

## Tupper seminar

No noon seminar scheduled for Tuesday, May 26.

## Bambi seminar

Please check GroupWise and your bulletin boards for information on the next Bambi.

## Arrivals

Jennifer Brudno, Princeton University, May 24 - Jun 21, to evaluate N Isotope analysis as a method of quantifying nitrogen fixation, at Gigante.

Two professors and six students from Florida International University, May 25 - Jun 16, to participate in the Marine Ecology field course in Bocas del Toro.

David Bradley, University of British Columbia, Canada, May 25 - Aug 28, to work with Janeene Touchton, on BCI.

Justin Fouchon, Boston University, May 25 - Nov 15, to conduct comparative studies of adaptive predator induced phenotypic plasticity in tropical frogs, in Gamboa.

Javier Hernández, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, May 25 - Jul 31, to work with Robert Srygley, in Gamboa.

A. Stanley Rand, STRI, May 26 - Aug 30, to continue work on the Túngara project, in Gamboa.

Ximena Bernal, University of Texas at Austin, May 26 - Aug 21, to work as intern, on the Túngara project, in Gamboa.

Congressman James Greenwood and his legislative director Judy L. Borger, Carey Wilkins, SI Office of Government Relations, May 27-30, to learn about STRI programs and activities on the Isthmus.

# STRI news 2003



Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panamá

[www.stri.org](http://www.stri.org)

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## SCIENCE editors choice: a STRI paper on fig wasps published by PNAS

STRI postdoctoral fellow Drude Molbo from the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, STRI staff scientist Edward Allen Herre, STRI visiting scientist Carlos Machado from the University of Arizona, Jan Sevenster from Leiden University in the Netherlands and Laurent Keller, from the University of Lausanne published the article "Cryptic species of fig-pollinating wasps: Implications for the evolution of the fig-wasp mutualism, sex allocation, and precision of adaptation" in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 100(10): 5867-5872. This past week, the article appeared in *The Editors' Choice: Highlights of the recent literature* section of *Science* (May 16) for Ecology and Evolution. Their review, "Not a one-to-one mapping" describes the relationship between figs and their pollinating wasps as one of the best examples of mutualism. Most of the 700-plus species of fig have been thought to partner with their own species of wasp, in a remarkably stable pattern of coevolution between animal and plant spanning some 90 million years. But new data presented in this article using fig wasps collected in Panama, suggest that rather than representing the classical paradigm of mutualistic coevolution in which a pair of taxa evolve in parallel, the fig-wasp relationship may be more evolutionarily labile, since at least two species of wasps were found to pollinate some figs.



Drude Molbo, becaria postdoctoral de STRI de la Universidad de Lausanne en Suiza, el científico de STRI Edward Allen Herre, el científico visitante Carlos Machado, de la Universidad de Arizona, Jan Sevenster de Leiden University en Holanda y Laurent Keller de la Universidad de Lausanne publicaron el artículo "Cryptic species of fig-pollinating wasps: Implications for the evolution of the fig-wasp mutualism, sex allocation, and precision of adaptation" [Especies crípticas de avispas polinizadoras de higuerones: Implicaciones para la evolución del mutualismo entre higuerones y avispas, distribución de sexos, y precisión de adaptación] en *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 100(10): 5867-5872. La semana pasada, el artículo apareció en la sección *The Editors' Choice: Highlights of the recent literature* de la revista *Science* (16 de mayo) en Ecología y Evolución. La reseña de *Science*, "Not a one-to-one mapping" describe la relación entre higuerones y sus avispas polinizadoras como uno de los mejores ejemplos de mutualismo. Se ha pensado que la mayoría de sus 700 o más especies se han asociado con su propia avispa polinizadora con un patrón sorprendentemente estable de coevolución entre planta y animal a través de un período de 90 millones de años. Pero la nueva información presentada en este artículo usando avispas de higuerones de Panamá, sugiere que en vez de representar el clásico paradigma de coevolución mutualística en donde una pareja taxonómica evoluciona paralelamente, la relación entre los higuerones y sus avispas pueden ser evolutivamente inestable, ya que se encontró que al menos dos especies de avispas polinizaban algunos higuerones.

## More arrivals

Cristine Miller, 10-week graduate fellow from the University of Montana, May 27 - Aug 15, to study the influence of maternal effects on the evolution of a sexually selected trait in the leaf-footed bug, *Leptoglossus gonagra* (Hemiptera: Coreidae), on BCI and Gamboa.

William Hahn and Angelica Cibrian Jaramillo, STRI-OTS fellows from Columbia University, NY, May 28 - Jun 4, to conduct a biosystematic and phylogenetic study of the species of the genus *Bactris* (Palmae) in Mesoamerica, on BCI and Costa Rica.

Karen Warkentin, Kelly Mitcalf and Michael Caldwell, Boston University, May 28 - Nov 15, to study the adaptive timing of hatching in red-eyed treefrogs, and how embryos assess danger: the role of vibrational cues, in Gamboa.

Paolo Segre, University of Illinois, May 29 - Aug 13, to study the effect of soil-borne resources in the structure and dynamics of lowland tropical forests, on BCI.

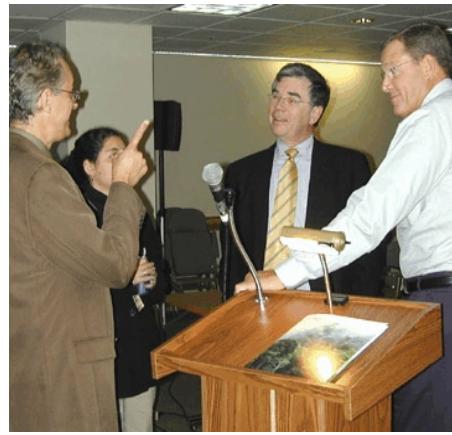
## Departures

Rick Condit, May 24 - Jun 30, to Copenhagen, Denmark, to attend the Plant Diversity and Complexity Patterns Conference at the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences; and to Finland, to present a seminar at the University of Turku; then to San José, CA, to continue research on elephant seals.

## SI Congress of Scholars' monthly talk

Fernando Santos Granero presented "St. Christopher in the Amazon, or the Origin of Child Sorcery among the Arawak of Eastern Peru" as the second monthly talk in a new pan-institutional seminar series hosted by the

Smithsonian Congress of Scholars, in Washington DC. In the photo are Santos-Graneros, SI undersecretary for Science David Evans, and Secretary Lawrence Small.



Fernando Santos-Granero presentó la charla "San Cristóbal en el Amazonas, o el origen de la magia infantil entre los Arawak de Perú oriental," la segunda en una nueva serie de charlas institucionales patrocinadas por el Congreso Académico del Smithsonian, en Washington DC. En la foto aparecen Santos-Granero, el sub-secretario para Ciencias, David Evans y el secretario Lawrence Small.

## New appointments

**Doris Jaén**, cashier at the Accounting Department, was promoted to the position of Accounts Payable assistant effective Monday, June 2. She started working for STRI in 1990 in the Accounting Department bringing experience from the Bank of America, ALICO and Tax Services, Inc. At STRI she also worked for the Oil Spill Project and served as manager of the STRI bookstore. **Urania González** was selected for the position of administrative assistant for the Bocas del Toro Research Station, under the supervision of Luis Mou. She began working on April 29. **Belkis Jiménez** was appointed new assistant for the Scientific Coordinator on BCI, and started working on Monday, May 19. We wish them all the best in their new positions.

**Doris Jaén**, cajera del Departamento de Contabilidad, fue promovida a la posición de asistente para Cuentas por Pagar, a partir del lunes 2 de junio. Ella empezó a trabajar en STRI en 1990 en Contabilidad, trayendo consigo experiencia en el Banco de América, ALICO y Tax Services Inc. En STRI también trabajó con el Proyecto de Derrame de Petróleo y como administradora en la Librería de STRI. **Urania González** fue seleccionada para la posición de asistente administrativa en Bocas del Toro, bajo la supervisión de Luis Mou. Empezó a trabajar el 29 de abril. **Belkis Jiménez** fué nombrada como nueva asistente de la coordinadora científica de BCI, y empezó a trabajar el lunes, 19 de mayo. Les deseamos lo mejor en sus nuevas posiciones.



Read the latest *The Reef*, for information on STRI's celebration of the Biodiversity Day in Galeta.

Lea el último número de *El Arrecife* para encontrar información sobre la celebración de STRI del Día de la Biodiversidad en Galeta.

## Congratulations

To Luis Alberto Sánchez and Claudia Díaz, for the birth of their son Noel Sánchez, on Wednesday, May 21.

## New publications

Rogers, Lock. 2003. "Odds-playing and the timing of sex change in uncertain environments: you bet your wrasse." *Behavioral Ecology* 14(3): 447-450.

Sousa, Wayne P., Kennedy, Peter G., and Mitchell, Betsy J. 2003. "Propagule size and predispersal damage by insects affect establishment and early growth of mangrove seedlings." *Oecologia* 135(4): 564-575.

## Taller científico

CYTED-XVII invita al 1er. Taller Científico de la Red de Humedales "Los humedales de Iberoamérica y el desarrollo sostenible" que se llevará a cabo en las oficinas de SENACYT. Ciudad del Saber, del 26 al 28 de mayo. Para mayor información favor comunicarse con Juan T. Maté, investigador asociado de STRI.

## Miscellaneous

For sale: House in Colinas del Golf, 277.87 m<sup>2</sup>, 3broom, 2bath, living-dinning room, kitchen, laundry, 2 terraces, deposit room, 2-car parking space with electric door, \$65,000. Interested please call Gloria Jované at 672-7473.