

Organizing Committee



IVETC

2022

Organizing Committee

General Coordinator

Dr. Patricia López-Estrada, Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica, San Carlos Campus.



Patricia López-Estrada holds a Doctorate in Education from the University of Florida. She is an advocate for promoting high-quality education and making this accessible for all students. She firmly believes in professional development as a fundamental mechanism for academic growth. She is passionate about teaching with a purpose and believes in teaching philosophies that are both warm and demanding for the promotion of meaningful learning in students. She is a qualitative researcher and an extensionist and currently works as an associate professor in the School of Languages and Social Sciences at the Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica, San Carlos Campus.

Academic Coordinator

M.Ed. María Gabriela Castillo Hernández, Universidad Técnica Nacional, San Carlos Campus.



María Gabriela Castillo Hernández has over 22 years' experience as an EFL teacher and a teacher trainer. She worked as an English language advisor for the Ministry of Public Education at the Northern Regional Office in Costa Rica for 12 years. She holds a Master's Degree in English Language Teaching from the Universidad Latina de Costa Rica, and a SIT TESOL Certificate from the World Learning SIT Graduate Institute at Centro Espiral Mana in Costa Rica. She strongly believes that learning and teaching must actively engage the learner in authentic tasks that are connected to life beyond the classroom, promoting opportunities that allow meaningful and life-long learning experiences. She currently works as the academic coordinator and an EFL professor at the Universidad Técnica Nacional, San Carlos Campus.

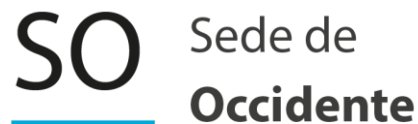


Communication Coordinator

Lic. Ana Yansy Morales Solís, Universidad de Costa Rica, Western Campus.



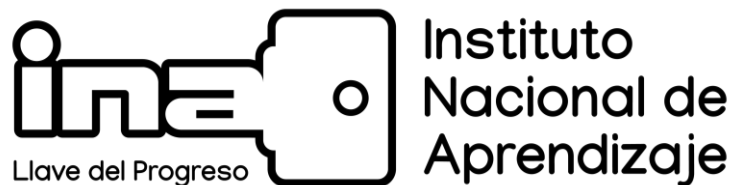
Ana Yansy Morales Solís holds a Licentiate Degree in English Teaching from the Universidad de Costa Rica. Currently, she is completing a Master's Degree in Educational Technology with an emphasis on the Production of Didactic Resources at UNED. She has been an English professor at UCR Western Campus for over 4 years and has worked for FUNDEVI for 3 years. Since 2022, she has been developing a teaching project called *"De lo Presencial a lo Virtual: Un Modelo de Enseñanza para la Docencia Virtual"*. She strongly believes that technology is a strategic ally in the teaching-learning process and that innovating teaching methodologies through gamification is key to boosting students' motivation and language skills.



Lic. Patricia Leitón Montoya, Instituto Nacional de Aprendizaje, San Carlos Campus.



Patricia Leitón Montoya holds two Licentiate Degrees in English Teaching and Educational Administration. She has taught EFL for over 23 years, first for the MEP and currently at INA, where she has worked since 2010. She has dedicated most of her time at INA teaching and certifying people in the tourism sector in La Fortuna, Monterrey, Chachagua, and Santa Clara. She has taught virtually since 2020. She has implemented competency-based education in her lessons as part of INA's new teaching approach since 2021. She has successfully put together her knowledge of neuro-linguistic programming and English teaching to shape autonomy in learners. In 2015, she obtained TESOL certification at Mary Scholl's Centro Espiral Mana, with this marking a new awakening in her teaching career.



M.A.E. Eduardo Castro Miranda, Universidad Técnica Nacional, San Carlos Campus.



Eduardo Castro Miranda has over two decades of experience teaching English as a Foreign Language in different educational institutions in the Northern Zone of Costa Rica. He has not only taught English but also has taken on other responsibilities involving values and guidance. He is the current coordinator of the English as a Foreign Language program at the Universidad Técnica Nacional in San Carlos. He has worked with some international universities in the USA; most recently with York University in Toronto, Canada, visiting York students and supporting the involvement of York and Costa Rican students in the Las Nubes Grounded Project, promoting participatory documentary filmmaking that spotlights rural community lives. He has participated in the organization of the four most relevant congresses for English teachers that have taken place in the Northern Zone and is committed to sustaining teachers' enthusiasm for enriching the hearts and minds of their students.



Lic. Flora Daniela González Arias, Universidad Isaac Newton (Carmen Lyra School), San Carlos.



Flora González Arias has a Bachelor's Degree in English Teaching and a Bachelor's Degree in English Teaching for I and II cycle. She additionally holds a Licentiate Degree in Educational Sciences with an emphasis in Teaching. She has more than 10 years of experience working in education. She is a dedicated professional who believes that commitment and hard work are keys to a teacher's performance. She considers education to be the ultimate tool since greatness can be achieved with positive reinforcement and a gentle approach when implementing discipline. She currently works at Carmen Lyra School as an English teacher in elementary school.



Lic. Jorge Enrique Chaves Blanco, Escuela Técnica Agrícola e Industrial, San Carlos.



Jorge Chaves Blanco has been in love with tourism and English his whole life. He has developed his studies and career in the tourism business, starting as travel agent, through which he visited many countries; this gave him the chance to get involved with culture and deepen his experience with language. Jorge has studied Business Administration, English as Foreign Language focused on Tourism, and also Teaching. He currently works as the coordinator of Sustainable Tourism at ETAI. Helping people is what motivates his work.



Lic. Joselyn Rojas Rodríguez, Colegio Técnico Profesional Regional de San Carlos.



Joselyn Rojas Rodríguez worked at the Colegio Técnico Profesional de Venecia as an English teacher in the technical areas of Executive for Service Centers and Bilingual Secretaries from 2008 to 2016. She has worked in the administrative area at Colegio Técnico Profesional Regional de San Carlos for the past 6 years, participating and collaborating with the organization of international exchanges with students from the United States and Costa Rica in both institutions, thus promoting the interest of students in learning a new language and confronting them directly with culture. She believes everyone can learn a new language; life is made up of challenges, and discipline, enthusiasm and practice are part of the secret to navigating these successfully.



Dip. María Paula Molina Hernández, Universidad Estatal a Distancia, San Carlos.



María Paula Molina Hernández has an Associate Degree in Teaching English at I and II Cycles from the Universidad Estatal a Distancia, where she is currently pursuing a Bachelor's Degree. She graduated from the English program at the Consejo Nacional de Rectores (CONARE) and the Executive English program for services at the Instituto Nacional de Aprendizaje (INA). She was a troubleshooter in the III English Teaching Congress, Huetar Northern Region 2019. She currently works as an English as a Foreign Language teacher at iLearn Center and as a facilitator for English programs for the UNED-MICITT agreement at CECI 261. She is passionate about teaching, and she is a believer that everything is possible with effort and dedication.



M.A. José Pablo Ramírez Alvarado, Universidad de Costa Rica, Western Campus.



José Pablo Ramírez Alvarado is highly interested in teaching and is committed to his students. He believes having a good sense of humor makes his classes pleasant and meaningful to his learners. Commitment, hard work, and discipline are the central values that he expects to give and receive during the learning process. He taught English to preschoolers and elementary students for five years before he commenced training new teachers in early childhood education. He has supervised practicums and taught the Seminar course. He is currently teaching written and oral communication courses for the English Program at the Universidad de Costa Rica, Western Campus.



M.Ed. José Miguel Vargas Vásquez, Universidad de Costa Rica, Western Campus.



José Miguel Vargas Vásquez holds a Bachelor's Degree and a Master's Degree in English Teaching at the Universidad de Costa Rica, where he works as an English instructor and researcher. With over ten years of experience in higher education, he has authored and co-authored journal articles and chapters in the fields of language teaching methodology, reading and writing pedagogy in second language learning, academic writing, and needs assessment for the implementation of ICTs. His lately interests include the way ICTs can help to support writing and contribute to making writing a meaningful experience. He is the current coordinator of the Modern Languages Department at UCR, Western Campus.



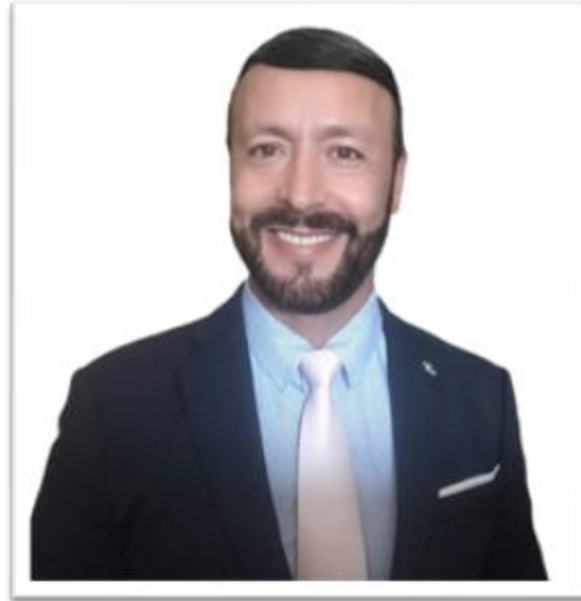
M.Ed. Gerardo Matamoros Arce, Universidad Técnica Nacional, San Carlos Campus.



Gerardo Matamoros Arce obtained a Bachelor's Degree from the Universidad de Costa Rica. He graduated in Education from the Universidad Estatal a Distancia in 2007 and achieved a Master's Degree in English Teaching from the Universidad Latina de Costa Rica in 2017. He worked for the Ministry of Education for 10 years and has worked in higher education since 2009 at several universities in San Carlos. He has been working on topics such as feedback, projects related to experiential learning and study abroad programs. He is currently a full-time professor of English as a Second Language at Universidad Técnica Nacional. He teaches English-related courses and works on different projects with universities in the United States and Canada.



Dr. Roy Gamboa Mena, Universidad de Costa Rica, Western Campus.



Roy Gamboa Mena has a Bachelor's Degree in English and a Master's Degree in the Teaching of English as a Foreign Language from the Universidad de Costa Rica. He also holds a Doctor of Arts in English Pedagogy from Murray State University, KY. He has been an English teacher for 28 years and has taught at the college level for the past 24 years. Currently, he is an associate professor at the Universidad de Costa Rica where he has worked as a teacher, administrator and researcher since 2010. He has conducted research in issues pertaining to the field of Applied Linguistics and has published academic articles and delivered speeches derived from his research in national and international journals and conferences in countries such as Costa Rica, Panama, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Colombia, Brazil, Mexico and the United States.



SO Sede de
Occidente

Lic. Ardui Zur Flores Calderón, Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica, San Carlos Campus.



Ardui Zur Flores Calderón obtained his Bachelor's Degree in English Teaching at the Universidad de Costa Rica, and a Licentiate Degree in the same field at the Universidad Americana. He is also certified in I and II Cycle Primary School. He is currently studying for a Master's Degree in English Teaching at the Universidad de Costa Rica. He has 13 years' experience teaching English for the Ministry of Public Education, including Secondary and Adult Teaching Programs. He worked as instructor in English for Customer Service Training at INA (Instituto Nacional de Aprendizaje). He believes humanism and cooperation are relevant to meaningful classrooms. His work contemplates tailored output with contextualized situations and effective feedback, taught under a consistently friendly class atmosphere. He has been working with virtual tools in order to improve the teaching-learning process. Currently, he works for TEC (Tecnológico de Costa Rica) in ESP courses for Engineering Programs.

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**M.Sc. Ronny David Carmona Miranda, Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica,
Sarapiquí Campus.**



Ronny Carmona Miranda has a Bachelor's Degree in English Teaching in I and II Cycles, a Bachelor's Degree in English Teaching in Secondary Education, and a Bachelor's Degree in I and II Cycles with an emphasis in Spanish. He also has a Licentiate Degree in Teaching English in Secondary Education and a Licentiate Degree in University Teaching. He further has a Master's Degree in Educational Administration and in University Teaching. He has worked as in EFL teacher for 25 years for the Ministry of Public Education, and 12 years as an Academic Instructor at the Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica, Sarapiquí Campus.

UNA
UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL
COSTA RICA
SECCIÓN REGIONAL HUETAR NORTE Y CARIBE
CAMPUS SARAPIQUÍ

Assistant

STU. Estefanía Pérez-Hidalgo, Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica, San Carlos Campus.



Estefanía Pérez-Hidalgo is an advanced student in Business Administration, currently majoring in Computer Engineering at the Instituto Tecnológico de Costa Rica. She has been an assistant in two extension projects on diagnosing and enhancing the linguistic competences of a rural community in the Northern Region of Costa Rica. She also has assisted in three qualitative research studies regarding the perceptions of primary school English teachers with respect to distance and combined education during the pandemic, and on perceptions of the empowerment of women in a rural community in Sarapiquí, Costa Rica. She has grown into a professional through providing assistance to academic projects.

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de Costa Rica

Intern Assistant

STU. Valeria Cortés Camareno, Universidad de Costa Rica, Pacific Campus.



Valeria Cortés Camareno is an advanced student in English with business management training at the Universidad de Costa Rica, Pacific Campus. Valeria is about to finish her Bachelor's Degree and is doing her internship as an assistant for the IV English Teaching Congress 2022. Valeria is a young student full of professional ambitions, who is open to learning and to acquiring academic experiences.

