

ISSUE #1

JULY 2012

***Round table: Facing the  
Challenge of English in  
the Labor Force***

***Idiomatic Expressions Video***

***An Idiot Abroad***

***Annexation of Nicoya***

# COVER PAGE



*This is part of famous cromoxylography (engravings featuring colors printed from end-grain wood blocks) “**La Niña y el Viento**” by the famous Costa Rican sculptor, poet and painter Francisco Amighetti(1907-1998). The wind blowing represents the dissemination of knowledge this magazine pursuits. The picture was taken and edited by Eric Herrera at UNED campus in Sabanilla. To know more about this artist and his work visit:*

<http://www.franciscoamighetti.com/>

*During the first three issues we will be showing some important murals exhibited in different important places of Costa Rica.*



**ILE UTN**

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# EDITORIAL

## We welcome readers to this first issue of ILE POST.



Thinking about how to make one of the most successful majors of UTN more visible to population, or how to let everyone know how important our English major can be for

students and college life at UTN, or even how to show the academic outcomes of distinguished students and fellow professors to all the university, turned out to be an exhausting task. That was when different sorts of original ideas like broadcasting live through national TV, calling the most important newspaper in English in Costa Rica to give us “pelota”, or even airplane banners with the help of our pilot friends was all in all dubious and unrealistic options. But during those afternoons of coffee, cookies and crackers, the idea of releasing a monthly publication in English came out, and we have stuck to it fiercely. Finally, this is the result. Professor Eric Herrera, editor in charge, has dedicated priceless amounts of time in thinking, planning, sketching and putting up together this newsletter you are about to read.

The goal of this monthly document in English is to keep students in the major, professors and the Universidad Técnica Nacional as a whole informed of activities, events, original articles, news, bulletin boards, facts, historical reviews from late CUNA, UTN and others. Students or others inside de major and related will be invited to write, and those who have something interesting and worth sharing are more than welcome to participate. As mentioned above, there have been important outcomes and brilliant works that are worthwhile, and should not fall into oblivion in

the forgotten piles of paper or recycling bins.

We also want to promote awareness in the use of English that students need to have from professors, and the overall environment in the major. The learning and teaching of the language will be greatly enhanced by this. This will also make a visibly active and current major in our dear ever growing institution. In this and other coming issues, we will indulge in reading a language corner, which will give that bit of knowledge of the language that will come handy when talking. A cover page review that will contain an outstanding and appealing sense of aesthetics will provide fresh views on the world around us. Besides, the news of activities and important events in the major will also have its coverage. We will be offering this and other interesting and dynamic content for the ILE POST readers in coming issues. Remember you can write to the editors or those in charge of making the ILE POST to take into account your ideas for improving our electronic newsletter.

We would like to thank everyone who has given us a piece of mind in the making of this issue. We hope that the expectations after reading the articles presented here will be met satisfactorily.

*ILE post is proud to present its July 2012 first issue.*

*Jose Soto Morera*

English as a Foreign Language Director



## NEWS

### **ILE organized a round table** *by Jose Soto*

The English as a Foreign Language major held a very interesting round table: *"Facing the Challenge of English in the Labor Force"*.

In the evening of June 7<sup>th</sup>, the goal of Professors Sandra Argüello, and Marlin Perez was fulfilled. Two committed professors who love the major enough to even dip into their own pockets to bring successful entrepreneurs and professionals in the language, proved students that there is a promising future after finishing the Bachelor's degree. A hilarious hostess, Professor Perez, livened up the event and milked a laugh or two from the students, professors and honored guest Katalina Perera, dear guardian of our very successful programs, now as UTN Vice-Chancellor. All the speakers succeeded at showing students that speaking EFL—English as a Foreign Language, can in fact permit future graduates to pursue gratifying opportunities in the labor force. Students looked satisfied with all the options that the speakers presented, and I hope that they will actually feel at ease that their effort made in learning the language will eventually pay back.

#### **SPEAKER**

Rebecca Mayorga Castro	Certified Trainer with a B.A. in English
Danilo Coto Braña	B.A. in English and experienced translator
Farrah Castellón Wong	Professional Translator
Jorge Gómez	Current Student of English at the UTN



Sandra Argüello and Merlin Perez organizers and presenters



One of the speakers shows a chart to compare relationship between English knowledge and job opportunities. In the usual order: Danilo Coto, Rebecca Mayorga and Jorge Gómez.

*(Pictures taken by Cindy Rodríguez)*

## **ILE teachers participated in video**

by Eric Herrera

### *A Fish out of Water*

Last Friday, July 6th, three teachers from ILE participated in the shooting of an educational video: *A Fish out of Water*. This video is a project teacher Eric Herrera is working on as part of one of the courses in his master degree. The video shows the importance of idiomatic expressions in everyday speaking. When the video is ready, it will come with a didactic guide to be used in class.



We see teachers Andres Bejarano and Jose Soto starring as students. Mariela Segura and Ariel Martinez from the UNED also collaborated in this project.



Teacher Eric Herrera was the director of the project.

*"Having the chance to participate in the video was a lot of fun and at the same time a little bit of a challenge since it actually required to be as professional as possible",* said Andres Bejarano.

*"It has been hard to work with so many people: actors, camera men, extras. I hope the final product not only becomes part of the resources for some of our courses, but also motivates people to start thinking about this kind of productions. There are many talented people in this university who can do things like this and much more",* said Eric Herrera.

*"This was completely a new thing for me, and I really liked it! Being part of such an important and professional project was awesome! We could go through the whole process of shooting a video and it was so exciting for all of us! I feel I wasn't so much a fish out of water",* said Jose Soto

## ***ILE´s new partner***

### ***ILE and ATENAS TODAY work together***

After a couple of months of conversations with Marietta Arce, ATENAS TODAY editor and publisher, the ILE major and the ATENAS TODAY online e-magazine made possible to collaborate in the implementation of conversational clubs where some Americans living in Atenas will help ILE students to practice their English. ATENAS TODAY is a free English language e-magazine for the residents and potential residents of Atenas, Costa Rica. It contains informative articles, creative compositions, a community bulletin board and spaces for classified ads. It is distributed via email once a month to over 470 recipients.

The idea behind the publication (created by Fred Macdonald in March 2007) was to familiarize newly arrived expats with the local culture and customs in an effort to assure a smooth transition. It was later discovered that many expats were sharing ATENAS TODAY with friends, including ticos.

We are delighted that ATENAS TODAY has served as a link between students of English as a Foreign Language (UTN Alajuela) and expat volunteers. These two groups will engage in conversational opportunities that are sure to improve the awareness of the distinctive qualities of each culture as well as provide many hours of enjoyment in a friendly environment conducive to learning, explains Marietta Arce, magazine publisher.

In the recent edition of ATENAS TODAY, readers found this ad:



The advertisement is enclosed in a blue border with a light blue background. In the top left corner is the UTN logo, which consists of the letters 'UTN' in a bold, sans-serif font, with 'Universidad Técnica Nacional' written in smaller text below it. To the right of the logo, the text reads: 'English as a Foreign Language Major – EFL' followed by 'Universidad Técnica Nacional'. Below this, a paragraph states: 'English as a Foreign Language major at UTN, Alajuela, is seeking for volunteers to become part of the English language major as guest conversational partners for students.' Another paragraph follows: 'Live an enriching cultural and friendly experience with college students learning English as a major.' At the bottom, it says 'Please contact us at' followed by the email address 'utnile@gmail.com' and the phone number '2435 50 00 (ext 1248)'. There are four small blue circles of varying sizes in the bottom left corner of the ad.

If you want to read the ATENAS TODAY, you can go to:

<http://www.atenascatuca.com/En/atenastoday.html>

## LANGUAGE BITS

Here there are some examples of how to say things in different situations.

SITUATION	FORMAL	RELAXED	INFORMAL
You would like to go dancing tonight.	I would like to participate in some dancing this evening.	I'd like to go out dancing tonight.	I fancy a boogie tonight.
You need to go to the toilet.	I need to pay a visit to the men's room.	I need to go to the toilet.	I need to go to the bog. I need to spend a penny.
You think a friend has taken your pen without permission.	Did you take my pen without my permission?	Did you steal my pen?	Did you pinch my pen?

## HUMOR



Never judge a book by its author

BOOK	AUTHOR
Animal Illness	Ann Thrax
Cloning	Irma Dubble
Car Trouble	M.T. Tank
What lonely Girls should Do	Seymore Fellows
The Pain of Unemployment	Anita Job

(Taken from: <http://www.alphadictionary.com/fun/pun.html>)

# ENTERTAINMENT

## An Idiot Abroad

*An Idiot Abroad* is a travel documentary television series broadcast on cable TV. The ongoing theme of the television series is that there is a British man, Pilkington, who has no interest in global travel and so a couple of friends, Merchant and Gervais, make him travel while they themselves stay in London and monitor his progress. Despite the stated focus of visiting different countries, most of each episode focuses on Pilkington's reactions to cultural differences and idiosyncrasies in the countries he visits. To make things more interesting, Gervais and Merchant unexpectedly call Pilkington during each trip, to assign him tasks often not related to why he believed he was visiting the country in the first place. To get more information about this interesting TV series, you can visit this website: <http://sky1.sky.com/sky1hd-shows/an-idiot-abroad>



(Information taken from Wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/An\\_Idiot\\_Abroad](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/An_Idiot_Abroad))

## TECHNOLOGY

### GIMP

As part of this magazine, we want to recommend some technological tools that you can use to work in class projects or just for fun. In this first edition we want you to learn a little bit about GIMP.

GIMP (GNU Image Manipulation Program) is an image retouching and editing tool and is released under the GPLv3 (or later) license as free and open-source software. GIMP's fitness for use in professional environments is regularly reviewed; as such, GIMP is often cited as a replacement for Adobe Photoshop. The maintainers of GIMP state that GIMP seeks to fulfill GIMP's product vision rather than seek to replicate the interface of Adobe PhotoShop. The current version of GIMP works with numerous operating systems, including GNU/Linux, Mac OS X and Microsoft Windows. Many GNU/Linux distributions include GIMP as a part of their desktop operating systems, including Fedora and Debian. Tools used to perform image editing can be accessed via the toolbox, through menus and dialogue windows. They include filters and brushes, as well as transformation, selection, layer and masking tools. Next time you need to edit an image or photo, try GIMP, it offers a friendly interface, and there are many tutorials in the internet.

You can download this free program here <http://www.gimp.org/downloads/>

(Information taken from Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GIMP>)



# THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

## *Annexation of Nicoya's Party*

The township of Nicoya, established in 1554 as a separate administrative unit in the province of Nicaragua, was incorporated in 1787 to the newly established Inspectorate of Leon in Nicaragua. In the early nineteenth century, to elect deputies to the Spanish Cortes, Nicoya was electorally bound to Costa Rica. In 1812 the Cortes of Cadiz created the Province of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, which in 1820 was divided into seven parts: Costa Rica, El Realejo, Granada, León, Nicaragua (Rivas), Nicoya and Nueva Segovia.



The Provinces of Nicaragua and Costa Rica broke away from Spain on 11 October 1821, but soon broke up because both Granada and Costa Rica established separate governments of Leon. For a time, Nicoya was attached to Granada, but returned in 1823 to recognize the authority of Leon.

At that time, the Partido de Nicoya had three populations: Nicoya, indigenous town, seat of the government and the towns of Santa Cruz and Guanacaste (Liberia), where lived Spaniards and mestizos. Geographically, Nicoya and Santa Cruz had strong economic ties with Costa Rica and the rising port of Puntarenas, in Guanacaste (Liberia) had strong ties to Nicaragua (Rivas) (The region west of the river Tempisque, Bagaces villages and Cañas, belonged to Costa Rica from the sixteenth century and were never part of the Nicoya Party).

In early July 1824, while Nicaragua was plunged into civil war whose effects never reached to Nicoya, three towns of the Partido declined an invitation to them by the government of Costa Rica to join that state. However, Nicoya and Santa Cruz changed their minds, and July 25, 1824 decided to annex to Costa Rica, as recorded in the minutes of the City of Nicoya signed on that date by the political chief Junior Manuel Briceño and numerous neighbors.

In 1826, an act of Federal Central American Congress also provided that the population of Guanacaste (Liberia today) should be added to Costa Rica. In 1824 Liberia had chosen to continue to belong to Nicaragua. The importance of the

people of Guanacaste was growing; Nicoya gradually shifted as the main population of the old party and in 1831 received the title of town.

In 1835 the former territory of the Nicoya Party was organized as the Department of Guanacaste Costa Rican authorities, with the addition of Bagaces villa, the town of Cañas and the area around these two populations. The town of Guanacaste (Liberia) was erected in town in 1836.

In 1848 the territory was given provincial status with four cantons: the Guanacaste, Nicoya, in Santa Cruz and Bagaces and Canas. Currently the province has 11 cantons.

(Information taken from [www.guanacastecostarica.com/Annexation.html](http://www.guanacastecostarica.com/Annexation.html) Picture taken by Eric Herrera)

### *It happened in July*

#### IMPORTANT EVENTS

July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1961, novelist Ernest Hemingway commits suicide at his home in Ketchum, Idaho.

July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1855, Walt Whitman publishes the first edition of *Leaves of Grass* at his own expense.

July 6<sup>th</sup>, 1855, Louis Pasteur gives the first successful anti-rabies inoculation.

July 8<sup>th</sup>, 1879, the first ship to use electric lights departs from San Francisco, California.

July 9<sup>th</sup>, 1842, Anne Frank and her family go into hiding in the attic above her father's office in an Amsterdam warehouse.

July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1933, Nazi Germany promulgates the Law for the Protection of Hereditary Health—the beginning of the Euthanasia program.

*Famous people born in July*

PERSON	BIRTHDAY
Diana Princess of Wales	July 1 <sup>st</sup> , 1961
Tom Cruise	July 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1962
Sylvester Stallone	July 6 <sup>th</sup> , 1946
Julius Caesar	100 BC
Nelson Mandela	July 18 <sup>th</sup> , 1918
Bugs Bunny	July 27 <sup>th</sup> , 1940
Arnold Schwarzenegger	July 30 <sup>th</sup> , 1947
J.K. Rowling	July 31 <sup>st</sup> , 1965

**A Friend Forever***by Andrés Bejarano*

In this first edition of the ILE Post, we want to remember a loved friend and colleague who is not with us anymore, ENRIQUE ROSALES. Enrique Rosales worked as professional soccer referee, English and Spanish teacher in Costa Rica and the US, interpreter and translator, radio announcer and presenter. He wrote several articles that were published in national newspapers. He was one of the few teachers who worked for ILE (previously DICSEL in the CUNA) since the beginning, in 2000. With his enthusiasm, charisma, love for life and humor, Enrique touched the lives of many people. He always had something to say and cheer you up when you felt down, a joke, an anecdote, or a comment.



(1960–2007)

When asked if I could write a few words about Enrique Rosales, a colleague who is no longer with us in person but in spirit, I couldn't help but say: Hell yeah! It will be my pleasure indeed. To begin with, we all knew Enrique as the guy who was always in a good mood. Even when things were not quite right, he kept up the good spirits or at least he did his best to do so. Lots and lots of people were naturally drawn to him, either because of his intelligence, his sense of humor or his solidarity towards those who needed help or support in both good and bad times.

His forte as a teacher was mostly conversation courses (what a shocker); however, he managed to bite the bullet and took over the famous "Proyecto de Graduación" for quite a while and did a terrific job helping the students reach their final goal in their DICSEL major, which was the English degree of the former CUNA.

Besides being a very good teacher, a writer, a poet and an excellent friend, he was also good at telling jokes, which ranged from those appropriate for kinder garden crowds to the ones suitable for adult audiences only. And even if most of his jokes were not that funny, people always cracked up and added the typical "que malo" phrase to justify their laughter. But in the end, it was not so much the joke per se but the way he told it what really made it so amusing.

Now that you finally discovered where I got most of my repertoire of not very funny jokes from, I have nothing left to say but: We love you Enrique and we hope we will see you again sometime.



Enrique was for a long time the official CUNA presenter during the graduation ceremonies.

PS. Enrique, please stop nagging Saint Peter with your piña colada story. ☺