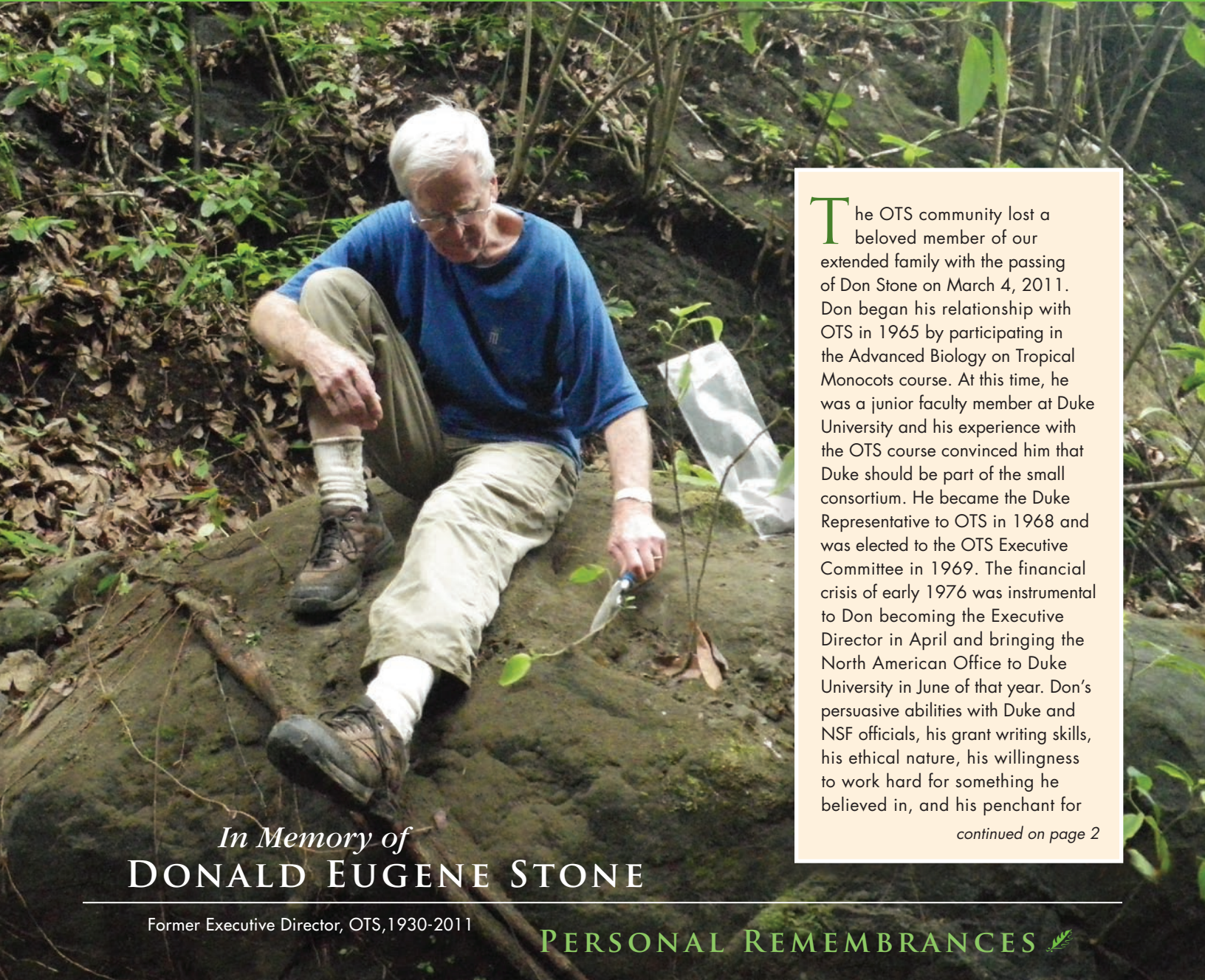


VIEW FROM THE CANOPY



- IN THIS ISSUE ■ Personal Remembrances ■ Graduate Course Schedule
■ 2010 Outstanding Student Paper Award ■ OTS 50th Anniversary Approaches



The OTS community lost a beloved member of our extended family with the passing of Don Stone on March 4, 2011. Don began his relationship with OTS in 1965 by participating in the Advanced Biology on Tropical Monocots course. At this time, he was a junior faculty member at Duke University and his experience with the OTS course convinced him that Duke should be part of the small consortium. He became the Duke Representative to OTS in 1968 and was elected to the OTS Executive Committee in 1969. The financial crisis of early 1976 was instrumental to Don becoming the Executive Director in April and bringing the North American Office to Duke University in June of that year. Don's persuasive abilities with Duke and NSF officials, his grant writing skills, his ethical nature, his willingness to work hard for something he believed in, and his penchant for

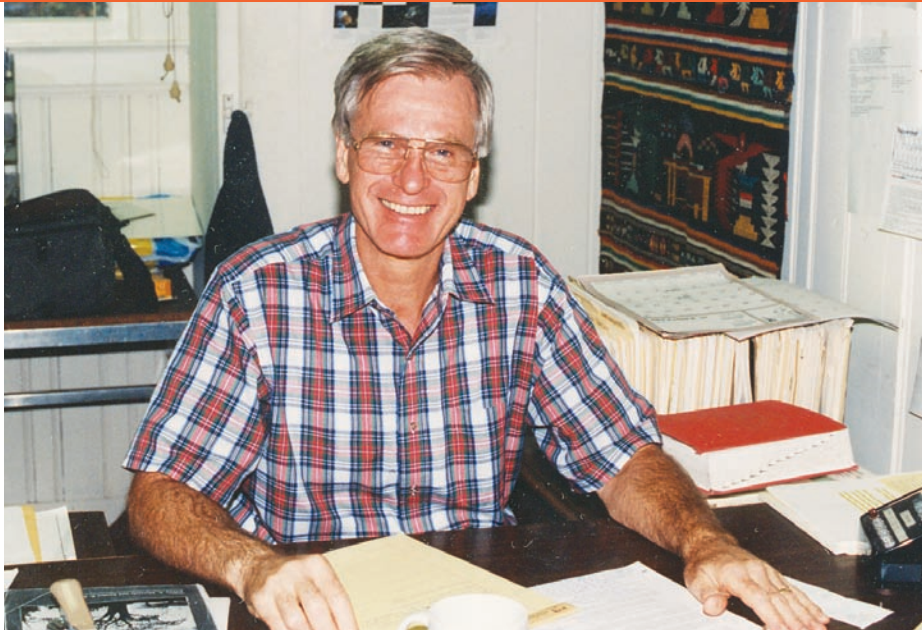
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In Memory of
DONALD EUGENE STONE

Former Executive Director, OTS, 1930-2011

PERSONAL REMEMBRANCES





In Memory of
DONALD EUGENE STONE

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straightening out complex problems resulted in the eventual financial solvency of the organization. In fact, Don's Research Initiation and Support (RIAS) grant from NSF, the proposal for which he wrote while on the Executive Committee in December of 1975, and his La Selva Maintenance Grant, which he wrote at the height of the crisis in April 1976, gave OTS the working margin to operate and are credited with the very survival of the organization. He remained the Executive Director of OTS for twenty years and, with his wife Beverly at his side handling the organization's finances, oversaw a tremendous growth in the organization, especially at La Selva which tripled its land holdings to 1,536 hectares, saw significant infrastructure improvements, including NSF-funded laboratories and the NSF-funded foot-bridge across the Puerto Viejo, and major NSF-funded collaborative research projects, which provided the global scientific community with new insight into ecological processes in tropical forests. Significantly, in the

early-1980s, under Don Stone and Peter Raven (Chair of the OTS Board), the world conservation community came together to purchase the 47,000 hectares of forest that extended down the slope of Barva Volcano to La Selva 35 miles away. Known as the Zona Protectora, this acquisition to the Braulio Carrillo National Park ensured La Selva's viability as major a research station and more importantly protected thousands of species migrating up and down the forested slope. For that effort and in recognition of the organization's leadership in tropical biology, in 1985 OTS was the first organization to receive the Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement. Don's work with the education program also resulted in significant enhancements; most impressive was his relationship with Bill Robertson and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, which provided financial stability for OTS' graduate courses for nearly three decades, expanded OTS' courses into Peru and Brazil, and lead to the creation

of the undergraduate program shortly after his retirement through his successor Gary Hartshorn. In the late 1980s Don's work with the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation resulted in OTS' first courses for U.S. legislative leaders and an endowment that continues this program to this day. In the early 1990s, Don convinced the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to fund OTS in ground-breaking studies on the use of native trees in plantation forestry and reforestation. In 1992 Don established the OTS Board of Visitors to provide guidance to the Board of Directors and CEO on matters outside of biology and in 1995, after the devastating fire at Las Cruces, he oversaw the restoration of that field station and botanical garden to new level of facilities and infrastructure. Don retired from OTS in 1996 and shortly thereafter became the Chair of the Botany Department at Duke University. After he retired from Duke, Don was elected onto the OTS Board of Visitors in 2000 and, later, was asked in late-2003 to serve as the Interim CEO during the search for the current President and CEO, Elizabeth Losos. Don served in a voluntary capacity during this period and then retired for good in early-2005 to work on his research. Don's interests centered on the systematic and evolution of temperate and tropical plants using biochemistry, cytotaxonomy, comparative anatomy and comparative morphology in the walnut family (Juglandaceae) and pollen development in the ginger family (Zingiberales). In addition to many other publications, he contributed Juglandaceae to the floras of Mesoamerica, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and China as well as Juglans and Carya to the Flora of North America. Don is survived by his wife of 58 years, Beverly, his three daughters: Terry Anne Stone (Tom Eller) of Durham, Janne Stone Allen (Doug Allen) of Las Vegas, NV, and Diane Stone Langdon (Bert Langdon) of Houston, TX, grandchildren Robert, Lauren and Courtney Langdon, brother-in-law Stewart Larson and Caryl, and nieces Amy Larson and Debbie Larson Anderson.

The following comments were taken from Care Pages and emails sent to OTS:



In Memory of
DONALD EUGENE STONE
 PERSONAL REMEMBRANCES



Don was simply the Grand Poobah of OTS for most of its history. How he accomplished so much for so many will always be a major mystery. (We do know he couldn't have done all of it without Bev's own extraordinary commitment).

Don's dedication to every aspect of OTS' research, education, programs, field station management, financial health and networking with funders and board members was awe-inspiring. He was a big-picture guy who somehow connected all the details, too. Staff members know he insisted on packing equipment crates! And for every story of faithful mentoring over time, there are dozens more. I will personally never forget his confidence in me, thoughtful guidance and support for Las Cruces. We worked hard, and then he would ask us to work harder – and we did it with glee because we would do anything for him! The last time I saw Don at my finca near Las Cruces a couple of years ago, he asked if Luis Diego's Tico dendron trees were still thriving at Finca Cantaros. He was delighted by the confirmation, which he passed on to Luis on what I think was their last field trip together. Don's smile as he hugged me to say good-bye will shine in my memory. What an original, noble human being.

GAIL HEWSON HULL –
 FORMER ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, LAS CRUCES



Another legend has passed on. I am very sad. I remember so clearly when I got to know him. I was a very young NSF Staff Officer and I was sent down to Costa Rica to pay a site visit to OTS on behalf of the program officer who was instrumental in clearing the path for NSF funding for OTS. I believe that OTS was the very first (and may have remained the only) field station outside the U.S. getting funding from that agency. A very large part of it was due to the relationship. He devoted himself tirelessly over the decades that followed to support the infrastructure of OTS. I would consider him the Godfather of that organization. Although we had not communicated in years, I am truly sorry he has passed.

S. H. SOHMER –
 PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR,
 BOTANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS

Don combined lots of qualities that are often mutually exclusive: he was a fine naturalist, a good scientist, an efficient administrator, and a generous and thoroughly nice person. I don't think I ever asked him for anything – a data point, an identification of a plant, or help with an administrative problem – that wasn't immediately forthcoming, and without a hint of reproach for my taking up his time. A great loss to all of us who knew him, the community is much the poorer.

HUGH FRASER ROWELL –
 EMERITUS PROFESSOR,
 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

We have all lost – Bev, the Stone family, OTS, Duke, Costa Rica, Don's friends – a great man, pioneer in tropical biology, research and education, particularly at La Selva, Las Cruces and Palo Verde. We will miss Don as an inspiring leader but most of all as the gentleman and loyal friend he was, enthusiastically walking Monteverde for hours collecting plants, or our Pacific coast searching for walnut fossils with Luis Diego Gomez and his grandson Robert Langdon. We met Don when our son Carlos Silva was a freshman at Duke in 1978. Walking thru the campus, he saw an OTS poster with a map of Costa Rica. He went in and met a friendly gentleman – none other than Exec Director Dr Stone who told him all about OTS & Costa Rica since 1964. Don's only mistake was, after learning that Carlos played tennis, to invite him to play not knowing he had been MVP in high school. Don told me later: "I didn't think a CR kid would be good at tennis, I should have known better...". As OTS BoV chair I had a close relationship with Don, but couldn't accept being chair while he was just a BoV member – he had been Exec Dir for 20 years – so I proposed a change in by-laws in order to have two co-chairs – Don and I. But soon we needed to ask Don to return as ExD, which he accepted on condition it be pro-bono, without salary I teased him that after being his boss as BoV chair, now he had become my boss. We are very pleased that the suspension bridge at La Selva – a small Golden Gate-bears Don's name: THE STONE BRIDGE. When he would come to Costa Rica in March we had to watch Duke basketball. Once with his pal Dick White they came chez nous to watch the NCAA final. To our horror the

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broadcast was blacked out during the first half while Duke was being beaten badly. Had to find some consolation with a few gin tonics. Once the problem was fixed we watched Duke come from behind and win it all. More gin tonics, this time to celebrate! During Don's visits to San José we made it a point to have dinner at Jurgen's with Margaret. Once went to beautiful Villa Caletas joined by the Whites and greatly enjoyed it. Now going by these places cannot resign ourselves that we will not be seeing Don again, yet try to overcome our sadness by remembering the friendship we shared and the good times we had together.

Our heartfelt condolence to Bev – we love her –, to all the Stone family and to his friends and travel pals Dick and Norma.

FORMER COSTA RICAN
AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.,
RODOLFO SILVA AND HIS WIFE MARGARET

I am surprised by the sad news. I really appreciated Don; he was in my committee and my professor. He always was full of energy and I will remember him, smiling and young. I saw him few times in meetings, some of them when he visited Panama, home country. I will never forget his letter, in 1978, when I sent specimens of *Oreommunea*, a Juglandaceae, plant family he devoted part of his life to study. He was excited. Please my sincere condolences to all Don's family. I will always remember him.

MIREYA D. CORREA A. –
UNIVERSITY OF PANAMA

In Memory of DONALD EUGENE STONE

It was with great sadness that I read about Don's passing. Please accept our condolences. Don was a shining light during our tenure at OTS. He was my most important mentor, teaching me more than one trick about writing NSF grants, dealing with ornery researchers, and figuring out how to keep jungle trails and fancy analytical equipment maintained. His visits to La Selva were highlights in our engagement with OTS. His charm and wit and no nonsense approach to supporting research and education were a welcome change from some of the characters we had to deal with in our jobs. We were fortunate to be present at the dedication of the Stone Bridge and the small monument to this monumental man in OTS history. With the current leadership and support, I am sure that OTS will continue to grow and prosper in the years to come. That, perhaps, would be the best way to honor Don's memory.

BRUCE YOUNG AND CYNTHIA ECHEVE

I send my sincere condolences at this difficult time for you. I have a deep appreciation for Don's many contributions and many warm memories of my interaction with him. He and Jay Savage pulled OTS back from the brink of the abyss when it was teetering on the brink of financial oblivion. His (and your) administrative role got OTS not just back on track, but moving ahead with vigor and vision. The NSF station grants made La Selva a paramount tropical research station, and the Stone bridge made it more easily accessible. The enormous number of OTS-related scientific papers published, students taught and researchers trained in tropical ecology stand as Don's greatest monument.

TOM YUILL –
PROF. EMERITUS, U OF WISCONSIN



My heart felt condolences to you and your family on the loss of Don. He always stood tall as a beacon for those concerned with tropical biology. His vision, passion and inspiration for the tropics will live in the hearts of the many generation of students, researchers and others he touched. A gentleman and a giant. He will be sorely missed.

ROSS SIMONS –
SIMONS AND ASSOCIATES

Our condolences to Don's Family. I never got to know Don personally but OTS has been a friend to Tuskegee University and our students through study abroad. This means that as Executive Director for OTS, Don touched our lives also. Peace and blessings to the family.

ELOISE CARTER –
DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS,
TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY

As a Costa Rican that loves nature, visiting La Selva and meeting Don Stone during my teenage years, was pivotal to choosing my career. I ended up going to graduate school at Duke, and working at The World Bank for eight years. I eventually returned to my beloved country, where I continued working in the field. I remember Don's positive and accessible attitude, especially toward young Costarricans. Thank you so much for all you did for my country and my children's country. Blessings and Peace to the family.

OLGA MARTA CORRALES





OTS, Don was of great help and wise counsel. Even after leaving Durham, I always enjoyed visiting with Don. He leaves an extraordinary and unmatched legacy.

GARY & LYNNE HARTSHORN

Impossible to believe that Don has passed on. I worked with Don for 2 dozen yrs and had the highest regard for him as a scientist, biologist, botanist, as the visionary father nurturing the growth of OTS from infancy and through several crises, a generous thoughtful mentor to us young coordinators of the 1970s, a considerate effective leader/ administrator, and a most trusted and dear friend

He made the Annual OTS meetings a learning experience for us new Directors/Delegates. Books of memories (well I guess we actually have them in all those amazing Board books with the cartoons!)

Bev: you also deserve HUGE hugs and Carya leaves full of thanks for all the years you put into OTS and all those OTS Board books and cartoons you put together. Without doubt you were Don's most trusted right-hand. The Don & Bev team.

Deepest hugs of appreciation and with profound respect.

DOUGLAS E. GILL –
PROFESSOR EMERITUS,
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

Lynne and I are deeply saddened by the loss of Don and express our most sincere condolences to you and your family. Don was truly Mr. OTS, giving so unstintingly over many decades. Some of my earliest memories of Don were during the early- and mid-70s when he refused to let OTS go under, almost single-handedly saving what he believed was a worthy institution. He was unique in that he sought out and listened to young grad students and post-docs about how to improve OTS. During my 7+ years as head of

My deepest condolences to (Bev) and (the Stone) family. I felt that part of me had passed away when I received an email yesterday from Marshall Crosby telling me about Don's passing. Don was one of the nicest persons I have known in my life. As you probably recall Don & I first met when I was a graduate student at Harvard and we took an OTS course together in the summer of 1965. Our 1966 trip together from Duke to Costa Rica was without doubt one of the most memorable events of my life. I still have very fond memories of staying with you in your lovely home at the beginning and end of our "Joint Duke-Harvard Expedition to Central America to Collect Juglandaceae and Annonaceae." I have always thought that if I had to spend years on a deserted island with just one other human being, my first choice for my sole companion on that island would have been Don Stone. I still can't fully accept that he is no longer with us, but I know that he will live in the lives of the many, many people whose path he crossed.

JAMES ("JIMMY") WALKER,
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST



OTS extends our deepest condolences to his family for their tremendous loss. Don's spirit and leadership will be sorely missed by all. In some way, both large and small, his actions have reached every OTS student, researcher, and faculty member. We are all forever grateful for his involvement.

Memorial donations can be made to the Organization for Tropical Studies. Don's family and friends have established the Donald E. Stone Memorial Endowment Fund to provide student scholarships in honor of Don and his work with OTS over the last 5 decades. Through this fund, OTS students will continue to be impacted by Don.

About this fund:

A group of individuals, led by Lucinda McDade, Jim Beach, Julie Denslow and Bette Loisselle, have taken the lead in reaching out to the community to request support of this fund to honor Don's legacy. Those who knew Don know that he is smiling at the thought that his last gesture for OTS would support future generations. We are pleased to announce that all gifts made to this fund before June 30, 2011 will be matched by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.



**OTS RECOGNIZES
DR. ALICE BOYLE**
WITH
**2010 OUTSTANDING
STUDENT
PAPER AWARD**



PHOTO BY H. LUMPKIN



PHOTO BY A. BOYLE

Members of the OTS Assembly of Delegates have announced the winner of the 2010 Outstanding Student Paper Award for excellence in research. The announcement drew a great pool of remarkable submissions, representing five OTS consortium members. Selection of the winning submission was based on the following criteria:

1. Quality of research
2. Relevance of the work to the mission of OTS
3. Broader impacts, including education and potential benefits to society.

The nominees represented a variety of research approaches and interests but in the end, the committee selected Dr. Alice Boyle as the winning entry.

Dr. Boyle's paper presents her empirical study on the mechanisms that explain the evolution of bird migration. A North American calendar can be set by the birds, spring proceeds from warblers to tanagers to orioles, fall from shorebirds to hawks to waterfowl, predictable, fascinating, and bewildering. Why do birds migrate? Dr. Alice Boyle has considered the question by studying altitudinal migrants in the Cordillera Central of Costa Rica. These species migrate across short distances, but cover thousands of meters of elevation. Boyle found evidence that dietary restrictions drive the movement of these species from one place to the next. Her project is exceptional in being among the first to experimentally test competing hypotheses of the causes of bird migration.

Honorable mention awards were given to Natalie Clay from Colby College and Yimen Araya from the Universidad de Costa Rica. Both of these students were undergraduates when their research was completed and were part of the NSF-sponsored OTS Research Experience for Undergraduate program.

On behalf of the Awards committee, Dr. Kim Smith (University of Arkansas), Dr. Sean O'Donnell (University of Washington) Drs. Elisabeth Arévalo and Patrick Ewanchuk (Providence College); the Assembly of Delegates and the entire organization, congratulations!

50
OTS is turning in 2013
and we are beginning
preparations **now.**

Mark your Calendar! We are planning a large celebration of this momentous milestone for June 2013. We are hosting the ATBC (Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation) Annual Meeting on June 23-27, 2013 and raising a glass in celebration with ATBC as both organizations celebrate their 50th Anniversary.

Alumni

Whether you participated in an OTS course last month, last year, last decade or last century, alumni made the decision to expand their knowledge. We can all agree that education, research and conservation are all pieces of the long-term solution to the survival of delicate ecosystems and biodiversity. As you know, OTS offers its alumni post-course fellowships and other research awards to encourage a return to the tropics. Our field stations have enabled OTS alumni to interact with a host of scientists from around the world. But we want to do more.

We are looking for Alumni Representatives to help us reach out to lost alumni and develop a comprehensive alumni program.

Specifically, we want to:

Create an OTS Alumni Benefits Package:
we are working on creating a package of benefits for members of the OTS Alumni community. We would love your input!

Plan an OTS Alumni Reception:
scheduled during the 50th celebration in San José

Locate Lost Alumni

All of these efforts are vital to our efforts to reconnect our alumni and prepare to celebrate 50 years of success. Please consider joining us, once again, and make a powerful statement about your belief in OTS.

If you are interested in helping us prepare for the 50th celebration, please contact Cathleen Lemoine at cathleen.lemoine@duke.edu or 919-684-6969.

PHOTO BY DUKE PHOTOGRAPHY

OTS GRADUATE COURSES IN COSTA RICA 2011-2013



Nothing can replace the hands-on experience of a field-based course in the tropics! This is what OTS offers through its broad range of Tropical Biology and Ecology graduate level courses in Spanish or English in Costa Rica. OTS graduate courses are open to students enrolled in graduate degree programs, with preference given to students at OTS member institutions.

For more information, please visit us online at www.ots.duke.edu.

Traditional Courses (5-8 week courses) 2012 and 2013

Ecología Tropical y Conservación (in Spanish)
January 11 – February 20, 2013
*Application Deadline:
June 10, 2011

Tropical Biology: An Ecological Approach
January 23 – March 12, 2012
*Application Deadline:
October 7, 2011

Tropical Plant Systematics
June 6 – July 9, 2012
*Application Deadline:
March 1, 2012

Ecología Tropical y Conservación (in Spanish)
January 10 – February 19, 2013
*Application Deadline:
June 15, 2012

Sistemática de Plantas Tropicales (in Spanish)
mid June – mid July, 2013
*Application Deadline:
November 1, 2012

Tropical Biology: An Ecological Approach
early June – late July 2013
*Application Deadline:
March 1, 2013

Specialty Courses (2 week courses) 2011

Ecology and Conservation of Neotropical Rivers
May 8 – 22, 2011
*Application Deadline:
February 1, 2011†

Conservation and Restoration Genetics
May 21 – June 5, 2011
*Application Deadline:
February 10, 2011†

Inquiry in Rainforests: an in-service program for teachers
July 7 – 20, 2011
*Application Deadline:
April 8, 2011†

Note: A few spots are still available in the May-June 2011 specialty courses. The 2012 specialty courses will be announced soon; consult our website for the latest updates.

*Notification date is within 30-45 days after the application deadline

†Rolling Admissions

All courses will maintain open enrollment past the original deadline date until filled



SUPPORT OTS! Payment Information

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 La Selva Las Cruces Palo Verde South Africa

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- Macaw \$250+ Tanager \$100+
- Motmot \$50+ Other \$ _____

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2011 T-Shirt Survey Results

The winner is.....

Here is the winning design for the 2011 OTS membership t-shirt. Thank you to everyone who participated in our survey!

The new t-shirt will only be available to OTS members in appreciation for their contribution of \$50 or more. The new t-shirt will be available in July 2011.



About OTS

OTS is a non-profit consortium of over 60 research institutions, colleges and universities from the United States, Latin America, Africa and Australia. OTS' mission is to promote education, research, and the responsible use of natural resources in the tropics.

The View from the Canopy is produced by the OTS Development Office. To submit comments or news items, please contact Cathleen Lemoine at 919-684-6969 or via e-mail at cathleen.lemoine@duke.edu.



PHOTO BY ADAM MICHAEL WILSON



PHOTO BY DUKE PHOTOGRAPHY



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