

DECLARA

Bulletin

Year 12



TICAL2016 special edition:

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RedCLARA renews its Board and launches Foodle

Leonardo Rodríguez, new Executive Director of RENATA

REUNA Seminar: Collaborating to Advance

Agreed: The creation of Nicaraguan Broadband University Network and its incorporation to RedCLARA

n° 48

November 2016



RedCLARA:

A clear path for your data

We empower your research and
developments

Editing
María José López Pourailly

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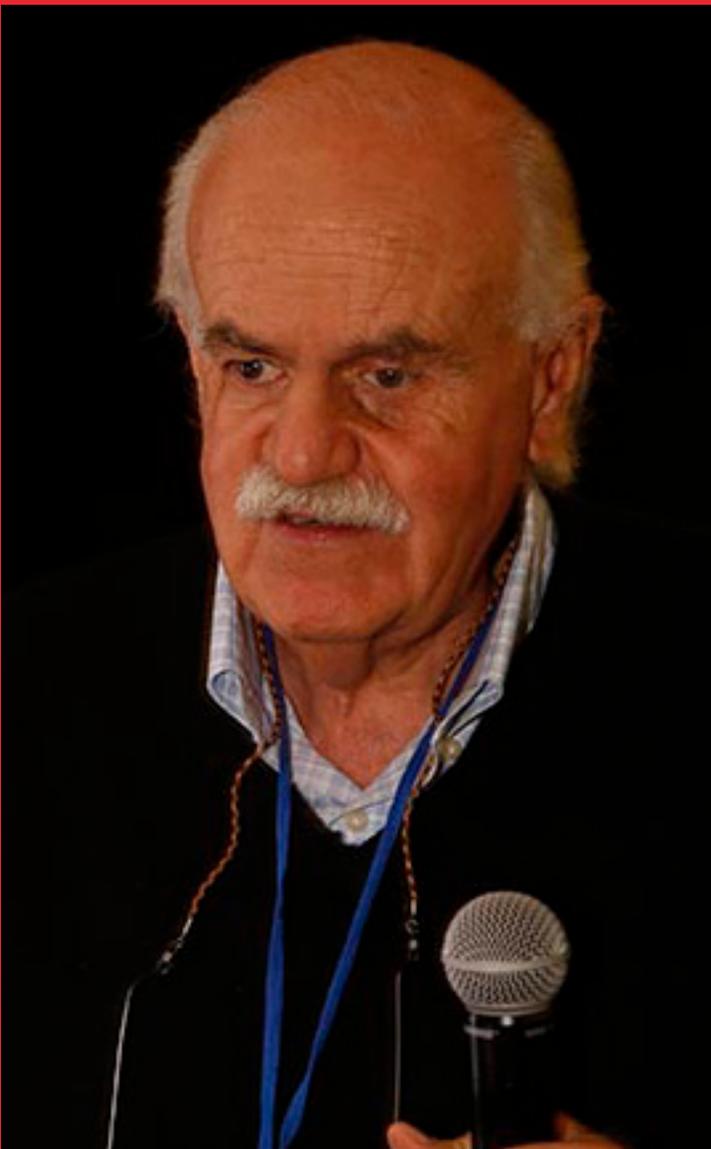
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RedCLARA interconnects the national advanced networks in Latin America and connects them with all the networks in the world, giving Latin-American scientists, academics and researchers an infrastructure that allows them to effectively collaborate with the global scientific community.

www.redclara.net

Editorial



Carlos Casaus

President of RedCLARA's Board of
Directors
CUDI's Executive Director

On October 12, at the meeting of our Board of Directors, I was honored with the opportunity to continue as the president of RedCLARA and thus contribute to the task of strengthening the development of Science, Education, Culture and Innovation in Latin America through the innovative use of advanced networks.

We are now starting a new cycle, full of challenges, but also full of opportunities.

We must not forget the importance given by the academic and research community in Latin America to a regional data communication structure based on advanced networks that allows a better cooperation in the academic and research field of our America.

Our countries are once again going through difficult stages, but the benefit of making regional integration efforts is increasingly palpable. Therefore we'll get the opportunity to consolidate higher education and research, the keys to the future of our nations.

Carlos Casasús was re-elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of RedCLARA

María José López Pourailly

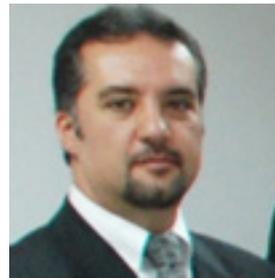
On October 12, in the context of the Board meeting carried out on-line, the Latin American Cooperation of Advanced Networks (RedCLARA) renewed its Board of Directors, the maximum organism in charge of the direction of the institution that since that date is integrated by:



President: Carlos Casasús, CUDI (Mexico) - second consecutive period



Vice-President: Eduardo Grizendi, RNP (Brazil)



Secretary: Juan Pablo Carvallo, CEDIA (Ecuador)



Treasurer: Herman Mereles, Arandú (Paraguay)



Vowel: José Palacios, REUNA (Chile)



Honorary member: Ida Holz, RAU (Uruguay)

Fiscal Commission:

Mariano Sánchez, RedCONARE (Costa Rica)

Raúl Eduardo Galarza, CEDIA (Ecuador)

Rafael Ibarra, RAICES (El Salvador)



Between ICT and tango:

TICAL2016 Conference was successfully held in Buenos Aires

The event, the only driven to its public in the region, brought together almost three hundred participants from different parts of Latin America, North America and Europe.

Luiz Alberto Rasseli



Three days, 49 papers, company presentations, discussion tables, five workshops and five presentations of the international speakers invited to the event. Data don't lie. The sixth edition of TICAL, the conference of the Directors of Information and Communications Technologies of the Latin American Universities, was a true immersion in the universe of ICT.

Held on the premises of the "Golden Center" Event Center, in the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina, from September 13 to 15, 2016, the Conference brought together almost 300 participants from different parts of Latin America, North America and Europe to discuss the current momentum and the ICT trends for the higher education institutions in the region, based on thematic axes

such as Management, Teaching, Infrastructure, Governance and Security.

The opening panel of TICAL2016 was held on the afternoon of Tuesday, September 13, and was attended by several ICT authorities from the region, such as RedCLARA's Executive Director, Florencio Utreras; the Secretary of Scientific and Technological Articulation of the Mincyt Argentina, Agustín Campero; RedCLARA's Deputy General Director, Carmen Gloria Labbé; the general ICT coordinator of the University of Buenos Aires, Ernesto Chinkes; the president of the TICAL2016 Program Committee, Jussara Issa Musse, and the Rector Alberto Ayape, of the National University of Patagonia San Juan Bosco.

Rector Alberto Ayape

For Ayape, who also represented the Committee of Connectivity and Networks of the National Interuniversity Council of Argentina (CIN), TICAL "is very important". "The Conference gives us the unique opportunity to make contacts, share experiences and fundamentally advance on an issue as important as the management of ICT in our region", he said.

Other present officials also praised the event. The mexican researcher María Elena Chan, speaker who presented the theme "Megatrends and educational innovation: challenges and development of ICT" on the last day of the Conference qualify TICAL2016 as an incredible opportunity. "As an educator, it is very gratifying to be able to dialogue with managers and politicians who make decisions. This is a fundamental approach and the most important thing is that I see that all those involved are willing to collaborate in the development of ICT and education in our region. TICAL is one of the few events that allow such interaction", she said.



María Elena Chan





Silvio Meira and the era of digital performance

In addition to Chan, TICAL2016 was attended by four other invited international speakers. The American Marc Hoit, Vice President of IT at the State University of North Carolina; the Dutch Olaf Kolkman, Internet Director of the Internet Society, and the Brazilians Antonio Rivas, from Gartner Executive Programs, and Silvio Meira, emeritus professor of the Federal University of Pernambuco. The second day of work at the Conference was marked by Meira's highly praised presentation on the future of technologies.

His presentation, entitled "The hour of performance in times of digital transformation", pointed out trends for ICT and education in the coming years and was widely commented by those present in the main hall of the event. "It was an excellent and inspiring talk. The changes proposed by Meira represent a paradigm shift that can be very beneficial for the entire industry", said Carmen Gloria Labbé.

According to Meira, the era of ingenuity is marked by services of "low performance, low quality, low security and low number of users precisely because of these three factors." Now, according to him, it is necessary that not only the companies, but also the academic networks enter the so-called "Performance Era", which has as key characteristics the centrality in the user, besides the quality of the interface, focus on results and the use of platforms as bases for technological "ecosystems".

Meira's presentation, as well as the other main sessions of the Conference, was broadcasted live on TICAL2016's website. More than 500 people followed the event remotely.

The Argentine edition of the event also included the realization of five exclusive workshops and the traditional parallel sessions, in which the papers selected by the Conference Program Committee were presented. 163 papers postulated to be part of the sixth

version of TICAL and 49 of them were chosen to be presented; 44 from the Call for Authors, three from the call for Young Innovators and two from the Call for Interinstitutional Projects. Ecuador was the country with the most chosen works, with nine papers selected.

Another important moment of TICAL2016 was the one in which it was created ReDiTIC, the network of directors of Information and Communications Technologies of the Latin American Universities. With the participation of authorities from a group of universities from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay, the constitutional act of the network was signed on September 14.

According to Marcela Larenas, manager of the TICAL community, the agreement "will materialize representativeness for those who define the ICT destinations of the region's universities." Regarding the Conference, Larenas stressed the great participation of the directors of the Argentine institutions and highlighted the program. "We made some changes in the structure of the program that allowed us to create a space for workgroup meetings, to interact with the sponsoring companies and to visit the company fair with time and calm. All participants noted and praised the change. I hope we can motivate the new participants to continue in the TICAL community and meet in 2017", she concluded.

The sixth edition of TICAL was an accomplishment of RedCLARA and InnovaRed, with the support of Microsoft, Google, LACNIC, Internet Society, Padtec, Grupo Datco Chile, Claro, Alcatel-Lucent Enterprise Latam, Ruckus Wireless Inc. - Brocade, Nokia, NSRC, CRUP, Adobe, Level3 and National Interuniversity Council.

The presentations, videos of the lectures and many other information about what was TICAL2016 are available on the official website of the Conference. (<http://tical2016.redclara.net>).

Within the framework of TICAL2016:

The IT Managers of Latin American Universities Network is created

With the participation of IT Managers of a group of Latin American universities of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay, meeting within the framework of the second day of activities of the TICAL2016 Conference -held in Buenos Aires (Argentina)-, on September 13 it was signed the constitutive document of the IT Managers of Latin American Universities Network. The official name of the network -ReDiTIC-, was formalized in October.

María José López Pourailly





ReDiTIC

RED DE DIRECTORES TIC
DE INSTITUCIONES DE
EDUCACIÓN SUPERIOR
LATINOAMERICANAS

According to what is written in the document, the mission of this human network is "to promote collaboration between the areas of Information Technologies and Communication of Higher Education Institutions in Latin America, to support and enhance their research processes, education, extension and management, by sharing the innovative use the best practices of ICT".

The objectives of this network are:

"Building a collaborative space for those responsible for Technology at Universities, in order to share experiences, encourage collaborative initiatives, share knowledge, analyze trends, common problems, establish links between institutions, help to build in the institutions suitable areas for a better use of ICT".

"Establish a body that has the appropriate level of representation to carry out proposals and actions to be valid interlocutors with other actors of the community".

In terms of structure, the network is formed by the senior managers of ICT of Higher Education Institutions in Latin America, and all IT Directors (or equivalent) of those in the region, may belong after expressing their decision of joining the group. In the group, membership is a personal capacity, so it is not required a formal decision by the university to which the professional is attached, however the condition to integrate the network is that the person holds the maximum authority in IT in the higher education institution in which it works.

ReDiTIC has a space for interaction and collaboration in Cololaboratorio..

Silvio Meira:

“We are still poorly computerized in Latin America”

International speaker of TICAL2016, the Brazilian engineer and professor Silvio Meira was one of the most commented names of the sixth edition of the Conference, held from September 13 to 15 in Buenos Aires. His presentation "The hour of performance in times of digital transformation" was praised by the audience and generated discussions about how institutions and academic networks should adapt to new technologies. In this interview, Meira comments on his opinion on ICT in the region, explains the concept of digital performance and the impact of this new technological moment on education.

Luiz Alberto Rasseli

What does it mean for you to participate in an event like TICAL?

This is not the first time I speak at a specific conference for the Latin American public, but I confess that it is a rare opportunity. For me, participating in TICAL is very important. I was lacking that. Our continent is regionally cohesive, but culturally diffuse. We know each other very little. In Brazil, for example, we know much more about the US than about Colombia, for example.

From your area of expertise, how do you evaluate the development of ICTs in Latin America? What are our main challenges and opportunities?

To give you an idea, Brazil is about 1.5% of the global ICT market. This already gives us a good idea of how behind schedule we are, because we are a half part of Latin America. Brazil, Mexico and Argentina account for almost 70% of the regional market. Another interesting fact is that Brazil's global position is much higher in the economy than as a participant in the ICT market and this shows our problem. It means that we are poorly computerized. We have a few Latin American companies that are ICT providers in the global market. The Brazilian Totvs (management software company) is one example, Mercado Libre is another. We have some Argentine and Chilean companies on the New York Stock Exchange, but there are very few companies that have what we call the "global class". Being global is not about having a big bill,

but about expanding its playing field. Waze, for example, was made in Israel but is present in many other countries. Even in the domestic market, where there is supposed to be more room, we have no predominance of local companies.

And why do you think is that?

Our region is marked by a high degree of political intervention in the economy. This destabilizes any attempt to build a long-term strategy for global market share. We range between authoritarian and libertarian populist governments. And in this swing, in this oscillation between the extremes, we have exterminated the ability to construct medium-term and long-term strategies. Venezuela, for example, has many good ICT professionals who have been destroyed by the last government. On the other hand, the cases that worked well in our region are projects that already have decades of existence, such as Embraer, in Brazil. It took the company 30 years to make a good airplane. Currently, there are very few ICT projects in Latin America that have three decades of strategy. In Chile maybe there is something, but in other countries there is not.

What do you have to say about Chile?

Chile needed and knew how to make some choices. It is a geographically long country, with few population, inhospitable areas in the north and in the south and, above all, earthquakes. So they had to develop earthquake-proofing construction ideas



and processes, for example. In the last earthquakes, no building collapsed and earthquakes of the same magnitude devastated Haiti. Chile has demonstrated what it means to make choices. You need to be focused. What's more important, the country has quality education. My equation is that when you add fundamentals, correct choices and focus in the long run you always reap good results.

Silicon Valley, for example, is a spinoff of American investment in defense. The internet itself is another one. It is a matter of identifying needs, which is not always easy. But we must bear in mind that nothing is by chance, including changes in the ICT area. Porto Digital (technological park of which Meira is one of the founders), for example, is in its 16th year of existence, but we believe that we will need another 20 years to effectively establish ourselves as an economic vector that will generate development for the country. We are talking about decades, because nothing is resolved within a mandate. Brazil is a prime example of how not to create projects. Each politician wants to solve the problem of education in four years. Nothing gets solved in four years. We have these two problems in Latin America: the political question and the lack of persistence.

You spoke in your talk that we are nearing the end of the era of digital ingenuity and arriving into the age of digital performance. What does that mean in practice? What do these ages consist of?

The age of ingenuity is marked by services of low performance, low quality, low security and low number of users precisely because of these three factors. Google, for example, already has

dual security verification, as well as Facebook and Twitter. For the average user, therefore, it becomes unacceptable to lose the email password of his/hers national network and not be able to retrieve it. Whatsapp is another example; if we change the device, when we change our chip, the information is automatically transferred to the new device, and this is done in the most intelligible possible way.

Now tell me: which public service in a Latin American countries has features like that? Or even university services? In my center, for example, they have changed the policy of email groups, which today comprises approximately five thousand people. Everything was changed and no one was warned. How can this happen, if Facebook has more than a billion users and can notify me? It is not so much that companies are naive, it is that the user is no longer naive.

The performance era has as key characteristics the centrality of the user, the quality of the interface, the focus on results and the use of platforms as bases for technological "ecosystems". Uber is a good example of an application that manages these four qualities, making life easier for the user and the service provider.

Also in your talk, you said that sectors like Media are almost totally digitized, but that the education sector is not. What is missing?

It is necessary to "change phase". Our educational system is programmed to repeat the codification of the past, but it needs to be reprogrammed to invent the future from essential foundations: Pythagoras, fundamental literature of each country, reading and writing ... If we have an illiterate population, everything else is



useless. We have a lot of functional illiterates in our countries, people who can not understand a complex paragraph. We need to teach fundamentals of logic and principles of argumentation so that people can participate in a discussion board, for example. If they do not have this capability, they will never be able to run a business. Between two competent engineers, let's choose the one that besides doing correct calculations, know how to read, analyze, synthesize and explain. I say that we need to get out of the "codification of the past for the explanation of the present with the foundations of the past" and move towards "the foundation of the present for the construction of the future with methods of the future." Teachers need to learn and adapt because they have structural knowledge. Teachers who know their subjects are not afraid of digital.

Along the same lines, talking about the networking, there are many NRENs around the world who resist making video content available on Youtube, for example, or even using other Google services because they do not want to give away their content to other media. What is your opinion on this?

About not disclosing certain content, it is purely and simply censorship. The basis of the democratic regime is access to information and denying this implies an unacceptable level of authoritarianism in a network environment. On the other hand, from an organizational point of view, trying to control what is happening is impossible.

So, in your opinion, should academic networks adhere to the use of these new networks and technologies, making their content available there as well?

No doubt. Europe spent billions of euros trying to create its own search platform, called Science, and failed. The discussion

about our video repositories, email providers and search engines is already resolved. Apart from four or five governments around the world, there is no national government that has strategies, methods, and human and technological resources to compete with Google. The attempt of certain networks to break some advances is precisely what we call digital and strategic naivety. The user has the email from the network, but prefers to use Gmail because the other one is falling. This naiveté happens in the technological periphery, where are the people who feel able to do certain things, but have not had the opportunity to do. So they want to determine through national policies that things will be the way they want them to.

On the other hand, there is room for innovation. When the market is conceptually or operationally fragmented, we can create new things. In the periphery we do not do because we are afraid of going wrong. We just want to do what someone already did because it worked. RedCLARA, for example, could join networks and begin an open source effort to create an exaservice platform for networked learning. I even have a name: "PARLA", which means "Network Learning Platform for Latin America." (Laughs)



Christian O'Flaherty, Senior Development Manager for Latin America and The Caribbean Bureau of Internet Society:

"We are very interested in the growth of the TICAL community"

Internet Society (ISOC) has the mission of caring and maintaining the culture of the open Internet, the one where we are all responsible for the network. In Latin America Christian O'Flaherty ensures that from the trenches of the regional development of the Internet, and since the first conference, held in Panama City in 2011, with ISOC he has accompanied the evolution of TICAL. During the sixth edition of the Conference we talked with him about the importance of getting involved in the Internet ecosystem and about the continued support of ISOC to TICAL.

María José López Pourailly

"Internet belongs to everyone and everyone is responsible for Internet", says O'Flaherty almost at the beginning of this conversation, when we tell him that after years of supporting the development of TICAL, the least we owe him is a conversation to explain the community members and RedCLARA, the reason of this persistence. "That has to do with the open Internet, with the mission of the Internet Society. The aim of its role in the development of Internet is to involve people and make them feel responsible for the future of Internet. Here is the point of intersection with the academic networks, their members -the universities- and RedCLARA, because networks are important partners to fulfill this mission, communicating the importance of engaging in the development of Internet and showing the culture of the open Internet, so people can feel they own the network". The symbiosis is evident.

How do you evaluate the development of Internet in Latin America?

Our region, like other regions that are not developed, has many needs, especially in the involvement of people in important decisions about Internet, for example, the standards and the technical part. But not only that. We want people to get involved in the entire Internet ecosystem, including the technical part and standards, and we believe that universities are the best way to reach people and show them the value that has to get involved and spend time on that. The truth is that there are many things

to do, there are countries that are a bit better than others in our region; Brazil is an example of a country where the culture of open and collaborative Internet works quite well. There are other countries in Central America where it is needed a little more work, where it is hard to convince people to see the usefulness and importance of this. That's why we love working with TICAL in meetings like this Conference, where people from across the region comes, among them we can show that utility. If a country has been involved, we can show their representatives how to share that experience and how to "infect" other countries so they can do the same.

From the example of Brazil, as other nations sharing this route, what lessons can we draw to advance in the development of Internet in the region?

An important component is collaboration. In Brazil we have examples like the NIC.br or RNP, where people collaborate a lot and has results that are of high-impact and good to show so they can be replicated. Then, in countries where such collaboration, communication, teamwork, cooperation between organizations is not so smooth, to show these good examples helps a lot. I think it's super useful to show the things done in NIC.br or the RNP projects, to other academic networks in our region so they can replicate or learn from that experiences so they can adapt them to their countries.

ISOC participates in TICAL from the beginning, in Panama 2011. Why does ISOC insist on supporting TICAL?

On one hand because this has been very fruitful, we see that communication with academic networks is much easier having them all together, and talking with all of them at once, that visiting them individually. It worked very well so far. But also, because we see in universities that opportunity to involve the whole community in the development of the Internet, this Internet ecosystem. If teachers and students are more active in the IETF for the development of standards, in Internet governance discussions, at all the opportunities the Internet ecosystem offers, they will “infect” other areas within their cities and countries. We see universities as the channel to convince and show people that is important to participate in Internet decisions.

This is to take advantage of the universities capillarity.

Yes, capillarity, influence, knowledge because teachers know what we are talking about, they are aware of all of that, and when they get excited we get the contagion effect. We work very well with universities and working with TICAL it has been very good to reach all national research and education networks in a single meeting.

Tell us about the union with LACNIC and Google for LAGNOC.

We have a clear mission which is to protect this Internet model, and we have many projects that help, for example LAGNOC which is to support operators, is the community of operators in the region. LAGNOC is a project born in the community and as we -ISOC- are very interested in strengthening that, we support them a lot; is not an ISOC project because these network operation groups exist in many places, but through them we get a lot of things that are aligned with our mission, so we try to support it. Therefore there is a LACNOG stand



here -in TICAL2016- and we asked for it, because we think that that operators community helps a lot as the universities community.

That mission of ISOC is shared by other organizations, so when LACNIC sees that we foster activities in meetings like this, they see that they also have an opportunity to add their messages, and their own efforts and mission, which are aligned with this idea of the open Internet, and to involve the academic community



in these Internet projects. The same will happen with other organizations, for example in this TICAL there was a presentation of a collaborative project of ICANN, and I hope that in future conferences, ICANN will join us to collaborate with TICAL, and surely will add others. And companies such as Google, Facebook, or local companies, like NIC.br also see value in this effort to make Internet grow with the community impulse.

In the case of Google what we did was present them a project to strengthen the operation of Internet networks within the universities, and that's why it was interested; and last year we work with them in a project to boost traffic exchange points led by universities. Each year we push those issues that aligned with our mission, may be of interest to businesses, by doing this we add them to this initiative of helping TICAL and RedCLARA.

We are very interested in the growth of the TICAL community, because through it we get a lot of things, and we like companies to contribute directly, not to give money to us so that we have an increasingly large stand, in fact if you look at our stand (in TICAL2016 Conferene) ISOC does not appear anywhere, because we want to support the academic community.

After TICAL2016, do you have a continuity plan for the work ISOC has developed through presentations, workshops and demos?

In the case of LAGNOC Workshop yes, some concrete things emerged. In the workshop we were much interested in: identifying groups operating in countries that have needs, in proposals, and a couple of proposals emerged, and like what we did last year, we wanted to promote traffic exchange points and to achieve that universities create these exchange points. I hope to get interested in these scopes.

TICAL2017 will be held in San José, Costa Rica

After the successful sixth edition, in Buenos Aires, the Conference of the ICT Directors of the Latin American universities returns to Central America, where it was held for the first time in 2011.

Luiz Alberto Rasseli

TICAL2017 will be held in the city of San José, capital of Costa Rica, possibly in the first half of July 2017, during the Costa Rican "veranillo" season, where the rain stops for a few weeks. "The exact date and place for TICAL2017 will be defined in the upcoming weeks", says Alonso Castro Mattei, director of the University of Costa Rica's Information Center and chair of the Program Committee of the seventh edition of the event.

According to Castro Mattei, Costa Rica nearly received TICAL a few years ago. "Soon after the 2014 Conference in Mexico, we received a proposal to organize the 2015 edition in our country. We worked on this for some time, but for a number of factors it was not possible to materialize this desire. However, we kept this idea in mind, that it would be very good to hold the Conference in Central America again and more specifically here in Costa Rica, which is a country that has bet heavily on technology as one of its main economic engines and has great natural attractions, another reason why we expect a large number of participants next year", he says.

The time has come and an organizing team is already working to make sure that the event will be memorable. The first meeting of the Program Committee were held last October, proposing some changes in the theme of the calls, integrating new topics. In addition, new sessions and activities will be added, looking forward to make the event even more attractive.

Another novelty of the 2017 version of TICAL is that, along with ICT leaders from other universities, there will also be a group of researchers who will be sharing their experiences in ICT areas and their present and future needs.

"We hope that 'ticos' (as are popularly known the Costa Ricans) and that many other people in our region participate and learn



from the experiences of others, as well as initiate joint projects with colleagues from other countries. We count on the support of the rectors of public universities that form CONARE, which is also essential for us", concludes Mattei.

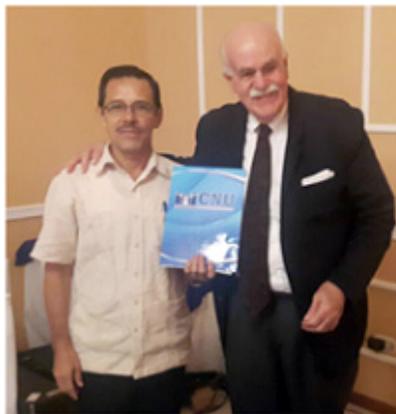


National Council of Universities defines the creation of the Nicaraguan Broadband University Network and its incorporation to RedCLARA

The project for the opening of the optic fiber ring for the Nicaraguan Academic Network was offered by the Mexican government through AMEXCID.

CUDI

During October 18, in Managua, Nicaragua, the Chairman of RedCLARA and CUDI's General Director, Carlos Casasús, met with members of the National Council of Universities (CNU), the Committee of Information and Communication Technologies and the Coordination of the PERI project (Programme for Strengthening Information Research), in order to introduce them to the proposal of the project for the opening of an Optic Fiber Ring for the Nicaraguan Academic Network, offered by the Government of Mexico through AMEXCID (Mexican International Cooperation Agency for Development).



The agreements set out in this session were the following:

- CNU will create and organize the "Nicaraguan Broadband University Network " (RUNBA).
- CNU will make the "Optical Fiber Urban Ring for RUNBA project " in order to present it to AMEXCID through the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit of Nicaragua, to build the ring and the equipment that will allow the connection of CNU universities to the university traffic exchange point (located in UNAN-Managua) and to the RedCLARA access point (located in UFINET).
- For the Mexican government, through Carlos Casasús, RedCLARA will support the creation and management of the "Optical Fiber Urban Ring for RUNBA project".
- CNU will connect the Nicaraguan Academic Network to RedCLARA.
- CNU, with the support of RedCLARA, will promote the use of the Nicaraguan Academic Network among academics and universities through the use of telepresence.

Carlos Casasús said that by improving the connectivity of Nicaraguan universities, research and higher education in the country will boost..

LA Referencia elects its first president during Board of Directors meeting

The election was held at the annual meeting of its Board of Directors, which took place in San Luis de Potosi, Mexico, from September 2 to 4, 2016. The new president is the Chilean Patricia Muñoz Palma, elected for a period of two years.

LA Referencia

Muñoz Palma, who is currently the director of the Scientific Information Program of CONICYT-Chile, is a specialist in Scientific and Technological Information Management and has led projects related to the accessibility and visibility of scientific activities, their results and impact.

In her professional career, the new president of LA Referencia was the Chilean representative in different committees of international experts such as ASFABOARD (Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts - FAO), coordinator for South America of the Latin American e-Repository of Ocean Publications (COI-Unesco Project, www.oceandocs.net), and also member of the Group of Specialists in Marine Information Management (GEMIN), of the International Commission of Oceans of UNESCO and of the Directive Council of LA Referencia, among others.

The Presidency of LA Referencia is a political representation that allows, in the medium term, to position this regional effort in a global circuit of scientific communication, as well as to create a long-term sustainability strategy.

A second decision taken by the Board during the meeting is related to the development of guidelines and agreements on scientific data repositories in the region, which is one of the central components of effective open science action. The objective is to promote an application profile for LA Referencia based on the OpenAIRE guidelines for information repositories and to continue to deepen the collaborative work with this platform in order to support open access interoperable infrastructures between Europe and Latin America. Finally, the new version of the regional search engine that follows these guidelines will be transferred to the national nodes.

In the opinion of Muñoz Palma, the main challenge of LA Referencia at this moment is to move towards an articulation of policies and actions in open science. "We want to create an ecosystem of open scientific information in the region, as a public good led by science and technology agencies. In this way, we must generate high value services with a global look that strengthen the access and visibility of the science produced in our region".





ICT Collaboration has another ally:

Meet Foodle, the new tool of Colaboratorio

The service is already available on the platform and facilitates scheduling meetings between academics and researchers.

Luiz Rassellil

One of the main challenges in these times of international cooperation is to find time to make it real. Researchers, academics and those involved with ICT in universities have busy schedules and sometimes is difficult to find a space for new meetings and conferences, especially when there are time zone difference.

In order to make it easier, Colaboratorio presents an important new tool, called Foodle.

Foodle is a service provided by UNINETT that allows inviting people, via email, to answer about their date and time preferences for meetings. Simple to work with, the administrator of the meeting informs its title/theme, possible dates and hours, objectives and a number of possibilities to be voted by the guests, allowing them to get a consensus.

The system also allows assigning deadlines for responses, setting the location of the event, its time zone - in case of international meetings - and even the chance to give the participants the possibility of propose new dates. In practice, Foodle saves the time that would be spent on long discussions by email or message apps in the search for the best schedule.

All those who have an account at Colaboratorio and enjoy services such as Funds and Partners, VC Espresso and eNVIO, can get the benefits of Foodle. If you are not yet subscribed, create your account now at <http://colaboratorio.redclara.net/registro/?lang=es>



REUNA Seminar:

Collaborating to Advance

The "Research and Education in Network: Collaborating to Advance" seminar was held on October 12 and 13. The event was attended by distinguished Chilean and international exhibitors, as well as various actors from the fields of Science, Higher Education and University Management, in order to learn about new experiences and create an environment of cooperation and good relationships.

Carolina Muñoz, REUNA

The collaboration was the central axis of this event organized by REUNA. The presentations of experts and different interdisciplinary and interinstitutional projects gave rise to a fruitful discussion on the future of higher education and research, as well as laying the foundations for future working groups to create a strategic agenda for REUNA.

The inaugural session began with a presentation by the university reform specialist Jamil Salmi, who said that sees the heterogeneity between Chilean and Latin American universities as an opportunity. "Collaboration should not necessarily be between equals; The most important thing is that there is a desire to collaborate. We can talk about the divisions, about the fact that there is no talk between colleges, that there is little collaboration between Latin American countries, but we also have many good examples of collaboration. We need to remind ourselves that academics forget about institutional barriers and that within the disciplines there is a desire to work. We need to see opportunities and consolidate them."

During the afternoon the participants were able to get to know the experience of Jesús González Boticario, a Spanish specialist in the use of ICT for online education and director of aDeNu, a project specialized in the development of adaptive interfaces on the Internet, dependent on UNED.

The presentation of the Ambassador Gabriel Rodríguez, Director of Energy, Science, Technology and Innovation (DECYTI) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile, closed the first day of



Jamil Salmi

activities of the Seminar. In his presentation, Rodríguez addressed the challenge of the internationalization of Chilean universities. "Within the governments we have taught about competition, not about how to collaborate between universities; we have reinforced the competition as a form of selection. One of the topics with which we have to work with is astronomy, and within it we are interested in astroengineering, which concerns how the technologies of the astronomical projects can contribute to the development of the country. Moving forward in this field means bringing together engineering schools so they can participate in great astronomical projects. However, it is very difficult to create this collaboration and build what we call the "astro-engineering consortium", one that groups different universities (...) Is a responsibility of the



government to make Chile, through its research centers and universities, participate in the networks where innovation, science and technology are currently being developed. Today, we have the opportunity to make our universities part of these networks, and for that, human coordination, trust and technological capabilities are key."

World-class research

The second day of activities began with the presentation of Dave Lambert, president and CEO of Internet2, the US academic network, which highlighted the long history of cooperation between the US and Chile, and the opportunities this alliance offers to both countries. "We need to ensure that we are able to support our education and research communities, provide the necessary bandwidth, tools and contacts. And this is something that neither REUNA nor Internet2 can do alone, which implies the need for us to have a unique and special relationship. This afternoon we will renew our Memorandum of Understanding and do it in a much broader way than before. In addition to focusing on connectivity, we will also pay special attention to how we support our communities, how we collaborate and how we work to ensure our effort on a global scale."

Lambert's presentation was followed by Andrés Couve, Director of the Millennium Institute of Biomedical Neuroscience (BNI), who, with a motivating speech, captivated the audience and motivated them to have more confidence in the work done in Chile and in the idea that the country has the potential to become a reference, at Latin American and international levels. "What do we lack to be leaders in Science? Increase the critical mass, count on a technological base, continuity in the projects and generate confidence within our teams. All of this is undoubtedly important, but I believe we are mainly lacking of more confidence in ourselves. What Chile lacks is to think big and have the ambition to become a leader. "

It was up to José Palacios, president of the Board of REUNA, to make the



Dave Lambert



Andrés Couve





José Palacios

closing speech. Palacios extended the invitation to continue working together and thus move towards better science and education. "REUNA is an organization that has dedicated itself to do a collaborative, permanent and continuous work for 25 years. This event was made to think the REUNA we want for the future and in this sense everyone is invited to participate to build it. Our mission is to work for the good of the communities of education, science and technology, and thus contribute to the growth of the system in Chile and to the well-being of the whole society."

Cristian Bornhardt, Director of MacroFacultad Project - Engineering 2030; Enrique Sthandier, President of the UAI network, Cuech; Gerardo Retamal, Director of the Liceu Virtual, U. de Talca; Juan Soto, Executive Director of CIGIDEN; Marcela Angulo, Technological Capabilities Manager, Corfo; Juan Manuel Zolezzi, Rector of the University of Santiago de Chile;

and Lee Ullmann, Director of the Latin America Office - MIT Sloan, among others, also participated in the Seminar.

To see the videos, presentations and the photo gallery of the Seminar, visit <http://evento.reuna.cl>

Leonardo Rodríguez, new CEO of the Colombian NREN:

"RENATA is an organization that is called to grow"

Industrial Engineer specialized in Human Capacities and Master in Management of Organizations by the University of Quebec in Canada, Leonardo Alexander Rodríguez López was nominated as the new Executive Director of RENATA by the Board of Directors last October.

RENATA

Before coming to RENATA, the new manager of the Colombian advanced network built his career path in the public sector, where served as a deputy director of administration and human management at the Ministry of Information and Communications Technologies, head of the Office of Planning of Ombudsman, deputy director of Utilization of the Special Administrative Unit of Public Services, leader of the public service of Employment and Entrepreneurship in Bogota, among other positions. In recent years, Rodríguez combined the managerial exercise with the academic field, working as a university professor in undergraduate and postgraduate courses in institutions such as the Central University and the Free University, among others.

His nomination takes place right after the implementation of the new infrastructure of the National Research and Education Network of Colombia, to which López refers as "a reason of great pride and satisfaction". "Colombia has at its disposal one of the most robust advanced network technology infrastructures of the planet, technology through which institutions will enjoy the best connectivity to the public and academic Internet", he emphasizes. All this, however, should serve to an even greater purpose. For Rodríguez, RENATA is an organization that is called to grow and to make Colombia grow as well. "We want the network to be the strategic ally of the institutions of the National System of Science, Technology and Innovation (SNCTI), contributing to the improvement of their level of scientific productivity and enhancing the development of the country."

In addition to the significant changes in its technological infrastructure, RENATA also made changes within its Board of Directors. The deputy minister of Information Technologies, Dr. Daniel Quintero Calle, assumed the presidency of the Board of the corporation, which indicates the joint work with the

National Government through the Ministry of Information and Communications Technologies.

International Articulation

Another issue highlighted by the new director is the need to strength the collaborative work with the national networks and RedCLARA, with the goal of consolidating the national networks as strategic allies for research and education in the continent.

According to Rodríguez López, the short-term plans are to strengthen the articulation with the scientific communities of RedCLARA, to recover the position of RENATA within LA Referencia and to support the required actions so that those issues of the region that must be disseminated gain more visibility in each country.

"With regard to infrastructure issues, we are very interested in reviewing the use levels of the international academic network and to evaluate the performance of our infrastructure in comparison to the countries of the region and the world. We are also very interested in starting to work on the connection of schools in our country and then assess the performance of our region in this area. How is RedCLARA working on this? What experiences exist in the NRENs that are part of the regional network?", expresses Rodríguez. "We are currently in contact with RedCLARA and CEDIA boards, and we hope to meet promptly with the directors of REUNA, RNP, InnovaRed, CUDI and other networks in the region."

AGENDA 2017

January

12 | ISOC New Year Bash
Amsterdam, Netherlands
<https://newyear.isoc.nl/>

30 - 2 | Workshop on Cloud Services for Synchronisation
and Sharing (CS3)
Amsterdam, Netherlands
<https://cs3.surfsara.nl/>

February

4-5 | FOSDEM'17
Brussels, Belgium
<https://fosdem.org/2017/>

12-17 | 43rd APAN Meeting
New Delhi, India
<https://apan.net/allmeetings>

15-16 | CREMLIN: "Connecting Russian and European
Measures for Large-scale Research Infrastructures".
Moscow, Russia
<https://www.cremlin.eu/>

20-22 | eResearch NZ 2017
Queenstown, New Zealand
<http://www.eresearchnzconference.org.nz/>

21-3mar | APRICOT 2017
Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam
<https://2017.apricot.net/>

March

16-17 | WACREN 2017
Abidjan, Ivory Coast
<http://wacren.net/>

21-22 | Open Science Conference 2017
Berlin, Germany
<http://www.open-science-conference.eu/>

22-23 | Peering Days 2017
Ljubljana, Eslovenia
<http://www.peeringdays.eu/>



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