

Tupper seminar

Tuesday, July 9, noon seminar speaker will be Egbert G. Leigh, Jr. **Trying to assess the role of pests in maintaining tropical tree diversity**

Bambi seminar

Thu, Jul 11, Bambi seminar speaker will be Denise Hardesty, University of Georgia **Title to be announced.**

Arrivals

Elizabeth Losos, STRI, Jul 6 - Aug 5, to participate at the CFS workshops and attend the ATB meetings.

Priya Davidar, senior fellow from Pondicherry University, India, Jul 21 - Jun 30, 2003, to work on the beta diversity in the rain forests of the Western Ghats, India, on BCI.

Wayne Sousa, Robyn Raban, Meera Venkatesan, Jacon Gunn and Ian Herriot, University of California at Berkeley, Jul 8 - 28, to study patterns and mechanisms of canopy tree regeneration in a Caribbean mangrove forest, at Galeta.

Stuart West, short-term visitor from the University of Edinburgh, UK, Jul 8 - Aug 14, to test the theories of conflicts of interest within mutualism, sex allocation, and kin selection in the fig/fig wasp system, on BCI.

Bernd Freymann, STRI-OTS fellow, Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig, Germany, Jul 10 - 25, to study fungal rhizomorphs, on BCI and Costa Rica.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

www.stri.org

July 5, 2002



STRIweb.si.edu

STRI's Office of Information Technology launched the improved site STRI IntraWeb, this past week. The site includes news important to the STRI community, information of every department and facility, services, and all sort of useful data for the scientific and administrative staff, fellows, associates and visiting scientists. Peter Brumwig, STRI webmaster from OIT and Olga Barrio from the STRI Communication team, thank all those who participated in the production of this site. Don't miss it!

La Oficina de Informática de STRI lanzó el nuevo sitio de intranet de STRI la

semana pasada. El sitio incluye noticias importantes para la comunidad de STRI, información sobre cada departamento de STRI, las instalaciones y los servicios, y todo tipo de datos útiles para el personal científico y administrativo de STRI, becarios, asociados y académicos visitantes. Peter Brumwig, "webmaster" de la Oficina de Informática, y Olga Barrio del equipo de comunicación de STRI agradecen a todos aquellos que participaron en la producción del sitio. ¡No se lo pierda!

New fee charging system: 1000% better

Effective Monday, July 1st, STRI implemented a new administrative system that will charge fees online from every STRI station and facility that is connected to the STRI network. The system was designed to charge fees and supplies to visitors, fellows, as well as to the STRI staff. Charges can be done online, account balances can be seen at any time and payments will be accepted at all these stations. The system also issues receipts after every transaction. According to comptroller Leopoldo León, "this will speed up all STRI financial procedures to the point that efficiency will be improved in 1000%, and will substantially reduce errors." (Photo: Marcos A. Guerra)



A partir del lunes 1ro de julio, STRI puso en marcha un nuevo sistema administrativo que hace cargos en línea desde cualquier estación de STRI que esté conectada con la red.. El sistema fue diseñado para hacer cargos por servicios y útiles a visitantes, becarios y personal de STRI. Al hacerse los cargos en línea, se pueden consultar los saldos en cualquier momento y se pueden hacer los pagos en todas las estaciones. El sistema también emitirá recibos luego de cada transacción. De acuerdo al contralor, Leopoldo León, "este sistema agilizará de tal forma todos los procesos financieros de STRI, que se logrará un 1000% más de eficiencia, y se reducirán substancialmente los errores."

More arrivals

Meredith Blackwell, William Hampton and Joseph McHugh, University of Georgia, James Robertson, Brigham Young University and Sung-Oui Suh, Louisiana State University, Jul 12-23, to study beetles and their yeast endosymbiont from basidiocarp habitats, on BCI.

Departure

William F. Laurance, Jul 6-25, to Manaus, Brazil, to attend the Annual Scientific Conference of the NASA-LBA Program. Then he will travel to the UK, to attend the meetings of the Society for Conservation Biology and the British Ecological Society in Kent. Laurance will also present seminars before the Royal Zoological Society in London, and at Cambridge University, in Cambridge.

Congratulations

To Milton N. García, who received a master's degree in Evaluation of Environmental Impact with honors from the Santa María Catholic University in Panama, on Friday, June 28.

New publications

Estrada, Catalina, and Jiggins, Chris D. 2002. "Patterns of pollen feeding and habitat preference among *Heliconius* species." *Ecological Entomology* 27(4): 448-456.

Kraenzel, Margaret, Castillo, Alvaro, Moore, Tim R., and Potvin, Catherine. 2002. "Carbon storage of harvest-age teak (*Tectona grandis*)."
Forest Ecology and Management 5863: 1-13.

Marko, Peter B., and Moran, A.P. 2002. "Correlated evolutionary divergence of egg size and a mitochondrial protein across the Isthmus of Panama." *Evolution* 56(6): 1303-1309.

"Week with the Smithsonian"

STRI hosted the program "Week with the Smithsonian" from Monday, June 24 to Friday, June 28 from 7:30 to 9pm, at CEFATI-IPAT, on Isla Colón, Bocas. This activity was celebrating June, month dedicated to natural resources in Panama, and aimed to make the Bocas community aware of STRI research activities and educational programs in Panama. A very successful "Open-House" for students took place the morning of Wednesday June 26 at the STRI station in Istmito, with the participation of STRI staff scientists and support personnel. In the first photo, Maurice Thomas, Palm Beach Atlantic College, FL, explains his research on bats to the students. In the second, Suzanne Gray, from the University of Guelph, explains the biology of echinoderms to the young visitors. (Photo: Louis Mou)



STRI celebró una "Semana con el Smithsonian" del lunes 24 al viernes 28 de junio de 7:30- 9pm en CEFATI-IPAT, Isla Colón, Bocas. La actividad tuvo como objetivo celebrar el mes de junio, dedicado a los recursos naturales en Panamá, y llamar la atención sobre los proyectos de investigación y los programas educativos que STRI realiza en el istmo. Durante la mañana del miércoles 26 de junio se abrieron las puertas de la Estación Marina de STRI en Istmito, evento que contó con la participación de científicos de STRI y personal de apoyo, que resultó muy exitoso. En las fotos (arriba) Mark Littler, de SI, explica su trabajo sobre corales. Abajo, Suzanne Gray, de la Universidad de Guelph, explica la biología de equinodermos a los jóvenes visitantes.

New fellows at STRI *Nuevos becarios de STRI*

- Priya Davidar, senior fellow from Pondicherry University, India, from July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003. "Beta diversity in the rain forests of the western Ghats, India. Advisors: Egbert Leigh and Joe Wright.
- Christopher Dick, STRI. Tupper Three Year fellow, from July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2005. "Hierarchical analysis of dispersal and genetic differentiation in Neotropical trees. Advisor: Eldredge Bermingham
- Ruth Dickau, predoctoral fellow from Temple University, August 1, 2002 - July 31, 2003. "Crop dispersals, subsistence patterns and resource use in prehistoric Panama: Evidence from starch grains and macro remains." Advisor: Dolores Piperno.
- Sylvia Fallon, predoctoral fellow from the University of Missouri at St. Louis, June 1, 2002 - January 31, 2003. "Community ecology and biogeography of avian malarial parasites." Advisor: Eldredge Bermingham.
- Sarah Godsey, graduate student fellow from the University of Cincinnati. "Runoff generation on Barro Colorado Island." Aug 5-Oct 11, 2002. Advisor: Egbert Leigh.
- Kim Hoke, postdoctoral fellow from Stanford University, CA, from June 1, 2002 - January 31, 2003. Functional neural circuits of auditory communication in Tungara Frog mating. Advisor: A. Stanley Rand.
- Scott Mangan, predoctoral fellow from Indiana University, June 1, 2002 - June 1, 2003. "Do neotropical rodents influence forest regeneration by dispersing spores of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi?" Advisor: Allen Herre.
- Juan Maté, postdoctoral fellow from STRI, July 1, 2002 - June 30, 2003. "Corals in the eastern tropical Pacific: Is there a genetic connectivity? Advisor: Haris Lessios.
- Aaron O'Dea, postdoctoral fellow from the University of Bristol, from Aug 15, 2002-Aug 14, 2003. "The neogene record of seasonality in Central American Cupuladriid bryozoans." Advisor: Jeremy Jackson.
- Julie Velasquez, predoctoral fellow from STRI, June 1, 2002 - May 31, 2003. "Historical ecology of Wounaan forest use in Eastern Panama." Advisor: Olga F. Linares.
- Kirk Ziegler, postdoctoral fellow from Duke University, NC from September 1, 2002 - August 31, 2003. "The transition between indirect and direct development: early development of *Chyaster rosaceus*." Advisor: Haris Lessios.