

Tupper seminar

Tuesday, Mar 26, noon seminar speaker will be Jim Dalling, University of Illinois
Title to be announced

Bambi seminar

Thursday, March 28, Bambi seminar speaker will be Elise Pendall, University of Colorado

Land use change and the carbon cycle: What can stable isotopes tell us?

Arrivals

From the Director's Office:

The Congressional visit scheduled for April 1-5 has been postponed—possibly to the end of May. As soon as we have more information from Washington on future visits by members of the US Congress, we will inform you. We appreciate your patience and willingness to assist us in hosting our visitors.

Kevin Matson, University of Missouri, Ian Couzin, University of Leeds, UK, and Alejander Scheurlein, Princeton University, Mar 23 - Apr 14, to teach Princeton University field course in Ecology.

Roland Kays, Daniel Bogan and Christine Fiorello, New York State Museum, Mar 23 - Apr 13, to work on interactions between ocelots and their prey, on BCI.

Tara and Douglas Robinson, Auburn University, Mar 24 - Apr 4, to study the avian extinction and persistence in fragmented tropical landscapes, at Gigante.

Martin Wikelski, Princeton University, Mar 24 - Apr 14, to teach Princeton University field course in Ecology.

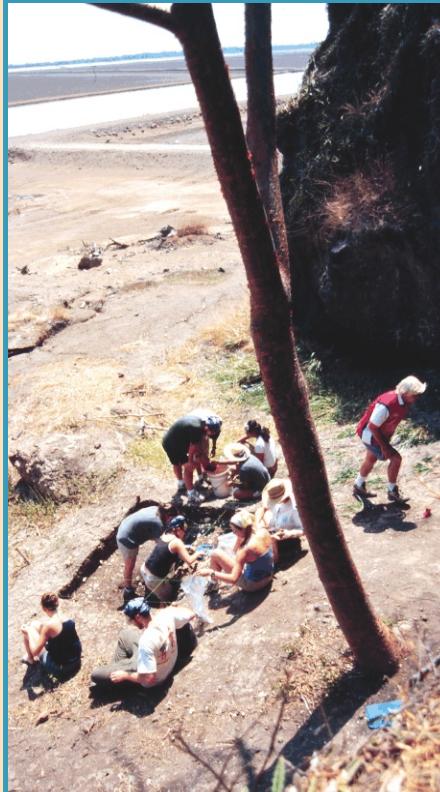
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Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

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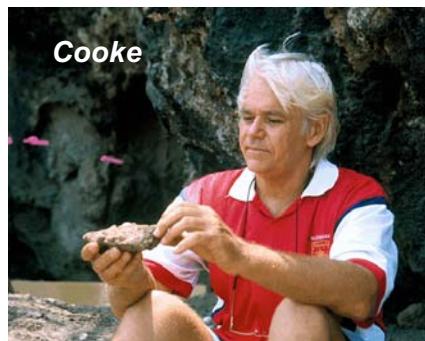
March 22, 2002



Princeton students dig in Vampires' Shelter

Nine students from Princeton University and two from the University of Panama participating in a field semester with STRI visited Vampires' Shelter (left) with archaeologist Richard G. Cooke from March 6-16. Vampires is an archaeological site along the Santa María River in Coclé province. An exploratory excavation conducted in 1982 by Cooke and STRI research associate Anthony Ranere from Temple University showed that Vampire's Shelter has had two pre-Columbian settlements separated by a stratum of sterile soil. The Princeton field semester begun on February 2nd and will end on May 2nd. To

date, the group has participated in an field ecology course with staff scientist Donald M. Windsor at the Metropolitan Natural Park, Ft. Sherman, Galeta and Fortuna, and in the first part of the course, Pre-Columbian Peoples and their Environments, with Dolores R. Piperno at CTPA and BCI. The last two courses will be based on BCI with Martin Wikelski and at Bocas del Toro with Daniel Rubenstein, both from Princeton.



(Photos: M.A. Guerra)

Nueve estudiantes de la Universidad de Princeton y dos de la Universidad de Panamá que están participando en un semestre de campo con STRI visitaron la Cueva de los Vampiros (izquierda, arriba) con el arqueólogo Richard G. Cooke del miércoles 6 al sábado 16 de marzo. Vampiros es un sitio arqueológico que se encuentra a orillas del Río Santa María en la provincia de Coclé. Una excavación exploratoria llevada a cabo en 1982 por Cooke y el científico asociado de STRI Anthony Ranere de Temple University, demostró que la cueva presenta dos ocupaciones pre-Colombinas separadas por una capa de tierra estéril. El semestre de Princeton se inició el 2 de febrero y terminará el 2 de mayo. Hasta la fecha, el grupo ha participado en un curso de ecología de campo con el científico de STRI Donald M. Windsor en el Parque Natural Metropolitano, Fuerte Sherman, Galeta y Fortuna, y en la primera parte del curso, Gentes pre-colombinas y su ambiente, con Dolores Piperno en el CTPA y en BCI. Los últimos dos cursos se dictarán en BCI con Martin Wikelski, y en Bocas del Toro con Daniel Rubenstein, ambos de Princeton.

More arrivals

Peter Murphy, Southern Illinois University, Mar 26 - Aug 1, to work on "Host-pathogen biology and global decline of amphibians: Do changes in ultraviolet light, water temperature, or pH act to increase pathogenicity of chytrid fungi in amphibians?" at Fortuna.

Jorge Gabriel Sánchez-Ken, Iowa State University, Mar 28 - Apr 25, to study the phylogeny and evolution within the Panicoid/Centotheicoid clade (Poaceae), in Panama.

Departures

William F. Laurance, Mar 23-30, to Manaus, Brazil, to continue research projects.

Eldredge Bermingham, Mar 28 - Apr 11, to Morea, French Polynesia, to participate in the workshop "Restoring and Sustaining Diversity of the Tropical Pacific Coral Reef Fish Communities," and visit colleagues at the Richard B. Gump South Pacific Research Station.

Congratulations

To Olga Barrio, who obtained a master's degree in Education with a major in Human Resources, Training and Development from the University of Louisville, on Saturday, March 2.

New publications

Heckadon Moreno, Stanley. 2001. "Pasado, presente y futuro del puente biológico." In Stanley Heckadon Moreno (Ed.), *Panamá: puente biológico*. 1-16. Panamá: STRI.

King, Elizabeth. 2001. "Introducción a la historia de la isla Barro Colorado." In Stanley Heckadon Moreno (Ed.), *Panamá: puente biológico*. 63-69.



(Photo: Marcos A. Guerra)

Diplomatic visit to BCI

Recently, diplomatic ladies Tika Seri (Israel), Shirley de Hu, Cindy de Huang, Andrea de Lee (China), Verena von Neubrouner (Germany) Anna Maria Spinetti (Italy), Eun-Ku Lee Won, and Bong-Hee Chung (Korea) visited BCI with Nélida Gómez, Elena Lombardo and Celideth de León, to learn about research projects and educational activities on the Island. In the photo, STRI staff scientist Nélida Gómez explains the group about the tour they are bound to begin in BCI's forest.

Recientemente, las damas diplomáticas Tika Seri (Israel), Shirley de Hu, Cindy de Huang, Andrea de Lee (China), Verena von Neubrouner (Alemania) Anna Maria Spinetti (Italia), Eun-Ku Lee Won, and Bong-Hee Chung (Corea) visitaron BCI con Nélida Gómez, Elena Lombardo y Celideth de León, para conocer sobre los programas de investigación y las actividades educativas que se llevan a cabo en la Isla. En la foto, la científica de STRI Nélida Gómez, explica al grupo detalles sobre el recorrido que van a empezar dentro del bosque de BCI.

Heckadon's book presented by Fundación Smithsonian to potential donors

STRI and the Fundación Smithsonian de Panamá presented the book *Panamá: Puente Biológico* edited by Stanley Heckadon-Moreno, at the Culebra Marine Exhibition Center, on Wednesday, March 20. At the event, STRI acting director Cristián Samper thanked the Fundación for their support to STRI projects, and president Joseph Salterio of Fundación Smithsonian, used the opportunity to invite other members of the community to join the Fundación. In his introduction to the book, Heckadon encouraged the audience to protect Panamá's unique environment for the future and to support the "silent work" of STRI scientists, for their contributions to understanding life in the tropics. (Photo: Marcos A. Guerra)



Salterio, Samper and Heckadon

STRI y la Fundación Smithsonian de Panamá presentaron el libro Panamá: Puente Biológico, editado por Stanley Heckadon Moreno, a donantes potenciales y amigos en el Centro de Exhibiciones de Culebra, el miércoles, 20 de marzo. Durante el evento, Cristián Samper, director encargado de STRI, agradeció a la Fundación por su apoyo a los proyectos de STRI, y el presidente Joseph Salterio de la Fundación Smithsonian, aprovechó la oportunidad para invitar a otros miembros de la comunidad a unirse a la Fundación. En su introducción al libro, Heckadon exhortó a la audiencia a proteger el ambiente único de Panamá para el futuro, y a apoyar el trabajo silencioso de los científicos de STRI, por sus contribuciones para entender la vida en los trópicos.

First aid and cardiovascular resuscitation

Rescue specialist José Barahona, from STRI's Security Office offered a 20-hr first aid and cardiovascular resuscitation course to Carlos Espinoza and Alberto González, at STRI's station in Fortuna, from Thursday, March 7 through Friday, March 8. The course included the immobilization of a poly-traumatized patient, the use of rigid boards for patient transportation, and special techniques for cervical and cranial injuries. Both guardians, Espinoza and González successfully approved the course, the first of its kind offered in Fortuna.

José Baharona, especialista en rescate de la Oficina de Seguridad de STRI, ofreció un curso de primeros auxilios y reanimación cardiopulmonar de 20 horas a Carlos Espinoza y Alberto González, de la Estación de Fortuna en Chiriquí, del jueves 7 al viernes 8 de marzo. El curso incluyó inmovilización de un paciente poli-traumatizado, el uso de tablas rígidas para el transporte de pacientes, y técnicas especiales para atender lesiones en el área cervical y el cráneo. Ambos cuidadores, Espinosa y González aprobaron el curso exitosamente, el cual fue dado por primera vez en Fortuna.

Primeros auxilios y reanimación cardiopulmonar