

De CLARA



RedCLARA

Cooperación Latino Americana de Redes Avanzadas

Special Edition



Comunidad y tecnología

Boletín n°

53

August 2018

Everything is ready for
TICAL2018 and the 2nd Latin
American e-Science Meeting
in Cartagena de Indias

Luz Miriam Díaz Patigño:
“Digital transformation
is a reality and RENATA
is the right scenario to
strengthen it”

Fernando Daniels:
“Universities that have
not incorporated digital
technologies are at risk of
leaving the market”

A clear path for your data
We empower your research and developments

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Luis Eliécer
Cadenas Marín

Executive Director
RedCLARA

TICAL2018

Between September 3rd and 5th we will be holding the eighth edition of our TICAL Conference. This year we have incorporated several innovations in order to tailor the event to the interest and needs of the region's education, research and innovation community.

The 2018 version of TICAL will be guided by the theme "Digital Transformation in Institutions of Higher Education, Science and Culture", a task that we must face with enthusiasm and vision of the future to ensure that Latin America will be enriched by the opportunities of cooperation provided by technology. In a region like ours, marked by great inequalities and needs, ICT is a tool to generate more equality and support, in addition to maximizing the resources that each of our states destines to education, art and science.

Plenary sessions, training workshops, the table of rectors and announcements of new services and planning activities of national networks will intertwine in the magical Cartagena de Indias. Everything so that we can continue building this collective dream represented by RedCLARA and its members.

Finally, I would like to thank my work team and our host network, RENATA, for all the efforts and support to make this event a success and to turn it into the starting point for new projects and initiatives designed to benefit everyone.

The 'Heroic' will be taken

Everything is ready for
TICAL2018 and the
**2nd Latin American e-Science
Meeting** in Cartagena de Indias

Luiz Alberto Rasseli

The wait is over. One year after the last meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica, the community of ICT directors of the Latin American universities will meet again to discuss the course of the "Digital Transformation of Institutions of Higher Education, Art and Science", now at the Las Americas Convention Center in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia. The events, which for the second consecutive year will be jointly held, will bring together about 300 ICT experts and researchers from throughout the region, Europe, Oceania and North America.





"This year we will have speakers and authors from Argentina, Australia, Canada, Spain, the United States, England, Italy, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico and, of course, from Colombia. We will also have the presence of the leaders of the NRENs of Latin America, the United States and Europe", explains Luz Mirian Díaz Patigño, Executive Director of the colombian advanced network RENATA, host of the conferences.

According to her, receiving TICAL for the second time (Cartagena hosted the conference in 2013) is cause of great joy and everything is ready. "Thanks to the commitment of the organizing committee, made up of the work teams of RENATA and RedCLARA, TICAL2018 and the 2nd Latin American Meeting of e-Science are ready to receive in Cartagena the university authorities and the academic and scientific community of the entire region. The attendees will have the best scenario for the relationship in favor of collaborative work with these guests."

During its three days, TICAL and 'e-Science' will also be the scenario for the presentation of the 50 most innovative

projects regarding the use of technology for the development of education and research in the region. The calls for papers were open between February 26 and June 11, and the Integrated Program Committee received 175 proposals in total: 133 from TICAL and 42 from the e-Science Meeting. Colombia, with 49 proposals, and Ecuador, with 37, were the most participatory countries, followed by Mexico, Brazil, Chile and Argentina. In the final list, in turn, Ecuador was the country with the major number of selected proposals, adding 11 between the two calls.

One of these 11 authors is Edison Coronel, professor of Systems Engineering at the National University of Loja, Ecuador, who does not hide his high expectations on the meetings. "We participated with a paper for the first time in TICAL2016 and since then, year after year, we have been participating in such a prestigious event. I hope to know other experiences of the universities and be able to use or implement it within our experience of the UNL, in addition to promoting research to future professionals, who are a fundamental pillar in the University", he says.



Discussing the digital transformation in universities

The program of TICAL2018 and the 2nd e-Science Meeting was prepared to boost the discussions on the theme of the Conference. The events will begin at 8am on Monday, September 3 with the opening of the registration desk, followed by the opening of the Business Fair and the first plenary sessions, which will be distributed throughout the meeting. Participants will include international panelists such as William Confalonieri, (Digital Director of Deakin University), Martin Hilbert (Professor of the University of California) Enzo Capone (Head of the Research Support Team of the pan-European network GÉANT), Fernando Daniels (Executive Director of the College of the Americas program - COLAM) and Heather Flanagan (Project Manager for Collaborative Communities at Spherical Cow Consulting).

The traditional parallel sessions, where Edison Coronel and other chosen authors will participate, will also take place during the three days and will be the space dedicated to the presentation of the works chosen in the calls. TICAL will privilege works that present the results of experiences of implementing ICT solutions and strategies in thematic areas such as collaboration, process improvement, personalization, governance and ICT management. The e-Science Meeting, in turn, will prioritize areas such as e-Health, IoT and e-Science and Online Creation.



The events will also have nine sessions of training workshops. All of them are free of charges for those who are registered in the Conference but, as its seats are limited, it requires online registration. Among the topics are "Cyberinfrastructure for Science", "Stability and resilience of Internet routing", "Management of Scientific Data" and "How to implement eduroam".

As a novelty for the 2018 edition, all the details of the program, the expected closing dinner (September 5 at an entertaining Cartagena party on the beach in front of the Las Americas Convention Center) and other instances will be available in an exclusive app for the Conference. The instructions for downloading the application will be published on the official website of the Conference, where you can also find all the relevant information about the most important meeting of ICT Directors in the region. Visit www.tical2018.redclara.net

TICAL2018 and the 2nd Latin American Meeting of e-Science are organized by RedCLARA and RENATA, with the support and sponsorship of Microsoft, Internet Society Latin America and the Caribbean, Alcatel-Lucent Enterprise Latam, Canvas LMS, and Huawei.



Register in the workshops of TICAL2018 and the 2nd Meeting of e-Science

Nine training workshops will be carried out within the framework of the 2nd Latin American Meeting of e-Science and the TICAL2018 Conference. All of them are free of charge for those who are registered and will participate in the Conference but, as their seats are limited, they require your online registration. Get all the details here:

Tuesday September 4
3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Access and use of the Ibero-American Network of High Performance Computing
<https://eventos.redclara.net/indico/event/903/>

Ciberinfrastructure for Science
<https://eventos.redclara.net/indico/event/917/>

The State of ICT in Higher Education: Importance and Challenges
<https://eventos.redclara.net/indico/event/913/>

Stability and resilience of Internet routing
<https://eventos.redclara.net/indico/event/915/>

Workshop on Management of Scientific Data
<https://eventos.redclara.net/indico/event/905/>

Wednesday, September 5
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Innovation of High Impact: from the University to the world
<https://eventos.redclara.net/indico/event/914/>

Opportunities for cooperation of the H2020 Program for Latin America
<https://eventos.redclara.net/indico/event/911/>

How to implement eduroam and do it well
<https://eventos.redclara.net/indico/event/919/>

The role of the National Networks in the digital transformation of their universities
<https://eventos.redclara.net/indico/event/920/>

Remember that your participation will only be insured through your registration.

Luz Miriam Díaz Patigño

"Digital transformation is a reality and RENATA is the right scenario to strengthen it"



The firm and determined words of the Executive Director of the host network of TICAL2018 and the 2nd Latin American e-Science Meeting leave no doubt: Colombia is ready to receive the events that will take place from September 3 to 5 at the Las Americas Convention Center, in Cartagena de Indias. Very close to completing a year in front of RENATA, Luz Miriam Díaz Patigño talked with DeCLARA about the challenge of organizing the events, her expectations for it and the history of the "Heroic City".

Luiz Alberto Rasseli

Hello, Luz Miriam! You are very close to completing one year in front of RENATA, and now with the challenge of being hosts and co-organizers of TICAL2018 and the 2nd Latin American e-Science Meeting with RedCLARA. How do you evaluate this experience and how are the preparations going?

For RENATA, as part of its commitment to strengthening the educational and scientific activity through ICTs, it is a source of pride and a great responsibility to convene the academic and scientific community of Colombia and Latin America to discuss, analyze and reflect on the digital transformation in institutions of Higher Education, Science and Culture. Digital transformation is a reality and RENATA is the right scenario to strengthen it.

We are very happy to welcome in our country the authors of the region's 50 most innovative projects in the use of technology for the development of education and research. This year we will have speakers and authors from Argentina, Australia, Canada, Spain, the United States, England, Italy, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Mexico and, of course, Colombia. We will also have the presence of NREN leaders from Latin America, the United States and Europe.

Thanks to the commitment of the organizing committee, made up of the RENATA and RedCLARA working teams, TICAL2018 and the 2nd Latin American e-Science Meeting are ready to receive in Cartagena the university authorities and the academic and scientific community

throughout the region. The attendees will have the best scenario for the relationship in favor of collaborative work with these guests. In addition, they will be able to participate in the workshops that we will carry out within the framework of the event.

How do you evaluate the current state of the "Digital Transformation of Universities" in Colombia?

As I have said, digital transformation is a reality and a challenge for universities not only in Colombia but all around the world, a process that is already in action. Our institutions are experiencing a very interesting digital transformation process and the massive adoption of digital information and communication technologies for education and research is one of our most ambitious bets. Institutions are aware that it can not be outside of what the country demands today.

What are the main challenges and opportunities to effectively achieve this transformation?

One of the biggest challenges is the adaptation to change. Achieving digital transformation in institutions implies a change in the way we understand the 'whys and whats' of the technologies, and in how we internalize the sense that networks of advanced technology have as a technological stage for work between people.

I believe that digital transformation should allow us to do new things in new ways. For universities it is an opportunity to improve the processes of learning and research.

How do you think the Colombian ICT community and RENATA itself will benefit from TICAL2018 and the 2nd e-Science Meeting?

TICAL2018 and the 2nd Latin American e-Science Meeting will be a magnificent stage for the inspiration of the institutions of the region and a very good opportunity to know and better understand the potential offered by national research and education networks, both to our institutions and to our countries.

And how about Cartagena? What can you say about the 'Heroic City', so well known for its beauty and history?

Cartagena de Indias, founded in the 16th century, is one of the most beautiful colonial cities on the continent. It was declared a National Heritage of Colombia in 1959 and a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1984. Since its foundation and during the Spanish vice regal period, the city has been one of the most important ports in America. Cartagena has established itself as a stage for political, cultural and economic encounters not only in Colombia but in the world. It also has a wide range of hotel and tourism that you can enjoy before or after the event. Cartagena is also the headquarters of RIESCAR, the regional academic network that is part of RENATA serving the departments of Bolívar, Guajira, Cesar, Magdalena, Sucre and Córdoba.

We are very happy that Cartagena is the host city of TICAL for the second time. It is the best scenario to welcome the rectors, vice-rectors and directors of ICT and talk about digital transformation in universities.

What are your expectations regarding TICAL - e-Science?

Our greatest challenge is to generate the articulation for collaborative work with institutions throughout the region. We want the academic and scientific community to have the opportunity to discover new ways and possibilities for the development of collaborative activities.

Also, that the event is an inspiration for our institutions. We hope to have the participation of the university authorities and the actors of science, education, innovation technology in the country. For RENATA it will also be an opportunity to position and appropriate the benefits and potential of the network. RENATA has one of the most robust networks in Latin America and our main goal is that this great highway is filled with data for the benefit of the academic and scientific community of the country.



Enzo Capone

"The advancements in technology should aim to simplify the access to the existing services"

We talked to the head of the Research Support Team of the pan-European advanced network GÉANT and speaker of TICAL2018 and the 2nd Latin American e-Science Meeting. On the table, his expectations regarding the events in Cartagena and his vision on the challenge of digital transformation of universities.

Luiz Alberto Rasseli

The events will address the theme "Digital Transformation of Universities". From your point of view, what are our main challenges and opportunities to reach this goal?

From my day-to-day experience in talking with R&E user communities and science groups worldwide, I see a very polarized situation in terms of access and exploitation of digital resources: on the one hand, we see a small number of long-standing collaborations which have a well-established relationship with the e-infrastructures community, both in terms of maturity as with regard to the service uptake level; the LHC computing community or the Radio astronomy science collaborations are a good example of this. On the other hand, the vast majority of users have very little or no interaction at all, but for the very basic services – what is sometimes referred to as “the long tail of Science”. Shortening this “long tail” is clearly our main challenge, and we should be very focused on finding the right language to speak to these communities, but also to explore new approaches, since it’s clear that we can’t just replicate the pattern that has worked so far for the high-adopters, having these new communities very different needs and technological maturity.

One example is the problematic interaction between the user groups and the local ICT support within the campus: we’ve seen this happening many times, in many different countries,

both in large and small Universities. Our community is in the position of playing a strong role in closing of this gap; for example, identifying and training key professional figures like the so-called “science facilitators” – science experts with strong IT skills, able to translate the user needs into technical requirements for the IT managers.

What is the role of Research Engagement and Support to get there? How are you experiencing that in GÉANT and its local context?

Our mission should be to lower the barrier to entry for our services, and this can be made possible operating from both ends of the service supply chain: engaging more and more with these new (in terms of access to the digital world) communities to understand their needs, so to design and shape our services to better serve them; on the other side, the advancements in technology should aim to simplify the access to the existing services, making for a more user-friendly experience. The SDN paradigm, and its associated technologies, is a good example of this second approach, simplifying and quickening the deployment of network services. Another good example is the eduGAIN federated identity framework, that has proven an extraordinary factor in simplifying users’ access to online resources.



In my team we give top priority to the engagement with users: to give a few examples, we collaborate directly with the Square Kilometer Array via our contribution to the SADT consortium (whose objective is to design the network elements of the SKA) and the ANEAS project (aimed to design the European Regional Data Centre for SKA science); we are very active in the GEO community, where we collaborate to the GEOSS infrastructure definition; we have a leading role in the LHC networking community, having being active and have been supporting the LHCOPN and the LHCONE infrastructures from day one.

Is it possible to imagine University without ICT today?

In my opinion, the answer is a resounding NO. The seamless access to distributed knowledge is now an enriching element for any University, especially the small ones that have limited in-house resources, allowing any student, professor and researcher to make use of any information, regardless of their geographical location. And this helps in removing the boundaries among the different institutions, so that more talents are able to emerge, and more discoveries can be made, and not just from the usual rich and well-established university environments, but also from younger ones or from developing countries.

Also, the widespread use of SaaS and IaaS helps Universities to get value-added services more easily and cheaply, so that they can direct their resources (both financial and human) towards pursuing their core mission, minimizing the overhead.

And this is not only true for the hard science fields, which historically have been the first to do this: access to large distributed knowledge bases, innovative collaboration platforms, virtual research environment, e-learning platforms, are able to enrich and boost any field of studies. Arts and humanities, for example, have found new ways of expression thanks to the modern, high-performance R&E infrastructures: distributed art performances, remote rehearsal and training, are just a couple of examples.

What are your expectations about TICAL2018 and what can we expect of your presentation/participation in it?

I've attended my first TICAL conference last year in Costa Rica, where I've had the chance of getting to know a lot of people from the Latin American R&E community and to start the discussion on common objectives and strategies. I hope and expect that at TICAL2018 these discussions will turn into concrete actions, especially in light of the newly signed BELLA contract, and the incredible possibilities that this massive increase in connection capacity between Latin America and Europe will be able to open.

My contribution to the audience will be to share our experience on how in GÉANT we've engaged with the user communities in order to understand their present and future challenges, and how the R&E networking community can respond to them.

Fernando Daniels

"Universities that have not incorporated digital technologies are at risk of leaving the market"

He is the Executive Director of the Colegio de las Américas program (COLAM), coordinator of the International Congress of Knowledge and Innovation (CIKI-2018) and of the Inter-American Program for Training in Management of Innovation Environments (PIFGAI), with more than 15 years of experience in the field of cooperation in higher education in Latin America. Fernando Daniels is someone who needs to be heard when the subject is digital transformation in higher education institutions. We talked to him, a confirmed speaker of TICAL2018, about his vision on the challenge and the role of the Colégio de las Americas in this process.

Luiz Alberto Rasseli



The events will address the topic "Digital Transformation of Universities". From your point of view, what are our main challenges and opportunities to achieve that goal?

One of the main challenges that HEIs have to stimulate digital transformation processes is the lack of strategy and guidance to achieve it. Many institutions still consider digital transformation as a matter only of technology and investment in equipment and infrastructure, and therefore an "expense" that must be controlled. Digital transformation is not focused as an opportunity to innovate in the processes of learning and teaching, to develop new competences for the knowledge society and the new labor contexts, to internationalize higher education and for multiple possibilities opened by digital technologies. And precisely in these difficulties are the opportunities...

What is the role of COLAM in this process?

I believe that the main contribution of COLAM is to stimulate networking with an Inter-American perspective. That is, to address common problems with a regional vision, where approaches, experiences, initiatives and solutions are shared. We stimulate the development of thematic networks in the areas of innovation, internationalization, use of ICT in higher education that work based on these principles, allowing HEIs to advance according to its contexts and needs in these fields.



Is it possible to imagine the University without ICT today?

Absolutely not. 10-15 years ago there were universities that still questioned whether virtual education was relevant. Today, universities that have not incorporated digital technologies into their teaching and learning processes are simply at risk of leaving the market.

What are your expectations for TICAL2018 and what can we expect from your presentation / participation in the Conference?

Our wish is for TICAL to consolidate itself as the strategic regional forum on the use of digital technologies in higher education; the space of exchange for all the actors linked to the strategic objectives of digital transformation (which, of course, is much broader than the ICT directors). We hope that our participation can contribute to this purpose.

Heather Flanagan

"Digital identity is the basis to allow collaboration"

Heather Flanagan has many roles in the standards development and identity management communities. She has worked with a variety of international organizations and efforts, including REFEDS, the Network Startup Resource Center, the Digital Identification and Authentication Council of Canada (DIACC) and the Internet Society. Currently, Flanagan works as Project Manager for Global Collaborative Communities at Spherical Cow Consulting and, as we can imagine, has no doubts about the importance of Digital Identity to allow a complete digital transformation of higher education institutions. In September, she will come to TICAL to share it's experience with the R&E networking community in Latin America.

Luiz Alberto Rasseli



The events will address the "Digital Transformation of Universities". From your point of view, what are our main challenges and opportunities to effectively reach this goal?

The value in being able to enable broader and deeper collaborations around the world is extensive, but cannot easily be quantified. Despite the societal value, however, institutions have a major challenge in that they need to find the resources locally to establish and maintain the necessary infrastructure for international collaboration.

What is the role of Digital Identity to get there? How are you experiencing that in your local context?

Digital identity is the foundation for enabling collaboration. A typical pattern is for a research effort funded to be funded across several institutions. The data that informs the research is stored in such a way that members of the research collaboration log in to access it for analysis and reporting. Those are the key words here: "members" and "log in". With digital identity, researchers bring their professional digital identity

with them; the research group has no better way to know whether one of their members retains his or her affiliation with a particular institution than to have that institution manage that identity. For every research collaboration to maintain a full identity management infrastructure is a waste of resources that could be going towards collaboration.

Is it possible to imagine University without ICT today?

That depends on how you define "university"; that is actually something that's very difficult to do on an international level. In what I consider a traditional university that focuses on science and humanities, then no, a university cannot exist without ICT. ICT enables every aspect of learning, from musical studies to astrophysics.

What are your expectations about TICAL2018 and what can we expect of your presentation/participation in it?

TICAL2018 is going to be a fantastic opportunity to learn from other organizations and regions regarding their needs and activities in the world of global collaboration. Every region, from the Asia-Pacific to Africa to Europe and North America, has unique needs and expectations based on their own cultures and societies. In my presentation I will talk a bit about the value for digital identity and bring perspectives from those other regions to bridge the global conversation into the Americas.



TICAL's Mosaic

TICAL is known as the 'Latin American ICT Directors Conference'. But ... who are they? Their stories with ICT, their roles in universities, their papers? In this series of interviews, we will meet four ICT managers from different parts of our region who have already confirmed their participation in TICAL2018 and the 2nd Latin American eScience Meeting. Together they help to build the great mosaic that are the events that will take place between September 3 and 5, in Cartagena. Get to know them better in through the following lines.



Javier Apat, IT Director
of the Technological Institute
of Buenos Aires, Argentina

Hi, Javier! Tell us a little about yourself and your relationship with ICT. How did you get to TICAL2018 and the 2nd e-Science Meeting?

Hi! I am Javier Sebastian Apat, IT Director of the ITBA, with more than 11 years of experience in the education industry. I entered the organization in mid-2015 with the aim of carrying out the digital transformation of the university, achieving to establish a 5-year strategic plan called "IT Reboot", which involves the total reorganization of the IT area, the creation of new services, the total change of infrastructure and the implementation of new applications, with the aim of achieving the transformation of the educational model.

Before my inclusion in the ITBA, I worked as a Service Leader at Pragma Consultores, working with important clients of the country and the region. Additionally I worked as Undersecretary of Informatics

in the Faculties of Engineering and Social of the UBA. I have a graduate in Computer Engineering by the UBA and a Degree in Systems Analysis by the same University. I also have a Postgraduate Degree in Business Management by UADE.

Among my specialties are Enterprise Architecture, Design of Strategic Plan, Implementation of IT Services and Agility, for which I am certified in each of the practices by the Open Group, ITIL and the Scrum Alliance.

My first TICAL was the one that was held in Buenos Aires, in 2016, when the organization sent an invitation to the rector of our university to participate in the event. During the 3 days in Buenos Aires I shared talks with colleagues from my country and Latin America; it seemed an enriching experience for which I decided to approach the organization.

What is your paper and how do you see the importance of presenting it in TICAL?

Our university is of the STEM type, so our teachers make intensive use of software in the classes. Traditionally, in our headquarters we had installed classrooms with a large number of computers to meet the demand.

In recent times, new trends such as the increase in the use of mobile devices, the adoption of BYOD, the need to use specific software and learning outside of class, posed a change in the conception of traditional computer laboratories. From IT, we take the challenge of incorporating these new trends and face

a project to "mobilize" learning through cloud virtualization, with the objective that our students do not depend on a particular physical machine to use specific software of their subjects.

The importance of presenting this type of work in TICAL, is to know the opinion of the peers, the exchange that occurs in this type of events results in new ideas, progress of the things we did and identify problems that we do not visualize. Clearly, many points of view on the same topic contribute to continuous improvement, something we want for our solutions.

In addition to the presentation, what are your expectations regarding the events?

I have many expectations. Reencounter with friends who were in previous editions, generate new friends, incorporate knowledge, see real cases of ICT implementation in other universities, meet new trends in the industry and new technological trends. I have no doubt that TICAL2018 will be an event that will contribute a lot to all the participants.



Leandro Ciuffo, Deputy Director of Research and Development of RNP, Brazil

Hi Leandro! Tell us a little about yourself and your relationship with ICT.

I have a degree in Computer Science. Before joining the RNP, I worked on an international project (with the participation of RedCLARA) to build a computer grid in Latin America. At RNP, one of my attributions is to interact with scientists to help them use ICTs in an advanced way, with more performance.

How did you get to TICAL2018 and the 2nd e-Science Meeting?

I am now responsible for designing a support center for e-science in RNP. So it is very important for me to participate in the e-Science Meeting to understand the ICT demands of scientists. In addition, I have submitted a paper that presents a mapping with more than 20 examples of e-science support services and I will present it at the meeting. I have also been invited by the organizers to participate in a workshop on Management of Scientific Data

In addition to the presentation, what are your expectations regarding the events?

The programme of TICAL is very rich. It is difficult to choose one of the parallel sessions. As I said, my expectation is to learn more about the demand for services and infrastructure from scientists to increase my mapping of services for e-Science.

Faraón Llorens Largo, professor of the Department of Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence of the University of Alicante, Spain

Tell us a little about yourself and your relationship with ICT. How did you get to TICAL2018 and the 2nd e-Science Meeting?

I am a doctor in Computer Engineering and a professor in the Department of Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence at the University of Alicante. Therefore, my relationship with ICT is clear. But the line of research that has brought me to TICAL began in 2005 when I joined the position of Vice Chancellor for Technology and Educational Innovation at my university. Through this position I became part of the ICT Sectoral Commission of Crue Universidades Españolas (Crue Spanish Universities), and from 2010 to 2012 I held the position of Executive Secretary of the same. For eight years (2005-2012) I was the CIO of my university and for two years (2010-2012) the representative of the CIO of the Spanish Universities. Finishing this period dedicated to the university direction, I returned to my teaching and research tasks, but now I incorporate a new line of research on Government of IT in the Universities (www.gti4u.es).

My relationship with TICAL comes from far, having presented works in previous editions together with my partner Antonio Fernández, from the University of Almería. Although I only attended TICAL2014, held in Cancun (Mexico). Antonio and I have wanted from the beginning to transfer to the Latin



American Universities our experience in the analysis (UNIVERSITIC) and the IT Government (GTI4U) acquired in the Spanish University System. And at the same time know and learn from the experiences of Latin American Universities, to import them to our country.

What is your paper and how do you see the importance of presenting it in TICAL?

Our work is "Lessons learned in the implementation of the Strategic Portfolio of IT Projects in Spanish universities" and it aims to help IT managers at universities who want to start an implementation process or who want to evaluate and revise their current IT Project Portfolio model. The portfolio of IT projects is a good practice that is well established in universities, both in Spanish and Latin American universities, and that can lead us to the IT Government when it is truly strategic. In this work, the qualitative analysis is addressed through interviews of nine experiences of implementation of the portfolio of IT projects in different Spanish universities.

In addition to the presentation, what are your expectations regarding the events?

In June 2015, the Santander-UA Chair in Digital Transformation (catedra-transformacion-digital.ua.es) was created at the University of Alicante, with special emphasis on the digital transformation of universities. It is therefore very interesting for me to know firsthand what Latin American universities are doing. In addition, this edition has as its motto precisely in "Digital Transformation in Institutions of Higher Education, Science and Culture". For all these reasons, it's going to be very enriching for me to attend and participate in this great discussion forum. In addition, both Antonio and myself, we participated in other TICAL activities, workshops and round tables related to the IT Government and IT indicators studies. During those three days we will not miss any activity. We have high expectations regarding the content of the program that you have prepared for us, as well as the relationships we can establish for future collaborations with Latin American universities, both at the individual university level and at the level of networks of higher education institutions.

Edison Leonardo Coronel Romero, professor of Systems Engineering at the National University of Loja, Ecuador

Tell us a little about yourself and your relationship with ICT. How did you get to TICAL2018 and the 2nd e-Science Meeting?

Hello! I am Edison Leonardo Coronel Romero, professor of Systems Engineering at the National University of Loja (UNL, in Southern Ecuador) and member of the Research Group in Information Technologies (GITIC). My relationship with ICT comes from the field of my profession which I have been practicing since 2004. In 2010 we integrated to teaching and started to work with ICT in support of professionals in training with their projects. In 2015 we became part of the Communications and Information Unit and together with GITIC we participated with a work in TICAL2016. Since then, year after year we have been participating in such a prestigious event. In 2017 our works were not accepted, but again we applied in 2018 and we were chosen to present.

What is your paper and how do you see the importance of presenting it in TICAL?

It is called "Academic Management through ICT in the National University of Loja". The National University of Loja has been going through a series of administrative problems and one of them is the management of ICT. In 2015, the design of a tool that integrates the



main functions of the University was carried out, which helps to solve these problems. It is an experience that we live in UNL and it is giving results.

In addition to the presentation, what are your expectations regarding the events?

To be able to know other experiences of the universities and to use or implement them within our experience of the UNL, besides promoting research to future professionals, who are fundamental pillar in the University.

AGENDA 2018

September

3 - 5 | TICAL 2018 / 2nd Latin American e-Science Meeting
Cartagena de Indias, Colombia
<http://www.tical2018.redclara.net>

6 - 8 | RoEduNet 17th Conference
Cluj-Napoca, Rumania
<https://conference.roedu.net>

10 - 14 | 8th International Conference - Distributed Computing
and Grid Technologies in Science and Education
Moscow, Russia
<http://indico.jinr.ru/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=447>

12 - 14 | ICRI 2018- 4th International Conference on Research Infrastructures
Viena, Austria
<https://www.icri2018.at/>

18 - 20 | 30th NORDUnet Conference 2018
Elsinore, Denmark
<https://www.nordu.net/content/2018-nordunet-conference>

23 - 27 | ECOC 2018
Rome, Italy
<https://www.ecoc2018.org/>

26 - 28 | eLearning Africa
Kigali, Rwanda
<https://www.elearning-africa.com/>

October

2 - 3 | CANARIE National Summit 2018
Ottawa, Canada
<https://www.canarie.ca/canarie-national-summit/>

2 - 3 | NCSC One Conference 2018
Deen Hag, Netherlands
<https://www.ncsc.nl/actueel/nieuwsberichten/save-the-date-one-conference-2018.html>

2 - 4 | Training: ITIL® Intermediate: Service Transition
Cambridge, England
<https://learning.geant.org/courses/itil-intermediate-service-transition/>

3 - 5 | GARR CONFERENCE 2018
Cagliari, Italy
<https://www.garr.it/en/news-events/1205-call-for-papers-open-for-garr-conference-2018>

9 - 11 | Digital Infrastructures for Research (Di4R)
Lisboa, Portugal
<https://www.digitalinfrastructures.eu/>

15 - 18 | Internet2 Technology Exchange
Orlando, United States
<https://meetings.internet2.edu/2018-technology-exchange/>

15 - 18 | RIPE 77
Amsterdam, Netherlands
<https://ripe77.ripe.net/>

17 - 18 | 3rd Eastern Partnership E-infrastructures Conference - EaPEC 2018
Chisinau, Moldavia
<https://www.eapconference.org/home>

23 - 24 | CRNC2018 (3rd CAREN Regional Networking Conference)
Dusambé, Tayikistán
<https://crnc2018.icaren.org/en/>

AGENDA 2018

November

3 - 9 | IETF 103

Bangkok, Thailand

<https://ietf.org/how/meetings/103/>

5 - 8 | SciDataCon 2018

Gaborone, Botswana

<https://www.scidatacon.org>

5 - 8 | 12th RDA Plenary (Research Data Alliance)

Gaborone, Botswana

<https://rd-alliance.org/plenaries/rda-twelfth-plenary-meeting-part-international-data-week-2018-gaborone-botswana>

7 - 8 | Cyber Summit

Calgary, Canada

<https://www.cybera.ca/cyber-summit-2018/home/>

7 - 9 | Canadian Science Policy Conference 2018

Ottawa, Canada

<http://sciencepolicy.ca/cspc-2018>

21 - 23 | The European Data Forum (EDF)

Versailles, France

<http://2017.european-big-data-value-forum.eu/>

December

2 - 3 | e-AGE18

Amman, Jordan

<http://asrenorg.net/eage18/>

4 - 6 | ICT2018

Viena, Austria

https://ec.europa.eu/isa2/events/ict-2018_en

To see the full list of ICT events around the world, visit <https://eventr.geant.org/>



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