

**Minutes of the 1997 ISTECE General Assembly
Lima, Perú
November 20-21, 1997**

Thursday, November 20, 1997

The Seventh Annual Ibero-American Science and Technology Education Consortium General Assembly began with greetings from the Executive Committee President, Dr. Mauro S. Miskulin. Mauro especially welcomed eight prospective new members to the consortium and announced a change in the agenda such that new members would introduce their institutions to the assembly the following afternoon, Friday, November 21, rather than this morning.

Following Mauro's words of welcome, the Seventh ISTECE General Assembly Coordinator, Dr. Eduardo Ismodes, formally welcomed ISTECE members and participants to the hosting institution, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP), which was in the midst of celebrating the institution's 80th Anniversary.

Finally, words of welcome were delivered by former New Mexico State Senator, Tom Benavidez, who thanked Eduardo Ismodes and all the students and authorities who organized the Seventh Annual ISTECE General Assembly.

REPORT ON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mauro Miskulin

- ?? Thanked the local authorities on behalf of the Ex-Com
- ?? Reminded assembly that representatives represent their institution not individuals. Members are institutions.
- ?? Announced that Ex-Com met for sixteen hours of formal discussion.
- ?? Announced that formal decisions were to be ratified by the General Assembly.
- ?? Announced that he would participate in Ramiro Jordán's subsequent Executive Secretary presentation.
- ?? Reminded members that each institution would be represented by one vote.
- ?? Introduced Ramiro's "Power Point" Executive Secretary presentation.

REPORT FROM ISTECE SECRETARIAT AT UNM

Annual Review of Activities and Budget

Ramiro Jordán and Dori Peterson

- ?? Ramiro presented his Power Point Executive Secretary presentation of ISTECE.
- ?? Mauro pointed out that decisions/recommendations made in the presentation were decisions made by Ex-Com.
- ?? The decision was made to first discuss the budget reports prepared and managed by Dori Peterson.
- ?? Mauro asked for approval of the 1997 financial statements and budget expenditures.
- ?? The assembly gave unanimous approval of the 1997 budget.

Coffee Break

PRESENTATION OF EX-COM PROPOSALS

Mauro Miskulin

Mauro began by presenting proposal #1: to have Ex-Com members coordinate initiatives. This proposal was given unanimous approval by the assembly.

Proposal #2: Increase academic institutional membership to \$1,500.00, regardless of the country/geographical location of the institution.

Soraya Abad Mota (USB) asked for the reasoning behind the decision.

Ramiro responded that Ex-Com felt that it was much easier to sell ISTEAC with one price for all academic institutions.

Soraya responded that not all the institutions are in the same country, i.e. the same socioeconomic status.

Ramiro responded that it would be easier to sell to administrators.

Mauro responded that if assembly members wanted to feel equal, we could discuss that as the issue at hand. He summarized two decisions here: equalize or review the amount that we pay every year as academic institutions.

Dario Azevedo (PUCRS) wondered why the figure of \$1,500.00 had been chosen.

Ramiro responded that \$1,500.00 is considered the minimum amount necessary to run the consortium and also the least expensive requirement for membership.

Soraya asked for clarification: if \$1,500.00 is to equalize all universities, then why raise dues?

Mauro reminded the assembly that the New Mexico State contribution affects functioning of the consortium as well.

Ramiro added that cuts in New Mexico State's contribution continue each year so that the very least we will need to maintain the operations of the consortium should cuts continue so that State Funding is depleted would be \$1,500.00.

Eduardo Ismodes (PUCP) said that he spoke with administrators of his institution and reported that if the price of membership goes up, PUCP will not be able to pay.

Guillermo Jaquenod (UNLP-Altera) commented on the \$7,500.00 already given to UNM by his institution as part of an agreement between UNLP and UNM and that this type of contribution be considered in the discussion as well.

Osamu Saotome (ITA) commented that from the perspective of a new member, \$1,500.00 for participation/membership in three projects (ACE, Lib-Link, R&D) is a good deal.

Bel Santoro (UNICAMP) asked for the political strategy behind equalizing ISTEAC academic institutions.

Marisa de Giusti (UNLP) responded that the spirit of ISTEAC should be one of cooperation and equalizing achieves this objective.

Oscar Bonilla (UFM) asked if institutions could pay in installments.

Andreas Wild (Motorola) responded that there are economic costs to consider in making installment payments.

Guillermo raised his concern about the 22 out of 35 Latin American institutions who had paid membership dues by the General Assembly date, bringing attention to the many members who had not paid, including no membership dues having been paid by Iberian Peninsula members.

Mauro responded that was not an issue because we have established a two-

year criteria for dues payment.

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Howard Pollard (UNM) commented that when we began ISTEAC, \$1,000.00 was reasonable, but that inflation has not stopped since we began ISTEAC in 1990. Initiatives and projects are not free. We cannot pay for everything that the consortium does and remain at the same membership price.

Dario commented that he thought it was good idea to equalize academic institutional membership dues.

Mauro asked for the assembly to vote to equalize.

18 members responded in favor of equalizing

2 opposed.

0 abstained.

Mauro asked for any other figures besides \$1,500.00 that members would like to propose.

\$1,000.00 as membership was suggested to be maintained.

Mauro called for the assembly to vote on \$1,500.00 as ISTEAC academic institutional membership dues.

\$1500.00 was approved by a margin of 19 to 1.

Mauro concluded that beginning in January of 1998, ISTEAC academic institutional membership dues would be \$1,500.00 annually.

? **Proposal #3:** A new classification for Industrial Membership

Mauro explained the background of this proposal such that it has been hard to attract industrial members and that it is very important to have industrial members among us. He explained proposed *tiered classification* such that industrial members who contributed \$20,000.00 or more annually would be considered FULL MEMBERS, whereas industries who contributed between \$5,000.00 to \$20,000.00 would be considered COLLABORATORS, and those contributing less than \$5,000.00 would be considered SPONSORS.

Euvaldo Cabral (USP) asked for the difference between a Collaborator and Sponsor.

Mauro explained that a Collaborator could participate in setting ISTEAC policy by voting as a member at the General Assembly, whereas a Sponsor would not have voting privileges.

Mauro asked for a vote by the assembly to implement a tiered membership dues for industries as proposed by the Ex-com

4 voted in favor of the proposal

0 against

Mauro announced that beginning in 1998 ISTEAC would implement new membership dues policies for academic and industrial members.

?? **Proposal #4:** Focus ISTEAC Funding Efforts on Advanced Continuing Education (ACE)

Gregory Randall (UR) explained the history of past ISTEAC project funding.

Osamu asked if services provided by funded projects were free.

Mauro responded that if we all cooperate we all receive benefits.

Dario mentioned that if we have one priority per year it could be dangerous because you cannot predict the priority for next year.

Keats Soder (Motorola) responded that in the past we received many invalid proposals in the area of cooperation.

Gregory clarified that the items listed on Ramiro's Executive Secretary presentation (see slide #42) were only examples of activities in ACE and we could list any additional activity that a member might envision.

Ramiro mentioned that all the industries were interested in ACE.

Domingo Docampo (UVI) congratulated Ex-Com for the consensus of proceeding with ACE advancements. He commented that we cannot focus on all the activities. He asked members to consider that.

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Ramiro reminded the assembly that we must remember that all initiatives overlap.

Dario commented that Brazilian industries are often interested in specific projects/areas.

Ramiro stated that everyone needs to do their homework so that all the initiatives comprise the whole ISTEAC package that is proposed for funding.

Keats commented that members are free to put extra money in and direct it to a project outside of the focus.

Domingo asked when the plan would be ready.

Gregory responded that it would take at least 6 months to design a plan upon receiving input from members.

Mauro called for a vote on the proposal to focus ISTEAC funding for 1998 on ACE activities.

ACE passed unanimously as the focus for the year 1998.

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Proposal #5: 1998 Budget Requests

Discussion of 1998 budget requests (slide 47 on Power Point Secretariat presentation) began with the appropriation requested for the Library Linkages initiative. Questions arose regarding the RandeX project. Gregory Randall and Domingo Docampo explained the RandeX document delivery project in comparison to Ariel.

José Carlos Moreira Bértudez (UFSC) commented that, based on the previous year's allocations, the Library Linkages initiative used \$24,000.00 (\$12,000.00 for RandeX and \$12,000.00 for UNM's document delivery service) and that active sites have doubled. He asked if \$20,000.00 would be enough.

Mauro responded that this represented as much as we could spend for 1998.

Gregory commented that the redistribution of money among all the initiatives is intended to integrate all the initiatives.

Bel asked who would be responsible for planning the distribution of funds allocated to an initiative.

Osamu asked where the web servers would be located.

Mauro responded that we must work with each other's institutions for planning.

Oscar directed the assembly's attention to the request for appropriation of \$20,000.00 to the ISTEAC Secretariat Office for administrative expenses. He asked how that figure had been arrived at, while \$20,000.00 was the requested appropriation to LibLink and only \$10,000.00 to R&D.

Ramiro responded that figures for administrative expenses were arrived at due to state cuts and funds that would be necessary to compensate for those losses.

Mauro asked the assembly to vote on the 1998 budget requests emanating from the Ex-Com.

The 1997 ISTEAC General Assembly passed the 1998 Budget Requests

unanimously.

CHANGE IN AGENDA

Mauro Miskulin

Mauro announced the necessity for changing the agenda items due to the unforeseen amount of time needed to discuss and vote on the preceding Secretariat report and Ex-Com proposals. He announced that reports from R&D and Library Linkages would follow, but that the time allotted to those reports would be reduced to 20 minutes each rather than an hour. He also explained to the assembly that this year marks election year of the Executive Committee. He explained the procedure that the Ex-Com proposed for the assembly to follow. Basically, members would be allowed to vote for the same group of people to remain on the Executive Committee, with one additional member, Soraya Abad Mota, from Universidad Simón Bolívar (USB), Venezuela, and one change in representation, that being Nicolas Pérez de la Blanca from Universidad de Granada (UG), Spain, in place of Anibal Figueiras, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM), Spain. Members were given ballots with the same Ex-Com members as have comprised the committee for the past three years as well as USB and UG in one column, and a blank column should any member wish to suggest/generate greater participation in Ex-Com by electing other member institutions.

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Report of Activities: R&D Laboratories Initiative

Howard Pollard

Howard Pollard began the discussion of activities of the R&D Laboratories Initiative for the previous year.

- ? He reported that none of the ISTE C member institutions were involved in the NORTEL lab development and advanced training project proposed at the previous year's assembly.
- ? He began to report on the status of the Motorola funded video courses that are available to ISTE C members. Howard finished the Digital Signal Processing 56000 Microprocessor (DSP 56K) course in English the previous summer. Keats Soder commented that ISTE C funds were not used for the video courses. Motorola funded the courses entirely. Howard concurred and announced to the assembly that if a member institution would like the tapes, the format needed must be indicated and requests directed to Juan Larrañaga of the ISTE C Secretariat Office who oversees our NTSC/PAL multi-system. Video courses are available in English on HC11, 68K, and DSP 56K in NTSC and PAL. Video courses of HC11 and 68K are available in Spanish (56K in Spanish is expected to be available in the spring of 1998).
- ?? Howard reported that mechanisms for transfer of information over the internet exist now and that such information includes the offer by Motorola to replace boards and fund experiments. Information like this is available on the ISTE C R&D web page. Howard requested that members send reports on R&D to make available on the web site for other interested people in HTML. He asked that members please mail their reports to ISTE C97@eece.unm.edu.
- ? Howard reported that the 6811 assembler provides a listing, while 6800 is a dissembler.
- ? Chaouki Abdallah (UNM) commented the robotics information based on 6811 curricula is also available and can be posted on the website.
- ? Howard asked for greater participation by members and explained his chagrin as director of the R&D initiative for the lack of task force production that was extensively planned at last year's assembly. Visions such as a database of experiments and curricula are still viable and desirable from his point of view.

Greg Heileman (UNM) agreed with Howard and envisioned the robotics class at UNM which he explained briefly as appropriate to the R&D initiative activities for the year ahead.

Keats Soder commented that the robotics class would be great to package and distribute.

Domingo Docampo suggested that people interested in participating more actively in the R&D initiative come one or two days before the assembly as the Library Linkages participants do to have a workshop on microprocessors or other interesting topics.

Ricardo Fernández del Busto (ITESM-Morelos) described how students at his institution applied Motorola Technology.

Oscar concurred that a workshops on such topics would be great and offered the example of the need for microprocessing chips at his institution.

Keats responded to Oscar by explaining how to obtain Motorola products and services.

Arturo Robledo (UAM) asked for web page link so that every member can quickly find Motorola information.

? Mauro asked Howard if there were any results from last year's task forces? He reminded the assembly that four hours of the assembly were spent solely on R&D the previous year and again asked Howard if he had any information on the task forces that resulted from last year's dedication to and discussion of the R&D initiative.

Howard responded that he did not have any additional information.

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Soraya explained that she worked alone rather than in conjunction with the task force members she was assigned with. She reported that she made proposals to Venezuela with the members who attended last year's assembly. The task force she was a member of proposed the distributed database lab. But rather than the task force working together, she found herself working alone, with colleagues at her own institution to obtain funding in the amount of \$330,000 for three years, of which one part of the funded project was for the ISTEAC database lab.

Domingo commented that the task force procedure/mechanism is to blame.

Oscar asked if a mailing list for these subjects is possible.

Ramiro commented that the R&D task force shortfalls comprise a learning experience for the consortium.

Gregory declared that the task force concept is a failure.

Howard directed the assembly's attention to the time, i.e., R&D discussions had surpassed the 20 minutes allocated and that we were running late for the hosting institution's scheduled lunch. He asked the assembly members to once again look for R&D information on the ISTEAC web page and that the R&D initiative would be undergoing procedural changes.

POST-LUNCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mauro Miskulin

Mauro began the afternoon session by announcing that ITESM--Monterrey had withdrawn their membership to ISTEAC, to his dismay. He asked members to return their Ex-Com election ballots to Dori Peterson so that she could report the results. He then announced the candidates for future ISTEAC General Assemblies, including Catholic University of Paraguay's bid for the 1999 General Assembly, as well as Motorola's bid for 1999 or 2000. Mauro made the

official announcement that Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS) under the coordination of Dr. Dario Azevedo will host the 1998 ISTECE General Assembly.

Report of Activities: Library Linkages Initiative
Harry Lull, Bel Santoro_

After brief overhead presentations by Harry Lull (UNM) and Bel Santoro (UNICAMP)—which were distributed to assembly members, are attached to the master minutes, and are available at the ISTECE web site (www.eece.unm.edu/istec/jerome)—were made, open discussion of the Library Linkages initiative ensued with assembly members.

- ? Bel Santoro began the open discussion by urging stronger ties within ISTECE institutions and between members and librarians. She also commented that where the library is located on a campus is important for students. Arturo asked if one day documents will be received directly in PDF form. Domingo responded that RandeX should be able to do so soon. Mauro asked if there were legal issues to consider regarding document delivery from library to library to user. Harry responded that International copyright law gives flexibility to library-library usage because a library is able to monitor how much delivery from a particular journal occurs.
- ?? Marisa announced UNLP's PREBI project (see handout distributed at General Assembly or consult our web site: www.eece.unm.edu/istec/jerome).

CHANGE IN AGENDA
Gregory Randall

At this point in the Assembly, Gregory directed the assembly to hold an open session, so that members could freely express any concerns, questions or issues they wished to discuss.

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- ?? Dario expressed his concern for more exchange of professors and students as an objective for ISTECE.
- Andreas commented on the mobility issue, giving the example that most grants given under the Alpha project are for funding mobility.
- Ramiro commented that there are not any programs funding mobility. He said that the consortium has been trying within the state of New Mexico, but that "we flunk the test in the Senate house."
- Tom Benavidez responded that mobility has been funded in New Mexico. Gregory pointed out that there are not programs in Latin America. Oscar suggested video conferencing as an alternative.

Coffee Break

PANEL: LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE FIRST SEVEN YEARS
Domingo Docampo

Domingo began this first time ever reflective educational component in the series of ISTECE General Assemblies by posing the question, "What has been the ISTECE's impact?" first to a panel comprised of various long-term members of ISTECE and then to the entire assembly for open discussion. Panel members included, in order of their responses to Domingo's question, Francisco Viveros (UAJ), Keats Soder (Motorola), Arturo Robledo (UAM), and Mauro Miskulin (UNICAMP).

- ?? Francisco felt that on the positive side ISTEAC had ambitious cooperation, e.g., Motorola labs, funds, intensive course work, and prominent engineers as contacts in Spain and New Mexico. He sees a need to improve courses, such as Khoros offerings, and the Library Linkages. Domingo asked Francisco for suggestions.
- Francisco responded that he felt that the negatives mostly stem from the times when his university has not achieved the necessary research because there is a lack of discipline and structure. He felt ISTEAC has not achieved full cooperation.
- ?? Keats Soder responded that Motorola has a strong interest in ISTEAC. He stated his disappointment in the lack of sharing in terms of educational materials. He would like to see more cooperation. He would also like to see more industrial members working with academia and producing good engineers.
- ?? Arturo Robledo spoke of his institution and the fact there are not enough people getting a quality education. ISTEAC contributes to a heightened education through the R&D and Library Linkages initiatives and also through intellectual collaborations. He spoke of the lack of continuity and the return to the beginning if support is not realized. He agreed with Francisco that the majority of interaction occurring within ISTEAC is with UNM and he would like to see more horizontal collaboration.
- ?? Mauro responded that by participating in ISTEAC, we all have gained a lot of experience, positive results and doubts..."Collaboration is possible. We have different cultures, politics, etc. Sometimes we bring particular issues. Yes, it is true that our interaction has been top-down, unilateral, north-south, but ISTEAC is not this. Our problems are ours, not problems of ISTEAC, but this is one of the difficulties in implementing a program like ISTEAC. We depend on the hopes that ISTEAC brings. It has opened a channel of communication that we did not have. We have unique contributions, we know that we have the capacity but lack the mechanism. People are welcome to show/to ease the consortium's functioning--for this ISTEAC is hopeful."

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Mauro continued his response, asking, "Why not more industry? Because we have different cultures. What we lack is local interest. This is not our fault, but local industry is not interested in multinational participation. For example, IBM Brazil changed its mind."

"Communication is a problem for everyone. It is a challenge. We're engineers... we can fix our structure, we've worked long and hard on our structure. It's been difficult to build our infrastructure. We have a better infrastructure--how many organizations have such an infrastructure as ours?"

"The number of members is greater. I have never asked if you're worried about our number of members. I have worried about the quality of our membership. Shouldn't we revise/reflect on quality of membership rather than quantity because we're interested in working hard."

Greg Heileman (UNM) said that he agreed with Mauro, above all regarding the issue of punctual contacts between North and South. He recounted his experience in Colombia where he learned of three universities working on a project, but there was not much evidence of a collective effort. He urged assembly members to think sincerely about implementing the types of collaborative projects and better collective mechanisms engendered in the proposed focus on ACE during the year ahead... "We need new goals to achieve together."

Greg continued to comment on a second issue: "...the we have been erratic about things. In this assembly, we've made a big step in concentrating on something [ACE] to make more concrete. It appears more structured."

?? Domingo followed Greg's commentary with a series of questions posed to the entire assembly: "What has motivated us? What has really helped us? What are the hoped for mechanisms, for example with the R&D initiative?"

Nicolás commented on the mechanisms from his perspective at Universidad de Granada... "ISTEC is focused on cooperation without losing...we've achieved more encouragement/ spirit than imaginable. The important thing is to appear more mature, (i.e. in the R&D initiative). ACE is practical, it's a clear goal, but to ensure it success, it's a little more difficult. We are capable of funding, the universities have done a great job of demonstrating our potential as an organization, the contacts above all."

Soraya agreed with Mauro, Greg and Nicolás in searching for a structure... "I don't have an idea how to incorporate all of you, including Keats when I need your help for instance. When I need help for instance, I work with...Ramiro for example, but I don't know where there is a common point of interest to achieve a project. Last year, I came to work on a project, but I, alone, ended up working on it because of specific problems. No one, outside UNM and Ramiro, pays attention to those with specific problems."

Darío commented that he views ISTEC not as a financing mechanism, but as a mechanism of opportunities for contacts with others, i.e., potential partnerships with other institutions. There is a gap between Southern countries. He agreed that Southern ISTEC members appear tied more to the US than to Argentina. "This is not efficient."

Francisco pointed out that money plays a role in that it is more difficult to obtain for some members than others, "but if we want it, we can get it." Still, he continued, "we often find ourselves alone doing projects."

Ramiro concurred with Francisco's comment, stating that Soraya created a database that no one uses.

Soraya followed Ramiro's observation with the fact that "only nine of thirty members have used it."

Oscar stated his viewpoint such that "from what I have heard about the task forces... even these are long term goals, each one must make it short term... It is a common problem that we accept responsibility here [at the assemblies] and then return home and forget about it for a year. We should set deadlines upon returning, for example."

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Greg returned to the issue of funding and the industry—academic member relationships. In Spain, he recounted that Domingo stated overcoming the difficulty of implementing R&D by way of obtaining help from the government. That help was key. In other countries, "you may not have that opportunity for support."

Arturo commented that even with a population of 50,000-300,000 students, bureaucrats are still in control at Mexican universities and they are not receptive to the needs of scientists. "That is why ISTEC is a powerful means of change."

Greg asked for further comments on the lack of industrial partnerships.

Dario responded thus: "Our university has a lot of contact with industry. We started out with local companies and then broadened our relations to eight agreements from which four broadened to outside the university department."

Domingo asked "How do we get more industrial partners?"

Ramiro commented that Hewlett-Packard would have been a sponsoring member had we had in place the tiered membership. He recounted that "NORTEL and Motorola began with us and then Fluke saw the benefits of such a Latin American mechanism."

Euvaldo recounted his attempts to involve industry in ISTECS by way of sending letters on behalf of ISTECS to over 2000 companies in São Paulo, Brazil. 125 answered and of those, 25 appeared at a follow up meeting. He reported he was unsuccessful getting the companies involved. He recounted that ISTECS resulted from Ramiro's imagination... "It has been hard getting people involved because the only way to get people involved is with money. Without personal profit, professors won't get involved." He proposed using ISTECS money for students to go to our countries, our universities, pursuing post-grad. degrees for example... "Having that student is an investment and stimulus for grants...exchange people and students...it's an interesting way to begin a future, i.e., a political organization to begin funding. We must review the philosophy behind ISTECS."

Chaouki related an experience with an exchange student to UNM from Vigo which turned into a scholarly partnership that continues today. He concurred with the philosophically big picture presented by Euvaldo. He also commiserated with Arturo, stating that administrators block ISTECS at UNM also. He asked, "What are we going to do about it? What are the companies going to get out of being here at ISTECS?"

Andreas Wild responded that as a representative of Motorola, "my first impression is positive. In terms of financial means, we're looking at a small organization. We're at a point where we can plan for an explosion of growth in the next decade in Latin America. A 700 million peopled continent. ISTECS will be instrumental in leverage of such a population. We at Motorola cannot put all of our eggs in one basket. We started in Campinas. One of the reasons for me being here is looking at ISTECS as mechanism of leverage of a huge part of the globe."

Greg asked industrial participants at the assembly whether they had gained access to new markets.

Jim Nunn (Fluke Technologies) responded, "Yes, certainly. ISTECS is a convenient vehicle. The most valuable thing is the information-sharing, without that our equipment is useless. We hope to be involved in the information-sharing."

Andreas responded, "We will have to hire 50,000 employees and it is unlikely that we will find them in the US. Of course there is business, we want to get rich."

Keats responded, "From a corporate standpoint, we started this initiative as a philanthropic initiative. Our philosophy...corporate view is to help a region of the world--not to drive it, control it, but to be a catalyst to help itself. The fallout is a better environment, a better educated population...a better society through technology. Motorola will approximately do 1 billion dollars in sales in Latin America. Our business goal is 10 billion dollars in sales by 2002...and we're only one company. Be realistic in your targets. A company must benefit from ISTECS. You must not target everyone...You have to be careful."

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Ramiro put up a power point slide of statistics and pointed out to the assembly that 450,000 Information-Technology people are needed in the US currently, yet the US only supplies 1/6 of that need.

Andreas suggested to the assembly that a marketing plan be articulated.

Keats remarked that eighty people were hired by Motorola in Perú within the last three months.

"We have 100 positions that cannot be filled in the United States. Ninety percent of people hired in Perú graduated from this University [PUCP]."

Domingo asked Keats if ISTECS had helped Motorola hire people?

Keats responded, "Perhaps indirectly."

Jim Nunn remarked having just returned from Southeast Asia where he saw a connection to involving bureaucrats facilitating programs like ISTECS due to the development of marketing plans there by such programs.

Andreas commented, "There is vital activity."

Osamu agreed that scholarship would be beneficial.

RESULTS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS
Mauro Miskulin, Dori Peterson

Mauro Miskulin drew the assembly's attention to the limited time remaining for the day's agenda items and asked Dori Peterson to report the results from the electoral ballots collected earlier in the day from voting assembly members. She reported that members unanimously voted for the composition of the executive committee as proposed. Mauro called for the "new" executive committee to convene at the hotel conference room following the closure of the General Assembly (see attached listing of 1998-2000 ISTEK Executive Committee). In November of 2000, election of the ISTEK Executive Committee will once again take place. Mauro then adjourned the Seventh Annual General Assembly until the following day.

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November 21, 1997

This final day of Consortium activities was begun once again by Mauro Miskulin, Executive Committee President, who first welcomed attendees and then outlined the day's agenda items, including industrial presentations, project reports and new member presentations.

Gregory Randall then interjected an announcement of CITA '98 (I Concurso Iberoamericano de Tecnologías Aplicadas a la Enseñanza de la Electrónica).

Howard Pollard then introduced the agenda item of industrial presentations. All representatives brought promotionals and supportive materials for members at the General Assembly. Please consult those materials for more details of presentations made. The first presentation was by Fluke Corporation.

FLUKE CORPORATION

Presented by Jim Nunn in conjunction with IRE and Infodata

Highlights of this presentation included two proposals by Jim Nunn: 1) Electronic Harmonics lab support for ISTECE members; and 2) Trainings available from Infodata. Jim asked members to please contact him for discounts on equipment before adjournment of the assembly. Fluke promotional materials were made available at the assembly. For more information, please write Jim at jimnunn@tc.fluke.com, or look for a link to Fluke Corp. on the ISTECE web site.

MICROSOFT

Presented by Benny Sterental

Eduardo Ismodes introduced the Peruvian Microsoft representative, Benny Sterental, to the assembly. Javier Páramo, Regional Education Manager of Academic, E&C Programs for Microsoft Latin America, was invited by ISTECE's Program Manager to present at the General Assembly regarding his vision of collaboration with ISTECE, and he accepted, but due to insurmountable conflicts in his schedule, he called the Secretariat office to notify us that he would not be able to present and had asked Benny to take his place just days before the assembly. Highlights of Benny's presentation included Microsoft's direction toward virtual classrooms connected to learning centers. When asked by Ramiro how Benny envisioned collaboration with ISTECE, he referred us back to Javier Páramo, who we have established connections with already. Benny also referred us to the Microsoft.com web site, and specifically to "frontpage" to become familiar with Microsoft's collaborative projects between teachers and students.

NORTHERN TELECOM DE ARGENTINA, S.A.

Presented by Sandra Corva

Highlights of Sandra's Nortel presentation included facts such as Nortel's presence in 150 countries and their current 38 laboratories in 16 countries. She focused her presentation on how she envisioned collaboration between Nortel and ISTECE via a very innovative Campus Ambassador Program (CAP). Within CAP, strategic universities are devised which are based on three axes:

- ?? A Student Ambassador
- ?? A University Executive
- ?? A Campus Manager

Sandra delineated each axis and the overall structure and functioning of CAP. CAP represents a very viable/achievable collaborative project for ISTEAC members, especially with the focus on ACE in 1998.

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MOTOROLA

Presented by Andreas Wild

Andreas is the Regional Director of Consumer Systems in The Americas, SPS, for Motorola. He began his presentation by urging ISTEAC members to "make sure that your students speak English." Andreas presented many interesting statistics, facts and anecdotes which related to scientific and technological development in Latin America and his chosen theme for his presentation: "Growth is controlled by the balance of power, culture and prosperity." For more information, please write Andreas at tdoc03@email.sps.mot.com

ALTERA CORPORATION

Presented by Guillermo Jaquenod

Guillermo presented Altera Corporation, founded in 1983, for the first time to an ISTEAC General Assembly. Many members were very interested in the "high-performance, high-density programmable logic devices and associated computer aided engineering (CAE) logic development tools" offered by Altera. Altera products serve a broad range of markets and Guillermo referred the assembly members to write for more information to: intectra@best.com Guillermo also made promotional materials available at the assembly and directed members to Altera on the World Wide Web at <http://www.altera.com>.

PICTURETEL

Videoconference presentation featuring Angela and Howard

Upon establishing a successful connection/link, Eduardo Ismodes presented a videoconference presentation by PictureTel. Eduardo asked Howard to interact with PictureTel representative Angela ? After greetings between Angela and Howard, Angela asked what we would like the presentation to address. Howard responded to the options she offered to explain which included details such as the founding of PictureTel in 1984 by two MIT students, who created the modern industry of videoconferencing. The dialup part which Eduardo achieved is the main part of the industry. Dial-up video conferencing is made practical, useful, natural, effective and affordable by PictureTel. Angela provided a direct phone number, 508-292-5327 and fax number, 508-292-3302 to Howard and the assembly members before bidding us good-bye.

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NEW MEMBERS

The afternoon session began with a brief introduction by Mauro Miskulin of the seven new members who would be presenting their institutions to the assembly. He asked each representative to be brief, i.e., not exceeding 10 minutes. Following are the seven institutions presented by the representatives who attended the assembly.

Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería (UNI), Perú

Presented by Arturo Rojas Moreno (arojas@uni.edu.pe)

Instituto Nacional de Astrofísica, Óptica y Electrónica (INAOE), México

Presented by Jorge Martínez (jme@inaoep.mx)

Instituto Tecnológico de Apizaco (IT-Apizaco), México

Presented by Carlos Alberto Reyes (careyes@itapizaco.edu.mx)

Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, Campus Morelos (ITESM—Morelos), México

Presented by Ricardo Fernandez del Busto (rfernand@campus.mor.itesm.mx)

Universidade Estadual Paulista (UNESP), Brasil

Presented by Fernando Mendes Pereira (fmendes@reitoria.unesp.br)

Instituto Tecnológico de Aeronáutica (ITA), Brasil

Presented by Osamu Saotome (osaotome@ele.ita.cta.br)

Instituto Militar de Engenharia (IME), Brasil

Presented by Euvaldo Cabral (euvaldo@lcs.poli.usp.br)

?? Policy regarding new members

Following the completion of presentations, Mauro reminded the assembly that new members are accepted on a provisional basis for two years, and that membership dues for the new members, in that they are all academic in nature, would be \$1,500.00. Following the two year period of provisional membership, new members are evaluated, and if their evaluation is positive, they are admitted at full members to the consortium. At that point, Mauro asked the new member representatives to leave the assembly so that members could discuss and vote for their provisional membership.

Once new member representatives had left the auditorium, Mauro called for a vote. Voting members of the assembly unanimously accepted 5 universities (UNI, INAOE, IT-Apizaco, ITESM-Morelos, and UNESP), but indicated a need for further discussion of the two Brazilian military institutions (ITA and IME). The "military" connotation concerned some members. Soraya felt it necessary to discuss the feelings that the word provoked. Arturo proposed accepting the military institutions on a provisional basis. Ramiro pointed out that New Mexico, home to UNM, is the site of the birth of the Atomic bomb, attempting to relate that it is difficult to be "free of military influence." Keats related to the assembly that many Motorola products are specifically made for and used by the military, such that ISTEAC already has a direct connection to the military. Mauro called for the assembly to vote for acceptance of the two Brazilian military institutions. 19 voted to accept the military institutions, one abstained.

Mauro called the representatives back into the auditorium and made the official announcement of acceptance of all seven new institutions as provisional members of ISTEAC.

The assembly applauded in welcoming them.

REPORTS ON SPECIFIC PROJECTS FUNDED BY ISTECE

?? **RandeX**

Domingo announced that RandeX is finished being tested and is ready for distribution to all ISTECE member institutions as an alternative document delivery system. He asked members to contact him within a couple months for procedures to implement RandeX and he made available a hand out which can be viewed at the ISTECE website. Members can contact Domingo for more information at: ddocampo@tsc.uvigo.es

?? **BDDIS (Base de datos distribuida para el ISTECE, Segunda fase)**

Soraya urged responses from all the universities to a questionnaire she sent out. The questionnaire allows her to build the database, but unfortunately she has only received questionnaires from nine out of twenty-nine total that she has sent out. Please write Soraya at: abadmota@ldc.usb.ve so that your information will be accurately logged on the database she has created, or to receive the questionnaire, or to receive instructions on how to use the database.

?? **A Framework and Methodology for Creating World Wide Web Courses**

Ramiro Jordán gave a brief "Power Point" presentation on this project and directed members to the ISTECE webpage for more information as time was limited for the remainder of the assembly.

?? **Becas de Intercambio ISTECE: Conmutados por la red**

Gregory Randall briefly explained "Becas" and its integration with CITA '98, which he had previously announced (see page). For more information on this project, you can write to Gregory at: RANDALL@iie.edu.uy or consult the ISTECE website.

REPORT: LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE FIRST SEVEN YEARS

Greg Heileman, Chaouki Abdallah

Mauro announced that Greg and Chaouki had prepared a brief report to share with the assembly, based on the previous day's panel presentation and discussion: "Lessons Learned From the First Seven Years." Greg used a power point presentation to summarize the issues raised and invited members to contact him or Chaouki as they would be preparing a report for publication. Greg indicated the report would be available on the ISTECE website.

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CLOSURE

Mauro Miskulin

Prior to closing the Seventh Annual ISTECE General Assembly, Mauro reiterated that the 1998 General Assembly would be held at Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS) in Brasil, and that members must consider the candidates for the 1999 General Assembly. He shared some words of gratitude with the assembly for the substantial amount of work completed and the sense of accomplishment as a consequence.

The 1997 ISTECE General Assembly was closed.

*****A Special Note of Thanks*****

I would like to thank the ISTECE Secretariat Office Manager, Stacy Czerniak, for her

assistance in laboriously typing up my copious notes from the General Assembly, which often switched languages depending on who was speaking, and for her collating the necessary attachments. Due to her dedication, I was much more effectively able to bring this document to completion.

Dori Peterson, January 12, 1998