luego de la toma de posesión del nuevo gobierno, el 1ro de septiembre, La Primera Dama muestra gran interés en la educación de los niños y el turismo. El grupo también contó con la presencia de la gobernadora de Colón, Olga Lina Quijada, Nilda Quijano, nueva directora de La Zona Libre de Colón, y miembros de la comunidad de empresarios locales. El director Ira Rubinof recibió al grupo y Stanley Heckadon, director de OCAPP suministró información sobre los programas de investigación y educación que se llevan a cabo en Galeta.

## More arrivals

Eva Toth, postdoctoral fellow from Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Sep 15 - Sep 15, 2005, to conduct behavioral and genetic analyses of social shrimp, on Bocas del Toro.

Michael Kaspari and Mary Johnston, University of Oklahoma, Sep 16 -25, to carry out a study of army ant diversity and impact across four tropical forests, on BCI.

## Condolences

To Eduardo Robinson and his family, for the death of his sisters Jované and Cindy Robinson, on September 4 and 7, respectively.

## New publications

Barbosa Pires, J., and Mesquita, Rita C.G. 2004. *E Nós Como Ficamos?* Manaos, Brazil: BDFFP Publication for children.

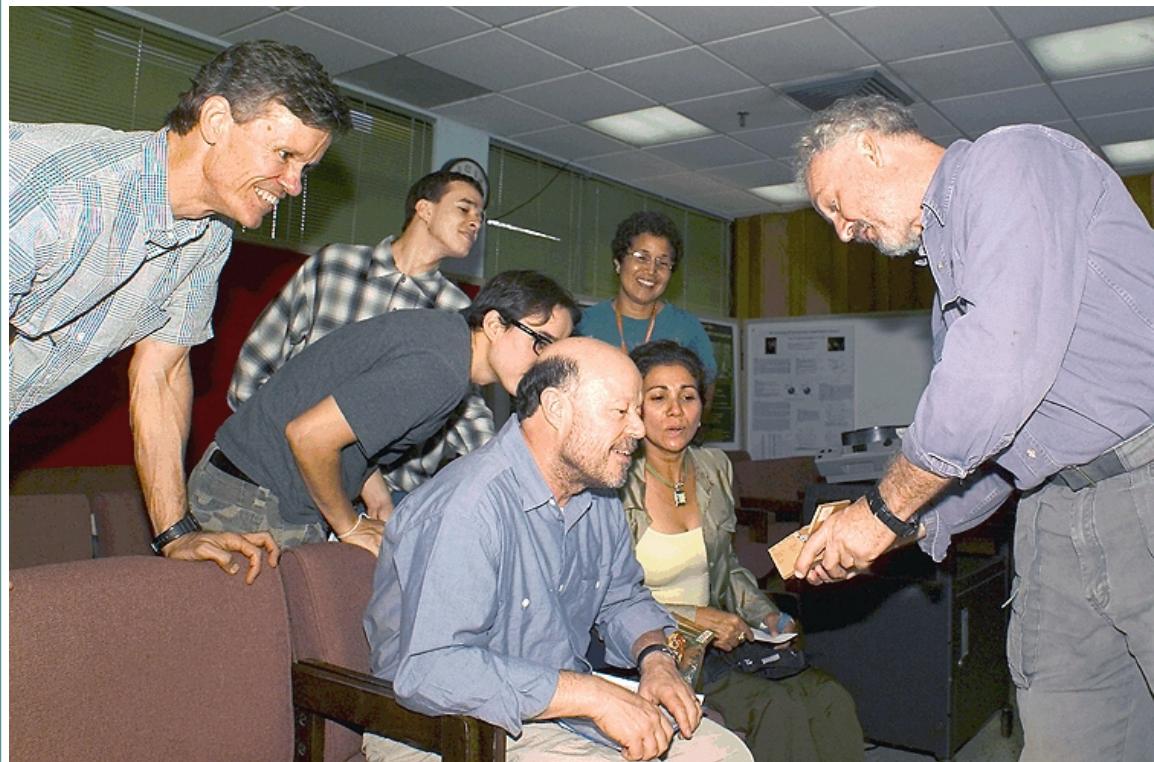
Pochon, X., LaJeunesse, T.C., and Pawlowski, J. 2004. "Biogeographic partitioning and host specialization among foraminiferan dinoflagellate symbionts (*Symbiodinium*; *Dinophyta*)."*Marine Biology Online*.

Ricklefs, Robert E., and Bermingham, Eldredge. 2004. "Application of Johnson et al.'s speciation threshold model to apparent colonization times of island biotas." *Evolution* 58(8): 1664–1673.

Juan Maté, investigador marino asociado a STRI, ofreció una interesante explicación sobre la vida natural de los equinodermos de la costa de Colón. Luego de caminar a través de los manglares y cortar la cinta para inaugurar el nuevo camino de madera, la Primera Dama comentó que pocas veces ha visto que tan pocas personas, con tan pocos recursos logren hacer tanto trabajo. En la foto de la página anterior aparecen (de izquierda a derecha), Rubinoff, Torrijos, Heckadon, Helena Fortunato, Blades, Argelis Ruiz, Alejandro Arze y Elena Lombardo.



Ruben Blades, Ira Rubinoff, Vivian de Torrijos



## Tupper family visit

STRI received a visit from Glenn Tupper and Mercedes Tupper and their sons Hans and Thomas. The Tppers, long-term supporters of STRI's research programs were brought up-to-date on current research projects and plans for future facilities development. In the photo (from the left), staff scientist S. Joseph Wright, Hans, Thomas, Glenn and Mercedes Tupper, with Belkys Jimenez, BCI assistant coordinator, look at different bee specimens shown by entomologist David W. Roubik, while explaining the natural history of coffee pollinators. The Tupper family also visited with STRI officials at the Tupper Center, and other facilities.

STRI recibió la visita de Glen Tupper, su esposa Mercedes Tupper y sus hijos Hans y Thomas. Los Tupper, quienes han apoyado los programas de investigación de STRI por mucho tiempo, se pusieron al día sobre los proyectos de investigación actuales y los planes para el desarrollo de futuras instalaciones. En la foto (desde la izquierda), el científico de STRI, S. Joseph Wright, Hans, Thomas, Gleen y Mercedes Tupper, con Belkys Jiménez, observan diferentes especies de abejas que muestra el entomólogo David W. Roubik, al explicar la historia natural de los polinizadores del café. La familia Tupper también se reunió con miembros de la administración de STRI en el Centro Tupper y visitó otras instalaciones.

## More publications

Stouffer, Philip C., Naka, Luciano, Cohn-Haft, Mario, Marantz, Curtis, and Bierregaard, Jr., Richard O. 2004. *Voices of the Brazilian Amazon: Birds of the INPA Reserve, Manaos, Vol. I: Tinamidae - Bucconidae; Vol. II: Galbulidae - Tyrannidae; Vol. III: Tyrannidae - Icteriinae.* CD collection. Manaos, Brazil: BDFFP.

## STRI in the news

(This section lists articles at random, due to the large amount of information generated in the media.)

“Ballenas gigantes en Las Perlas” 2004. *Panorama* (June-July): 96-103.

“Científicos investigan la rana arlequín en Chepo” by Leonardo Flores. 2004. *La Prensa*, July 26.

“La escafandra virtual.” 2004. *Panorama* (June-July): 128-140.

“Species mix across Panama Canal” by Michael Hopkin. 2004. *News at Nature*, August 23.

“Trekking the treetops”, by Terry Dunn. 2004. *Zoogger*, September/October, 33(5): 22-26.

The Bannaba Project, a Panamanian/Kuna musical group that was invited by the Smithsonian Institution to the dedication of the Museum of the American Indian and a one-week festival in honor of the First Americans, will perform a concert at STRI’s Marine Exhibition Center in Punta Culebra, on Wednesday, September 15, 8pm. Funds obtained from this concert will help the musicians with traveling expenses to Washington DC. Free transportation from Tupper to Culebra starts at 6pm.

**Adults (adultos) \$2.00  
Retirees (jubilados) \$1.00  
Children (niños) \$0.50**

“Un depredador en peligro”. 2004. *La Prensa*, September 3rd

“Una riqueza natural sin explotar” by Eric Montenegro. 2004. *La Crítica*, August 15.

“When hunters first harvested” by Dennis O’Brian. 2004. *The Baltimore Sun* (August 16): 8A.

These articles can be seen at OCAPP office # 330. Tupper Center.



## HSBC donation to STRI

Joseph Salterio, president of Fundación Smithsonian de Panamá presents a check to STRI director Ira Rubinoff with a donation from HSBC Bank, on Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. These funds sponsor STRI’s marine education program *You and the Sea with the Smithsonian* at Culebra’s Marine Exhibition Center, allowing about 20,000 students a year to experience these coastal ecosystems.

Joseph Salterio, presidente de la Fundación Smithsonian de Panamá, hace entrega de un cheque al director de STRI, Ira Rubinoff, con una donación del Banco HSBC, el lunes 6 de septiembre. Estos fondos apoyan el programa de educación ambiental marina *Tú y el Mar con el Smithsonian* que lleva a cabo STRI en el Centro de Exhibiciones Marinas de Punta Culebra, permitiendo que cerca de 20,000 estudiantes experimenten estos ecosistemas costeros.

## To Gamboa residents

The old Shell gas station on Gaillard Highway between Los Rios and Clayton ceased operations as did earlier the Gamboa gas station. Gamboa residents and those on their way to Colon must get gas in the city or at the Shell station next to Albrook entrance.

La vieja gasolinera Shell en Gaillard Highway entre Los Rios y Clayton cerró operaciones, al igual que la gasolinera de Gamboa. Los residentes de Gamboa y aquellos que se dirijan a Colón deben comprar combustible en la ciudad o en la Shell cerca a la entrada de Albrook.

## Concert at Culebra

The Bannaba Project, a Panamanian/Kuna musical group that was invited by the Smithsonian Institution to the dedication of the Museum of the American Indian and a one-week festival in honor of the First Americans, will perform a concert at STRI’s Marine Exhibition Center in Punta Culebra, on Wednesday, September 15, 8pm. Funds obtained from this concert will help the musicians with traveling expenses to Washington DC. Free transportation from Tupper to Culebra starts at 6pm.

## ¡Bannaba Project en concierto!

**¡Bannaba Project en concierto!**

**Lugar:** Centro de Exhibiciones Marinas del Smithsonian (Punta Culebra, Calzada de Amador). **Fecha/Hora:** Miércoles 15 de septiembre, 8 PM. **Adultos:** B/. 2.00 **Estudiantes (con carnet) y jubilados:** B/. 1.00 **Niños menores de 12 años:** 0.50 centavos

**Se ofrecerá transporte gratuito desde las 6 PM, partiendo del estacionamiento del Centro Earl S. Tupper.**

**La reconocida agrupación panameña de etnociudad, ha sido invitada al “Festival de los Primeros Americanos”, evento multicultura organizado por la Institución Smithsonian en Washington DC, con ocasión de la apertura del Museo Nacional del Indígena Americano.**

**Antes de partir nos presentan lo mejor de su repertorio en un concierto de despedida, donde ofrecerán danza y música con tonadas y cantos místicos de las culturas aborigenes de Panamá, en un torrente de contagiosos ritmos como congo, buyerengue, jazz y otros más. ...!No se lo pierdan!**

**Smithsonian**