

ISSUE # 22

JUNE 2014

**World Cup kicks off amid
Scattered Protests**

World Environment Day

UTN's Sixth Anniversary

**English Teaching Congress
in Guanacaste**

SurveyMonkey



cover page



This month, our cover page is dedicated to Brazuca, the official FIFA World Cup ball. The word "Brazuca" has a double meaning, used as a term for Brazilians living abroad — including its many footballers — but also as slang used to describe national pride or anything "Brazilianish". The name was selected by a public vote organized by the Local Organizing Committee and Adidas, with over one million Brazilian football fans voting. Costa Rica is participating in its fourth World Cup, and even though it is in one of the hardest groups, all Ticos wish them the best luck, and who knows maybe we can make it to the second round.

(Picture taken from Fotopedia:
http://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adidas_Brazuca#mediaviewer/Archivo:Adidas_Brazuca.jpg)

If you have an awesome picture you think could be the cover of one of The ILE Post editions, send it to eherrera@utn.ac.cr. So far several readers have sent amazing pictures that we will be sharing with you soon. If you want to know what is happening in ILE, follow us in



<https://www.facebook.com/utnile>

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EDITORIAL

A Love Affair with Soccer's World Cup

By Grace Nasri

**"It's the moment when the planet becomes a family,
when we're all doing the same thing whether we are
in California or Nigeria or Shanghai."**

Simon Kuper, the author of "Soccernomics"



Every four years, the world joins together for an event that covers 32 teams from the four corners of the world, hundreds of players with nationalities that span the globe, hundreds of millions of fans from Buenos Aires and New York to Tehran and Beijing, and one main goal: The World Cup trophy.

Soccer's World Cup is largely about the national teams, players and goals. Yet it is just as much about unity, equality and hope. As hundreds of millions of die-hard soccer fans around the world would attest, there are many reasons for this love affair with soccer.

Soccer is the only sport that brings together the entire world—from developing countries in Africa and politically unstable countries in Asia, to world super powers like the United States and economic powerhouses like China.

But once on the field, neither economics, power, politics nor religion have the power to land the ball in the back of the net. On the field, all are equal.

Emotion is everywhere during the world cup games. It is seen through the tears sliding down the faces of hopeful soccer fans, through the roaring screams of fans that have

been lifted to their feet in victory, through the smiling face of a triumphant striker whose team rushes him in celebration and from the tears of pride from players as his country's national anthem is played. From the players to the fans, emotion envelopes everyone.

Team captains oftentimes swap flags or other national gifts in a sign of respect before a match begins. After the match is called to an end, players shake hands and oftentimes exchange the jerseys they wore with pride, with players from the opposition team in a swap of mutual respect. The game also gives hope to young children, some of whom live in poverty. Before matches begin, children from the host country are paired with the national players from the two teams; hand-in-hand, the pairs of hopeful children and professional athletes walk out together before millions of fans watching from all over the world.

The World Cup games show the world that countries can challenge each other in the fiercest of competitions, yet after the 90 minutes are up, the two countries can come together and shake hands in respect. Perhaps leaders around the world could take a lesson from this.

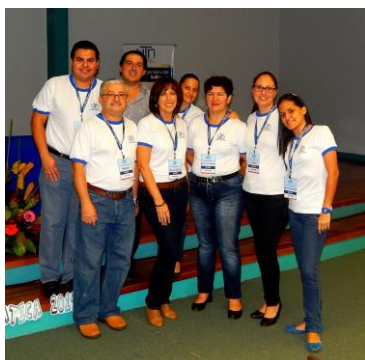
UTN NEWS

First Software Engineering Fair

by Gerardo Molina (UTN English Professor)

The Software Engineering major celebrated the first Information Technology fair on June 10th, 2014. Ms. Marielos Murillo, director of the Bachelor degree portion of the major, worked hard to get this fair going with the aid of teachers, lab assistants, and audiovisual staff.

The fair included stands with the latest books about programming languages, databases, networking, and other general topics on computer science. Also, there was a stand with information on Open Code Software.



Several speakers, from both the major and Microsoft, shared with the audience. There was a set

of five twenty-minute presentations. After UTN Dean Emmanuel González, opened the event, Professor Luis Guillermo Alvarado presented an overview of the status of the bachelor degree in the country. He presented available positions, minimum and average wages, and legal requirements. Following with the program, Professor Gerardo Molina gave a talk about the essential characteristics that a software engineer should have. Later on, the last three talks went over entrepreneurship.

Professors Alex and Michael Jiménez who explained the legal steps and the personality traits required to open one's own software company. Finally, recently graduated student Dan Barquero shared his experience about how he started his own business, in which he has already

employed four former classmates.

To close the fair, there was a formal presentation by Microsoft Technical Evangelist Joaquin Guerrero who talked about computing in the cloud. This presentation included an explanation on how the cloud works, complementing the entrepreneurship topic previously developed by giving additional ideas on how to use the cloud to start one's company.



The activity ended around the 9:20 p.m., but it kept the auditorium packed up to the end. It was considered by organizers and participants as highly satisfactory.

UTN NEWS

UTN's Sixth Anniversary

by Eric Herrera

On June 4th, UTN's extended family of students, staff, and invited guests gathered together in Alajuela Campus for a festive evening featuring a solemn ceremony, a memorable musical performance and a delicious cocktail to cheer in honor of our educational home. The Chancellors from each of UTN campuses (Alajuela, Atenas, Guanacaste, Puntarenas, San Carlos and Centro de Formación Pedagógica y Tecnología Educativa), together with UTN Chancellor Marcelo Prieto, shared with the audience a little bit of the experiences that UTN has undergone in its six first years.



From small community colleges of some hundred students to a growing comprehensive university of over 6,000 students, every day the UTN affirms its commitment to being a unique, relevant and successful institution; and a very special place that, so far, is treasured by many. We can look back and see excellent guidance in key decisions made by administrators and trustees that moved the university in fresh directions. We can celebrate the important alliances with businesses and educational organizations that have helped to broaden UTN's impact and

acceptance among the Costa Rican community.



The main celebration was the opening to the UTN university week where the variety of activities was as large as the diversity of our community. There was a rodeo in Atenas, a 6 kilometer walk and run race in San Carlos and Alajuela, several folkloric dance presentations in Guanacaste, photography exhibits, plays, several workshops and conferences as well as street games in all campuses. To finish this great celebration, there was a concert with the *Percance* band.



In brief, everybody got new good memories to add to the life of our young but enthusiastic UTN.

UTN NEWS

Ignite Talks

by Eric Herrera

Last June 12th and 13th, the English as a second language major (ILE) celebrated its second ILE festival of this year. This time the activity gave students the opportunity to participate in workshops, attend different conferences and enjoy music and theater.

Conferences and workshops included topics such as: feminism, English teaching, advantages of being bilingual in Costa Rica, and cultural experiences. Carpediem Theater Company presented the play *Burlesque* at City Hall Theater in Alajuela downtown. To conclude the activity, attendees enjoyed Caribbean music by Mighty Riddim band.



Something interesting about this festival was that most presenters were pretty young but with a lot of experience and passion for what they do. ILE professors Cindy Rodríguez and Sandra Argüello opened the activities on Thursday 12th. Some other presenters included native speaker teachers Roger Ramirez, Nicolás C. Tamburini and Natalie Nazar.

One of the most pleasant presentations was the one given by Michael Arroyo, former ILE student, who talked about how learning English has affected his self-confidence.



Furthermore, the presence of Jorge Oguilve surprised the audience with his stories about his experiences working for Costa Rican Astronaut Franklin Chang at Ad Astra Rocket Company. And for those who think this was just a serious activity, ILE organizers brought teacher and a standup comedian Christopher Hernández, who made the audience laugh for a little while.

This time the festival included a taekwondo and an art class with ILE Professors Aarón Torres and Claire Goodman.



In summary, the ILE Festival was a success. This kind of activity serves to show the local community, students and guests the high quality of the English program the UTN offers. We hope time passes quickly, so we can enjoy of the third ILE Festival in November. Thanks a lot to the organizers and guest presenters for their collaboration and commitment.

UTN NEWS

English Teaching Congress in Guanacaste

by Eric Herrera

MEP, in a joint effort with UNA, CCCN, and the Peace Corps, organized the first English Teaching Congress for elementary, high-school, and adult teachers of the zone. The congress took place on June 16th, 17th and 18th in the UNA facilities in Nicoya. The congress spanned around the motto "English the Key to Success in the XXI Century", so the focus of the talks and workshops of both national and international presenters was to provide participant teachers with actual tools to plan and deliver their classes. The high temperature, 34 degrees, was not an obstacle for more than 200 teachers to be part of this event. Organizers worked very hard under MEP Regional English

Advisor Diana Sanchun's and the Peace Corps Response Volunteer John Mundahl's direction to bring about such an event.

One more time, as part of the body of presenters, three UTN professors were invited to participate. Veronica Oguilve presented the workshop "The Use of Google Docs to Increase Motivation for Writing in Business Administration English for Academic Purposes Course", while professors Gerardo Molina and Eric Herrera shared their workshop about "Internet tools to improve integrated skills in the ESL Classroom".

The three of them agree that a congress like this is an opportunity to give back something to society. We need to take

into consideration that usually this type of



activity is organized in San Jose, so it is very difficult for teachers who work far away to attend them.

Once again UTN professors showed their willingness to participate in different academic activities as a part of the professional responsibility to share knowledge and ideas and show people why UTN is becoming one of the best universities in the country.

New ILE Major Graduated Students

We want to congratulate all ILE students who graduated last June 1st. UTN and especially the ILE staff are so proud of this group of new professionals.

Congratulations on your more than successful graduation! Now you see how important is to have determination, optimism and patience. Enjoy the fruit of your efforts and hard work!



UTN NEWS

A Productive Visit

by Eric Herrera

Finding howler monkeys in rain forests, scampering up volcanoes and overlooking plantations of coffee and pineapples reminded University of Portland students in Costa Rica how far they traveled. Professor Sandra Argüello had the chance to contact a group of students from University of Portland and bring them to UTN, so they could interact with ILE students.

The University of Portland is a private university with a student body of about 3,537 students. It is widely known for its women's soccer program. UP has five Divisions of study: the College of Arts & Sciences, the Pamplin School of Business, the School of Education, the School of Engineering, and the School of Nursing. The most popular majors for undergraduates are Nursing, Biology, Marketing & Management, Finance, Elementary Education, Organizational Communication, Psychology, and Spanish.

On Wednesday June 11th, a group of ILE students received University of Portland students with several activities and a typical Costa Rican breakfast. Both groups of students had the chance to interact, make friends, practice the

language and most of all make a bond between both institutions.



Professor Eric Herrera helped Sandra Argüello take care of the 35 ILE students who participated in both days of activities. On the right, Professor Kathleen Regan from University of Portland.

Taking into consideration that recent news explained that the "Switzerland of the Americas" now occupies the eighth most popular spot for U.S. students to study abroad and the top spot in Latin America, accounting for 2.8 percent of all U.S. all students abroad that year. The activity was such a success that the American students decided to invite ILE students to visit them in El INBIO park (where they were taking classes) for a farewell party some days before they left Costa Rica.

Because of the nice experience, UTN will probably be included as a stopover next time a new group from this university visits Costa Rica.



WORLD NEWS

World Cup kicks off amid Scattered Protests



Brazilians celebrated in the streets after their football team won the World Cup's opening game, but scattered violent protests were a reminder that many locals remain angry over the billions the country spent to host the tournament.

The tournament's run-up was largely overshadowed by construction delays and months of political unrest with many Brazilians furious over \$11bn being spent to host the Cup in a country where hospitals and schools are often poor.



Protests flared in many of the 12 Brazilian cities that will host games, including Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Belo Horizonte. Some gathered more than 1,000 people, while others saw just a few dozen.

Late in the morning of World Cup inauguration, police fired tear gas, rubber bullets and noise bombs to disperse demonstrators who gathered in eastern Sao Paulo, about 10km away from the Corinthians arena where the game took place.

After protesters tried to cut off a main road to the stadium, six people were injured, including some journalists, a police spokesman said. Three protesters were arrested.

"The World Cup is a major event of the

social injustices that Brazil still has today" Yuri Andrews, a student who protested in Sao Paulo, said. "We fight against this unfair event that does not benefit the people but only a few." Roughly 1,000 protesters in Rio de Janeiro marched peacefully, though some burned Brazilian flags and carried signs saying "FIFA go home," in a reference to the world football body.

Some fans got stranded as ground staff at the city's three airports went on a brief strike and some flights were cancelled.

Check-in assistants, baggage handlers, mechanics and engineers were among those taking part in the 24-hour stoppage aimed at pushing calls for higher pay raises.



WORLD NEWS

Crown Prince Felipe sworn in as Spain's King

Spain's Crown Prince Felipe VI has been sworn in as the new king in a low-key ceremony which supporters of monarchy in the country hope will usher in a new era of popularity for the troubled royal household. Earlier this month, his father Juan Carlos abdicated following a series of scandals that led many Spaniards to question the role of the monarchy itself.

The ceremony on Thursday June 19th, at Spain's lower house of parliament in Madrid, had little pomp and circumstance compared with royal

handovers in other countries. It is more of a legal process, attended by parliament members, high-level politicians and some members of the royal family. No foreign leaders have been invited.

The event was designed to chime with times of austerity, palace officials say. According to Reuters, more than one in four Spanish workers is jobless despite an incipient economic recovery.

Royal sash was passed from father to son in a separate non-flashy ceremony at the Zarzuela Palace close

to Madrid early on Thursday.



Hopes for the new king are high, and some believe that, despite his role being mainly symbolic as head of state, he will use his position to push dialogue over the challenge of a separatist movement in wealthy northeastern Catalonia.

(Taken from: <http://mwcnews.net/news/europe/42103-spains-king.html>
Picture taken from: https://farm9.staticflickr.com/8451/8057649325_6a6b53a6f9_c.jpg)



Santos wins Colombia's Presidential Vote



Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos has won a second term, beating right-wing challenger Oscar Ivan Zuluaga in a vote that will allow peace talks with FARC rebels to continue and seek an end to five decades of war. With more than 98 percent of the runoff vote counted on Sunday, centre-right Santos led over economist Zuluaga with 50.8 percent compared with 45.1 percent. Santos, who hails from one of the country's most influential families, opened talks with rebel

leaders of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in late 2012 to end a conflict that has killed more than 200,000 people and forced millions more from their homes. He made the pursuit of peace the centre piece of his campaign, and cast the election as a choice between peace and war.

(Taken from: <http://mwcnews.net/news/americas/41931-santos-wins.html>
Picture taken from: https://farm9.staticflickr.com/8288/7657478884_f273007c4a_z.jpg)



WORLD NEWS

San Antonio Spurs win their 5th NBA Title

The San Antonio Spurs turned the rematch with the Miami Heat into no match at all. The Spurs finished off a dominant run to their fifth NBA championship Sunday June 15th, ending the Heat's two-year title reign with a 104-87 victory that wrapped up the series in five games. The Spurs won four titles in nine years, but hadn't been back on top since 2007. The painful conclusion to last year served as the fuel for this one, powering the Spurs to a 62-win season that topped the NBA and led to a rematch with Miami, the NBA's first in the finals since Chicago beat Utah in 1997-98. A decade and a half after winning their first title in 1999, when Duncan was in his second season, the Spurs remain the NBA's model organization, a small-market team that simply wins big and hardly ever does it with a high draft pick. Instead, the Spurs found players overseas or in other organizations who would fit the Spurs' way of doing things and mesh with the Duncan, Parker and Ginobili, the winningest trio in postseason history.



(Taken from: <http://www.jacksonsun.com/viewart/20140615/SPORTS/306150041/San-Antonio-Spurs-win-NBA-Finals-beating-Miami-Heat-five-games>
Picture taken from: https://farm8.staticflickr.com/7047/6962742298_3c920103da.jpg)



Schumacher out of Coma



Seven-time Formula 1 world champion Michael Schumacher, who sustained severe head injuries in a ski accident on December 31, is no longer in a coma and has left the French hospital where he was being treated since the accident, his spokeswoman said on Monday.

"Michael has left the CHU Grenoble (hospital) to continue his long phase of rehabilitation. He is not in a coma anymore," spokeswoman Sabine Kehm said in a statement which gave no details of where he was being transferred to.

The German who won a record 91 Grand Prix victories and left motor racing last year after a disappointing three-year comeback, slammed his head on a rock while skiing off-piste in the French Alps resort of Meribel.

(Taken from: <http://cyprus-mail.com/2014/06/16/schumacher-out-of-coma-leaves-french-hospital/>
Picture taken from: https://farm3.staticflickr.com/2895/14457197763_56449bbba9.jpg)



THE ILE ETHOS

School Trip

by Neskens Sanabria

Around the world Costa Rica is known as important for its conservation, not only because of its variety of climates, but also for its natural diversity. Costa Rica has more than 400 species of birds; for this reason, this small green piece of earth is one of the most famous places for bird watching. Our country has been a refuge for species that have lost their natural habit. If you like bird watching because you study biology or just because you like to see new species of birds there is a special place for this called "Zooave".

This paradise for birds is located about 20 minutes from Alajuela downtown in a place called "La Garita". The place has been designed to provide a nice experience in a comfortable location; for this reason, the paths in this park have been totally cemented. The huge cages "where the animals and birds live" are secure for visitors. Inside of the park, sightseers will hear sounds from nature, so they can feel as if they were in a forest. This zoo was not only built for bird watching, but also to inform about the species; for that reason, the visitors will find in front of each cage a plate with some details about the bird or animal.

The kind of animals and birds visitors can find in this place are the following: For birds people can see macaws, owls, eagles, toucans, ostriches, parrots. For animals visitors will see cougars, monkeys, raccoons, sloths, puma, etc. Finally, for reptiles tourists will see iguanas, turtles, snakes, and crocodiles. The variety of species that

this refuge can offer tourists in a small area can make their day.



Zooave through the years has been famous for taking care of animals and birds that have been abandoned by their owners. In the last years, the park has received more than 500 species with some injured; moreover, the Zooave has created a campaign to destroy cages where species of birds and animals have been taken home as domestic pets. The Zooave has been working hard to breed species that are becoming extinct; this program has saved species like the blue macaw and eagles.

Recently, the Zooave has incorporated a new attraction for visitors. It is a canopy formed by 3 cables hanging all over the cages and trees, with a distance of 500 meters. Over the trees, the visitors will experience how the adrenaline is released out of their bodies when they are almost flying through the woods. The Zooave is a good option if we want to spend time with our family. Children will love watching birds and animals that they have never seen before. We have been blessed with a country that has a lot of nature, so we cannot waste time, nature is outside, go for it.

THE ILE ETHOS

Lights, Camera... STARS!

By *Alonso Vega (ILE Professor)*



There are many reasons why you choose a particular site to go on vacation. People, cuisine, amusement parks, shopping, history, scenery, wildlife, and nightlife are among the most popular motivations to select a particular destination. With so much competition to attract tourists, many cities around the world must look for that extra perk to close the deal with potential visitors. For a lot of metropolises, that search has ended with the finding of the fast-growing film festival industry. If there is one thing that attracts people, as much as international soccer matches, exotic fauna, and outlet malls, that is movie stars. The first major film festival in the world was the Venice Film Festival created in 1932. The two other most important film festivals are Cannes (1946-) and Berlin (1951-).



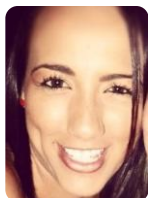
For a long time, film festivals were elitist cultural events created specifically to honor motion pictures within the filmmaking community. Little by little, these events expanded their horizons when the hosting cities saw the economic impact the festivals provided. Filmmakers wanted to sell their films, large Hollywood studios wanted to buy their next blockbuster,

actors had to promote their films, and people wanted to see the movie stars. The whole operation would enormously affect the hospitality industry of that city. Shortly, every major city in Europe and North America was hosting the next "it" film festival. According to The Film Festival Survey (2013), there are over 3,000 film festivals currently active worldwide. 75% of these festivals have been created in the last ten years. Film festivals are appealing because they are different every year. New films bring new celebrities to town. Many actors and directors also prefer to begin the promotion of their films at a film festival because there they can have a closer connection with the audiences and their reactions to the film. Many small films also start quietly at film festivals to later become internationally-acclaimed hits. *American Beauty* (1999) and *Twelve Years a Slave* (2013) were films that premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF). Both would eventually win the Oscar for best picture. For most moviegoers, film festivals are the only chance to be up-close and personal with acting monsters and legends. In 2010, I had the amazing opportunity to attend TIFF for the first time and eyewitness Q&A's with Dustin Hoffman, Robert Duval, Billy Bob Thornton, Robert Redford, and Dame Maggie Smith, among others. So, next time you are brainstorming for your upcoming holiday, ask your travel agent about the wonderful cinematic experiences cities have to offer.

THE ILE ETHOS

Organizational Structure of a Company

by Natalia González (ILE Professor, San Carlos Campus)



Today, we are living in a world of globalization. The amount of transnational companies in our country is increasing, and that is why we must consider some aspects when managing a company in order to compete successfully.

One of those relevant aspects is the organizational structure of a company, which is how activities such as task allocation, coordination, and supervision are directed towards the achievement of organizational aims. Surprisingly, there are many companies that lack that significant feature. This particular brings with it many problems because it interferes with the healthy growth of a company and its expectations.

Organizational structure affects organizational action in two big ways. First, it provides the foundation on which standard operating procedures and routines rest. Second, it determines

which individuals get to participate in which decision-making processes, and thus to what extent their views shape the organization's actions.

On the other hand, the organizational structure of a company is really difficult to achieve because it requires time and hard work.

In the last 10 years, studies have revealed that around 90% of the companies that have implemented an effective organizational structure have had a better and a faster development of their business. In addition, employees present a nicer attitude; care more about their jobs and the future expectations of the company.

Undoubtedly, the organizational structure of a company is essential to succeed in a business because it enhances efficiency and confidence. For all this, it is important to take into consideration organizational structure as a key to change positively the mission and vision of an enterprise.

Value of the Month

UTN begins Value of the Month campaign. For the month of June, the value is QUALITY CULTURE. This campaign has the objective to permeate school life and, as students and staff live these values, their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development increases.

Quality Culture

Quality culture is a set of group values that guide how improvements are made to everyday working practices and consequent outputs.

Quality is critical for any company that wants to be world class. A culture of quality is one in which everybody in the organization, not just the quality controllers, is responsible for quality. A central feature of such organizations is that each worker or team of workers is important. Quality culture: includes thinking processes, communication, action, and decision-making, which will lead to a better quality of the educational system and organization. This culture is expressed in four key values:

- ✓ individual development
- ✓ respect and active tolerance
- ✓ an entrepreneurial spirit
- ✓ responsibility

Developing a real culture of quality through effective learning means moving away from preserving what higher education already is towards an aspiration towards what it could be.

(Information taken from: <http://www.qualityresearchinternational.com/glossary/qualityculture.htm>
Picture taken from: <http://allthingslearning.files.wordpress.com/2011/06/winder-on-quality.jpg>)

Quality

is an on-going process of **building** and **sustaining relationships** by **assessing, anticipating** and **fulfilling** stated and/or implied needs.

Winder (1992)



VOX POPULI

The UTN community includes professors, administrative staff and students. Each individual has something to say about everything. In this section, we give the university community the opportunity to express what they feel about different school, country and world issues that in one or another way affect or impact our lives, feelings and opinions. Professor Cindy Rodriguez is in charge of this interesting section. In this issue, we asked ILE students:

What message do you give to our Costa Rican team participating in the World Cup?

Do your best and make your dream come true. The power is inside of you. Go SELE!

Dayana Guillén

Talent lays on inspiration, so give your best effort and continue filling up our hearts with emotion.

María Jose López

Let's show the world the kind of soccer we practice in Costa Rica. We all trust in you.

Veronica Carballo and Katherine Bastos

All of you have what is needed to achieve the goal. The place is Brazil and the time is now. Let's continue doing things right.

Silvio Cordoba

Be careful and do not forget to enjoy the game at its most. Good luck and be sure all Costa Ricans support you. Let's go SELE!

Gabriela Mayorga

Nothing is impossible!
Michael Alpizar

In this moment, you have made us believe. Now, no matter what, we believe we have the best team in the world. Let's show the world what a small country can do when they decide to put all their effort and heart in achieving a goal.

Gabriela Castro

Continue giving your best effort. You have made us proud. A small country with a big heart. Let's go SELE!

Mariana Murillo

90 seconds with...



We see them walking around the UTN campus. They are always willing to help us when we need information, advice and guidance. UTN academic and administrative staff is an important element of the university. However, people hardly have the chance to meet them. In this section, we will try give you a glance of the other side of all those people who are behind UTN organization and functioning. In this issue, let's meet:

Marisol Rojas: Idiomas para el Trabajo Director, Adventurer, English Teacher

Where do you live?

I live in Alajuela downtown, but I am originally from Sarchí.

Best childhood memory?

When I think about my childhood, I immediately think of my grandparents. They lived near my home, and my grandma used to make tortillas, and that smell lives in my mind. I also have good memories of my school vacations because I used to collect coffee with my cousins in my grandfather's farm.



First job

I worked as a secretary in a jewelry store.

Favorite food

Uh! I like many things, especially typical food, for example I love gallo pinto.

Something you really can't stand.

I do not like black pudding and things that come from the inside of an animal.

Would you class yourself as a day or night person?

I am a day person. I can stand working early in the morning because I feel more energetic. However, my job demands me to work at night, so right now I am a day and night person.

A good book

I love Isabel Allende's books. They really make the reader imagine wonderful things. One of my favorite ones is The Stories of Eva Luna. In this one, she makes an extraordinary depiction of strong, passionate women.

90 seconds with...



Favorite music

The same as food. I like so many different kinds of music. One of my favorite singers is Luis Miguel.

What is always in your fridge?

In my fridge you will always find fruits.

Dream house: rural retreat or urban dwelling?

Where would it be?

I would try to look for a place in the middle. I like nature and gardens, but I need the city facilities too.

What's your dream trip?

I am very romantic, so I would love to go to Europe and see places as Venice or Rome.

What is your greatest fear?

That is a good one. I do not know how to swim, so my greatest fear is water, rivers, oceans.



If the world is ending in 24 hours, what would you try to do?

Family, I would try to share my last moments with my family.

Tell me a joke or proverb you remember right now.

René Descartes claimed that doubt is the origin of wisdom. He said that he would change all his knowledge for half of what he did not know.

The Attic of Bertha Mason

Writer's Block



What to do when you have to write something and you just can't seem to come up with a decent sentence? Here's a list of suggestions:

1. **Go for a walk:** walking clears the mind and puts your attention on the outside. If you can work in a natural setting, even better. The contact with trees and flowers is inspiring and rejuvenating.
2. **Take a nap:** being busy is overrated. The body needs rest. Sometimes we get writer's block from being tired.
3. **Talk to a writer friend:** sharing your distress takes part of the burden away. Writers understand what you are going through.
4. **Dance:** Moving can energize the body and instantly boost your mood.
5. **Go to a coffee shop:** sit down with a cup of coffee, look around and listen to conversations. Maybe there you will find inspiration.
6. **Open any book in a random page and read a sentence:** if you are lucky, you will get an inspiring sentence that would get you going.
7. **Write:** Yes, anything. Write to complain about your block. Write the grocery shopping list. Write an angry letter to a blocked writer.
8. **Don't write:** just relax and let a new day surprise you.

Writers are not machines. We can get tired, uninspired, lazy or too self-aware. Rest assured that that too will pass.

The Attic of Bertha Mason

The Saddest Day

by Emilyn Bravo (Ile student)

I remember the saddest day
When you said good-bye and walked away
Maybe I was so young back then,
And why you left me, I didn't understand well.

I thought I'd never find a true love again,
Time has proved I was wrong,
There is always a heart waiting for you
That will love the way you do

Sometimes, your first love can make you feel bad,
And you cry a river before you forget that.
But always remember how special you are,
And do not let anyone change your heart.

My Love

By Mireya Mena(Ile student)

My love, my real and only love.
I can't wait to see you.
I just want to be with you
And spend all my time kissing you.

You take me to your world
where love is more than a word.
I really need you to love me
Just as tight as you hug me.

The Attic of Bertha Mason

A Cultural Bridge in Costa Rica

by Edwin Murillo (Ile student)

I am not sure how many Costa Ricans know that there was an important cultural bridge in Cartago's province. Once, I had the opportunity to go to Guayabo's National Monument which is located in Turrialba Cartago. I went with my tourism professor and college classmates. The monument is 83 kilometers from San Jose downtown.

It offers a diverse archeological richness, and it can be used for recreational and scientific purposes. The trip lasts about 3 hours in a private bus or "Buseta Privada" as we say in Costa Rica. Once the visitors arrive they can either pay a tour guide or go by themselves. In our case, we decided to pay a tour guide to learn more about the place and its cultural legacy. Actually, the fee entrance is very reasonable and the place is worth it.

Our tour guide was a girl called Rosa, and she explained all she knew about Guayabo's National Monument. The place was named this way because in its surroundings there are many Guayabo trees which are quite common in the place. The name of the fruit that this tree produces is called "Guayaba" or guava fruit as it is known in English. Apparently, it was part of daily diet of the indigenous peoples.

Rosa told us that Guayabo's National Monument was a cultural bridge because it received influence of many other tribes from South America and North America as well. It is for this reason that it is very difficult to determine who the inhabitants of Guayabo were. While we were listening to Rosa, we could see the shapes of animals carved in stones in certain parts of the trails. She told us about the two Gods these indigenous people had; they were called Sibú and Surá.

The indigenous were very smart and constructed a system of water canals to guide the water near their "Chozas" or Houses. They were very skillful and crafty, so they were able to build ceramic artifacts such as: vessels, plates, vases and jars. Also, they used gold and jade to make adornments and ornaments. These unknown indigenous people had different mortuary customs. They would bury their dead in special kinds of tombs called "Tumbas de Cajon". They were box-shaped tombs that were covered with stones once the person was placed inside.

During this trip, my classmates and I learned about our ancestors, their customs and religion. All Costa Ricans should value the cultural legacy left by the Guayabo's indigenous people's because they are a very important part in our history and culture.

LANGUAGE BITS

SITUATION	FORMAL	RELAXED	INFORMAL
You bought a new computer. However, it isn't as good as they said it would be.	They exaggerated the merits of the computer's performance and abilities.	It isn't as good as they said it was.	It's not all it's cracked up to be.
It's late and you are at a friend's house. You ask if you can sleep there.	May I please repose in your place of residence tonight?	Can I sleep at your house tonight?	Can I crash at your place tonight?
A friend is sleeping on the sofa.	He is resting in the arms of Morpheus upon the chaise lounge.	He is sleeping on the sofa.	He's crashed out on the sofa.

(Information taken from Hot English Online Magazine #102, p.36)

Idiomatic Expressions

One of the most difficult aspects of a language to master is the usage of idiomatic expressions. An idiomatic expression or idiom is a combination of words that has a figurative meaning owing to its common usage. An idiom's figurative meaning is separate from the literal meaning. There are thousands of idioms and they occur frequently in all languages. There are estimated to be at least twenty-five thousand idiomatic expressions in the English language. During the next editions we will show some idiomatic expressions, and we will divide them according to a particular word or topic. Here there are some idioms that use food:

IDIOM	MEANING	EXAMPLE
apple of one's eye	A person that is adored by someone	<i>Baby Jessica is the apple of her father's eye.</i>
bad egg	A person who is often in trouble	<i>I don't want my little brother hanging around with the bad eggs on the street.</i>
one smart cookie	A very intelligent person	<i>Your daughter is one smart cookie. She reads much higher than her grade level.</i>
cheesy	Silly	<i>I love reading cheesy romance novels because I don't have to think.</i>
spill the beans	To reveal the truth	<i>On Monday, I'm going to spill the beans about my travel plans.</i>

(Information taken from: <http://www.englishclub.com/vocabulary/idioms-food.htm>)

HUMOR



In the last edition, we shared with you some of the most unbelievable rules and laws in the US. In this edition, we show you some other stupid laws, but around the world.

In Thailand it is illegal to step on money.



In Britain, it is illegal to import potatoes into England or Wales if you have reasonable cause to believe that they are Polish.



In France, it is stated as illegal to marry a dead person.



Bangladeshi children of 15 and older can be sent to jail for cheating on their final exams.



In Samoa it is illegal to forget your wife's birthday.



In France, it is against the law to sell an "E.T." doll. They have a law forbidding the sale of dolls that do not have human faces.



In Bahrain, male doctors only legally examine a woman's genitals through a mirror.



In Turkey, it is illegal for a man above 80 years to become a pilot.



Technology

SurveyMonkey

SurveyMonkey is a great survey tool for any web designer, small business owner, or marketing profession who wants to periodically poll their customers. There are many options and levels available for you to get exactly the features you need; from small, free polls to huge, self-hosted multi-page branded surveys that you place on your own site. And lots in between. Survey Monkey allows users to define surveys and capture responses from a variety of sources, including email, Facebook, Twitter, websites, blogs and banner ads. It comes with predefined survey templates for market, political or academic research, fundraising and customer satisfaction and includes fifteen question types.



Survey templates include the questions you are most likely to ask for that type of survey. For example, for market research you might find customer satisfaction questions; for service follow-ups you would find “how likely are you” type questions; and for academic settings, you would find pre-populated instructor ratings questions. You are not required to use a template, or to use all the pre-populated questions on any template.

One of the biggest issues many inexperienced people have when creating surveys is crafting questions in a way that delivers real information through non-ambiguous questions and responses. SurveyMonkey includes pre-defined question types that guide users through creating the details of the questions they want answered. It also saves the user from crating a boring survey that is composed entirely of questions that start with “On a scale of one to five.” Surveys can be formatted to match your branding characteristics so that users know they are getting a survey related to your product or company. Surveys can also be deployed in multiple languages, including double byte languages. SurveyMonkey does not provide translation to other languages so you will need to create the survey in the languages and character set you want to use.

SurveyMonkey is an excellent tool for surveys. It provides tools to make surveying easy and strong analytics to interpret results. It lacks community-building tools, but if surveys are key to your strategy, you may prefer its superior capabilities to competitors' mediocre offerings. The basic version of SurveyMonkey is free; an enhanced version is also available at a cost. SurveyMonkey offers self-guided tutorials. You can also watch the YouTube video created by 'Cool Teachers' Chris Haskell and Barbara Schroeder which takes you through the steps of setting up a survey and analyzing it (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ytk0tVT_0A8).

For more information, visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/>

(Information taken from: <http://blinklist.com/reviews/survey-monkey>)

This Month in History

IT HAPPENED IN JUNE

June 2 nd , 1910	Pygmies are discovered in Dutch New Guinea.
June 5 th , 1933	Gone with the Wind, a novel by Margaret Mitchell, wins the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction.
June 6 th , 1527	The U.S. Congress abrogates the United States' use of the gold standard by enacting a joint resolution nullifying the right of creditors to demand payment in gold.
June 9 th , 1898	China leases Hong Kong's new territories to Britain for 99 years
June 12 th , 1898	The Philippines declare their independence from Spain.
June 15 th , 1520	Pope Leo X threatens to excommunicate Martin Luther in papal bull Exsurge Domine.
June 18 th , 1900	Empress Dowager Longyu of China orders all foreigners killed, including foreign diplomats and their families.
June 23 rd , 1888	Frederick Douglass is the first African-American nominated for US president.
June 26 th , 1797	Charles Newbold patents first cast-iron plow. Farmers fear the effects of the iron on the soil.
June 29 th , 1888	First (known) recording of classical music made, Handel's Israel in Egypt on wax cylinder.

FAMOUS PEOPLE BORN THIS MONTH

PERSON	JOB	BIRTHDAY
	Composer	June 1 st , 1928
	Soccer player	June 2 nd , 1988
	Actor	June 9 th , 1961
	Actress	June 15 th , 1964
	Singer	June 18 th , 1942
	Singer	June 22 nd , 1953
	Boxer	June 30 th , 1966

This Month in History

World Environment Day



World Environment Day (WED) is celebrated every year on June 5th to raise global awareness to take positive environmental action to protect nature and the planet Earth. It is run by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP).

World Environment Day falls in spring in the Northern Hemisphere and fall (rainy season) in the Southern Hemisphere, and midsummer in the tropical regions.

The 2014 theme for World Environment Day focused on 'Small Islands and Climate Change', and the official slogan for the year 2014 is "Raise Your Voice Not the Sea Level."

It was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1972 on the day that United Nations Conference on the Human Environment began. The first World Environment Day was celebrated in 1973.

Even though WED is celebrated all around the world, every year there is a big celebration in a specific country. This year, the place selected to host it was Barbados (in Lesser Antilles).

Some of the things people can do as a global citizen on World Environment Day are:

- Spreading awareness
- Building a small farm or garden
- Traveling by public transport
- Recycling

WED is the opportunity for everyone to realize about the responsibility to care for the Earth and to become agents of change.



(Information taken from: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Environment_Day)

(Pictures taken from: <http://pixabay.com/en/tree-frog-frog-red-eyed-amphibian-69813/> (frog)

<http://pixabay.com/en/hummingbirds-birds-trochilidae-63107/> (hummingbirds))

PROVERB OF THE MONTH

A proverb is a short saying or sentence that is generally known by many people. The saying usually contains words of wisdom, truth or morality that are based on common sense or practical experience. It is often a description of a basic rule of conduct that all people generally follow or should follow. Proverbs can be found in all languages. To close this month's edition, we want to leave you with this popular English proverb about criticism, which should start towards ourselves:

The best place for criticism is in front of the mirror.

~ English Proverb

Discovering Pura Vida

Remember if you want to read authentic stories made in UTN-ILE, you can find them in Discovering Pura Vida. The books are series of language learning and culture immersion original stories in English with an interesting way of learning Spanish. They are for kindle readers at the moment, but any PC or tablet can display them, too. Each book is \$3.99.



(Images taken from: Amazon: http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss_1?url=search-alias%3Daps&field_keywords=discovering+pura+vida&prefix=discovering+pura%2Caps&rh=i%3Aaps%2Ck%3Adiscovering+pura+vida)

To buy one of these wonderful titles go to [DISCOVERING PURA VIDA](#)

International Accreditations at UTN

by Marco Araya

Trinity College London offers its second roll of international accreditations this coming December. This entity honored **Universidad Técnica Nacional, Registered Examination Center 46172**, as the only representative institution in Costa Rica to test people who want to acquire a worldwide recognition in his/her English language skills.

Each year, more than half a million applicants in Latin America are accredited by Trinity which is not only the oldest but also best-qualified European educational entity.

Examinations are based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

PIT (Programa Institucional de Idiomas para el Trabajo) office provides all the information you need to register for the next examination process. Representatives will be pleased to guide aspirants through this remarkable experience: registration requisites, pre-tests, tutoring, and assertive advice. **Contact us and become a Trinity certified member. Ph: 2435-5000 ext: 1233**

