

Tupper seminar

Tue, Dec 17, noon seminar speaker will be S. Joseph Wright, STRI

Interannual variation in seed production and seed fate in a tropical forest

Bambi seminar

Thu, Dec 19, Bambi seminar speaker will be Andrea Gager, Princeton University

Community dynamics in avian material parasites

Arrivals

James Dalling and Astrid Ferrer, University of Illinois, Dec 10 - Jan 20, to establish forest dynamic plots, at Fortuna.

Moritz Weinbeer, University of Ulm, Dec 11 - Jun 30, to study sensory ecology of tropical bats: an experimental and ecological comparison of the role of echolocation in two insectivorous Phyllostomid bats when capturing prey in cluttered space, on BCI.

Robert Srygley, STRI senior postdoctoral fellow, Dec 16 - Feb 14, to study the behavioral convergence in Mullerian and Batesian mimetic butterflies, at Gamboa.

Robert Dudley, University of Texas at Austin, Dec 17 - Jan 4, to study if migrating butterflies use a magnetic compass to orient, on BCI.

Ghislain Rompre, Dec 17 - Jan 13, to work on predicting bird species loss in the Canal Watershed, on BCI.

STRI X'mas party

STRI Christmas party will be hosted at Tupper, on Friday, December 20th.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

www.stri.org

December 13, 2002

STRI completes Gamboa pier

STRI's Office of Engineering and Operations completed work for a new pier in Gamboa this week. The facilities, constructed by Mechanical Contractors (1st phase) and Construcciones Electrónicas (2nd phase), provide a landing stage for STRI boats operating in the Panama Canal waters, a security cabin, roofed structure for users, Wcs, parking space, and an electricity generator.

The facilities were also equipped with solar powered lights. Effective Monday, December 16, BCI boats transporting cargo will start using this pier. Commuters from Gamboa to BCI and back will still use the Dredging Division facilities until the necessary arrangements with Gamboa buses and the Panama Railroad are made to facilitate access to the area. (Photos: Julio Polo)



La Oficina de Diseño y Construcción de STRI finalizó la construcción de un nuevo muelle en Gamboa para el uso de STRI, esta semana. Las instalaciones, construidas por Mechanical Contractors (primera fase) y Construcciones Electrónicas S.A. (segunda fase) ofrecen abordaje a los botes de STRI que navegan en aguas del Canal de Panamá, una estructura flotante, cabina de seguridad, área techada para los usuarios, sanitarios, estacionamientos, y un generador de electricidad. Las instalaciones también están equipadas con foto-voltaje para luces que usan energía solar. A partir del lunes 16, los botes de STRI que transportan carga empezarán a usar

este muelle. Los investigadores y personal de STRI que viajan entre Gamboa y Barro Colorado seguirán usando las instalaciones de la División de Dragado, hasta que se hagan los arreglos necesarios con la línea de buses de Gamboa y Panama Railroad, para facilitar el acceso al área.



Harry and Penny Barnes leave STRI

Harry Barnes, STRI's assistant director for Scientific Support Services, is leaving STRI on Tuesday, December 17, to take up a new position at Bodega Marine Laboratories, University of California at Davis. Barnes started working for STRI in September 1993. He has played an important role improving the operations of STRI's field stations, the acquisition of the *R.V. Urracá*, and the new marine facilities at Bocas, a major contribution to the promotion of marine research at STRI. Staff scientist Penelope Barnes started working for STRI in January 1994 on ecology, physiology, systematics, genetics and evolution of marine bivalves and marine bivalve-bacteria symbioses. She will continue her relationship with STRI, and is organizing the upcoming STRI-OTS marine course in Bocas del Toro. She has also accepted the position of director of Academic Programs at the Bodega Marine Laboratories. We wish them success in their new challenges.



More arrivals

Kaoru Kitajima, University of Florida, Dec 18 - Jan 4, to study the functional bases for the trade-off between growth and survival of tree seedlings, on BCI and Gamboa.

Elise Granek, Oregon State Univ., Dec 19 - Jan 15, to study linkages between mangrove forest and coral reefs, at Bocas.

Arturo Dominici, STRI short-term fellow from the University of Bremen, Dec 20 - Jun 30, to study the community structure and pattern of diversity with emphasis on feeding preferences in coral reef fish communities in the tropical western Atlantic and eastern Pacific, at Bocas and Naos.

Departures

Dolores Piperno, Dec 18 - Jan 25, to Mexico, to continue research.

New publications

Cordero, Carlos, and Eberhard, William G. 2003. "Female choice of sexually antagonistic male adaptations: a critical review of some current research." *Journal of Evolutionary Biology* 16(1): 1-6.

Guzman, Hector M., and Guevara, Carlos A. 2002. "Annual reproductive cycle, spatial distribution, abundance, and size structure of *Oreaster reticulatus* (Echinodermata: Asteroidea) in Bocas del Toro, Panama." *Marine Biology* 141: 1077-1084.

Guzman, Hector, and Guevara, Carlos A. 2002. "Population structure, distribution and abundance of three commercial species of sea cucumber (Echinodermata) in Panama." *Caribbean Journal of Science* 38(3-4): 230-238.

Harry Barnes, director adjunto para Servicios de Apoyo Científico, deja STRI el martes 17 de diciembre, para asumir una nueva posición en Bodega Marine Laboratories, University of California, en Davis. Barnes empezó a trabajar en STRI en 1993, donde ha jugado un papel importante mejorando las diferentes estaciones de STRI, la adquisición del R.V. Urracá, y las nuevas instalaciones en Bocas, una gran contribución al programa marino de STRI. La científica Penelope Barnes se unió al personal científico de STRI en 1994, con estudios sobre la ecología, fisiología, sistemática, genética y evolución de bivalvos marinos. Ella mantiene su relación con STRI, y está organizando el próximo curso de OTS-STRi en Bocas. También ha aceptado el cargo de directora de Programas Académicos en los Laboratorios Marinos de Bodega. Les deseamos mucho éxito.



Service pins awarded to STRI employees

Georgina de Alba, STRI's associate director for Finance and Administration, and Human Resources director Luz Latorraca, awarded a 20-year service pin to Rosa Zambrano, from the Accounting Department, and 10-year service pins to Oris Acevedo, BCI, Suzanne Lao, CTFS, Enrique Moreno, CTPA, and Aurelio Virgo, Plant Physiology Program, on Friday, November 29, at the Director's Office in Tivoli. In the photo (from the left) are Virgo, Zambrano, Lao and Moreno.

Georgina de Alba, directora asociada de STRI para Finanzas y Administración, entregó un pin de 20 años de servicio a Rosa Zambrano, del Departamento de Contabilidad, y pines de 10 años de servicio a Oris Acevedo, BCI, Suzanne Lao, CTFS, Enrique Moreno, CTPA, y Aurelio Virgo, Proyecto de Fisiología Vegetal, el viernes, 29 de noviembre, en la Oficina del Director. En la foto aparecen (desde la izquierda) Virgo, Zambrano, Lao y Moreno.



Jeannete Egger, Olga Barrio, Marcela Paz and Audrey M. Smith enjoy the events (Photo: Chelina Batista)

New publications

Husband, Rebecca, Herre, Allen E., Turner, Scott P., Gallery, R., and Young, P.W. 2002. "Molecular diversity of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi and patterns of host association over time and space in a tropical forest." *Molecular Ecology* 11(12): 2669-2678.

Husband, Rebecca, Herre, Edward Allen, and Young, J. Peter W. 2002. "Temporal variation in the arbuscular mycorrhizal communities colonising seedlings in a tropical forest." *FEMS Microbiology Ecology* 42(1): 131-136.

Leigh, Jr., Egbert Giles, Cosson, Jean-Francois, Pons, Jean-Marc, and Forget, Pierre-Michel. 2002. "En quoi l'étude des îlots forestiers permet-elle de mieux connaître le fonctionnement de la forêt tropicale?" *Rev. Écol. (Terre Vie)* 57: 181-194.

Molbo, Drude, Krieger, M.J.B., Herre, Allen E., and Keller, L. 2002. "Species-diagnostic microsatellite loci for the fig wasp genus *Pegoscapus*." *Molecular Ecology Notes* 2(4): 440-442.

Roubik, David W. 2002. "Feral African bees augment neotropical coffee yield." In Kevan, P.G., and Imperatriz-Fonseca, V.L. (Eds.), *Pollinating bees: The conservation link between agriculture and nature*. 255-266. Brasilia, Brazil: Ministry of Environment.

Shoemaker, D.D., Machado, C.A., Molbo, D., Werren, J.H., Windsor, Donald M., and Herre, E. Allen. 2002. "The distribution of *Wolbachia* in fig wasps: Correlations with host phylogeny, ecology, and population structure." *Proceedings of the Royal Society (London)* B 269(1506): 2257-2267.

Tupper's traditional Mother's Day celebration was held on Friday, December 6. In the photo (from the left), mothers