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Re IBISCA 2007-2011: Towards a Census of Tropical Rainforest Life (CTRL)

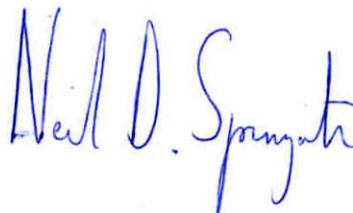
Cher Yves,

I have read the outline proposal with interest and it contains much to which I would like to contribute, subject to continued funding for myself. Within the Hymenoptera section of the Natural History Museum, it is intended that greater emphasis will be placed on the interactions of phytophagous Hymenoptera with their host or food-plants. Thus, the study of rainforest floras and their associated herbivores at assorted strata will contribute to our objectives and the overall aims of the proposed study.

As you are aware, in addition to my commitments to Darwin Initiative Project 14-054 until 31.viii.2006, the Department is in a state of major transition and will be for a few years hence whilst a new edifice is constructed. However, it is the Keeper's intention that the Department's facilities, principally its collections and libraries, remain 'open' and available to external collaborators and visiting researchers. (Please note that access to the General, Zoology and Botany libraries are not affected?)

Thus, I would be happy to act (i) as a link between the proposed IBISCA study and the NHM and (ii) as one of the programme's collaborators.

Best wishes for success in your endeavours,



Neil D. Springate, Ph.D.