

Tupper seminar

Tue, Mar 19, noon seminar speaker will be Elise Pendall, University of Colorado
Carbon cycling in a semi-arid grassland under elevated CO₂

Bambi seminar

Thu, Mar 21, Bambi seminar speaker will be Jennifer Rogers, University of Kansas
Title to be announced

Arrivals

Randall Moore, Auburn University, Mar 7 - May 15, to work with Tara and Douglas Robinson, in Gamboa.

Jeffrey Brawn, Illinois Natural History Survey, Mar 14-30, to continue work with ESP.

Lynn Martin, Princeton University, Mar 16 - Apr 16, to work on immunological comparisons of house sparrows, in Gamboa.

Katharine Milton, University of California, Mar 17, to continue research on howler monkeys, on BCI.

Helmut Elsenbeer, Mark Kramer and Sarah Godsey, USA, Mar 18-31, to work with Robert Stallard, on BCI.

James Dalling, University of Illinois and Astrid Ferrer, Mar 20, to continue research work on BCI, Chiriquí and Bocas del Toro.

Arturo Dominici, University of Bremen, Germany, Mar 20 - Sep 20, to work on the community structure and pattern of diversity with emphasis on feeding preferences in coral reef fish communities in the Tropical Western Atlantic and Tropical Eastern Pacific, at Bocas del Toro, Coibita and Naos.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

www.stri.org

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Heckadon's book presentation

The book "Panamá: Puente biológico" edited by Stanley Heckadon Moreno with contributions from 33 STRI authors and collaborators was presented to a large and diverse audience on Monday, March 11 at the Tupper Center auditorium. Heckadon acknowledged the collaboration received from the Metropolitan Natural Park, the venue for the "Charlas Smithsonian del Mes" now illustrated in the book, the support from colleagues, support staff at STRI, members of the local media, the donors who provided the funds for the publications, and last but not least, his wife Sonia Martinelli (with him in the photo) and their children Diego and Mónica. Director Cristián Samper stated that this beautiful

book represents a gift to the people of Panama, for their continued hospitality to STRI all these years. The book is selling for \$12 for STRI employees until March 22. (Photo: Marcos A. Guerra)

El libro, "Panamá: Puente biológico" editado por Stanley Heckadon Moreno con contribuciones de 33 autores y colaboradores de STRI se presentó a los medios informativos y a una nutrida y diversa audiencia el lunes 11 de marzo, en el auditorio del Centro Tupper. Heckadon agradeció la colaboración recibida del Parque Natural Metropolitano, sede de las "Charlas Smithsonian del Mes" ilustradas en este libro, el apoyo de sus colegas y el personal de apoyo en STRI, los miembros de los medios noticiosos, los donantes que suministraron los fondos para esta publicación, y más que a nadie, a su esposa Sonia Martinelli (con él en la foto) y a sus dos hijos, Diego y Mónica. El director Cristián Samper comentó que este bello libro representa un regalo a la gente en Panamá, por la hospitalidad brindada a STRI todos estos años. El libro se venderá por \$12 a empleados de STRI hasta el 22 de marzo.

Online film by Jackson

A online short film "Rediagnosing the Oceans" by Randy Olson and STRI staff scientist Jeremy B.C. Jackson, was recently launched. The film is based on Jackson *et al.* paper "Historical overfishing and the recent collapse of coastal ecosystems" published in *Science* (July 27, 2001). Jackson is planning to distribute the film to aquaria and schools, and eventually, he hopes to expand it into a 6-hour series for cable television.

Un documental de corta duración [Rediagnosticando los Océanos] de Randy Olson y Jeremy B.C. Jackson, de STRI, se está transmitiendo por internet. El documental está basado en el artículo de Jackson *et al.* [Pesca histórica excesiva y el reciente colapso de los ecosistemas costeros] publicado en la revista *Science* (Julio 27, 2001). Jackson planea distribuir el documental en acuarios y escuelas, y eventualmente espera expandirlo a una serie de seis horas para televisión de cable.



Corto documental de Jackson en internet

More arrivals

Tara and Douglas Robinson, Auburn University, Mar 22 - Apr 4, to characterize abundance of leaf litter arthropods as insect food for forest dwelling birds, in Gamboa.

Catherine Woodward, University of Wisconsin, Mar 22, to study gene flow genetic diversity and inbreeding among fragmented populations of three understory tree species, on a Mellon Exploratory Award, at Naos.

Departures

Néida Gómez, Mar 17-25, to Heidelberg, Germany, invited by the Ciudad del Saber to visit their Technological Park and present a talk on research opportunities in Panama.

Cristián Samper, Mar 21-23 to Costa Rica, to participate at the CATIE meetings.

David Roubik, Mar 21-28, to Chetumal, Mexico, to present a seminar at ECOSUR, do some field work and consult with Mexican colleagues.

Dolores Piperno, Mar 21-25, to Denver, Colorado, to attend the meetings of the Society for American Archaeology.

Egbert G. Leigh, Jr., Mar 22 - Jun 8, to Washington DC, to start of a seminar tour around the US, France and UK. Will also take some time for vacation.

Congratulations

To Patrizia Pinzón, who obtained a master's degree in business administration at ULACIT. The graduation ceremony will take place on Friday, March 22.

More on BCI's cats

Other than anecdotes and tracks from the early 60's and the 70's, little is known about wild cats (*Leopardus weidii*) on BCI. The team led by Jackie Giacalone and Greg Willis, visiting scientists from Montclair State University and Ricardo Moreno, STRI—that monitor and photograph BCI's cats—had only found ocelots, pumas and recently jaguarundi (*Herpailurus yagouaroundi*) a small bashful species. But early this year the group was able to photograph wild cats for the first time in the history of BCI (probably two individuals) on Thomas-Barbour and Drayton-Wetmore nature trails. They thank the assistance provided by biologist Pedro Méndez and biology student Vilma Fernández, who works as volunteer with the project. (Information provided by Ricardo Moreno, BCI)



y muy esquivos. Pero a principios de este año el grupo logró fotografiar tigrillos (posiblemente dos individuos) por primera vez en la historia de BCI en los senderos Thomas-Barbour y Drayton-Wetmore. El grupo agradece la colaboración del biólogo Pedro Méndez y la estudiante de biología Vilma Fernandez, quien trabaja como voluntaria en el proyecto. (Esta información fue suministrada por Ricardo Moreno).

Más sobre los gatos de BCI

Aparte de anécdotas y registros de huellas de principios de la década de los '60 y en los '70, poco se sabe sobre tigrillos (*Leopardus weidii*) en BCI. El equipo dirigido por Jackie Giacalone y Greg Willis, académicos visitantes de Montclair State University, y Ricardo Moreno, de STRI, quienes monitorean y fotografían felinos en BCI, sólo habían logrado encontrar ocelots, pumas y, recientemente jaguarundi, un gato pequeño



Cristián Samper and rector Julio Vallarino signed their third five-year collaboration agreement between STRI and the University of Panama (UDP), on Wed, March 6. Samper emphasized STRI's commitment to strengthen our relationship with Panama's scientific and academic institutions. On the other hand, Vallarino pointed out the value of joint publications with STRI researchers in the UDP's external evaluation conducted last year.

(Photo: Chelina Batista)

Get-together for McGill and Princeton



An afternoon "get together" was organized by STRI on Friday, March 8, for students of McGill University and Princeton University residing in Panama for their field study semester program with STRI and the City of Knowledge, at Clayton.

(Photo: Marcos A. Guerra)

STRI organizó una reunión de tarde el viernes 8 de marzo para estudiantes de la Universidad de McGill, Canadá, y la Universidad de Princeton que están en Panamá en el programa de un semestre de estudio de campo con STRI y la Ciudad del Saber, Clayton.

Cristián Samper y el rector Julio Vallarino Rangel firmaron el tercer convenio de colaboración de cinco años entre STRI y la Universidad de Panamá, el miércoles 6 de marzo. Samper enfatizó el compromiso de STRI de seguir reforzando nuestra relación con instituciones científicas y académicas en Panamá. Por otro lado, Vallarino indicó el valor que tuvieron las publicaciones en conjunto con investigadores de STRI en una evaluación externa a que se sometió la Universidad de Panamá el año pasado.