

ISSUE 42 APRIL 2016

Shakespeare 400

123APPS

A One-Wheel Skate

Culture is Decisive



# INSIDE

# COVER PAGE

- 3 EDITORIAL  
**UTN NEWS**
- 4 Institutional Sessions on  
Research, Entrepreneurship and  
Innovation
- 4 Academic Success Program: A  
Diagnostic Of UTN
- 5. University Elections 2016  
**WORLD NEWS**
- 6 The Lessons In The Panama  
Papers
- 7 Kobe Bryant: LA Lakers Win NBA  
Star's Farewell Game
- 7 Pope Francis Brings 12 Syrians To  
Vatican From Lesbos  
**THE ILE ETHOS**
- 8 A One Wheel-Skate
- 9 Just Another Class Topic
- 11 **VOX POPULI**
- 12 **FACES AND PLACES**
- 13 **VALUE OF THE MONTH**
- 14 **LANGUAGES BITS**  
**90 SECONDS WITH...**
- 15 Dyalah Calderón  
**THE ATTIC OF BERTHA MASON**
- 17 The Life After The Storm
- 17 A New Perception About  
Talamanca
- 19 **HUMOR**  
**TECHNOLOGY**
- 20 123apps
- 21 **THIS MONTH IN HISTORY**
- 22 William Shakespeare 400
- 23 **PROVERB OF THE MONTH**



This year commemorates the 400 year anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare. There is a project to pay tribute to the work of this contemporary writer. For this reason, we selected this wonderful portrait to join the worldwide celebration. 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.

Picture taken from: <http://www.freepik.com/index>.



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<https://www.facebook.com/TheILEPost?fref=ts>

# EDITORIAL

## 400 Years Of The Bard

by Jose Soto (ILE Director)



April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1616 until 2016 marks four hundred years since the **National Poet of England**, or the **Upstart Crow**, more properly named William Shakespeare, the greatest dramatist of all time, who passed away leaving the most

valuable contributions to the literature and the English Language. Reviews and explorations have widely indulged in the comedies, tragedies, plays and poems written by the Bard. Much has been said about his work in literature, but we know little about some curious facts about his human life on earth. In this edition of The ILE POST, we celebrate **William Shakespeare**.

People get nicknames, and so did he. His most famed moniker was “the Bard”. This word comes from the **Scottish Gaelic** word for “poet”. There is a variation to this name as “**The Bard of Avon**”. Avon was his hometown and birthplace as well. In medieval times, poets would travel along the shires and towns reciting heroic poems which usually they composed themselves. They did so while playing a harp or a lyre, usually getting a payment for their performance. Certainly Shakespeare was not a traveling poet singing his plays at the time, but the Bard name bestowed upon him was an endearment from his admirers of all times.

Do you have faulty spelling? This can get you out of worry for a while. Shakespeare was very weak in spelling. “I am a weakish speller”, was an anagram once discovered by Donald L. Holmes by shuffling the words to make up the name, Shakespeare. This can explain why Shakespeare could not possibly spell his own name correctly. For instance, Shaksper, Shakespe, Shakespere, and Shakspeare. These forms of his name appeared in other kinds of writings such as mortgage deeds or legal documents. Another example was in the 1599 edition of Romeo and Juliet; “... both

alike in dignitie,..”; notice dignity; “...From auncient grudge...; notice ancient. They say that at the time of absence of dictionaries, the spelling of words was of secondary importance and very relaxed. However today, we have all kinds of dictionaries online and in our mobiles to avoid such “weakishness”.

The life of the great playwright master is also cast by a mysterious spell. It is said that a lot of his unreleased work lies in his grave with him. This is tempting for many who would like to discover more of his geniality. But he wisely thought of that and cursed a spell on those who bid to move his body. That spell as an epitaph, is written on this gravestone, and up to date, it has been untouched.

Spanish speakers do not fall far from relating to the Bard. Spanish novelist **Miguel de Cervantes** and William Shakespeare share common traits as they were contemporary. Legend has it that Shakespeare had written a comedy based on the life of Don Quijote, the history of Cardenio, of whom it is thought William had read the first part of the best novel of all times. That work and others were lost in a fire in London where he kept most of his work. Even more surprising is the presumable fact that they died on the same date. But later it was explained otherwise. Cervantes had died ten years earlier, as both countries used different calendars at the time. There are other coincidences that are worth reading about.

The celebration of Shakespeare as the biggest contributor to the language must go beyond that. It must encourage all speakers of a language to cherish the richness of it. For learners of the language, it must provide a nuance of admiration for the object of their learning. But for everyone in general, the life of the writer must be honestly celebrated by reading him or her. And for the general population, do what the writer intended from a start, read... and teach others to read. **Happy Book Day!**

Sources:

<https://atkinsbookshelf.wordpress.com/tag/what-are-nicknames-for-shakespeare/>  
<http://www.historyextra.com/article/feature/7-facts-william-shakespeare>  
<http://www.nosweatshakespeare.com/resources/shakespeare-facts/>

## Institutional Sessions on Research, Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Continuing with the high commitment to academic excellence efforts, UTN has organized a chronogram of activities for 2016 with the objective of promoting and fostering a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship among all academic and professional university members.

On April 6th, there was a panel discussion with the participation of Lic. Roberto Pineda. The activity took place at Centro De Formación Pedagógica Y Tecnología Educativa (CEFTE).

One of the main purposes behind these activities is to analyze and disseminate educational documentation and information, in particular on innovations concerning curricula and teaching methods. The presenter emphasizes that school curricula subsume different types of learning that call for different types of teaching, and so no single teaching method can be the method of choice for all occasions. An optimal program will feature a mixture of instructional methods and



learning activities. Because of this, there is a need for all higher education institutions to promote innovative methods, mechanism, procedures and policies in which all parts—authorities, teachers, researchers—work together to achieve such a challenging aim.

## Academic Success Program: A Diagnostic Of UTN

The UTN Academic Success Program aims to provide a holistic approach to student development, learning, and persistence towards academic and personal goal attainment. To meet these objectives, the Academic Success Program provides a variety of programs and resources, including:

- Skills workshops
- Group skills sessions
- Individual consultations

Currently we are working in three specific areas:

**a)** The identification and implementation of communication channels between UTN and high schools, so UTN promotion becomes more attractive for high school students.

**b)** The improvement of the teaching-learning process at UTN to improve the quality of education. Among the different strategies we are working on, we are studying the courses with higher level of failure rate and dropping out in order to implement programs to reduce these situations.

**c)** To establish a connection with recently graduated professionals and the companies where they work in order to measure the levels of satisfaction. The idea is to use this data to understand the success of the exit profile each university program has.

Since this department has a little more than a year, and we work with the different campuses, the work on collecting data, instruments and recollecting information has been challenging and hard, but we expect to see its fruits soon.



## University Elections 2016

On April 15th, UTN held the elections for the student and teacher members of the University Council, deans and chancellor. To understand a little bit more the importance of a university election, here you can see some of the functions the elected representatives have:

**Chancellor:** he is responsible for ensuring the efficient operation of the university in the performance of its governance role and for providing appropriate leadership to ensure that the university council operates in an effective manner; he has to promote the interests and ethos of the University at various meetings and functions and represent the interest of the University in the political, cultural and business life of the wider community and with government and productive fields. The Chancellor must be a resourceful and creative problem-solver. It is critical that the Chancellor have the ability to forge relationships and partnerships in order to develop reliable funding sources, and align talent and resources, to support the mission of the university and meet the needs of our community.

**Student Representatives:** they represent student interests in the government of a university. Student representatives may also call student meetings/forums to receive and channel student perspectives through the appropriate decision-making channels to follow.

**Dean:** he has to develop, administer, and



promote the academic programs and academic support functions of the university (campus) programs. In addition, he should assure coordination of all components of the university campus: departments, centers, academic programs (including undergraduate, graduate and professional), economic development activities, public service and other activities of the university campus.

Lic Marcelo Prieto was once again elected to run UTN for the next four years. The people recently elected will keep these positions for a period of four years.



## The Lessons In The Panama Papers

As global wealth concentrates in fewer hands, the world's wealthy are shifting trillions to offshore havens to escape taxation, accountability, and publicity.

The just-released Panama Papers—filled with titillating details involving the shady dealings of world leaders and violent traffickers of drugs and slaves—should give a strong boost to US and global campaigns to crack down on these global secrecy jurisdictions and practices.

Starting with an anonymous leak to the German newspaper *Suddeutsche Zeitung* and shared with a consortium of journalists, the Panama Papers initially identify 140 politicians and public officials using off-shore schemes. Leaders named with off-shore wealth include current and former members of China's politburo, three members of the UK House of Lords, and the presidents of Iceland and Ukraine, and the prime minister of Pakistan. Others include movie star Jackie Chan, Argentinian soccer star Lionel Messi, and 29 billionaires from the *Forbes* global wealth list.

Initial media coverage in US major dailies is scant, perhaps due to the conspicuous absence of US citizens named in what *The Guardian* calls the "first tranche" of disclosures. But as more findings are revealed over the coming months, it's hard to imagine that prominent American names won't be on the lists. Russian president Vladimir Putin's close associates are heavily implicated. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov was quick to counter-attack, arguing that the motive behind the leak was political, not journalistic. "Putin, Russia, our country, our stability and the upcoming elections are the main target, specifically to destabilize the situation." Peskov charged that former CIA and US State Department had even helped analyze the documents.

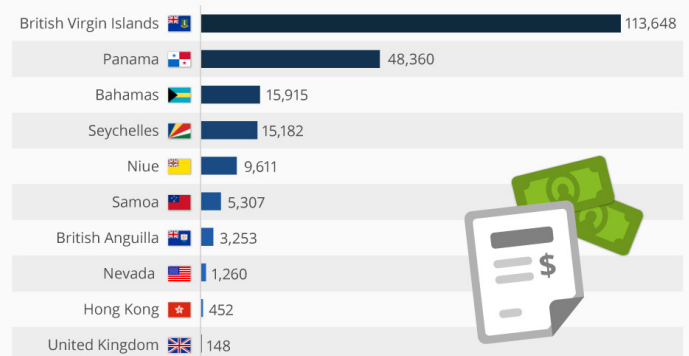
The papers implicate Iceland's Prime Minister Sigmundur David Gunnlaugsson as secretly owning millions in bank bonds during the 2008 collapse of Iceland's banking system. He is facing calls for his resignation. The unprecedented year-long journalistic effort involved more than 370 reporters from 100 media organizations, coordinated by the International Consortium of Investigative

Journalists (ICIJ). The primary sources were leaks from Mossack Fonseca, Panamanian law firm with more than 35 offices around the world. Journalists sifted through transactions involving 214,488 off-shore corporations covering 40 years of activity.

Gabriel Zucman, author of *The Hidden Wealth of Nations: The Scourge of Tax Havens* and assistant professor at UC Berkeley, estimates that \$7.6 trillion in individual assets are in tax havens, about 8 percent of the world's financial wealth. He believes the use of tax havens has grown 25 percent from 2009 to 2015. Zucman estimates that US citizens have at least \$1.2 trillion stashed offshore, costing \$200 billion a year worldwide in lost tax revenue from wealthy individuals. US multinational corporations underpay their taxes worldwide by \$130 billion by engaging in corporate tax avoidance.

### The World's Most Popular Tax Havens

Number of offshore companies incorporated by Mossack Fonseca, by jurisdiction



© StatistaCharts Sources: The Panama Papers, ICIJ

statista

The Panama Papers reveal the widespread use of shell corporations in the British Virgin Islands, the Seychelles in the Indian Ocean, and Panama. Historically, North American investors prefer tax havens in the Caribbean or Panama, with an estimated 54 percent of offshore investments going to those areas. Other popular tax dodging destinations were Switzerland, Ireland, and the Channel Islands, off the coast of England.

The Panama Papers are a boost to the global movement to stop tax-haven abuse and recapture trillions of the hidden wealth of nations. This story isn't going away anytime soon.



## Kobe Bryant: LA Lakers Win NBA Star's Farewell Game



**"Greatest"** LA Lakers star scores season-high 60 points before calling time on his 20-year NBA career.

Kobe Bryant went out firing in his final NBA game, giving the Los Angeles Lakers one more dazzling display of offence to close out his 20-year career.

Scoring 60 points - off 50 shots - Bryant's career came to a close on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> with the Lakers beating the Utah Jazz

O'Neal in the final seconds and scored 23 points in the final quarter.

"Man, I can't believe how fast 20 years went by," he said, with a towel draped over his shoulders.

"It's crazy, absolutely crazy to be standing here on the same court with you guys, with my teammates behind me.

"I appreciate the journey we have been on, there have been a few ups and downs but the most important part is that we all stayed together throughout. All I can do here is thank you guys for all the years of support, all the years of inspiration. This has been unbelievable. I can't believe it has come to an end."

It was a storybook finish, the sixth 60-point game of his career. It also was the most shots taken by anyone in an NBA game in the past 30 seasons.

He retires as the NBA's third-highest all-time scorer and won five championships.

101-96. Bryant hugged former teammate Shaquille

Information taken from: <http://mwcnews.net/news/sports/58338-nba-stars-farewell-game.html>

Photo credit: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/keithhallison/5262427419/>



## Pope Francis Brings 12 Syrians To Vatican From Lesbos

Pope Francis has taken 12 Syrians, all of them Muslim, back with him to the Vatican after his visit to the Greek island of Lesbos to highlight the plight of thousands of people seeking to reach Western Europe from Turkey.

The three families, including six children, met with Francis on the tarmac and boarded his plane following his five-hour trip to the island on the frontline of the ongoing refugee crisis.

In a statement on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, the Vatican said the pontiff wanted to "make a gesture of welcome" to the refugees, who were in camps on the island before the controversial agreement between the EU and Ankara to deport all "irregular migrants" to Turkey came into effect on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Vatican said the three families, two of them hailing from the Syrian capital of Damascus and one from Deir az Zor, had all fled their homes after they were bombed.

Francis and the leaders of the world's Orthodox Christians and the Church of Greece visited the Moria refugee centre on the island which has been converted into a closed detention facility as part of the EU-Turkey deal.

Thousands of people are trapped at the camp, waiting to hear whether they will get asylum or they will be deported back to Turkey.

"May we... recognise that together, as one human family, we are all migrants," the pope said in a prayer in memory to the hundreds of people of all ages who died in the Aegean while trying to reach Western Europe.

Francis said he wanted the refugees to know they are "not alone" and implored European leaders to come to their aid in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity.

"We hope that the world will heed these scenes of tragic and indeed desperate need, and respond in a way worthy of our common humanity," he said.

Hundreds of thousands of refugees and economic migrants have arrived in Lesbos in recent months on flimsy boats, while hundreds have died on the way. The EU-Turkey deal as well as the processing centre have been criticised by rights groups, who claim refugees in Lesbos have been treated in a way that breaches basic human rights.

The Vatican insisted Francis' visit to Lesbos was purely humanitarian and religious in nature, not political or a "direct" criticism of the EU plan.

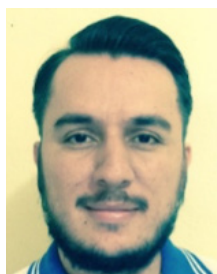


Information taken from: <http://mwcnews.net/news/europe/58368-syrians-to-vatican.html>



## A One-Wheel Skate

By *Alonso Salazar (ILE Professor)*



In 1999, I had the brilliant idea of studying English Teaching at the University of Costa Rica. However, I regretted that decision just days later when I realized I was the only one in the class from a public high school. I was in a huge disadvantage compared with my

bilingual-high school-graduate classmates. Now that I am here you know how the story ended, but the process was a painful struggle to keep up with the rest. With the years I understood that the public educational system, specifically on the subject of English, had given me a one-wheel skate that hindered me from a fair competition. Therefore, I strongly believe that the Ministry of Education should invest on a “three-wheel” plan regarding time, quality and resources to significantly improve the teaching of English in all the areas.

Undeniably, the public system has made efforts on upgrading the language programs and trying to incorporate a more communicative approach. What many cannot deny either is that most of those attempts remain as only words. Is it a matter of unwillingness from the teachers? Perhaps. Nevertheless, there is a key factor that holds back that desire for improvement, which is time. More English lessons have to be taught in the different areas of the public education. More time should be invested in the teaching of this foreign language. Five or six lessons a week are not enough to provide the students with an appropriate understanding and acquisition of the English skills. For these reasons, the first “wheel” to improve the teaching of the language is to increase the quantity of lessons so that students and teachers will have the opportunity to go deeper into the contents and the objectives of the programs.

The second “wheel” of the proposal, which is directly related with time, is quality. Now that we can spend more hours with the students, what can we do with that? For some traditional teachers, the answer would be to assign them

more practice, which at the end is reduced to drilling and repetitive exercises. However, a real language professional knows that more time means a bigger responsibility. The public educational system must demand better trained teachers with updated methodologies and innovative ideas. In this manner, those who prefer to stay in their comfort zones would be pushed to the edge, and those who resist the change would be expelled by the system itself. Thus, only the ones who are truly committed with the new structure of the learning process will endure. At the end, this will assure the students that the teachers in charge of their education stand for the best qualified.

To close with a flourish, the third and most important “wheel” of the plan is the investment in resources. As teachers, we know that technology is a means, not an end. However, a language professional from the twenty-first century cannot be left behind with the new tools. Our students are immersed in a world that revolves around social networks and last generation gadgets. Taking them out from that reality to put them in front of a book or a set of copies is the greatest mistake we are making. Technology must be included in the classroom and be part of everyday learning and teaching. To achieve this goal it is mandatory that the Ministry of Education makes an effort on providing educational centers with smart boards, audio-visual systems, and high-end software.

All these elements constitute the “three-wheel” proposal that would make an enormous difference and enable Costa Ricans with linguistic competences. Can it be done? Certainly. But it takes a huge deal of commitment from the government. However, the biggest burden falls on those who are in charge of teaching the language. It is in my hands and yours to provide our students with the three wheels left so that they can complete their skate and keep up with the rest. As Ralph Ellison said, “Education is a matter of building bridges,” and I would add of giving fair opportunities.



## Just Another Class Topic?

By *Xinia Nagygeller (ILE Professor)*



It has happened more than once when discussing a controversial or even an everyday life topic in class that I tell my students how when I was a student teachers presented us with topics that I thought had nothing to do with my life or that I had no idea of. Topics such as depression, adoption, gay marriage, euthanasia, smoking and drug addiction, Alzheimer's disease, AIDS, fibromyalgia, and elderly care homes, just to mention a few, were totally new for me at that time, and I could not think of a real life example of people involved in any of those situations. However, as time has gone by, I have been the witness of friends and family members, if not myself, going through some of these life changing events. Hence, when deciding what to write for this article, I could only think of the situation that I am currently living, and decided to share it as a way of informing many of you of a disease that you may not have much firsthand knowledge of, but which is spreading and affecting more and more family lives each day.

About 5 years ago, Alzheimer's disease became more than a discussion topic, a reality for me. My own mother began presenting its early symptoms, and many things have changed in her quality of life ever since, no matter how many efforts we have made to provide her with the best medications available and the 24/7 care she requires now. But what is Alzheimer's disease? According to the Alzheimer's Society UK (2014), this is a progressive disease that damages parts of the brain gradually leading to dementia. People suffering from dementia present severe "memory loss and difficulties with thinking, problem-solving or language" (Alzheimer's, 2014). More and more parts of the brain get damaged when connections between nerve cells are lost, until the cells themselves die and the symptoms become more severe.

Apparently, the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease may be different from one person to another. Most people present them after 60 or 65, even though there is a rare inherited variety (about 1% of cases) in which people may develop the disease at 45 or 50 years old. The most common and earliest of symptoms is memory lapses, or the difficulty to recall recent events and problems retaining new information (losing things around the house, forgetting the right word in a conversation or someone's name, getting lost in a familiar place, etc.). Other symptoms that appear as the disease progresses deal with "other aspects of thinking, reasoning, perception or communication" (Alzheimer's, 2014). For instance, people with the disease "might have difficulties with:

- language – struggling to follow a conversation or repeating themselves
- visuospatial skills – problems judging distance or seeing objects in three dimensions; navigating stairs or parking the car become much harder
- concentrating, planning or organising – difficulties making decisions, solving problems or carrying out a sequence of tasks (eg cooking a meal)
- orientation – becoming confused or losing track of the day or date" (Alzheimer's, 2014).

Moreover, people with Alzheimer's may become moody, anxious, irritable or depressed. And as it could be expected, they often lose interest in and get away from normal social activities and entertainment.

Have my family and I witnessed the symptoms described in the previous sentences in the case of my mother? Yes, we have, absolutely. Mom, who used to be a hardworking and strong-willed person, is now a totally dependent and helpless elderly woman in a wheelchair, all because some genes in her brain suddenly decided to turn off switches and stop her body and

# THE ILE ETHOS

mind from functioning in the normal way. It is a sad way to end a life full of events and achievements, as it is sad to know your parent will end up not even remembering your name or who you are. But you know who she or he is. You know the good and bad times you had together. You still remember how she or he took care of you and helped you become the person you are now.

Alzheimer's is the disease of our time. Look around and you will find that it is becoming more and more common every day. Like

many things in life, we never know if it is going to knock at our doors someday in the future. I am still a positive person and expect good things will come every day; nevertheless, I think it is necessary to be alert and informed about those things that might someday affect our lives and the lives of those we love. It is in our hands to give our beloved ones, and in special our parents, the attention and care they need now that we have them, whether they are sick or not.



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Alzheimer's Society (2014). What is Alzheimer's disease? Retrieved from [https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/site/scripts/download\\_info.php?fileID=2415](https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/site/scripts/download_info.php?fileID=2415)  
Image taken from: [https://farm3.staticflickr.com/2540/5743916882\\_f2f3c52105\\_b.jpg](https://farm3.staticflickr.com/2540/5743916882_f2f3c52105_b.jpg)

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. This month we asked students:

## *When learning English: What's the most difficult skill to learn?*

*The most difficult skill for me is listening because you have to take into consideration many aspects in order to understand what a person is saying.*

*Marjorie Arguedas*

*I definitely say writing. To think about grammar, punctuation, spelling, capitalization is too much.*

*Katherine Bastos*

*I go for writing. You have to check everything at the end to see if it is correct.*

*Luis José Alvarez*

*I think it is speaking because everything is spontaneous. When you write, you have the chance to check.*

*Josue Solano*

*I think it is writing. Besides all the mechanics, you need to know a lot of vocabulary.*

*Daniela Jiménez*

*For me, it is speaking because I get nervous and forget words. It is difficult to structure sentences in another language spontaneously.*

*Maía José López*

*Reading has been difficult for me. It is complicated and boring.*

*Daniel Bastos*



*For me, speaking is the most difficult skill because I know I have my ideas there, but sometimes I just get blocked, and I can't organize my thoughts when speaking.*

*Piscila Vargas*



## Manantial de Catarátas



One of Costa Rica's most unique waterfalls, Manantial de Cataratas allows for both cloud forest and rain forest to co-exist. The steps are irregular and some were muddy and slippery, and the hike up is challenging, but after walking for about 45 minutes throughout a rainforest mountain, ten waterfalls and a refreshing cold-water pond well worth the effort.. Manantial de Cataratas is located in Bajos del Toro, near Poas Volcano (Central Volcanic Mountain Range), about 1 1/2 hours from San Jose.. You can get there whether by Puerto Viejo de Saraiqui, La Virgen, or by Poas Volcano Area. This place was absolutely beautiful. The entrance is ₡2.000 / \$4.

To put it simply, Manantial de Cataratas is stunning! The views of the waterfalls spilling out from several cliffs, together with the roar of the waterfalls, is an awe-inspiring experience.

The surrounding streams and pools allow for visitors to observe unique Costa Rican plants and animals species. Because the area is not heavily populated with tourists, you will also see an abundance of wildlife – from blue morpho butterflies to armadillos, and plenty of hummingbirds thanks to the feeders along the hiker facilities and nearby restaurants. Do not miss the chance to experience Costa Rica at its best.



Information taken from: <http://pocketcultures.com/2013/03/29/the-costa-rican-colorful-oxcart/>

## Culture Is Decisive

Written By José Rugama and translated by Izabella Sepulveda (ILE Professor)

We are submerged in a world of fanaticism, meanness and absurdity. Fairness, objectivity and moderation are completely absent. Yet, every day there is more serious scientific and sociological research that points at economical and human development of a region or nation being mainly influenced by the dominant features of the national culture.

Those old rhetoric of exploitation and the plan of the leader nations of the planet, the star that brings geography and natural resources are all in the past. These personalists positions have being copied over and over by radical groups and fundamentalists as consequences of cultural and social heritage, ethnic resentments and sickening egocentrism.

Let's compare the cases of Nicaragua and Costa Rica, Haiti and Barbados or Russia and Canada that have similar places in the planet yet, with many contrasts in its development and social stability, or the case of Switzerland, a little country filled with mountains and no way out to the sea which has accomplished an amazing economic development. On the other hand, 60% of Venezuela's population is poor.

In another relation, according to the International Transparency classification, Norway is one of the most honorable and richest countries of the world. Yet, culture does not come out of the blue. Culture is the product of "knowledge" of people (understanding these as the intellectual knowledge, skills, abilities, values, habits, beliefs).

At the same time, knowledge is the result of the education systems – in all its aspects – that appeal to different objectives, contents, and teaching methods to transmit them to its population. It is exactly there where the difference lies in "approaches and nuances" of knowledge, that finally gets to people and turns into the dominating culture of each town.

Recently, knowledge has become recognized as "the third factor" in the production, as the generator of wealth in the economies, along with funds and work. Even though knowledge has always being present, and has facilitated the economic development of nations is, so far, with the boom of information technologies and communication

that the difference that it should have from the beginning of economical and development theories. Without a doubt, "culture and education" systems are unbreakable, they are always paired.

If we teach kids in schools that we are second and third world countries, exploited, collectors of cocoa, workers of textile companies, miserable forever, this will continue to repeat itself one generation after another until settling the under development culture ("Under development is in the mind" writes Lawrence Harrison). While if we encourage intelligences' development) including "emotional intelligence", promoting imagination, innovation, productive work, having in mind that merits are reached through responsibility, effort, perseverance, and if, to this we add justice criteria, equity, liberty, peace, democracy, transparency and humanity, undoubtedly the result will be a promising and successful culture.



In the Costa Rican case, hard headed administrative decisions at a political and directional level are very expensive and it's taking its toll at a social level. Logic and common sense of things are eclipsed by the sickening intolerance that does not allow nuances. The "social reading" is left behind or simply ignored.

Let us have education take charge of exiling these unwanted conducts, habits and practices at all levels and social classes. Let's cultivate, through it, the new national culture that we all demand. Taking roots in Costa Rica's economic development along with human development. "Costa Rican culture will be determining" for this imaginary – quantitative and qualitative – step.

### Reference

This article was published on La Prensa Libre newspaper on Friday, November 19th, 2004

Picture taken from: <http://www.thebluediamondgallery.com/tablet/c/culture.html>

SITUATION	FORMAL	RELAXED	INFORMAL
You think a friend is a really great person.	He is an exemplary chap of outstanding merit.	He is a great guy.	He is one hell of a guy.
It is very cold.	The atmospheric conditions are sub-zero.	It's freezing.	It's as cold as hell.
You've just left a party with a friend. It's extremely cold. Your friend suggests walking the 10 km distance.	Are you non compos mentis?	Are you mad?	Are you out of your head?

Information taken from: Hot English Online Magazine #111 p.36

## “ENGLISH FOR YOU CR” PRESENTS, MODALS OF ABILITY



In English, we can express *the ability to do something* by using the modals, **can, could, and to be able to**.

So, if we refer to a general ability in the present, we use **can** or **be able to**:

Affirmative: My friend can speak English fluently.  
Negative: I can't ride a bicycle.

Affirmative: My mother is able to organize family parties by herself.  
Negative: I'm not able to go to your house tonight.

On the other hand, if we talk about *past general or specific abilities*, we use **could** or **couldn't**:

I could swim very well when I was five years old. (general ability)  
My neighbour couldn't open his garage door. (specific ability or situation)

For *future abilities*, we use **can** or **be able to**, and the negative forms:

She says she can help you tomorrow.  
I won't be able to go with you to the beach next week.

# 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:

## ***Dyala Calderón, Clarinetist, Singer, Cook, Heavy Reader, Good Talker and UTN Academic Success Program Director.***

### ***Where do you live?***

I grew up in Montes de Oca, San José, and now I live around la Sabana, in San José.

### ***Best childhood memory?***

What a question! I studied at Conservatorio Castella and formed part of the school band. I played the clarinet. A memory that I have is when sometimes, not very often, I skipped a class, and once the principal got me. At the beginning, I was nervous, but this principal talked to me for a long time. He always tried to make students understand there was a lesson on everything –positive or negative—that we did.

### ***Favorite food***

I love salmon and mushrooms; on the contrary, something I dislike is green peas.

### ***What is always in your fridge?***

In my refrigerator, you will always find something sweet, especially some chocolate.

### ***Favorite Music?***

I am a just simply a Beatle fan. I am crazy about them.



# 90 SECONDS WITH...

## **Would you class yourself as a day or night person?**

Since I was in high school, I consider myself a night person. I feel more productive when I work in the evening and at night.

## **First job**

I worked at Instituto Montesoriano. I worked as a music teacher for children age 2 to 10. I worked there for about two years.

## **A good book**

A book that I recommend everybody to read is El Valor de Aprender by Fernando Savater. It explains the importance of having the right to choose and make decisions in life. It explains how this everyday situation of making choices is basically a lifetime work, so people must take it seriously since easy decisions as what clothes I wear today to the most difficult ones as what to study or whether to get married or not.

## **One of your favorite places**

Actually there are three places. I fell in love with Belen in Portugal since I had the chance to go to a jazz concert over there; the second place is Normandy, at the North of France, the gastronomy there is simply incredibly. The last one is Curacao; the landscape and beaches there are awesome.

## **What is your greatest fear?**

To have a terrible accident, especially a car accident.

## **Tell me a joke or proverb you remember right now.**

Well, not as a proverb but more as a quote, people may have to give themselves permission: permission to feel, to experiment, to enjoy. Most people are worried, or frightened to act just because there is an outside force, people's opinion, for example. Therefore, we limit ourselves to live fully the short life we have.





## The Light After The Storm

By Luis José Alvarez (ILE Student/Alajuela)

They are not sick, they do not have to go into treatments or go to the hospital. However, the family of a person with cancer has to deal with all the emotional weight and give support to the patient.

Silvia Acuña Jimenez, a ESL student at UTN (Universidad Técnica Nacional) has been going through this situation with her brave father, Mr. Orlando Acuña, who has been fighting against cancer since November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014 .

For this young lady from Zarce-ro, this situation has been a reason to be closer with her family and God. *"It hasn't been easy for my family because we have been dealing with the emotional weight and at the same time, trying to have the best attitude in front of my father and to support him every day."* Silvia said.

On the other hand, Silvia had to stop studying and start working to support her family.

*"It was very hard for me to stop studying, but at that moment it was truly necessary, and that situation made me become a stronger and more mature woman."* Silvia said.

Nowadays, thanks to the natural medicine that Silvia's father has been using as a treatment, he is getting better every day. Silvia's family heard about a botanist in Paso Canoas who had the cure for cancer and AIDS. Mr. Diomedes Ureña is a botanist who is incredibly followed by thousands of people with cancer, who says that he has the cure for cancer and Aids, but the only way that this medicine can work is believing in God. This magic cure is a tea made of medicines plants which has a herbalist scent.

As a result of Mr. Acuña improvement, the doctors said that he needs a bone marrow transplant to be hundred percent healthy. Silvia and her family waits anxiously for the transplant and they know everything is going to be fine with the help of God.



# THE ATTIC OF BERTHA MASON

## A New Perception About Talamanca

By Jorge Quesada (ILE Student/San Carlos)

After we visited Talamanca in our last school trip on February 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, I changed my mind completely about what Talamanca was about. People are not like many people think when they talk about that place. People in those towns are like in any other town in which you can see that they go to school and high school, and they have a normal job. When people talk about Talamanca, they often think those people are really poor, and they go around the town in loincloths, but this is really far away from reality. They are just like you and me with normal clothes, brand shoes, with similar food and even cellphones. During our stay there, I only met a new kind of food named Michila that was a kind of dessert made of plantains.



They speak the same language (Spanish) with the difference that actually they have an extra language called Bribri. I realized that sometimes they are a little bit shy, but it depends on who you are speaking to. For example, we met Xiomara, an indigenous person who gave us a speech about how they work the property land which name is Dilä. This woman was really friendly and explained to us about the different clans they have in their Bribri culture (Bribri= Bird protector of the waters) as Duriguas and Cebriguas. The presentation was really interesting and we learned new things. I truly believe that we are different only in terms of culture. We also met Mrs. Agustina, another Bribri indig-

enous person from the Corcua clan (beetle). She is the president of the Talamanca Indigenous Women Association in which they work hard to protect indigenous women in Talamanca and help them progress in life through their business of cocoa. They even have their own factory to produce chocolate.

Finally, we met Danilo, another indigenous owner of a small hotel called Ditsöwöu in Bambu town, the place where we stayed; he gave us the most shocking speech about how indigenous people live inside the mountains of Talamanca; there is where the people have real needs (food, clothes, medicine, hose) They pray to Sibö (God) for help! To get there by land people have to walk for around 4, 5 or 6 days and even more! The fastest way to get there is by helicopter, but sadly the government doesn't support those communities as much as they need. They need the government support at least twice a month, but what they receive is help once or twice a year!

During our trip we visited different towns in which we saw that the most important source to have an income is by working the ground either by planting plantains and cocoa, or by bringing up pigs and chickens as Mrs. Xiomara does it in Dilä farm. A really interesting fact is that women are the ones that have the control of the lands and men the ones that work on those lands; therefore, women in this culture have a higher social status than men; we saw it in the different towns as Suretka and Chiroles. Even in the school and high school in Amubri, we realized that the whole teenagers understand that and accept it; a clear example of this is the already mentioned Talamanca Indigenous Women Association led only by women. In general the tour was great, and really interesting in which we learned a lot of things; I hope we can continue doing trips like this to learn more about our own country and different cultures and traditions, but more than learn, help people with real needs.

## SOME FUNNY STORIES

A preacher went into his church and he was praying to God. While he was praying, he asked God, "How long is 10 million years to you?"

God replied, "One second."

The next day the preacher asked God, "God, how much is 10 million dollars to you?"

And God replied, "A penny."

Then finally the next day the preacher asked God, "God, can I have one of your pennies?"

And God replied, "Just wait a sec."



This Middle aged man was going through his mid-life crisis so he went out and bought him a new bright red BMW. So he decided to take his new BMW on a test drive down the interstate one day.

He got up to about 85 mph and all of a sudden he saw this highway patrolman with his blue lights and siren blaring coming toward him. He decided he and his new BMW would outrun the officer. So the man sped up to 95 mph, and then to 105 mph, but the patrolman was still coming.



"Hush my darling," he interrupted, "don't talk, save your strength."

But she insisted, "Mike, before I die, there's something that I have to confess."



"There is nothing to confess," said the weeping husband. "It's all right. Everything's all right."

"No, no. I must die in peace. I must confess that I have been unfaithful to you."

He stroked her hand, "Now, Tina, don't be concerned. I know all about it."

"You do?" she gasped.

"Sure darling, why else would I poison you?"

The man finally came to his senses and said to himself, "This is crazy, I could go to jail for this," so he pulled over.

The patrolman came to the car and told the man, "It has been a long day and I am tired. If you can give me an excuse no one else has ever given me I will let you go."

So the man told the officer, "Last night my wife ran off with a patrolman and when I seen you chasing me I thought you were trying to bring her back."

The officer looked at the man and said, "Have a nice day."



## 123apps

Ever thought of an online free multimedia software that fulfils all your basic audio and video processing on the go. One that doesn't require free multimedia software or multimedia download. Well 123apps.com is the solution for all your problems.

123apps allows you to cut and join audio and video, record your audio and video, and convert audio files without downloading any software; everything is done online. The application was designed for the single purpose; therefore, it is easy to use and will not overwhelm you with the abundance of functions which are almost never used anyway.

As amazing as it sounds, 123apps offers nine different alternatives to work with your audio and video files. To know more about this wonderful website, go to: <http://123apps.com>.

The screenshot shows the 123apps website interface. On the left is a sidebar with the 123apps logo, the text 'Free Online Multimedia Software', and a note that the software runs in a browser. The main area is a 3x3 grid of tool cards. Each card features an icon, a title, and a brief description.

Tool Name	Description
<b>Audio Cutter</b>	The easiest way to cut out a piece of music
<b>Audio Cutter Pro</b>	Powerful online audio cutting tool
<b>Audio Converter</b>	Convert audio files online from one format into another
<b>Audio Joiner</b>	Merge multiple audio files into a single track
<b>Video Converter</b>	Convert video files online from one format into another
<b>Video Cutter</b>	The easiest way to cut out a section of a video
<b>Voice Recorder</b>	Record a voice using a microphone
<b>Video Recorder</b>	Record video online with your webcam
<b>Archive Extractor</b>	Extract any compressed file online

# THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

## IT HAPPENED IN APRIL

April 1 <sup>st</sup> , 1865	Baie du Ha! Ha! Quebec, the first Canadian April Fools' Day on record celebrated by British troops and Canadian militia at Fort Poisson d'Avril.
April 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 1826	Financial panic hits New Brunswick as word spreads that banks in London had failed and the timber trade had collapsed; so-called Black Monday.
April 6 <sup>th</sup> , 1832	Indian Wars: Black Hawk War begins - The Sauk warrior Black Hawk enters into war with the United States.
April 10 <sup>th</sup> , 1866	The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) is founded in New York City by Henry Bergh.
April 12 <sup>th</sup> , 1981	Human spaceflight: The first launch of a Space Shuttle: Columbia launches on the STS-1 mission.
April 15 <sup>th</sup> , 1927	Douglas Fairbanks, Mary Pickford and Norma and Constance Talmadge become the first celebrities to leave their footprints in concrete at Grauman's Chinese Theater in Hollywood.
April 19 <sup>th</sup> , 1943	World War II: In Poland, German troops enter the Warsaw ghetto to round up the remaining Jews, beginning the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.
April 25 <sup>th</sup> , 1901	New York becomes the first U.S. state to require automobile license plates.
April 29 <sup>th</sup> , 1661	Chinese Ming dynasty occupies Taiwan.

## FAMOUS PEOPLE BORN THIS MONTH

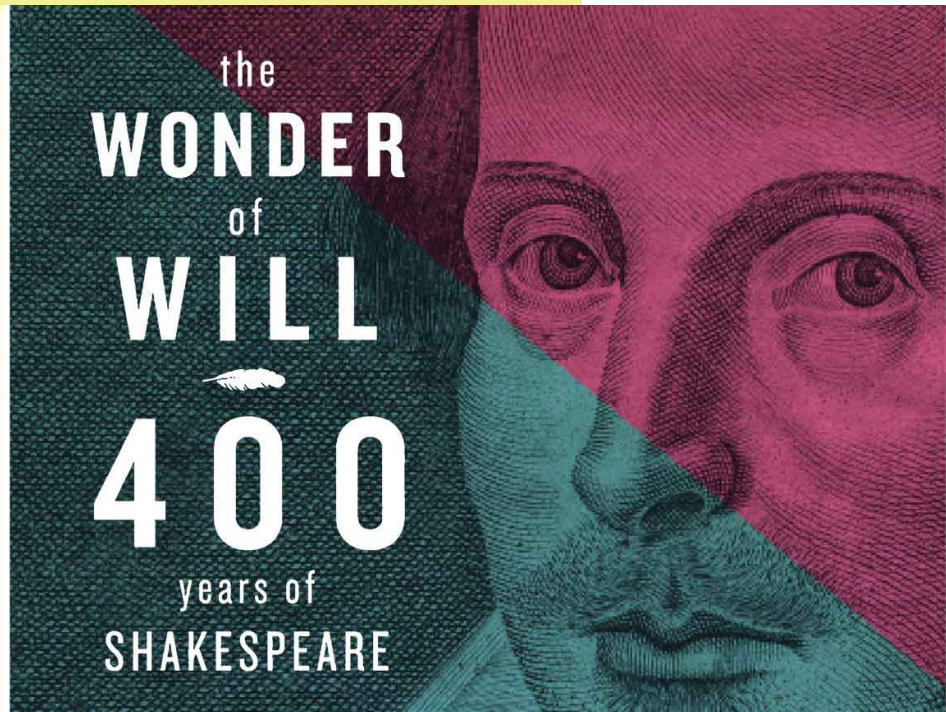
PERSON	JOB	BIRTHDAY
	World Leader	April 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 742
	Soccer Player	April 13 <sup>th</sup> , 1983
	Movie Actor	April 14 <sup>th</sup> , 1973
	Novelist	April 21 <sup>st</sup> , 1816
	Royalty	April 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 1241
	Actress	April 24 <sup>th</sup> , 1934
	Civil Rights Leader	April 27 <sup>th</sup> , 1927

# THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

## William Shakespeare

William Shakespeare (26<sup>th</sup> April 1564 (baptised) – 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1616) was an English poet, playwright, and actor, widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's preeminent dramatist. He is often called **England's national poet**, and the "**Bard of Avon**". His extant works, including collaborations, consist of approximately 38 plays, 154 sonnets, two long narrative poems, and a few other verses, some of uncertain authorship. His plays have been translated into every major living language and are performed more often than those of any other playwright.

Shakespeare was born and brought up in Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire. At the age of 18, he married Anne Hathaway, with whom he had three children: Susanna, and twins Hamnet and Judith. Sometime between 1585 and 1592, he began a successful career in London as an actor, writer, and part-owner of a playing company called the **Lord Chamberlain's Men**, later known as the King's Men. He appears to have retired to Stratford around 1613, at age 49, where he died three years later. Few records of Shakespeare's private life survive, which has stimulated considerable speculation about such matters as his physical appearance, sexuality, and



religious beliefs, and whether the works attributed to him were written by others.

Shakespeare produced most of his known work between 1589 and 1613. His early plays were primarily comedies and histories, and these are regarded as some of the best work ever produced in these genres. He then wrote mainly tragedies until about 1608, including **Hamlet**, **Othello**, **King Lear**, and **Macbeth**, considered some of the finest works in the English language. In his last phase, he wrote tragicomedies, also known as romances, and collaborated with other playwrights.

Many of his plays were published in editions of varying quality and accuracy during his lifetime. In 1623, however, John Heminges and Henry

Condell, two friends and fellow actors of Shakespeare, published a more definitive text known as the First Folio, a posthumous collected edition of his dramatic works that included all but two of the plays now recognised as Shakespeare's. It was prefaced with a poem by Ben Jonson, in which Shakespeare is hailed, presciently, as "not of an age, but for all time". In the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, his works have been repeatedly adapted and rediscovered by new movements in scholarship and performance. His plays remain highly popular, and are constantly studied, performed, and reinterpreted in diverse cultural and political contexts throughout the world.

# 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. In this month, in which we commemorate 400 years since the death of William Shakespeare, we want to share one of his most famous quotes

*“All the world’s a stage, and all the men and women merely players: they have their exits and their entrances; and one man in his time plays many parts, his acts being seven ages.*

*-William Shakespeare*

## 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.



To buy the books and learn more about Discovering Pura Vida go to: [PURA VIDA](#)

# PROGRAMA DE IDIOMAS



## Description

Our language open courses have been designed to provide students an environment in which they can participate and role play everyday situations.

Experienced teachers and small groups complement a process applying appropriate foreign language learning strategies. Phonetic concepts are included to reinforce oral abilities in a way students can integrate other language skills, such as reading comprehension, listening, and grammar structures.

Besides, students are able to discuss and express their opinions on several topics regarding a variety of common interest issues such as sports, culture, pollution, social problems, and the like, by using proper grammar structures and pronunciation.

At the end of the program, students achieve an intermediate level of language production (B1 according to the Common European Framework) intended as satisfactory to fulfill their academic and professional requirements with native speakers.

## Academic program

Our program consists of the following academic offerings:

### English Introductory Level

(INGLES NIVELATORIO)



A basic two-month course designed to provide students elementary language tools.

### Regular English Program

(INGLES REGULAR)



A two-year program in which students attend classes twice a week, morning or evening schedule, or only on Saturday mornings.

### Intensive English Program

(INGLES INTENSIVO)



A twelve-month program in which students attend three times a week, morning or evening schedule.

### English For Children and Teenagers

(INGLES PARA NIÑOS Y ADOLESCENTES)



A two-year program designed for children and teenagers up to 14 years old. Students attend classes on Saturday evenings.

### Portuguese



A fourteen-month program in which students attend classes twice a week, morning or evening schedule, or only on Saturday mornings.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Registration fee is not charged.
- Placement test (Optional).
- Age requirement: 15 years old minimum. (does not include the Children Program)

Further information: Tel. 2435-5000 ext: 1192-1193 or through e-mail [programaidiomas@utn.ac.cr](mailto:programaidiomas@utn.ac.cr)





# WHY DO I TEACH?

Teaching is helping individuals open the door to new horizons and different ways of thinking, so that they can see the world under a new light and make a better one.

