Our international sipunculid team—Mary Rice (U.S.A.), Inga Schutte (Germany), and Keiko Kawauchi (Brazil)—spent two weeks exploring planktonic and benthic habitat around Carrie Bow in search of larvae and adult species of the sipunculid phyllum *Sipuncula*! Plankton tow just outside of the reef past east of Carrie Bow yielded an abundance of these unique larval forms, known as pelagospheres (see illustrations). Designated by descriptive—yet not creative—names, the array of larvae included white blackheads, transverse groove, smooth pale orange, pinkish white papillated and smooth transparent. White blackheads by far outnumbered the others, 700 being collected in a single tow. Some larvae were fitted for DNA analysis in a long-term study to determine specific adult affinities. Others were used in experiments to induce metamorphosis by chemical cues such as KCl and neurotransmitters.

Adult sipunculids were collected in a variety of habitats from the mangrove fringes at Twin Cays to the rubble of the rock reef at Tobacco and Carrie Bow. Enough hours spent at our “rock-smashing station” produced species from the most common, *Rapidocheiron parvula*, to the most elusive, *Apostome misakianum*. Our endurance at rock-smashing and technical expertise were strengthened and improved by expectations of the unknown within each rock. The collection of adults will serve for DNA analyses and reference specimens for further studies of larval species determinations.

Much appreciated by one and all were Marthie’s good cooking, Taki’s supportive interest in field work, and camaraderie of colleagues. Evening gatherings at sunset will long be remembered.

Thanks for a wonderful and productive Carrie Bow experience!

The Sipunculid Team
April 28, 2005

Keiko Kawauchi