

ITLA'S YEARLY REPORT  
2006 • 2007



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## INTRODUCTION

The Instituto Tecnológico del Las Americas (Las Americas Institute of Technology – ITLA), aware of the need of continuing to strengthen itself as a leading institution in higher education in the field of high technology, has united its efforts in the last semester of the year 2005 and the first semester of 2006, in carrying out an internal analysis and an analysis of the environment, of its strategic axes in order to adapt the objectives for the future and the great circles that bring together all the relevant and significant activities aimed at the achievement of our mission.

Our mission is to remain in a state of continuous improvement, seeking quality, implementing the latest technologies of information and communication applied to education, and to be always linked with the social and institutional environment. Therefore, we allow our entire task to repose on technologies, on systems of information and communication, positively impacting the integral formation of our professionals for a better economic, social, social, scientific, human, and cultural development, with a view to the continued development of society, and in order to thus contribute to reducing the digital breach in our country.

We work as catalysts, the point of convergence in the world of technology: technological enterprises, government, and institutions of higher education, with the fundamental purpose of educating the new generations so they can compete and propitiate the use of technology of information and education, as well as attracting foreign investments. The result of this is an important improvement in the quality of living of all Dominicans, and, therefore, a rapid and adequate insertion of our country in the new social, economic, and political model which dominates the modern world.

- We are an institution where thoughts multiply themselves to such a point that there as many ways of thinking as there are human beings on the planet. It is because of this that we support actively all the initiatives that proceed from the State, meant to be conducive to a democratic and fair development in the Dominican Republic, and in the civil society (toward which ITLA has a duty, and of which it forms a part).

The ITLA believes in the use of technology of information and of communication as a tool for training persons in those fields that society needs more every day. It also understands that technology should be used as a tool to support the teaching-learning process, allowing the innovation and creation of knowledge with high levels of interactivity.

On the other hand, we understand that it is our responsibility to provide access to information and to the communication of new knowledge from other latitudes, when we act interconnected with other similar institutions. Thus is developed a culture towards the use of technology as a means for the student to act according to the needs the country may have in the domain of science and technology, and thus be able to project the institution to an international level.

It is because of all this that this Yearly Report ITLA 2005-2006 reflects the effort and the vision to continue being a Dominican institution that is a leader in higher education, which provides the best innovations in the field of high technology, with ample prestige and accreditation at a national and international level, and which offers our students a formation with the highest academic standards.



## WORDS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To the reader:

This year, ITLA is six year old. On August 13<sup>th</sup> of 2000, President Leonel Fernández Reyna formally inaugurated this Institute, and opened the way to a new era of technology for information and communications in the Dominican Republic.

During this last period 2005-2006, we have made great achievements. Among those that stand out the most are: The recognition by the CONESCYT as a Technical Institution of Higher Learning, and the receipt of certification ISO 9001-2000, which accredits us as a world-class institution.

We are two years into the current government administration, prepared to develop the kind of technicians in quantity and quality of professionals that the Dominican Republic needs in order to become a real technological "hub" for the region. It is our aim to take all Dominicans out of underdevelopment through high-tech education and the consequent attraction of foreign investments and the development of technological products and services.

This is what it is about, guaranteeing a sustainable human development; using the same as a catalyst, technical education in high technology and the creation of jobs and high-value enterprises besides.

We are moved by the dream of a better future; it is our passion and our motivation. On the future horizon, we contemplate a totally transformed nation, proud of being Dominican, happy because of the triumphs won and to be attained. We contemplate a nation of modern people, intelligent and capable of competing in the world of the XXI Century.

May God bless everyone,

**José Armando Tavárez R.**



## 1. PRESIDENT FERNANDEZ'S VISIT TO ITLA.

Within the framework of re-launching the Cybernetic Park of Santo Domingo, His Excellency Dr. Leonel Fernández Reyna took the opportunity and visited the Center of Excellence in Mecatronics, where he was amazed at the work the institution has been carrying out.

His Excellency the President visited the installations and made a tour of the Mecatronics laboratories, where he was able to appreciate the technological innovations that are being carried out at the educational institution.

The Chief Executive of the country was accompanied by the Secretary of State, and President of the Cybernetic Park of Santo Domingo, Lic. Eddy Martínez; by Dr. Harold L. Raveché, President of the Stevens Institute of Technology of the Americas; by Ing. José Armando Tavarez, Executive Director of the ITLA; Engineer Domingo Tavárez, President of the President's Office for Technology of Information and Communications (OPTIC); by the Ambassador of Taiwan in this country, His Excellency Chi-tai John Feng, and by Engineer Alvin Peralta, who is in charge of the Mecatronics Center, and who explained what the novel Mecatronics laboratories, donated by the Government of Taiwan, consisted of.

During his tour, the President shared impressions with teachers and students, and was highly impressed by the explanations he received from the Dominican professors who were trained in Taiwan in the field of Mecatronics.

"This was what I always dreamt of; I am full of satisfaction on observing these young people who are being trained here. The enthusiasm can be felt, it is real. More must be said about the ITLA, and show those businessmen and women and the population that this institution is educating dozens of young people", said President Leonel Fernández Reyna.



## 2. ITLA TOWARDS PERFECTION

### 2.1 Certification ISO 9001-2000

We at ITLA are committed to satisfying the needs and expectations of our users. Through the continued improvement of our educational processes and solutions of high technology, we began in September of 2005 with all the process and training needed to obtain certification ISO 9000-2001.

The importance of this certification is to consolidate an institutional culture, committed to the permanent search of the better practices for the satisfaction of our users and thus come to be an exemplary model among the governmental and educational institutions.

This is why a team was created to implement the quality management system. This team was made up of: Ing. Arismendy Espinal, Vladimir Columna, Nehemias Felix, Alvin Peralta, Hoyma Mazara, Tailor de la Rosa, Raydelto Hernández, Jianna Báez, Margarita Brache, Princesa Santana, Yesenia Rosado, Carlos Troncoso, Jimmy Rosario y Bilis Vargas. As external advisors, we had the VLM Consulting Company, and relied on the support of Mrs. Laura Viñas and Mrs. Liliana Maria.

These processes, which led to the certification, were, among others, different trainings to the employees of the institution regarding norm ISO9000, and the following courses were implemented: **Standards of Quality, Quality Control and the Interpretation of norm ISO9001:2000.** These training courses were taught by national and international experts, who, on different formation days, completed a program that had been structured to measure, and transmitted the basic ideas the quality of service, quality control, and norm ISO9001:2000.

With this, we managed to introduce to the personnel of the institution the fundamental concepts regarding quality and of the advantages a Quality Management system can bring the institution.

In order to obtain the implementation of the Quality Management System at the ITLA, different activities were carried out, each one of them linked and related to our final objective, having a Quality Management System based on norm ISO 9001:2000. Among the most outstanding, we can point out the creation of the policy of quality at the Institution; Definition of the Objectives of the Quality, Revision of the Staffing Pattern, Determination of Resources, Determination of the action plan for the design of the system, workshop about ISO900 documentation, Development of the documentation for the quality management system, Internal Auditor Course ISO 9001:2000, department meetings, general meetings to make known the new procedures.

From June 12<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>, the first audit to the quality management system of the Institution was carried out. This was performed by nine auditors who had been formed there for those ends.

Each area was audited, and the results were likewise presented to the Administrative Staff at a later meeting at the end of the audit. At a meeting presided over by Ing. José Armando Tavarez, with the participation of the sub-directors, managers, and department heads, under the coordination of the manager for insuring quality, Ing. Arismendy Espinal, the Quality Management System was reviewed, to make sure of its convenience, adequacy, and continuous efficacy, in compliance with the requirements of Norm ISO9001:2000, Policy of Quality and the Objectives of the Quality.

From July 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup>, the audit for the certification of our systems was carried out. This audit was performed by Mrs. Maria Nankova, a technician of the European company AENOR International, which enjoys world-wide prestige.

All the processes that make up our system of administration were audited, the way it was implemented, and the degree of identification of the personnel with the policy and objectives of quality.

The institution was congratulated by the technicians, as they found a much-strengthened system with an extraordinary dynamics of improvement, accrediting the same as an enterprise registered ISO9001:2000.



## 3. INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

### 3.1 Recognition by the Consejo Nacional de Educación Superior Ciencia y Tecnología (National Council for Higher Education, Science, and Technology) as an Institution of Higher Education.

Economic success and technological advances, as well as democracy itself, need a population that is trained, educated, and capable of inserting itself in a changing society. The formation at a higher level and the high training in the efficient and adequate use of the technologies of information and communication are important for the governments and peoples to achieve their national objectives.

These affirmations bear witness to the need our country has of relying on institutions like the Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas (ITLA) that, without a doubt, is a leading institution in technological advances, as much because of its equipment as because of its personnel, which is highly committed to the philosophy of quality and to the application of high technology which characterizes us. In only five years, the ITLA constitutes a fundamental institute in the efforts and the vision to put the Dominican Republic in a condition to insert itself successfully into the society of information and of knowledge, and to overcome the digital breach in our country. The ITLA has offered excellent training opportunities in the scope of technology to the public school teachers and to thousands of young people, and has paid special attention to the young people from the vicinity of the Institute, some of whom are now an integral part of the personnel of this institution.

Upon the basis of these strengths of the ITLA, of the imperious need of forming professionals in the scope of high technology and of the great opportunities we have as a nation to develop ourselves in new fields of economic production with a technological orientation, upon formulating the strategic plan 2006-2010, we replant the mission to transform ourselves, as established in Law 139-01 which governs Dominican higher education, a technical institution of higher education, specialized in technical and professional bilingual formation, in the areas or high technology. The national needs, the manifest and latent requirements of formation in high technology, united to the strengths the ITLA has achieved in these five years of existence constitute elements that justify the transformation of the Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas into a technical institution of higher learning.

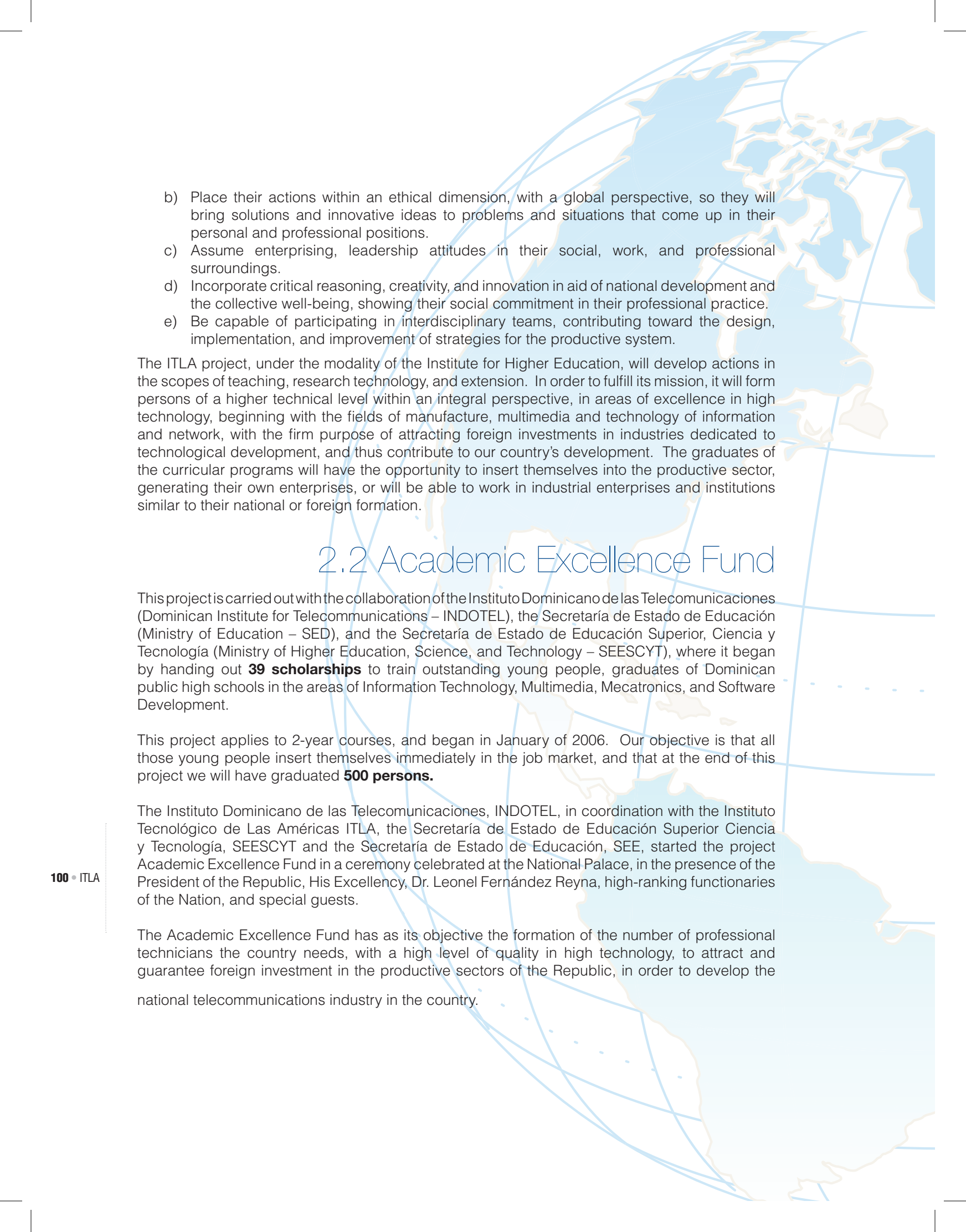
This is why, **July 18<sup>th</sup> of the year 2006**, the project that had been presented before the Secretaría de Estado de Educación Superior, Ciencia y Tecnología (Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Technology – SEESCYT) was evaluated by the Consejo Nacional de Educación Superior Ciencia, y Tecnología (National Council for Higher Education Science, and Technology -- CONES-CYT), on two occasions, January of 2006 and March 2006, to transform the ITLA into an institution of higher education.

With this national recognition, we strive to attain the objective of graduating young people with a degree as a Technologist in each of the innovative areas of technological specialization of the ITLA, that is to say:

- Technologist in Automatized Manufacturing
- Technologist in Multimedia
- Technologist in Information Networks

The institution aspires that its graduates be capable of:

- a) Having solid technical knowledge, abilities, and capacities that will allow them to know how to act and value themselves positively as professionals.

- 
- b) Place their actions within an ethical dimension, with a global perspective, so they will bring solutions and innovative ideas to problems and situations that come up in their personal and professional positions.
  - c) Assume enterprising, leadership attitudes in their social, work, and professional surroundings.
  - d) Incorporate critical reasoning, creativity, and innovation in aid of national development and the collective well-being, showing their social commitment in their professional practice.
  - e) Be capable of participating in interdisciplinary teams, contributing toward the design, implementation, and improvement of strategies for the productive system.

The ITLA project, under the modality of the Institute for Higher Education, will develop actions in the scopes of teaching, research technology, and extension. In order to fulfill its mission, it will form persons of a higher technical level within an integral perspective, in areas of excellence in high technology, beginning with the fields of manufacture, multimedia and technology of information and network, with the firm purpose of attracting foreign investments in industries dedicated to technological development, and thus contribute to our country's development. The graduates of the curricular programs will have the opportunity to insert themselves into the productive sector, generating their own enterprises, or will be able to work in industrial enterprises and institutions similar to their national or foreign formation.

## 2.2 Academic Excellence Fund

This project is carried out with the collaboration of the Instituto Dominicano de las Telecomunicaciones (Dominican Institute for Telecommunications – INDOTEL), the Secretaría de Estado de Educación (Ministry of Education – SED), and the Secretaría de Estado de Educación Superior, Ciencia y Tecnología (Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Technology – SEESCYT), where it began by handing out **39 scholarships** to train outstanding young people, graduates of Dominican public high schools in the areas of Information Technology, Multimedia, Mecatronics, and Software Development.

This project applies to 2-year courses, and began in January of 2006. Our objective is that all those young people insert themselves immediately in the job market, and that at the end of this project we will have graduated **500 persons**.

The Instituto Dominicano de las Telecomunicaciones, INDOTEL, in coordination with the Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas ITLA, the Secretaría de Estado de Educación Superior Ciencia y Tecnología, SEESCYT and the Secretaría de Estado de Educación, SEE, started the project Academic Excellence Fund in a ceremony celebrated at the National Palace, in the presence of the President of the Republic, His Excellency, Dr. Leonel Fernández Reyna, high-ranking functionaries of the Nation, and special guests.

The Academic Excellence Fund has as its objective the formation of the number of professional technicians the country needs, with a high level of quality in high technology, to attract and guarantee foreign investment in the productive sectors of the Republic, in order to develop the national telecommunications industry in the country.





### 3. CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE, Information Technology

The Center of Excellence in Information Technology has included 3 new international certifications, **Linux Professional Institute (LPI)**, Cisco Certified Design Associate (CCDA), and Quality of Service (QoS), thus turning the ITLA into the first academy in the Caribbean area to offer these valuable certifications.

The certification **Linux Professional Institute (LPI)** offers services to the community of users, providers, and developers of Linux and Open Source software, in order to increase and support the professional use of said software throughout the world. LPI seeks to improve the abilities and resources of Linux and Open Source, providing services and establishing standards that are relevant, of high quality, and highly accessible.

**Cisco Certified Design Associate (CCDA)** accredits a person's aptitudes to carry out work at the basic level in the design of a network. The candidates who pass the exams will receive the **CCDA** certification issued by Cisco and can use the designation **CCDA** on their business cards. In general, the Cisco certification accredits personal knowledge, thus increasing the professional credibility of the bearer, and guaranteeing a high level of technical knowledge. Concretely, the **CCDA** certificate indicates knowledge of network design for the **SOHO** market and medium-sized organizations, with **LAN** networks, **WAN** routed networks, and **LAN** commuted, which have fewer than 500 nodes.

**Quality of Service (QoS)** describes the two conceptual models (Integrated Services and Differentiated Services), basic technologies, classification and marking, queue mechanisms, molding traffic and policy, avoiding congestion and linking efficiency. This certification is meant for pre- and post-sales engineer technicians who are responsible for the design, implementation, and/or solving QoS problems in a network. It is also for those persons who are working on the CCIP certification (Cisco Certified Internetwork Professional).

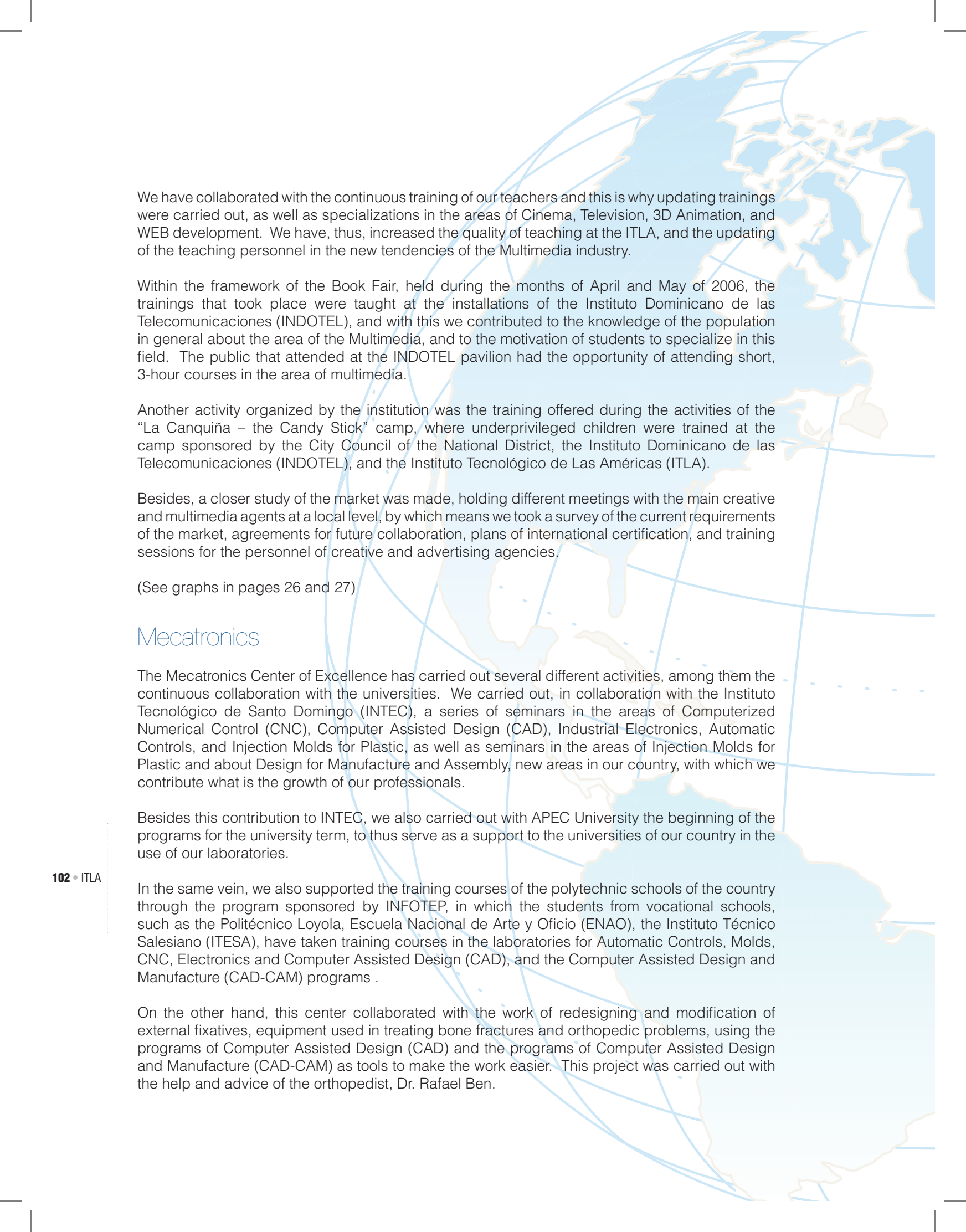
(See graphs in page 24 and 25)

#### Multimedia

The Multimedia Center of Excellence, strengthening its area, began to update its Software by buying the most modern packages of Adobe and Macromedia on the market. Thus, the Multimedia center updates itself and brings its level up to the requirements of the market and of technology at the level of multimedia software worldwide.

Besides, in the multimedia area, the Audio studio was reconditioned; this consisted of remodeling and reconditioning this studio and its recording cabin, which allowed a much better use of space and acoustics.

New academic programs began, such as: Graphic Design, WEB Design, Audio Digital, Video Digital, and 3D Animation. The new offer is at the level of courses, diploma courses, specialties, and 1 and 2-year programs.



We have collaborated with the continuous training of our teachers and this is why updating trainings were carried out, as well as specializations in the areas of Cinema, Television, 3D Animation, and WEB development. We have, thus, increased the quality of teaching at the ITLA, and the updating of the teaching personnel in the new tendencies of the Multimedia industry.

Within the framework of the Book Fair, held during the months of April and May of 2006, the trainings that took place were taught at the installations of the Instituto Dominicano de las Telecomunicaciones (INDOTEL), and with this we contributed to the knowledge of the population in general about the area of the Multimedia, and to the motivation of students to specialize in this field. The public that attended at the INDOTEL pavilion had the opportunity of attending short, 3-hour courses in the area of multimedia.

Another activity organized by the institution was the training offered during the activities of the “La Canquiña – the Candy Stick” camp, where underprivileged children were trained at the camp sponsored by the City Council of the National District, the Instituto Dominicano de las Telecomunicaciones (INDOTEL), and the Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas (ITLA).

Besides, a closer study of the market was made, holding different meetings with the main creative and multimedia agents at a local level, by which means we took a survey of the current requirements of the market, agreements for future collaboration, plans of international certification, and training sessions for the personnel of creative and advertising agencies.

(See graphs in pages 26 and 27)

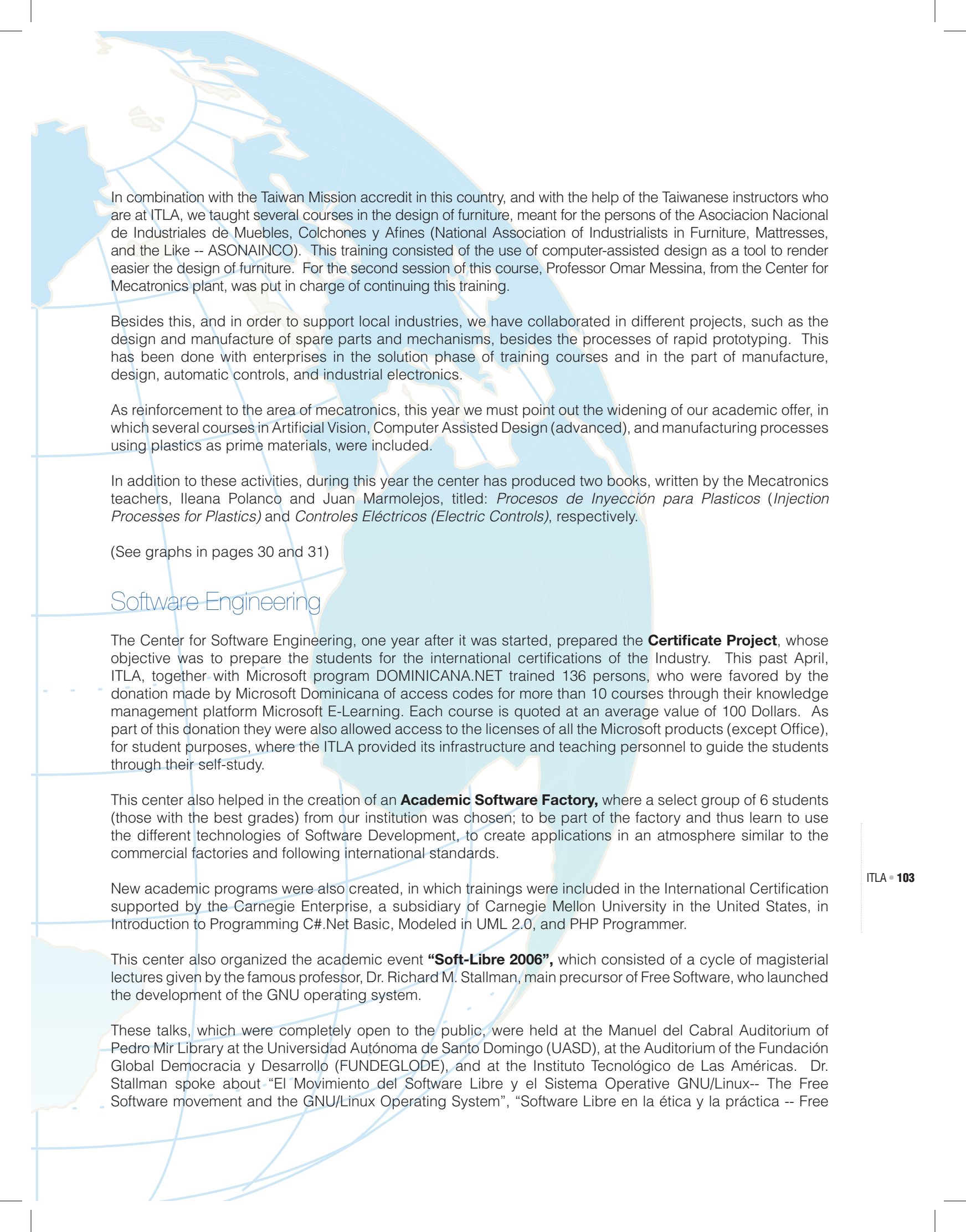
## Mecatronics

The Mecatronics Center of Excellence has carried out several different activities, among them the continuous collaboration with the universities. We carried out, in collaboration with the Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC), a series of seminars in the areas of Computerized Numerical Control (CNC), Computer Assisted Design (CAD), Industrial Electronics, Automatic Controls, and Injection Molds for Plastic, as well as seminars in the areas of Injection Molds for Plastic and about Design for Manufacture and Assembly, new areas in our country, with which we contribute what is the growth of our professionals.

Besides this contribution to INTEC, we also carried out with APEC University the beginning of the programs for the university term, to thus serve as a support to the universities of our country in the use of our laboratories.

In the same vein, we also supported the training courses of the polytechnic schools of the country through the program sponsored by INFOTEP, in which the students from vocational schools, such as the Politécnico Loyola, Escuela Nacional de Arte y Oficio (ENAO), the Instituto Técnico Salesiano (ITESA), have taken training courses in the laboratories for Automatic Controls, Molds, CNC, Electronics and Computer Assisted Design (CAD), and the Computer Assisted Design and Manufacture (CAD-CAM) programs .

On the other hand, this center collaborated with the work of redesigning and modification of external fixatives, equipment used in treating bone fractures and orthopedic problems, using the programs of Computer Assisted Design (CAD) and the programs of Computer Assisted Design and Manufacture (CAD-CAM) as tools to make the work easier. This project was carried out with the help and advice of the orthopedist, Dr. Rafael Ben.



In combination with the Taiwan Mission accredited in this country, and with the help of the Taiwanese instructors who are at ITLA, we taught several courses in the design of furniture, meant for the persons of the Asociación Nacional de Industriales de Muebles, Colchones y Afines (National Association of Industrialists in Furniture, Mattresses, and the Like -- ASONAINCO). This training consisted of the use of computer-assisted design as a tool to render easier the design of furniture. For the second session of this course, Professor Omar Messina, from the Center for Mecatronics plant, was put in charge of continuing this training.

Besides this, and in order to support local industries, we have collaborated in different projects, such as the design and manufacture of spare parts and mechanisms, besides the processes of rapid prototyping. This has been done with enterprises in the solution phase of training courses and in the part of manufacture, design, automatic controls, and industrial electronics.

As reinforcement to the area of mecatronics, this year we must point out the widening of our academic offer, in which several courses in Artificial Vision, Computer Assisted Design (advanced), and manufacturing processes using plastics as prime materials, were included.

In addition to these activities, during this year the center has produced two books, written by the Mecatronics teachers, Ileana Polanco and Juan Marmolejos, titled: *Procesos de Inyección para Plásticos (Injection Processes for Plastics)* and *Controles Eléctricos (Electric Controls)*, respectively.

(See graphs in pages 30 and 31)

## Software Engineering


The Center for Software Engineering, one year after it was started, prepared the **Certificate Project**, whose objective was to prepare the students for the international certifications of the Industry. This past April, ITLA, together with Microsoft program DOMINICANA.NET trained 136 persons, who were favored by the donation made by Microsoft Dominicana of access codes for more than 10 courses through their knowledge management platform Microsoft E-Learning. Each course is quoted at an average value of 100 Dollars. As part of this donation they were also allowed access to the licenses of all the Microsoft products (except Office), for student purposes, where the ITLA provided its infrastructure and teaching personnel to guide the students through their self-study.

This center also helped in the creation of an **Academic Software Factory**, where a select group of 6 students (those with the best grades) from our institution was chosen; to be part of the factory and thus learn to use the different technologies of Software Development, to create applications in an atmosphere similar to the commercial factories and following international standards.

New academic programs were also created, in which trainings were included in the International Certification supported by the Carnegie Enterprise, a subsidiary of Carnegie Mellon University in the United States, in Introduction to Programming C#.Net Basic, Modeled in UML 2.0, and PHP Programmer.

This center also organized the academic event **"Soft-Libre 2006"**, which consisted of a cycle of magisterial lectures given by the famous professor, Dr. Richard M. Stallman, main precursor of Free Software, who launched the development of the GNU operating system.

These talks, which were completely open to the public, were held at the Manuel del Cabral Auditorium of Pedro Mir Library at the Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD), at the Auditorium of the Fundación Global Democracia y Desarrollo (FUNDEGLODE), and at the Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas. Dr. Stallman spoke about "El Movimiento del Software Libre y el Sistema Operativo GNU/Linux-- The Free Software movement and the GNU/Linux Operating System", "Software Libre en la ética y la práctica -- Free



Software in ethics and practice”, and “Derecho de Copia vs. Comunidad en la era de las redes de computadoras -- Right to Copy vs. Community in the era of computer networks”.

(See Graphs in page 34)

## ITLA Language School

The ITLA LANGUAGE SCHOOL, which has been operating for barely one year, was born of the desire to be able to endow the student with a certain knowledge that would allow them to rise to the most competitive levels of English nationally and internationally.

The first English classes, where it began with barely two sessions, which represented some 31 students, who found themselves at a beginners' level, already in June of 2006 the first group of 11 of them, of the super intensive offer, concluded the whole method and are now capable of having a conversation in fluent English.

Besides the regular offer, the ITLA LANGUAGE SCHOOL has carried out a series of activities and support activities. Among them, we can mention that we form part of the evaluating team at the Employment Fair of the Cybernetic Park, where 3,000 persons per month are evaluated to find out their level of English. This fair was held with the intention of hiring 2,000 persons who had a good knowledge of English and of computers.

As part of the “Scholarships to Excellence”, the training of students began; the goal of this program is to finish their 2 years of studies being bilingual in English and Spanish.

Following with the academic programs, an initiative was supported that will take place during 2 years, and has as its objectives to provide English classes to 30 professionals who belong to the Colegio Dominicano de Periodistas. Our goal is that at the end of this project these journalists will have reached an intermediate level of English.

We are collaborating with the Casa de Convivencia María de la Altagracia, with the training of 17 missionaries of that institution, so that they manage to become fluid in English and it will benefit them their missions in other countries.

(See Graphs in page 36)

## Special Academic Programs

In July of 2005, we began training 29 Missionaries from the Casa Arquidiocesana (House of the Archdiocese), in Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS), in the Microsoft Office suite.

In August of 2005, 28 doctors were trained in the Health Professional Online program, in which doctors and nurses are trained in the use of Office and the Internet as sources for updating information.

Besides, 100 administrative employees from the Oficina Nacional de Estadística were trained in the Microsoft Office suite.

In the month of May of 2006, 64 Volunteers from the Alianza ONG were trained in the Microsoft Office suite. On the other hand, this same month 16 outstanding young people from the Boca Chica community were trained in the management of Windows and the use of the Internet.



In June of 2006, 67 persons from the Autoridad Portuaria Dominicana (Dominican Port Authority) and 117 members of the syndicate SITRAIB were trained in the Microsoft Office suite.

Within the framework of the Book Fair, held in Santo Domingo during the months of April and May of 2006, a Center for Computer Training was set up inside the INDOTEL stand, and there, 76 3-hour courses were taught, so in the end we managed to train a total of 2,231 persons.

The ITLA, together with the Instituto Dominicano de las Telecomunicaciones (Dominican Institute for Telecommunications -- INDOTEL) and the Fundación Azuana Pro-Desarrollo carried out the project Domingo Digital (Digital Sunday), which trained 171 persons in the tools of Windows and the Internet, over several consecutive Sundays.

(See Graphs in page 37)

## 4 Continuous Development of our Infrastructure

### Creation Of The Teachers' Room

A special space for our teachers was created, so that they can carry out activities during their free time, such as meetings, exam correction, checking e-mails, among others. We placed the Teachers' Room on the second level of Building I, where they have all kinds of commodities, such as a conference table, a sitting room, ten individual cubicles with Internet access, and a small kitchen.


### Inauguration of the Virtual Library

This year we finished the Virtual Library project, offering a more complete and comfortable service to the students of our Institution and to the Boca Chica community, where they have the opportunity of obtaining information related to any subject virtually, thanks to the Internet.

In this new space, we have placed ten computers, where the students can access a database that meets international standards, a consultation room, a multimedia room where they can also carry out practices in sound, design, and the creation of pages, among other things. They also have at their disposal a waiting room with two computers that store the online catalogs, and we have added a stand with the volumes of the careers taught at the ITLA, and up-to-date magazines and periodicals.

### Remodeling of the ITLA Apartments

We completed the full remodeling of the twelve (12) apartments of the Institution, where, besides furnishing them completely with household appliances, accessories, etc, the two buildings were painted inside and out. Besides this, water deposits were bought, a cistern was built, and a butler's area; an inverter was installed for electricity, and the permanent maid's service was included, to give better service. One of the apartments was prepared as an Executive Apartment, and it has air conditioning.



The area outside the residence was done over, creating a recreation area with tables and chairs, and a basketball and volleyball court was built, for the recreation of the employees and students of our residences.

### Increase in the fleet of buses for the improvement of transportation for students and employees

3 more buses were included in our transportation fleet, so we count on a total of 7, which allows us to transport a total of 170 students per session, more comfortably, and facilitating the transfer of our students to the ITLA installations and their return to the city.

### Re-inauguration of the Department of Registration and Admissions

In order to offer better service to our students, we proceeded to remodel the area of registrations and admissions, so as to be able to offer better service. This remodeling consisted of a better distribution of the physical space, the purchase of new furniture and of new informatics equipment. Besides, new software was installed, which allows the department more agility and speed in the registration process.

### Remodeling of the ITLA Gardens

Contributing to the beauty of our image, we proceeded to remodel the gardens behind the institution, which give access to the parking area, putting in hundreds of decorative plants.

### Acquisition of Computers for more Educational and Work Efficiency

We acquired 25 modern computers, DELL brand Pentium 4, to be put in operation in our modern Software Laboratory and Virtual Library.

### Reconstruction of ITLA's Main Parking Lot

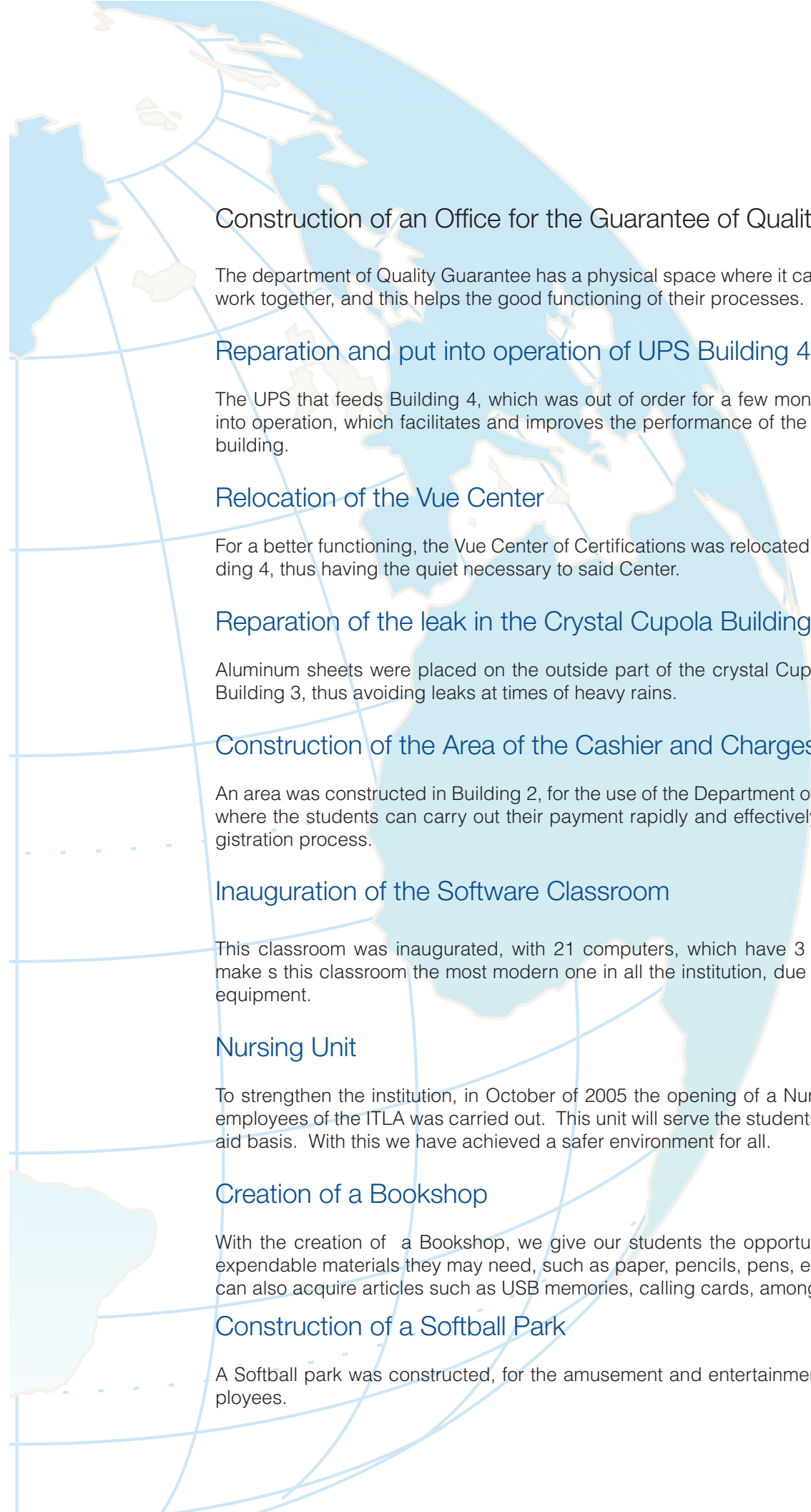
The reconstruction of our main parking lot allows sixty (60) vehicles to be parked with security and surveillance.

### Creation of the Copy Center

A modern copy center was created, where the students and personnel of the institution can have copies made when necessary; this contributes to accelerating the registration process.

### Installation of equipment and furniture at the Call Center

We concluded by installing a modern telephone Switchboard for the teaching of the Call Center, as well as the placement of modules with a capacity for fifteen (15) students, all of them equipped with telephone, for carrying out the trainings.



## Construction of an Office for the Guarantee of Quality

The department of Quality Guarantee has a physical space where it can carry out its projects and work together, and this helps the good functioning of their processes.

## Repairation and put into operation of UPS Building 4

The UPS that feeds Building 4, which was out of order for a few months, was repaired and put into operation, which facilitates and improves the performance of the personnel that work in this building.

## Relocation of the Vue Center

For a better functioning, the Vue Center of Certifications was relocated to the second level of Building 4, thus having the quiet necessary to said Center.

## Repairation of the leak in the Crystal Cupola Building 3

Aluminum sheets were placed on the outside part of the crystal Cupola in the south hallway of Building 3, thus avoiding leaks at times of heavy rains.

## Construction of the Area of the Cashier and Charges

An area was constructed in Building 2, for the use of the Department of the Cashier and Charges, where the students can carry out their payment rapidly and effectively, thus completing their registration process.

## Inauguration of the Software Classroom

This classroom was inaugurated, with 21 computers, which have 3 Ghz and 1GB ram, which make s this classroom the most modern one in all the institution, due to the sophistication of the equipment.

## Nursing Unit

To strengthen the institution, in October of 2005 the opening of a Nursing Unit for students and employees of the ITLA was carried out. This unit will serve the students and employees on a first-aid basis. With this we have achieved a safer environment for all.

## Creation of a Bookshop

With the creation of a Bookshop, we give our students the opportunity to acquire all kinds of expendable materials they may need, such as paper, pencils, pens, erasers, among others; they can also acquire articles such as USB memories, calling cards, among others.

## Construction of a Softball Park

A Softball park was constructed, for the amusement and entertainment of our students and employees.

## Reduction of the date of the Statements of Accounts from 10 days to 6 days

In order to achieve this milestone, the revisions and entries of the transactions in general began to be carried out on a daily basis; the working hours were increased (the last Saturday before the cut-off date is a working day). The accumulations to be paid are estimated and adjusted the next period. The Statements of Account, which were formerly done in Excel, were made automatic. Currently, the accounts are linked with an Excel macro, and all changes carried out are automatically updated, thus reducing the risk of making mistakes.

## Automatization of the Auxiliary of Fixed Assets

The control of the fixed assets was made efficient, when its management passed from an auxiliary of fixed assets in Excel to an automatic one in our new accounting system Exactus. The function of the fixed assets was reorganized, implementing a new policy and procedures for its effective operation.

## 6. ITLA Growing

During the month of February, the program Creciendo was formally launched. This project aspires to implement at the ITLA a program of continuous growth and improvement in all its employees, through a constant follow-up to their academic preparation and incentive in it. With this plan, the institution seeks to have a well-formed and trained staff.

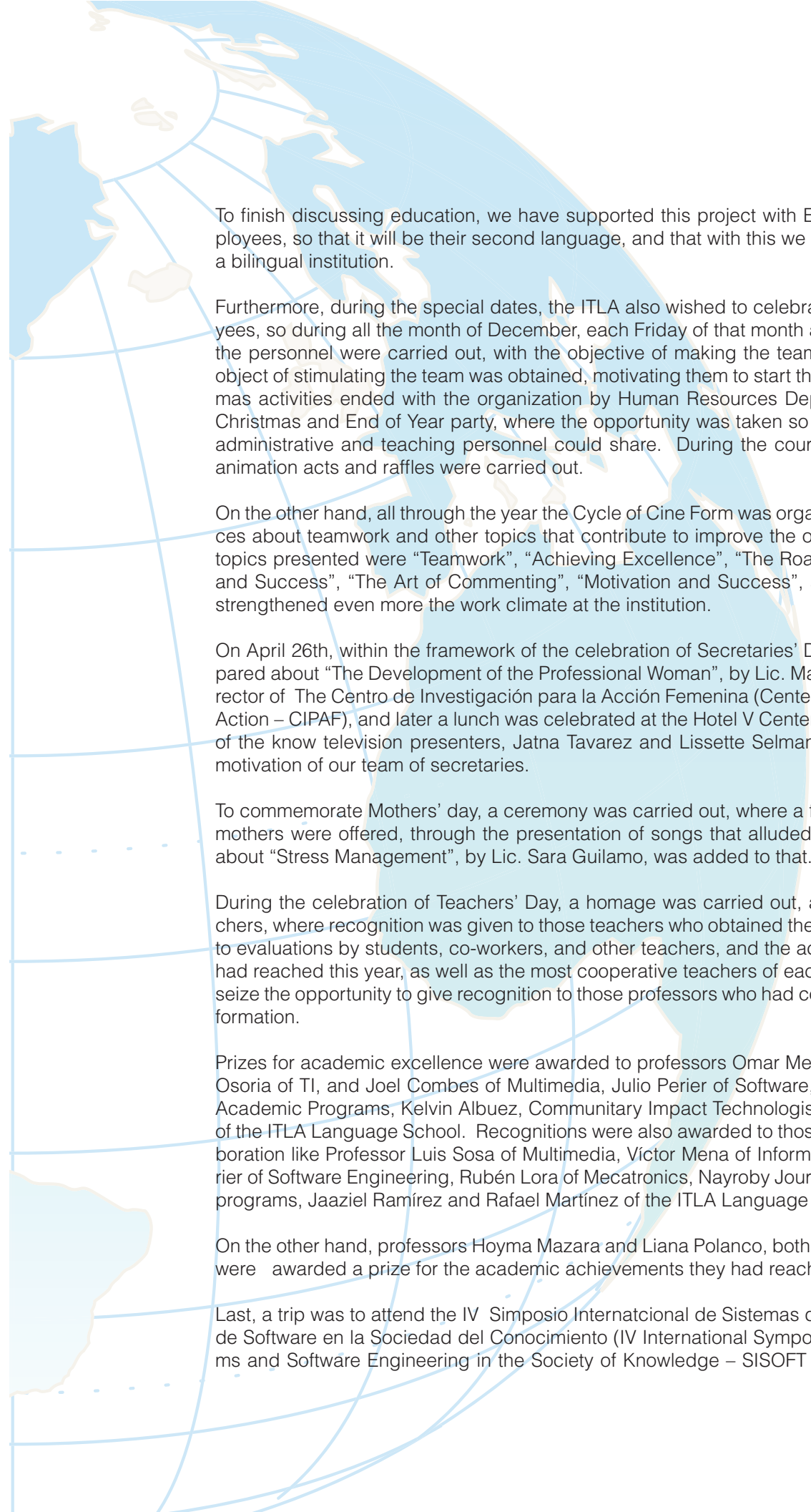
The objectives we have set ourselves through this program are the following:

- To obtain a vision as an enterprise of constant learning at all levels at the ITLA;
- To support our employees in achieving a university degree, for those who may not have completed it;
- To learn English as a second language;
- To complete the formation each position requires;

As part of these objectives, different activities have been carried out, such as the forums entitled "Organization that Learns", and it is because of this that the talks "The World is Flat" and "Nutrition" were carried out. The idea of those forums is to develop presentations by the employees, which allows us to remain updated in different topics of interest.

Besides this, a great support has been created for our personnel, who still do not have professional studies, to obtain their degrees, and it is because of this that ITLA has subsidized registration for those who have maintained an excellent student performance. We have collaborated also in the formation of each position, and with those employees who have wanted to take specific courses, or continue with their specializations, and these training courses have been carried out by several of our online employees and managers in different topic such as: High Technology Felony; Specialty in Project Administration; Administration of Salaries and Benefits; Internal Auditing; Coaching for Supervisors and Sales Managers; Cooperative Administration for Assistants and Administrative Secretaries; Introduction to Production of Movies and TV, Seminar on the Implementation of Strategies in Warehouse Management and Master's in Industrial Design.





To finish discussing education, we have supported this project with English classes for our employees, so that it will be their second language, and that with this we may thus turn the ITLA into a bilingual institution.

Furthermore, during the special dates, the ITLA also wished to celebrate together with its employees, so during all the month of December, each Friday of that month activities of integration with the personnel were carried out, with the objective of making the team feel good. This way, the object of stimulating the team was obtained, motivating them to start the year 2006. These Christmas activities ended with the organization by Human Resources Department, of the traditional Christmas and End of Year party, where the opportunity was taken so the whole ITLA team, both administrative and teaching personnel could share. During the course of this activity, different animation acts and raffles were carried out.

On the other hand, all through the year the Cycle of Cine Form was organized, as well as conferences about teamwork and other topics that contribute to improve the organizational climate. The topics presented were "Teamwork", "Achieving Excellence", "The Road to Success", "Motivation and Success", "The Art of Commenting", "Motivation and Success", among others. This forum strengthened even more the work climate at the institution.

On April 26th, within the framework of the celebration of Secretaries' Day, a conference was prepared about "The Development of the Professional Woman", by Lic. Magaly Pineda, Executive Director of The Centro de Investigación para la Acción Femenina (Center for Research for Feminine Action – CIPAF), and later a lunch was celebrated at the Hotel V Centenario, with the participation of the know television presenters, Jatna Tarez and Lisette Selman, who had a few words of motivation of our team of secretaries.


To commemorate Mothers' day, a ceremony was carried out, where a few words of recognition to mothers were offered, through the presentation of songs that alluded to the day. A conference about "Stress Management", by Lic. Sara Guilamo, was added to that.

During the celebration of Teachers' Day, a homage was carried out, and a lunch for all the teachers, where recognition was given to those teachers who obtained the highest scores, according to evaluations by students, co-workers, and other teachers, and the academic development they had reached this year, as well as the most cooperative teachers of each area. We also wished to seize the opportunity to give recognition to those professors who had concluded their professional formation.

Prizes for academic excellence were awarded to professors Omar Messina of mecatronics, José Osoria of TI, and Joel Combes of Multimedia, Julio Perier of Software, Onel Pelegrino of Special Academic Programs, Kelvin Albuez, Communitary Impact Technologist, and José Javier Fuentes of the ITLA Language School. Recognitions were also awarded to those professors for their collaboration like Professor Luis Sosa of Multimedia, Víctor Mena of Information Technology, Julio Perier of Software Engineering, Rubén Lora of Mecatronics, Nayrobey Jourdain, of Special Academic programs, Jaaziel Ramírez and Rafael Martínez of the ITLA Language School.

On the other hand, professors Hoyma Mazara and Liana Polanco, both of the area of Mecatronics, were awarded a prize for the academic achievements they had reached during this year.

Last, a trip was to attend the IV Simposio Internacional de Sistemas de Información e Ingeniería de Software en la Sociedad del Conocimiento (IV International Symposium for Information systems and Software Engineering in the Society of Knowledge – SISOFT 2006), to be celebrated in



Cartagena de Indias Colombia, was raffled off as the jackpot. This raffle was carried out among the teachers, and Professor Omar Messina, of Mecatronics, was the lucky winner.

To finish the support activities to the ITLA personnel, June 16th the opening of a cooperative for teachers and employees of ITLA was carried out, so the employees will have an economic support in the form of savings and loans.

## Computer Fair for ITLA Employees

A computer fair for all the employees and teachers of the institution was carried out, to help them obtain a computer. This is why the Office of the Executive Director issued a voucher for RD\$5,000.00 so that employees who want to acquire a PC or a Laptop may acquire those equipments with financing from the Banco de Reservas. This initiative allowed a total of 50 employees to benefit.

# 7. ITLA ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

The Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas has been celebrating different activities and projects all year in order to strengthen our vision of being a leading Dominican institution. This is why different talks and seminars took place.

## Korea Internet Volunteers (KADO)

The Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas (ITLA) received a delegation of four Korean volunteers, who came exclusively to this technological institution, to carry out a cultural exchange and assist in the multimedia program for the Boca Chica community, through the Proyecto Impacto Tecnológico Comunitario (Community Technological Impact Project – ITC).

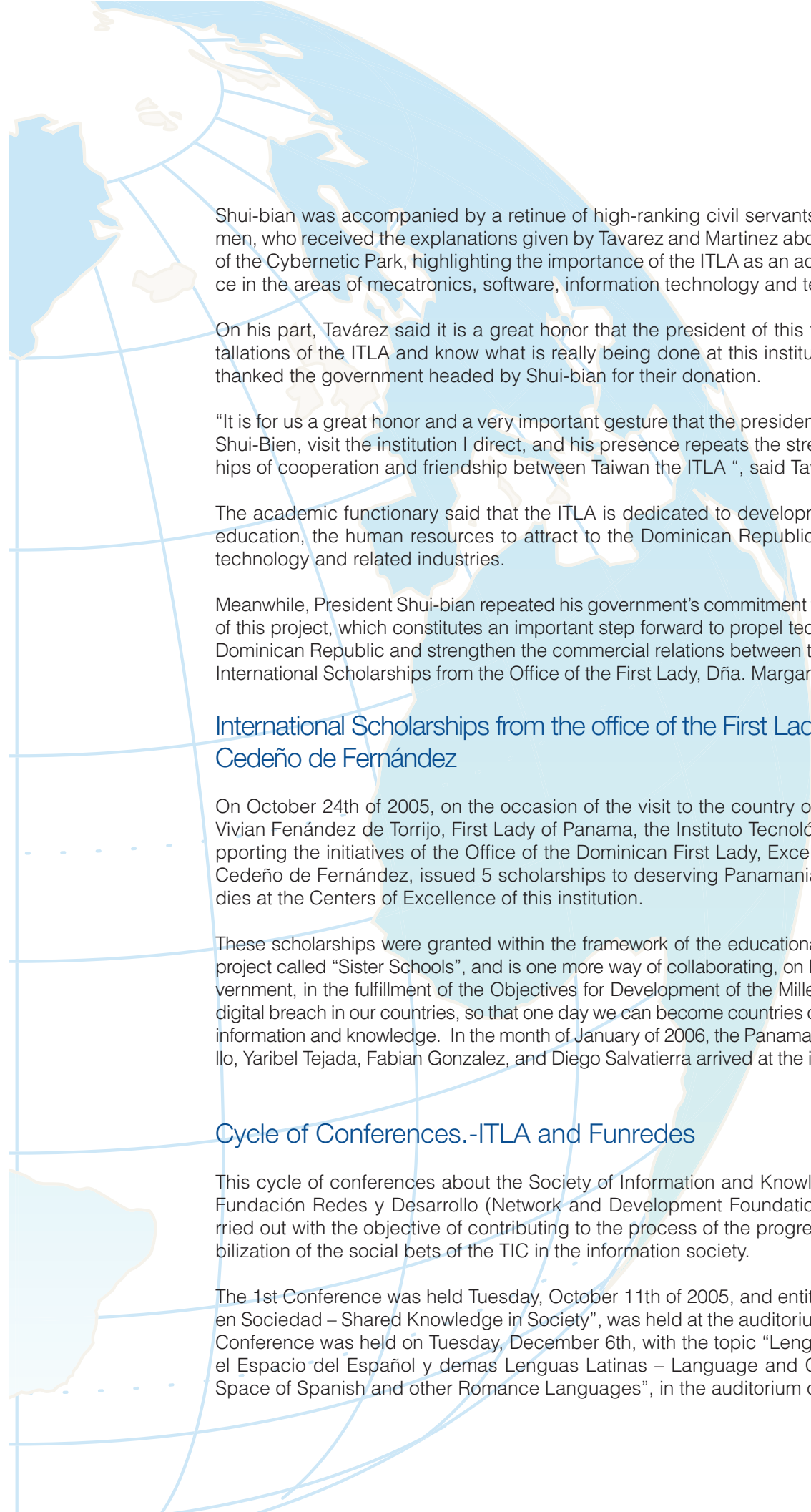
The Korean volunteers, Lee Mi Na, Choi Jiwon, Jin Yun Jong, and Yang Hung Hee, belong to Korea Agency for Digital Opportunity and Promotion (KADO), an institution that has as its objective to carry out cultural exchanges with young people from different countries.

Quinta Ana Pérez, Coordinator of the ITC, together with Moisés Shanlatte, received the Korean representatives, who for the space of three weeks exchanged impressions with a group of students from the Boca Chica and La Caleta community, where they received the knowledge taught by the young volunteers.

## Visit of the President of Taiwan to the ITLA

On September 23rd, 2005, the President of the Chinese Republic of Taiwan, Chen Shui-bian, visited the installations of the Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas (ITLA), and carried out a tour of the mecatronics laboratory, donated by his government last year.

The Taiwanese executive was received by the Executive Director of the ITLA, Ing. José Armando Tavárez, and the Director of Cybernetic Park of Santo Domingo, Lic. Eddy Martínez, who explained the functioning of the mecatronics labs and the high technology the institution is developing.



Shui-bian was accompanied by a retinue of high-ranking civil servants and Taiwanese businessmen, who received the explanations given by Tavarez and Martinez about the diverse components of the Cybernetic Park, highlighting the importance of the ITLA as an academic center of excellence in the areas of mecatronics, software, information technology and telecommunications.

On his part, Tavárez said it is a great honor that the president of this friendly nation visit the installations of the ITLA and know what is really being done at this institution. At the same time, he thanked the government headed by Shui-bian for their donation.

“It is for us a great honor and a very important gesture that the president of this Asian nation, Chen Shui-Bien, visit the institution I direct, and his presence repeats the strengthening of the relationships of cooperation and friendship between Taiwan the ITLA “, said Tavarez.

The academic functionary said that the ITLA is dedicated to development through teaching and education, the human resources to attract to the Dominican Republic enterprises in the area of technology and related industries.

Meanwhile, President Shui-bian repeated his government’s commitment to support the development of this project, which constitutes an important step forward to propel technological advances in the Dominican Republic and strengthen the commercial relations between the two countries. International Scholarships from the Office of the First Lady, Dña. Margarita Cedeño de Fernández.

### International Scholarships from the office of the First Lady Mrs. Margarita Cedeño de Fernández

On October 24th of 2005, on the occasion of the visit to the country of the Excelentísima Señora Vivian Fenández de Torrijo, First Lady of Panama, the Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas, supporting the initiatives of the Office of the Dominican First Lady, Excelentísima Señora Margarita Cedeño de Fernández, issued 5 scholarships to deserving Panamanian students, to pursue studies at the Centers of Excellence of this institution.

These scholarships were granted within the framework of the educational and cultural collaboration project called “Sister Schools”, and is one more way of collaborating, on behalf of the Dominican Government, in the fulfillment of the Objectives for Development of the Millennium, trying to reduce the digital breach in our countries, so that one day we can become countries of intensive capital based on information and knowledge. In the month of January of 2006, the Panamanian youths Yasmilka Barsallo, Yaribel Tejada, Fabian Gonzalez, and Diego Salvatierra arrived at the institution.

### Cycle of Conferences.-ITLA and Funredes

This cycle of conferences about the Society of Information and Knowledge, in collaboration with Fundación Redes y Desarrollo (Network and Development Foundation -- FUNREDES), was carried out with the objective of contributing to the process of the progressive and sustained sensibilization of the social bets of the TIC in the information society.

The 1st Conference was held Tuesday, October 11th of 2005, and entitled “Saberes Compartidos en Sociedad – Shared Knowledge in Society”, was held at the auditorium of the PUCMM. The 2nd Conference was held on Tuesday, December 6th, with the topic “Lengua y Cultura en el Internet: el Espacio del Español y demás Lenguas Latinas – Language and Culture on the Internet: the Space of Spanish and other Romance Languages”, in the auditorium of the ITLA.



## Project Online Journalist (Periodista en Línea)

A total of thirty professionals, having to do with the communications media and State institutions, started the program “Online Journalist”, which fits in the framework of the project Gente En Línea (People Online) which the Instituto Tecnológico de las Americas develops, with a view towards putting us up to date in the use of the tools of Microsoft Office (MOS).

The group was composed of journalists, editors of web pages, graphic reporters, and executives who work in the different communications media and State institutions.

“Online Journalist” is aimed at those communicators who are interested in putting themselves up to date in the new tools of Microsoft Office (MOS) Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access, and in the advance of the Multimedia area, which comprises the design of Web pages, Graphic Design, Digital Video, Digital Illustration, Photo Shop, computerized animation, 2-D and 3-D and Flash MX.

## Microsoft Training Project

A training course in Microsoft-Project was carried out; it was meant for the executives of the different areas of the enterprise who needed support in this tool.

Its main objective is to be able to carry out their multiple daily tasks which result in only one product with limited resources of time and cost, which we understand is a project.

Microsoft Project provides its users with the flexibility needed to plan and follow up their projects as a whole, and thus obtain the results their enterprise requires.

## Donation by Verizon

With an investment of more than 10 million pesos, the Telecommunications enterprise Verizon Dominicana added a new and innovative laboratory as part of the first stage of the alliance between these two institutions.

The laboratory is endowed with 102 computers, to teach the CCNA/ Wireless and CCNP/Security programs, the furniture, six projectors, two printers, and the corresponding bibliographic material. 1st Community of Professionals Certified Elite

On May 25th of 2005, the first Community of Professionals Certified ELITE was launched; this consists of a virtual community of professionals, where a meeting space is given to those who are certified in the scope of Information Technology. We are trying to thus motivate and promote the certifications of the industry in the area of information technology.

As a part of this launch, the talk “Importancia de las certificaciones de la industria en el mercado laboral” (“Importance of the Certifications of the Industry in the Job Market”) was given; the speaker was Dr. Melvin Pérez, creator and past president (2001-2003) of the first chapter of the IEEE in the Dominican Republic, and Vice-President and Main Software Engineer of CAM Informática, S.A.



## Program for Technological Entrepreneurs

Under a strategic alliance with the Cybernetic Park of Santo Domingo and its incubator “Emprende” and the Barna Business School, the program “Creando Emprendedores Tecnológicos – Creating Technological Entrepreneurs” was begun on Friday, June 2nd, at the installations of the ITLA, with the participation of 20 entrepreneurs. This program seeks to promote the emergence of new businessmen with a technological base, through the identification with enterprising leaders who are interested in turning their innovative ideas into high potential, rapidly-growing commercial opportunities through the combination of the intensive use of technology, talent, knowledge, capital, and risk administration.

Also on the theme of the entrepreneurs, a conference was organized by Mr. José Pacheco, Program Manager of the Entrepreneurship Center of MIT, which was dedicated to those who make up the TIC clusters of the National Council for Competitiveness. His presentation dealt with “Como crear un ecosistema de emprendimiento, desarrollo, y generación de riquezas que potencie el desarrollo tecnológico en República Dominicana -- How to create an ecosystem of entrepreneurship, development, and generation of wealth that will promote the technological development of the Dominican Republic”.

## Business Workshops: I Workshop for Training Trainers

On June 8th 2006, the institutional presentation of the conference “Emprendedurismo Tecnológico y exhibición de las empresas de dichos laboratorios – Technological Entrepreneurship and Exhibit of the enterprises of said laboratories” was held at the ITLA. This activity was carried out in collaboration with the ITLA ANU-RD, FUNGLOD, SEJ, and the Young American Business Trust.

## Software Lecture

In order to keep our students and teachers up to date regarding the most important current events regarding software development, the program “Cátedra de Software – Software Lecture” was created by the Center of Excellence of Software Engineering of the ITLA; this consists of holding different lectures in this area, on a monthly basis.

This is why the first was carried out June 3rd of 2006, where we had as a presenter Ing. Miguel Y. Musa, Director of Computing of the Santo Domingo Motors Company and Instructor of the Post Graduate Course of Information Technology of the Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTE); he spoke about “Las TIC ante el desafío competitivo y el rol del Tecnólogo -- The TIC faced by the competitive challenge, and the role of the Technologist”.

On June 25th, we had the prestigious presence of Dr. Luis Joyanes Aguilar, Dean of the Faculty of Computer Science of the Universidad Pontificia de Salamanca (UPSAM), Madrid campus, who gave a talk in the auditorium of the institution, about “Tendencias de Ingeniería de Software para el 2010 – Tendencias in Software Engineering for the year 2010”,



## SOFT-LIBRE 2006

At the beginning of July, we inaugurated the yearly educational event “Soft-Libre 2006”, which consists of promoting the use of free software in the Dominican Republic where through talks, courses, and events, the ITLA contributes to the use of the free technologies

Soft-libre 2006 began with a cycle of talks led by the famous precursor of Free Software, Dr. Richard M. Stallman, who launched the development of the operating system GNU. These were completely open to the public, and were held at the Manuel del Cabral Auditorium, of the Pedro Mir Library at the Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD), at the Auditorium of the Fundación Global Democracia y Desarrollo, and at the Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas.

Dr. Stallman spoke about “El Movimiento del Software Libre y el Sistema Operativo GNU/Linux – The Free Software movement and the GNU/Linux Operating System”, “Software Libre en la ética y la práctica – Free Software in Ethics and in Practice”, and “Derecho de copia vs. Comunidad en la era de las redes de computadoras – The right to copy vs. Community in the age of computer networks”.

On the other hand, the Center of Excellence for Information Technology organized several talks, among them one given by Professor Roberto Sepúlveda, Director of the Center of Studies of System Engineering at the Instituto Superior Politécnico José Antonio Echeverría, in Cuba, who spoke with our students and teachers about “Escenarios típicos de falta de seguridad relacionadas con la integridad de los datos – Typical scenarios of lack of security related to the safety of data”.

On the other hand, the Center of Excellence for Information Technology organized the talk “Computación Móvil Personalizada con Infraestructura Mínima – Personalized Mobile Computing with Minimal Infrastructure”, given by Dr. Ramón Cáceres, on July 27th at 3:00 PM, in auditorium No. 1 of the ITLA. Said talk dealt with the ability of accessing to any computer and, if it is personalized, being able to use it at any place as its sole owner, making it a portable device.

## 8. AGREEMENTS SIGNED BY THE ITLA.

The Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas, conscious of its work in collaboration with other institutions, signed the following agreements with different institutions during the period 2005-2006:

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### Rapid Results

An agreement of cooperation was signed with the Rapid Results Company, to offer the first course of the International Certification in Call Center Operation, which was taught at the Call/Contac Center /BPO Academy of the ITLA.

The Agreement was signed by Engineer José Armando Tavarez, Executive Director of the ITLA; Derek Good, President of Rapid Results, in the presence of Lic. Eddy Martinez, Director of the Exportation and Investment Center of the Dominican Republic CEI-RD, who highlighted the signing of the agreement.



The benefits of the program include facility through the Internet, flexibility in the schedules seven days a week, a tutor online, and the personalization of the course.

These courses are already being advertised, to be taught during the last semester of the year 2006.

### Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD)

On November 2nd, 2005, an agreement was made with the UASD for the formation of the professors chosen by said university in the use of Information Technology, to contribute to an improvement of their performance in the classroom; also, for the training these persons in the use of the Internet, software tools, for the and for the production of educational content in multimedia.

With this agreement, the classes began in a classroom of the Pedro Mir Library of this university, where to date 44 persons have been trained in the programs “Gente en Línea – People Online”, “Microsoft Project”, besides Java Basic and Intermediate. Aside from this, we have a group being trained in Cisco Certified network Associate (CCNA), of the area of Information Technology.

### Instituto de studios Superiores BARNA, Inc. (BARNA Institute of Higher Education, Inc.)

On November 4th, 2005, the Executive Director of the Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas (ITLA), Ingeniero José Armando Tavárez, and the representative of the Barna Business School, Licenciada Fabeka Lebrón, signed a memorandum of understanding for the formation of enterprising leaders, with a view toward the strengthening of the two technologically-based enterprises, which will operate with criteria of innovative competitiveness, cost-efficiency, and social responsibility, in real market conditions.

The objective of this agreement is to develop the leadership potential of the participants and the abilities, attitudes, knowledge, and values that will allow them to graduate with a business plan subject to financing and a plan for life and career that is so structured as to encourage personal initiative and community welfare.


What they seek in the profile of income of the participants is that they have an enterprising vocation and preferably ideas and projects of a business to be developed.

Through this agreement, Barna will support both the Entrepreneurs' Center of the ITLA and the program Development for Businesspersons, with its network of Associate Schools, and its method of formation.

On April 22nd of 2006, a formal beginning was given to the training courses agreed on with BARNA at the ITLA installations, and classes for the first group of 10 students began June 2nd; this session concluded on August 26, 2006.

### Secretaría de Estado de la Juventud (Ministry of Youth--SEJ)

On December 29th, 2005, the Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas, ITLA, and the Ministry of Youth signed an agreement of educational cooperation through which they intend to train enterprising young people with enough of a formation to set up businesses that will serve the development of the Dominican Republic.



With this agreement, a scholarship program for young people with academic excellence throughout the nation at the academic centers the ITLA has, an academic program for entrepreneurs, aimed at young people with enough creativity to set up businesses favoring the development of the country and the celebration of the Youth Olympics in Computer Science. To date, approximately 67 scholarships have been issued.

### École supérieure d'Infotronique d'Haïti (ESIH)

On December 31st 2005, an agreement of cooperation was signed with the École Supérieure d'Infotronique d'Haïti (Superior School of Infotonics of Haiti) in which it was agreed to exchange professors, researchers, and students, for the elaboration of technical, educational, and research programs.

Secretaría de Estado de Educación Superior, Ciencia y Tecnología (SEESCYT), the Secretaría de Estado de Educación (SEE), and the Instituto Dominicano de las Telecomunicaciones (Dominican Institute of Telecommunications)

On January 10th of 2006, an agreement was signed with the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology (SEESCYT), the Ministry of Education (SEE), and the Dominican Institute of Telecommunications, in which the parties seek to create a fund for academic excellence in the areas of mecatronics, multimedia, software, and information technology. This fund is destined toward the issuance of scholarship credits to students with academic and ethical honors.

Thanks to this agreement, there are 43 students from different parts of the country, who in January of 2006 began a trimester zero to level off their level of English, and as of September of 2006 will begin their 2-year formal training.

### Asociación Dominicana para el Auto-Estudio y Acreditación (Dominican Association for Independent Study and Accreditation – ADAAC)

The Asociación Dominicana para el Auto-Estudio y Acreditación (ADAAC) signed a frame agreement for technical cooperation on February 6th, 2006, with the objective of training the science computer and other personnel in the adequate handling of new computer tools for better productivity.

This agreement establishes advising the personnel of the ADAAC in the design of Web pages, installation of computer networks, as well as training the personnel for the maintenance and updating of their Web page.

ADAAC has offered a consultancy to the ITLA for the installation of an application that would be responsible for the control or insurance of the internal quality of the formative programs of the ITLA, as well as organizing talks and workshops for the training of the administrative and academic personnel in the areas of quality control, strategic thought and action, and those that aim at improving the quality of the academic programs.

Beginning in May of 2006, the Software Factory of the ITLA and the Visual Communications Department began collaborating toward the creation of a web page for this institution, and it should soon be completed.





## Colegio Dominicano de Periodistas -- CDP

On March 16th, 2006, the Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas and the Colegio Dominicano de Periodistas (Dominican College of Journalists – CDP) signed an agreement of cooperation, in order to train the members of that journalistic institution, in order to further the technological culture in that professional body.

The trainings, entitled “Digital Journalist I” (Periodista Digital I), composed of classes in the areas of multimedia and English, began May 27th, and several graduations with groups of 21, 18, and 10 students have already taken place.

## Blue Shoe Technology

This company, through an agreement signed with the ITLA on March 27, 2006, took care of carrying out an exclusive educational platform for the institution, for distance education. The training with the technicians of the ITLA for the use of this platform began in mid-August, so it can be completely ready in October of 2006.

## Internship in the Dominican Republic

On March 8th, 2006, the ITLA signed a joint agreement with other institutions and the Fundación Global Democracia y Desarrollo/Global Foundation Democracy and Development, head office, New York, to develop a program for apprenticeship and cultural exchange called “Internship in the Dominican Republic” (INTERDOM), which would allow Dominican and foreign students to do a practicum either in this country or in the United States.

This agreement is at the phase of promotion, to be able to receive the exchange students the last semester of this year.

## Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra (Pontifical Católica University Madre y Maestra -- PUCMM)

On April 21st, 2006, an agreement of cooperation was signed with the Centro de Tecnología Permanente (Permanent Center for Technology) of the Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra (PUCMM) to train the necessary professors, so that they can repeat the ITLA courses at the main campus of said university, in the city of Santiago.

## Fundación Parque Tecnológico de Software (Parquesoft)

On April 25th, 2006, a memorandum of understanding was signed, with Parquesoft of Colombia, in which it was agreed to have an exchange of information in the areas of multimedia, quality insurance, as well as in research, the development of computer science, in trainings, and in the design and development of joint projects.

As of that date, the ITLA has maintained a fluid conversation with that Foundation.



## Ciudad del Saber de Panamá

On April 26, 2006, an agreement of cooperation was signed with the Fundación Ciudad del Saber de Panamá, in which a strategic alliance was made with the objective of developing joint actions meant to strengthen the work both technological institutions are carrying out.

As of that date, the ITLA has maintained a fluid conversation with the Ciudad del Saber.

## Colegio Nacional de Educación Profesional (CONALEP) de México

On April 28th of 2006, an agreement of cooperation with the Colegio Nacional de Educación Técnica (National College for Technical Education) of Mexico was signed in the city of Metepec, Mexico. With this agreement, we seek to carry out joint teaching and research activities, consultancy, and technical cooperation in the domain of certification of competencies, elaboration of materials, and teaching.

As of the month of September, with the visit of an important delegation of the CONALEP, several procedures were discussed that are necessary to carry out this agreement.

## Sistema de Integración Centroamericana (System of Central American Integration -- SICA)

On June 2nd, 2006, the Secretary General of the Sistema de la Integración Centroamericana signed a memorandum of understanding with Ing. Carlos Morales Troncoso, Chancellor; in this document, an exchange of Central American students is sought, to study at the ITLA.

Although this agreement was signed in the month of June, the ITLA welcomed in April of 2006 the first 10 Panamanian students, and still waited to receive the students from the other countries.

## Training Programs for Facilitators at Computer Training Centers (Centros de Capacitación en Informática --CCI).

On June 19th, 2006, an agreement was signed with the Instituto Dominicano de las Telecomunicaciones (INDOTEL), for the training of the facilitators who will train underprivileged persons in short computer courses and the Internet. The objective is to create multipliers of knowledge who, by means of the abilities they acquire, can in turn train. With this, we try to make it possible for underprivileged children to accede to the Technologies of Information and Communication, so that they can be removed from delinquency and be formed as productive beings in society.

## Instituto Superior Politécnico José Antonio Echevarría de Cuba

On June 23rd, 2006, an agreement for academic, scientific, and cultural collaboration was signed with the Instituto Superior Politécnico José Antonio Echevarría, of Cuba, with which the ITLA hoped to implement master's degrees in Computer Science, continued education courses about the use of technology in teaching, development, and platform for distance teaching and exchange of experiences in E-Learning and the actions for the development of bilingual teaching.

These different proposals are already being worked on, to get them underway during the last trimester of the year 2006.

## 9. List of Important Persons who have visited the ITLA

1. His Excellency, Mr. Chen Shui-bian, President of the Chinese Republic of Taiwan
2. Her Excellency, Sila María Calderón Serra, former governor of Puerto Rico
3. His Excellency Mr. Eduardo Lama, Ambassador of Belize and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps
4. Her Excellency Miroslava Rosad-Mota, Ambassador of Panama
5. His Excellency Mr. Ernesto Ferreiro Rusconi, Ambassador of El Salvador
6. His Excellency Mr. Alvaro José Sevilla Siero, Ambassador of Nicaragua
7. The Honorable Ministers Counselors Mirce Paheco of the Embassy of Costa Rica, Carlos Alberto Argueta Bone, of the Embassy of Guatemala and César López of the Embassy of Honduras
8. Mr. Stéphane Bruno, International Expert of the United Nations Development Program, with its Headquarters in Port au Prince and Patric Attie.
9. Dr. Jorge Arosemena of the Ciudad del Saber of Panama
10. Fred Jacome of Blue Shoe Technology
11. Dr. Dale E. Carl, foreign exchange director, Dr. Ricardo Gómez-Insusti, development analyst and Dr. Catherine A. Middleton, of the School of Technology of Rayerson University, in Canada;
12. Lic. Jacqueline Malagón
13. His Excellency Ricardo Durán, Vice-Chancellor of Panama
14. Distinguished Miss Xiomara Zelaya Castro, daughter of the President of Honduras
15. The Mayor of Caguas, Puerto Rico, The Honorable Mr. William Miranda Marín, together with a delegation made up of Lydia Rivera Denizard, Administrator of the City; Antonio Cobián Mendez, municipal engineer; Félix Rodríguez Matos, Director of Municipal Planning; Félix Rivera Matos, technological advisor; Luiz Gonzalez Argueso, Advisor to the Mayor, and Oscar Jiménez, president of the Inteco Corporation.
16. His Excellency Mr. Lin Byung-taik, Korean Ambassador
17. The Argentine journalist Andrés Oppenheimer, Editor for Latin America of the influential American newspaper *The Miami Herald*, and political analyst for CNN in Spanish
18. Dra. Ing. Rosa María Valcarce Ortega, Director of the Direction of International Relations and Dr. Roberto Sepúlveda, Director of the Center for System Engineering Studies of the Instituto Superior Politécnico José Antonio Echevarría of Cuba and (CUJAE)
19. His Excellency, Mr. Jorge Roballo, Argentine Ambassador
20. His Excellency Mr. César Méndez Pinelo, Ambassador of Guatemala
21. Mr. Nicholas Negroponete, Director of the Multimedia Lab of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and deputy Pelegrín Castillo.
22. Mr. José Pacheco of MIT
23. Mr. Rex Mosser, Cultural Attaché of the Embassy of the United States
24. Dr Richard Stallman;
25. Dr. Bertha Santoscoy, of the OAS-D.R.
26. His Excellency Mr. Alvin Curlin, Canadian Ambassador
27. Dr. Ramón Cáceres of IBM
28. Dr. Jorge Díaz, Dean of the School of Computing of RIT
29. Mrs. Loorna Duluc of Miami Dade College

## OUR VISITORS' THOUGHTS.

With the satisfaction of sharing a dream and the wish that the Parque Tecnológico (Technological Park) de Santo Domingo and the Parque Científico y Tecnológico (Scientific and Technological Park) de Cantabria walk together through the dream, and that it be fortunate.

Counselor for Economy and Treasury of the Government of Cantabria (Spain)

**José Luis Sánchez**  
**Director RETCAN**  
**Government for Industry, Work and**  
**Technological Development**  
**Government of Cantabria**

To visit places like this, where programs are developed to contribute to prepare the population of a country in those skills and knowledge that will allow it to triumph in a globalized economy, and in "a world that is becoming more and more flat every day", is a motive for pride and hope in that progress giving it incentive that all human beings should aspire.

With gratitude for your generosity in opening your doors, which we hope to reciprocate!

**Delegation of Caguas Puerto Rico**  
**William Miranda**  
**Mayor**  
**La Caleta, Boca Chica**

**April 19th, 2006**

With our esteem and thanks, the delegation of Mexicans wishes you success in your projects and we hope the Dominican people continue with these opportunities for their progress.

“The men who reach the highest mountains in life, are those who have discipline and valor; men like that can never be vanquished”

Yours truly,

**Spencer W. Kimball**  
**Virgilio Garcia**  
**Toluca Mexico**  
**La Caleta, Boca Chica**  
**April 11th, 2006**

With great interest in exploring possibilities of collaborating this project of great importance for the country and Latin America.

Congratulations

**Jorge Díaz**  
**Dean of Computation**  
**RIT**  
**La Caleta, Boca Chica**  
**May 12th, 2006**

For the Cybernetic Park and the ITLA, with great admiration and the best wishes that the Dominican Republic may modernize itself and reduce poverty.

**Andrés Oppenheimer**  
**La Caleta, Boca Chica**  
**May 30th, 2006**

Astonished at the goals achieved in so little time, I wish the Cybernetic Park of Las Americas constant

improvement and I congratulate its management for having such a vision toward the future of the new generations of Dominicans.

Only education, art, and culture are the elements for improvement. And this project will doubtless reach its ambitions.

**Forward!**  
**Jorge Roballo**  
**Argentine Ambassador**  
**La Caleta, Boca Chica**  
**June 2nd, 2006**

Happy Hacking with free software

**Richard Stallman**  
**July 12th, 2006**

Good luck with your ambitious goals. I hope we can collaborate in the future.

**Rex Mosser**  
**Embassy of the United States**  
**July 19th, 2006**

Lots of luck with your mission. It was a pleasure to visit and give a presentation. Thank you for inviting me.

**Ramón Caceres R.**  
**July 27th 2006**  
**Ing. Tavaréz:**

It was a great pleasure to have exchanged ideas and possible joint projects. I have been agreeably impressed by the technology at the ITLA.

**Bertha Santoscoy**  
**OAS**

## 9.1 TESTIMONIALS FROM OUR STUDENTS

**Cintha Batista**  
**Registration No. 13511**

For me, the ITLA is an institution that has been contributing toward my personal development because of the benefits I have received from this, thanks to which I have had the opportunity of knowing a world I did not know at all, and of which I have learned and met many different people and cultures.

My daughter has also benefited and enriched her knowledge because of the facilities for studies we have obtained.

I will be eternally grateful and proud of belonging to the ITLA family, and will try to keep on developing myself in the world of technology.

**Jonathan Leonardo Santana**  
**Registration No. 68175**

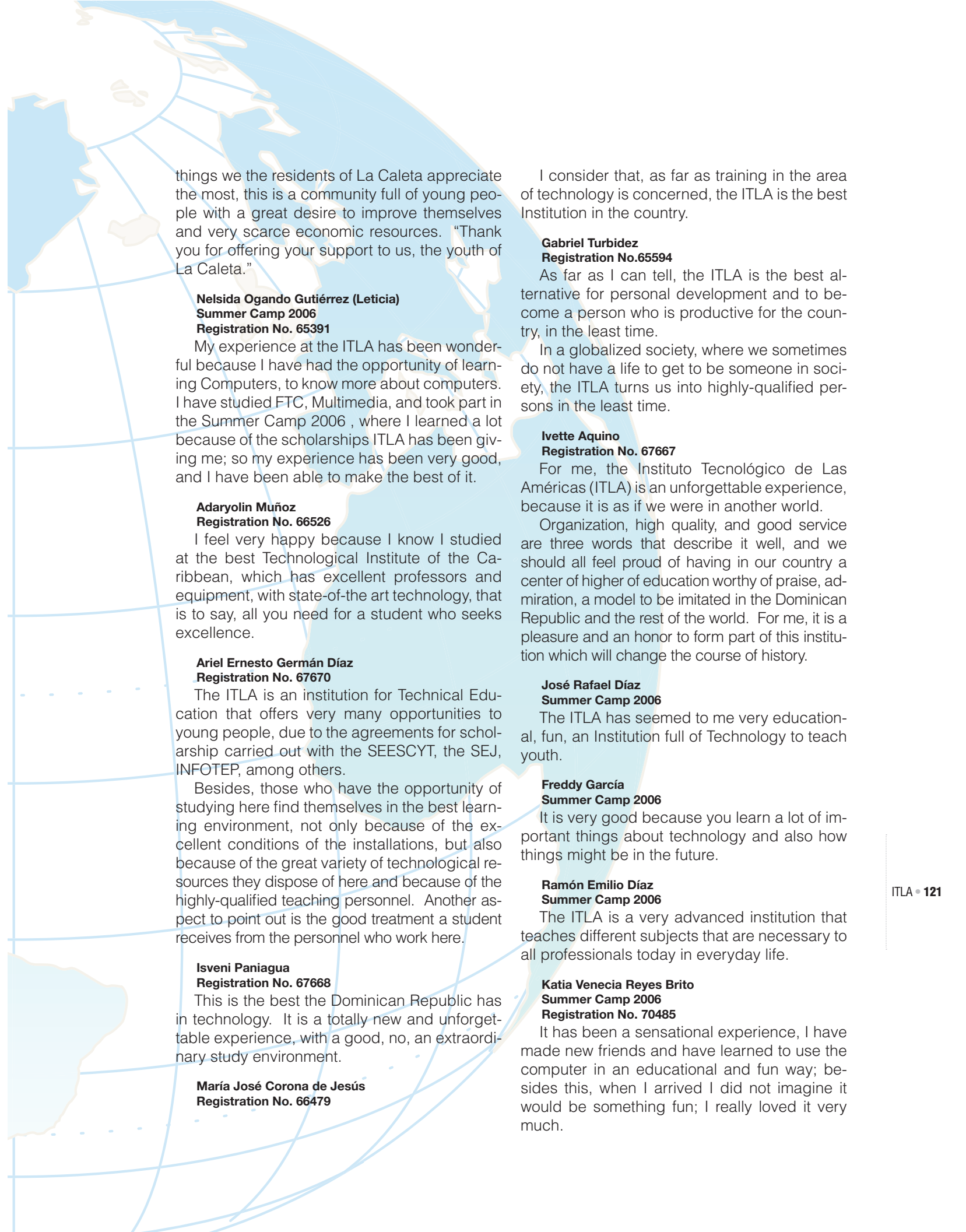
The Institution is extremely good, as regards the area of technology and its different extra-curricular activities. The teaching methodology used is excellent, since they use a method in which the students interact with the teachers and the teachers with the students. The buildings are in perfect conditions for our objectives.

I find myself at one of the most moving moments of my life, since this institution guides me and motivates me to have a better world.

**Ana Estebanía Cabrera Santana**  
**Registration No. 53959**

The ITLA has been one of the motives that have driven me to continue studying.

Offering the opportunity to underprivileged young people like me has been one of the



things we the residents of La Caleta appreciate the most, this is a community full of young people with a great desire to improve themselves and very scarce economic resources. "Thank you for offering your support to us, the youth of La Caleta."

**Nelsida Ogando Gutiérrez (Leticia)**  
**Summer Camp 2006**  
**Registration No. 65391**

My experience at the ITLA has been wonderful because I have had the opportunity of learning Computers, to know more about computers. I have studied FTC, Multimedia, and took part in the Summer Camp 2006, where I learned a lot because of the scholarships ITLA has been giving me; so my experience has been very good, and I have been able to make the best of it.

**Adaryolin Muñoz**  
**Registration No. 66526**

I feel very happy because I know I studied at the best Technological Institute of the Caribbean, which has excellent professors and equipment, with state-of-the art technology, that is to say, all you need for a student who seeks excellence.

**Ariel Ernesto Germán Díaz**  
**Registration No. 67670**

The ITLA is an institution for Technical Education that offers very many opportunities to young people, due to the agreements for scholarship carried out with the SEESCYT, the SEJ, INFOTEP, among others.

Besides, those who have the opportunity of studying here find themselves in the best learning environment, not only because of the excellent conditions of the installations, but also because of the great variety of technological resources they dispose of here and because of the highly-qualified teaching personnel. Another aspect to point out is the good treatment a student receives from the personnel who work here.

**Isveni Paniagua**  
**Registration No. 67668**

This is the best the Dominican Republic has in technology. It is a totally new and unforgettable experience, with a good, no, an extraordinary study environment.

**María José Corona de Jesús**  
**Registration No. 66479**

I consider that, as far as training in the area of technology is concerned, the ITLA is the best Institution in the country.

**Gabriel Turbidez**  
**Registration No. 65594**

As far as I can tell, the ITLA is the best alternative for personal development and to become a person who is productive for the country, in the least time.

In a globalized society, where we sometimes do not have a life to get to be someone in society, the ITLA turns us into highly-qualified persons in the least time.

**Ivette Aquino**  
**Registration No. 67667**

For me, the Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas (ITLA) is an unforgettable experience, because it is as if we were in another world.

Organization, high quality, and good service are three words that describe it well, and we should all feel proud of having in our country a center of higher of education worthy of praise, admiration, a model to be imitated in the Dominican Republic and the rest of the world. For me, it is a pleasure and an honor to form part of this institution which will change the course of history.

**José Rafael Díaz**  
**Summer Camp 2006**

The ITLA has seemed to me very educational, fun, an Institution full of Technology to teach youth.

**Freddy García**  
**Summer Camp 2006**

It is very good because you learn a lot of important things about technology and also how things might be in the future.

**Ramón Emilio Díaz**  
**Summer Camp 2006**

The ITLA is a very advanced institution that teaches different subjects that are necessary to all professionals today in everyday life.

**Katia Venecia Reyes Brito**  
**Summer Camp 2006**  
**Registration No. 70485**

It has been a sensational experience, I have made new friends and have learned to use the computer in an educational and fun way; besides this, when I arrived I did not imagine it would be something fun; I really loved it very much.



## 10. AUDIT REPORT – TRANSPARENCY IN THE ADMINISTRATION

### REPORT ABOUT THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

To the Board of Directors  
Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas (Las Americas Institute of Technology -- ITLA)

We have carried out the annexed audits of the statements of financial position of the Instituto Tecnológico de Las Américas (the Institute) up to June 30th of 2006 and 2005, and of the statements linked with activities and cash flow for the years ending on those dates. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Administration of the Institute. Our responsibility is to express an opinion regarding these financial statements, based on our audits.

We carried out our audits following the International Standards for Auditing. These Standards require that we plan and carry out the audits to obtain a reasonable security regarding whether the financial statements are free of significant mistakes. An audit includes examining, on a selective basis, the evidence that supports the amounts and the revelations in the financial statements. An audit includes evaluating both the principles of accounting used and the significant estimates made by the Administration, as well as the joint presentation of the financial statements. We consider that our audits offer a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the aforementioned financial statements reasonably present in all its important aspects the financial situation of the Insituto Tecnológico de Las Américas (ITLA) up to June 30th of 2006 and 2005, and of the transactions and other events that cause changes in the net assets and the cash flow for the years ending on those dates, in accordance with the International Standards for Financial Information

August 25th, 2006

Santo Domingo,  
Dominican Republic



## CONCLUSION

The goals keep growing, and our commitment to walk towards perfection becomes firmer. We are satisfied because we have during this year achieved two such important goals, and this commits us more and more to continue reaching more objectives as important as these, with only one end, to be able to continue offering to the Dominican Republic a world-class institution of higher learning, at the reach of all the population, where you will always find the best of technology in our own country.



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