



Department of Biology

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**University
of Victoria**

To whom it may concern:

October 4, 2005

This letter is to certify that I, Dr. Neville Winchester, Biology Department, University of Victoria fully support the concepts and research plans promoted by IBISCA. Factors that influence the organization, distribution, and diversity of species communities are central issues of ecological studies. IBISCA is ideally suited to answer these questions, generate publications, and contribute to the understanding of arthropods in forest canopy ecosystems. Summarizing empirical patterns of resident species diversity is highly desirable given the numerous conservation reasons that have been adopted for maintaining biodiversity. IBISCA will meet this conservation challenge, and the impressive list of canopy, statistical, and museum researchers form the basis for addressing questions that move canopy science beyond simple descriptions of community diversity and into the arena of testing theories and predicting patterns of species composition. I am grateful for having the opportunity to be involved with the IBISCA project and will continue to give my full support to this program, and will actively participate in all future endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neville Winchester', written over a horizontal line.

Neville Winchester (PhD)
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