

Tupper seminar

Tuesday, June 24, noon seminar speaker will be Jonathan Coddington, visiting scholar from SI's National Museum of Natural History
Estimating species richness from local to phylogenetic scales

Special Bambi

Tuesday, June 24, Bambi seminar speaker will be Jonathan Coddington, Department of Entomology, NMNH.

Arrivals

Vicki Pearse, University of California at Santa Cruz, Jun 21 - Jul 5, to study the biogeography of placozoans (Trichoplax), at Naos and Achiotines.

Joseph Holtum, James Cook University, Australia, Jun 21 - Jul 14, to collaborate with Klaus Winter, at Tupper.

Peter Marko and Amy Moran, University of North Carolina, Jun 21 - Jul 10, to study the divergence of bivalve geminate species, at Naos, Bocas del Toro, and the R.V. *Urracá*.

Maria De Angelo, Yale University, Jun 22 - Jul 2, to study phylogenetic systematics and ecology of *Proechimys*, at Achiotines.

Jonathan Coddington, SI's National Museum of Natural History, Jun 24-29, to visit STRI, consult with colleagues and present seminars.

Nicole Kime, University of Wisconsin, Jun 24 - Jul 29, to study the effects of AVT on vocal behavior in *Túngara* frogs, in Gamboa.



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

www.stri.org

June 20, 2003

STRI-OTS tropical marine ecology course at Bocas

STRI and the Organization of Tropical Studies (OTS) are giving a five-week graduate course on Tropical Marine Ecology on Bocas del Toro and Achiotines, from Monday, June 15 through Friday, July 18. The course—offered for the first time—was designed to provide opportunities for in-depth understanding of tropical marine ecosystems, ideally suited for marine ecology graduate students. It is being led by scientists Penelope Barnes, STRI, and Candy Feller, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC), with assistance from at least ten guest scientists who will join the course for periods ranging from one day to two weeks. The course focuses on the three dominant marine ecosystems of the tropics—sea grasses, mangroves, and coral reefs—and provides both a comprehensive introduction to the ecology of these ecosystems and explorations into on-going research programs. Students will develop an appreciation for the linkages, interdependencies, and ecological significance of the three ecosystems. The course will include a variety of additional topics, like biological oceanography and the ecology of the benthos and meiofauna, and a 5-day field trip to mangrove and coral reef ecosystems in Achiotines, a STRI affiliated station located on the Pacific coast of Panama.



STRI y la Organización de Estudios Tropicales (OET) están dictando un curso de postgrado de cinco semanas en Ecología Tropical Marina en Bocas del Toro y Achiotines, del lunes 15 de junio al viernes 18 de julio. El curso, ofrecido por primera vez, fue diseñado para brindar oportunidades de conocimientos a fondo de ecosistemas marinos tropicales, dirigido a estudiantes de postgrado en ecología marina. El curso está a cargo de dos científicas, Penelope Barnes, de STRI, y Candy Feller, del Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC), con la asistencia de al menos diez investigadores invitados que participarán en el curso por períodos desde un día hasta dos semanas. El curso enfocará los tres ecosistemas marinos dominantes de los trópicos—pastos marinos, manglares y arrecifes coralinos—y ofrecerá tanto una introducción comprensiva a la ecología de estos ecosistemas, como exploraciones a investigaciones en curso. Los estudiantes podrán desarrollar una apreciación por las interdependencias, enlaces y significado ecológico de los tres ecosistemas. El curso incluirá una variedad de tópicos adicionales, como oceanografía biológica, ecología de bentos y fauna de mediana profundidad, y un viaje al campo de cinco días a manglares y arrecifes coralinos en Achiotines, estación afiliada a STRI en la costa del Pacífico de Panamá.



More arrivals

Mariah Hopkins, University of California at Berkeley, Jun 25 - Jul 27, to work with Katharine Milton, on BCI.

Departures

Annette Aiello and Yves Basset, Jun 19-28, to Costa Rica, to participate at a Caterpillar Workshop prepared by Dan Jansen.

Eldredge Bermingham, Jun 26 - Jul 2, to Manaus, Brazil, to attend the Ichthyology and Herpetology meetings.

Rachel Collin, Jun 24-30, to Ann Arbor, Michigan, to attend the American Malacological Society meetings.

Thank you note

Marcos A. Guerra Jr. and Marialuz Calderon thank all members of the STRI community for their support and condolences for the death of his father Marcos A. Guerra Arauz, on Sunday, June 15, in Chiriquí.

New publications

Shoemaker, D. Dewayne, Keller, Gwen, and Ross, Kenneth G. 2003. "Effects of Wolbachia on mtDNA variation in two fire ant species." *Molecular Ecology* 12(7): 1757.

STRI on-line

Panama Tours is advertising Barro Colorado Island on their web-site:

http://www.panamatours.com/Rainforest/barro_colorado_eng.htm

A night with the Smithsonian

To celebrate June, Natural Resources Month in Panama, STRI is hosting "A night with the Smithsonian" open to the public on Isla Colón every night 7-9pm from Monday, June 23 to Friday, June 27, at CEFATI-IPAT. On Wednesday, June 25, there will be an open house for students at STRI's Marine Research Station in Bocas from 9am to 12m. The program aims to make the Bocas community aware of STRI research activities and educational programs on the Isthmus.

En celebración del Mes de los Recursos Naturales, STRI ha organizado "Una Noche con el Smithsonian" abierto al público en Isla Colón todas las noches de 7-9pm, del lunes 23 al viernes 27 de junio en el CEFATI-IPAT. El miércoles 25 de junio habrá un día de puertas abiertas para estudiantes en la Estación de Investigaciones Marinas de STRI en Bocas, de 9am-12m. El programa tiene como objetivo el llamar la atención en la comunidad de Bocas, sobre las actividades de investigación y programas educativos que lleva a cabo STRI en el Istmo.

Reorganization at OCAPP and VSO

Patricia Pinzón, former technician at STRI's Visitor's Office, was promoted to the position of administrative assistant to the Director of the Office of Communications and Public Programs (OCAPP), effective Monday, June 23. She will work under the direct supervision of OCAPP director Stanley Heckadon-Moreno at Tivoli, office 419, e previously used by Gisele Didier (Gisele moved to office 420). Pinzón has a master's degree in business administration from the Latin American University for Science and Technology, ULACYT. Meylín Hernández who worked at STRI for a year in 2000 will fill the position of technician at the Visitor's Services Office. She has a degree in business administration with a major in tourism.



Patricia Pinzón, antigua técnica de la Oficina de Visitantes de STRI, fue promovida a asistente administrativa del director de la Oficina de Comunicaciones y Programas Públicos (OCAPP) a partir del 23 de junio. Ella trabajará bajo la directa supervisión del director de OCAPP, Stanley Heckadon-Moreno, en Tívoli, oficina 419, usada previamente por Gisele Didier (Gisele se trasladó a la oficina 420). Pinzón tiene una maestría en administración de empresas de la Universidad Latinoamericana de Ciencias y Tecnología, ULACYT. Meylín Hernández, quien trabajó en STRI por un año en 2000, ocupará la posición de técnica de la Oficina de Visitantes. Ella tiene una licenciatura en administración de empresas turísticas de ULACYT.

Father's day

STRI girls performed dances representing all decades of the XX century for STRI Father's Day on Friday, June 20. The event was organized by Mercedes Arroyo, Nereida Hernández and Gabriel Martínez. In the photo, Gabriel Martínez' daughter Melissa dances a Panamanian folkloric dance in the Panamanian typical "pollera".



Las muchachas de STRI llevaron a cabo bailes representando todas las décadas del siglo XX para el Día del Padre, el viernes 20 de junio. El evento fue organizado por Mercedes Arroyo, Nereida Hernández y Gabriel Martínez. En la foto, la hija de Gabriel Martínez, Melissa, baila una danza folclórica, en la típica pollera panameña.