University of Copenhagen Graduate Course in:
Tropical Behavioural Ecology and Evolution in Panama

Course summary:
The course will provide an overview of the patterns and processes that determine tropical biodiversity and of the evolutionary biology of key invertebrate model systems. It is designed for graduate students at all levels beginning with proposal preparation, research implementation, and scientific manuscript preparation. The course will emphasize Tropical Behavioral Ecology and Evolution and begin three weeks prior to arriving in Panama where each student will meet and discuss his or her research ideas with the instructors using web-based tools, write a proposal in a STRI short-term fellowship format, and receive detailed comments from an instructor (April 2013). The instructors will consider the research interests of the students and adjust lectures and field projects to best suit the students. Once in Panama (May 2013), one small project will be conducted in collaboration with other students and an instructor. A student lead independent project will be the focus of the course and should be executed with a publishable product in mind. Students will be expected to have a collaborative approach and will work in large and small groups for brainstorming, peer review, and report preparation. The final manuscript will be due one week after the field component in Panama is completed (June 2013). Students will have the opportunity to interact with STRI staff and resident graduate students and become familiar with infrastructural aspects of tropical research in behavioural ecology and evolution.

This synergistic international course should complement and inspire field based research interests in tropical behavioral ecology and evolution.

Dates: April (online preparations) and May (field course in Gamboa, Panama) 2013. Exact dates will be finalized in Nov.

Applications are due no later than Dec. 1st for PhD students interested in applying for personal research permits. All others are due by March 31st. Panamanian students are encouraged to apply, additional funds may be available for partial scholarships. Maximal number of participating students is 16.

This 15 ECT credits or equivalent course is subsidized by the Centre of Social Evolution, Department of Biology, University of Copenhagen, but will still carry a fee of Dkr 9000 (ca € 1210 or $1485) for the 3.5 weeks field component in Panama which will include expenses for accommodations and meals. Students will arrange and pay their own flights to Panama and personal research permits if needed.

For more information and how to apply for the course please go to: http://www1.bio.ku.dk/english/research/oe/cse/kurser/ and http://megalomyrmex.com/Teaching.html or Email Rachelle at rmmadams@gmail.com

Main Professors
-Dr. Rachelle M. M. Adams, University of Copenhagen, Smithsonian Institution Research Collaborator, Washington DC
-Dr. Jacobus J Boomsma, Professor, University of Copenhagen, STRI Research Associate
-Dr. Jonathan Z. Shik, North Carolina State University