

YES, I WANT TO SUPPORT THE ACEER FOUNDATION

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____ Friend (Individual)	\$50	____ Patron	\$500
____ Friend (Family)	\$100	____ Benefactor	\$1,000
____ Sponsor	\$250	____ Corporate	\$5,000

Enclosed is a total of \$ _____ as my contribution to support the ACEER Foundation.

Please make checks payable to the ACEER Foundation and mail to:
The ACEER Foundation
P.O. Box 2549
West Chester, PA 19383

THANK YOU!

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NEW AMAZON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER SET TO OPEN

The ACEER, in partnership with the Amazon Conservation Association (ACA) and with full funding from the National Geographic Society, is creating a new education and research center in the Peruvian Amazon rainforest. The site is within the Los Amigos Conservation Concession, approximately 7 hours travel time upriver from Puerto Maldonado, Peru. The Los Amigos watershed is remote, pristine wilderness that acts as a biological corridor connecting Manu National Park and the Tambopata Reserved Zone. An existing research center, CICRA, created by ACA, lies at the very heart of the largest expanse of virgin rainforest in the world and will complement the new ACEER facility.

Plant and animal diversity is extremely high around Los Amigos. The site lies within terra firme forest bordering on floodplain forest. The area contains a great diversity of terrestrial and aquatic habitats, including palm swamps, bamboo, oxbow lakes, and various types of flooded and non-flooded forests. Wildlife is abundant, including endangered animals such as giant otters, harpy eagles, spider monkeys and the big cats such as jaguars. The area contains 13 species of primates. For comparison, all of Costa Rica holds only 4 monkey species. Individual populations of species can be quite robust. Recent field studies have noted individual monkey troops exceeding 200 individuals and peccary groups with more than 1000 individuals.



A satellite image of the pristine Los Amigos watershed in Peru

The site for the new ACEER station would be on a high terrace (30 m. +/-) above the Los Amigos River. The site will be near the CICRA research center; ACEER would have full access to CICRA, and their resident researchers, in support of educational programs. At the present time, there are 70 researchers at CICRA working on short and long-term funded projects through universities and organizations such as the World Wildlife Fund, the Moore Foundation, and Conservation International. The Los Amigos site also offers over 100 km of marked trails in support of the new center. The campus will include double cabins with individual showers/flush toilets; a separate dining facility; staff quarters; a field laboratory; and meeting

rooms. The site will have full power and 24/7 wireless Internet access. Initial capacity will be for educational groups of about 20 individuals. ACA will provide the management and logistical services for the new center. The site is expected to be available by mid-2006 with the first courses and workshops scheduled for shortly thereafter. Under this special partnership agreement with ACA, ACEER will be the sole agent for coordinating educational programs for the international community; ACA will use the site for local training programs, consistent with their own education and research missions.

"This new center in pristine, *terra firme* rainforest will complement ACEER stations at Tambopata and our new cloud forest walkway in the Andes, also in partnership with ACA, and provide students and researchers an unparalleled opportunity to study rainforests and cloudforests," notes ACEER President Dr. Roger Mustalish. In addition to dedicated workshops in the Andes and in the Amazon rainforest, ACEER and ACA will be creating intensive "mega-transect" workshops that will begin in the cloud forest at our joint Wayqechas Cloud Forest Walkway site and travel down the eastern slope of the Andes through seven different ecosystems into the lowland rainforest at Los Amigos.

Follow our progress on our website. Groups interested in booking space at Los Amigos can do so by contacting Marguerite Gould at mgould@wcupa.edu or 610-738-0477.

West Chester, PA 19383
P.O. Box 2549

FOUNDATION
ACEER

VISIT THE ACEER IN 2006

Become an ACEER Alumnus and share some of the wonderful experiences others have had!

"Words cannot express my feelings about this journey that we were on. It was unbelievable! We practiced yoga and mediation in some of the most beautiful places. The trip was life-altering and unforgettable." Lin, August 2005

"Going to Peru was one of the most rewarding and enlightening experiences of my college career. Visiting the rainforest allowed me to learn a lot about myself and one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world. I would recommend a journey like this to anyone who is interested in the adventure of a lifetime!" Amy, March 2005

"It was one of the most rewarding and life-changing experiences in my life. The people in Peru are so welcoming and the culture was amazing. Just being surrounded by the Andes one day and the rainforest another, it was simply ... amazing." Megan, August 2005

Now is the time to register for the 2006 workshops to Peru. There are some new offerings this year, as well as old favorites, such as the yoga workshop. All workshops are priced from either Philadelphia, Miami, or Lima and are all-inclusive (transportation, hotels, food, guides) – prices begin at \$2,999. Visit our web site to see detailed itineraries and registration forms. Academic Credit, CEUs and CMEs are available for each workshop.

Contact: Marguerite Gould, Director of Operations, ACEER Foundation - Email: mgould@wcupa.edu or Phone: 610-738-0477 or Web: www.aceer.org

2006 Workshops to the RAINFOREST AND MACHU PICCHU

Ecology of the Amazon Rainforest and the Andes - March 10 – 19th, 2006

A comprehensive field study of the ecology of the lowland tropical rainforest and the highland sub-tropical cloud forest. Visit Machu Picchu.



Conservation Medicine - July 16 – 23rd, 2006

Epidemiology of tropical and sub-tropical diseases in the Amazon Basin. For graduate students and health care professionals.



Yoga and Meditation in the Sacred Places of Peru - August 8 – 19th, 2006

A journey of self discovery through Hatha Yoga and Meditation in the rainforest, the Sacred Valley of the Incas, and their Lost City-Machu Picchu. No prior experience is required.



Spanish Immersion - Rainforest and Machu Picchu - June 14th – 23rd, 2006

A special workshop in the Amazon and Machu Picchu completely in Spanish, open to students for academic credit, and anyone interested in improving their language proficiency. Not recommended for those with no prior Spanish.



Ecology and Culture of the Rainforest for Educators - July 10 – 19th, 2006

Field studies in the rainforest and at Machu Picchu designed for elementary and secondary teachers, and student teachers. Emphasis on experiential learning and curriculum design relating to the Amazon and its peoples.



"Soul of Peru" Painting in the Sacred Valley and at Machu Picchu - August 4 – 13th, 2006

Diane Hoff-Rome & Gordon Dobbie, Artist facilitators present a 10 Day Plein Air Painting Workshop Journey into the "Soul of Peru"



WHAT THE ACEER IS ALL ABOUT - FROM OUR SUPPORTERS



"ACEER is the program that is very much consistent with what National Geographic would like to achieve, an appreciation of science. It is also involving communities, it is helping children to understand the importance of a healthy environment, natural resources, and how it applies to their everyday life." Terry Garcia, Executive Vice President, The National Geographic Society

"With National Geographic backing, and support from the ACEER Foundation, Inkaterra has helped to upgrade the site at Concepción, so that now a lab and new facilities are ready to be used for researching pristine rainforest and there is a big, over 200 species medicinal herb garden." Jose Koechlin, owner of Reserva Amazonica Lodge and the Pueblo Hotel at Machu Picchu

"I think ACEER Foundation's commitment to education is one of the biggest things they can do to impact the environment and rainforest." Joel Quadracci, President and COO, Quad/Graphics, Inc.

NEW RESEARCH LAB AT ACEER SITE

A crowd of over 50 people helped to celebrate the opening of the new laboratory building at the ACEER's ATI site. A champagne bottle was cracked over the new door, leading into a porch where researchers can relax after a long day in the field. Inside the brightly lit lab (powered by a new generator) – new tile counters gleamed and a large storeroom was ready to receive specimens and equipment. Through the generosity of Chris and Sharon Davidson, of Boise, Idaho, the new building became a reality. Chris and Sharon were present for the opening ceremonies during a research trip to study the Piper sp—



many are found at the ACEER site and along surrounding lakes. Many thanks to Chris and Sharon Davidson for donating the funds for the new lab!

ROLÍN VILLAGE SCHOOL NEEDS A BOARDING HOUSE



As we left the boats on the bank of the Tambopata River and approached the one-roomed school house in the village of Rolín, a small group of school children walked shyly out of the building, dressed in beaded outfits. The children shared what they had learned about the rainforest, and how to care for it, in a classroom with few supplies and certainly no computers. As the group presented their gifts, the children were most excited by the soccer balls! The group, traveling from the USA, England, and Bermuda, was charmed by the children of Rolín. They saw the need for a boarding house, so that children living further away could attend the school. The group raised \$4,000 for a boarding house and food, and has plans to develop a community garden that will ensure fresh food. On that day in the rainforest, the mission of the ACEER Foundation truly came alive!



Help the ACEER in our mission of rainforest conservation by purchasing some of the products in our web catalog, including Jim Duke's Amazonian Ethnobotanical Dictionary, the new ACEER T-shirt, or a Living Air CD.

PRODUCT CATALOG: Videos, CDs, Books, Prints and More
Visit our web site: www.aceer.org

All of the proceeds from products help support the ACEER Foundation's environmental education and research programs in the Peruvian Amazon.