

Seminar Description:

The **Organization for Tropical Studies** (OTS) is a non-profit consortium of over 60 universities, colleges, and research institutions from the US , Costa Rica, Mexico, Peru, South Africa, and Australia. Our mission is to provide leadership in education, research, and the responsible use of natural resources in the tropics. We focus on research, education, and conservation. Every year, we facilitate research in our three biological stations in Costa Rica for approximately 330 scientists from 25 countries, which collectively generate a scientific publication every 72 hours. Through research fellowships, we sponsor graduate and undergraduate students who conduct projects at the stations. OTS also trains undergraduates, graduate students, and professionals through a number of hands-on inquiry-based courses taught mostly in Costa Rica, but also in other tropical countries. In addition, OTS participates in several large-scale conservation initiatives. In this short talk I will present a range of opportunities for undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty to conduct research in Costa Rica. In particular, I will highlight several programs, including a International Research Experience for Graduate Students, an upcoming practical workshop on embedded sensor networks for tropical research, a new tower infrastructure to conduct research with embedded sensors on 3-D, and a large-scale research project that will involve scientists from a variety of natural sciences, social, and engineering disciplines.