

Student Life

Throughout the year, the Zamorano campus is a lively place where students and faculty alike have opportunities for cultural and intellectual enrichment outside of the classroom. Zamorano hosts a number of conferences and seminars, with special guests who provide the university community with on-campus lectures and scientific demonstrations. Annual special events include the highly popular Zamorano Fair, the Pan-American Festival, and a performance by the Honduran Symphony.

Productos agrícolas y artesanías se exponen en V Feria Zamorana



During the inauguration of the 5th Zamorano Fair, Jorge Bueso, Honduran businessman, said "We strengthen the work of this institution. We have provided support with many scholarship for students from the western area of Honduras".

El Heraldo
September 23, 2009

Right: Guatemalan students perform a traditional dance during the fifth edition of the Zamorano Fair. Last year, more than 9,000 people attended the event.







Special EVENTS

Faculty and staff also help students organize events that provide special educational opportunities.



In November, the Food Science and Technology department (AGI) sponsored a New Products Fair, during which students presented original product ideas.

FAIRS AND FIELD TRIPS

The English as a Second Language program sponsors several such days when students prepare exhibits and presentations around a particular theme, including the American Indian fair, a Diorama fair, and an English language fair and spelling bee. Each of Zamorano's academic disciplines also sponsors days related to their area of concentration. For example, on Earth Day the Socioeconomic Development and Environmental Science (DSEA) department organizes a morning of educational games, quizzes, and contests related to the environment and the natural world.

In addition to day trips to Tegucigalpa and around the Valley de Yeguaré region, longer excursions are programmed for third and fourth year students. For example, Agribusiness Management (AGN) seniors traveled to Miami, Florida for five days in November. Students visited companies working at every stage in the value chain, including a farm, a packaging plant, a wholesale broker, shippers, a customs agency, and supermarkets. Of particular interest was a visit behind the scenes at a Whole Foods Market, where senior managers discussed their jobs and the issues arising around obtaining and marketing different classes and types of products.



As part of the new coastal studies management course, DSEA students journeyed to the Bay island of Utila and joined instructors from the Utila Center for Marine Ecology (UCME) for a Learning-by-Doing practicum. For six days the students participated in a variety of marine activities and engaged in experiments and field research developed to give them a practical knowledge and understanding of marine ecology and coastal zone management. Students learned how to snorkel (some learned how to swim!), map underwater terrain, identify and inventory species, recognize and identify the impacts of temperature, wind, waves, and weather on various micro habitats, and also how to identify and predict impacts from changes brought about by human activities, including fishing, pollution, tourism, and development.



Edgar E. Ugarte (Zamorano, Class of '97), Professor of Microbiology and Food Safety in the Food Agro-Industry Department, teaches 4th-year student Hector López (Honduran), isolation techniques for microorganisms by selective media. Learning about food microbiology provides the basic knowledge needed for development of new products in many fields, such as the food industry, biotechnology and pharmaceuticals.



As an institution, we constantly strive to improve our methodologies and services to better teach and nurture our students. In the past year we made several changes and improvements to our curriculum, processes, and infrastructure.

New Developments

First, we are pleased to report that the percentage of women in the student body continues to grow. Zamorano had record numbers of female applicants in the past year, and women represent 41 percent of the class of 2013. Zamorano remains committed to providing educational opportunities to deserving Latin Americans, both men and women, and hopes to approach parity within the next decade.

The curriculum was revised so that students would have more elective courses and could participate in a greater variety of Learning-by-Doing practicums. Two agribusiness courses also were added to provide a stronger foundation to first- and second-year students in financial management.

Dr. Raul Zelaya was appointed director of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness. In addition to guiding Zamorano through the application process for accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), his office provides guidance to

departments throughout campus in the standardization of information management and the creation of procedures manuals, all of which helps to improve collaboration and information sharing around the university. Architect Mario León Gómez and his team completed construction of a new dormitory during the past year. Located adjacent to the Simón Malo Memorial Arboretum, the new dormitory has 25 double rooms, providing housing for an additional 50 students. Work continues apace on two additional dormitories in the same location.

Zamorano also completed construction of a new Microbiology Lab for Food Science and Technology studies and refurbished the school store, to provide more space for goods and offices for management. Zamorano renovated the gymnasium to create a more comfortable and modern environment, including separate exercise rooms for men and women and weight training equipment customized for each gender.

President RAFAEL CORREA Of Ecuador Visits ZAMORANO

The Zamorano community was excited to welcome President Rafael Correa of the Republic of Ecuador in May. President Correa, Zamorano President Dr. Kenneth Hoadley, and an audience that included almost 200 Ecuadoran students spent the evening celebrating the strong ties that Zamorano and Ecuador have enjoyed since the school's inception. As Dr. Hoadley noted in his address, more than 1,350 of Zamorano's 6,000 graduates have been Ecuadorans, second only to Zamorano's host country Honduras.

Ecuadoran President Visits Zamorano

"President Correa couldn't believe that 20 of the 24 provinces in Ecuador were represented at Zamorano, making the alliances and synergies with the institution even more significant."

La Tribuna
June 3, 2009



Over the course of the historic visit, several people spoke, including Ecuadoran student Marcela Andrade de Santiago -- who won a contest for the privilege -- and President Correa, who spoke at length about agricultural policy in Ecuador, emphasizing that Latin America needs talented, well-trained, and courageous young leaders, such as Zamoranos.

Since President Correa's visit, the Ecuadoran Institute for Educational Credit and Scholarships Grants has signed an agreement with Zamorano to fund ten complete scholarships and 30 partial scholarships for each entering class from 2010 through 2013, with an additional 30 partial scholarships offered to current students at Zamorano. This is an extraordinary accord, and the university is grateful that the government of Ecuador has taken this important step in recognizing the value of a Zamorano education to its citizens.



In June 2009, ZAMORANO'S Board Of Directors Elected Board Member DR. ALISON STONE To The Position Of VICE CHAIR.

Born and raised in Costa Rica, Dr. Stone, who has a master's degree and a doctorate in Latin American studies from Tulane University, founded a communications and polling company in El Salvador, where she has lived for almost 17 years. As Dr. Stone observes, she has also been "an admirer and supporter of Zamorano since birth," as her great grandfather was Zamorano founder Samuel Zemurray and her grandmother, Doris Zemurray Stone, was the "godmother of Zamorano."

Dr. Stone first visited the Zamorano campus in 1995 and recounts staying in a bedroom in Casa Popenoe where "my grandmother's portrait kept me company." Touring the school with then president Keith Andrews, she was struck by the beauty of the campus, the diligence of the students, and the high caliber of the faculty. "They were incredible teachers and were doing all kinds of critical research to help Central America. I met Dinie Espinal de Rueda, head of the laboratory for plant tissue culture and in vitro reproduction, and learned about the laboratory's work propagating rare orchid species and trying to repopulate areas of rainforest. I loved her enthusiasm which, I came to learn, was emblematic of Zamorano professors and staff."

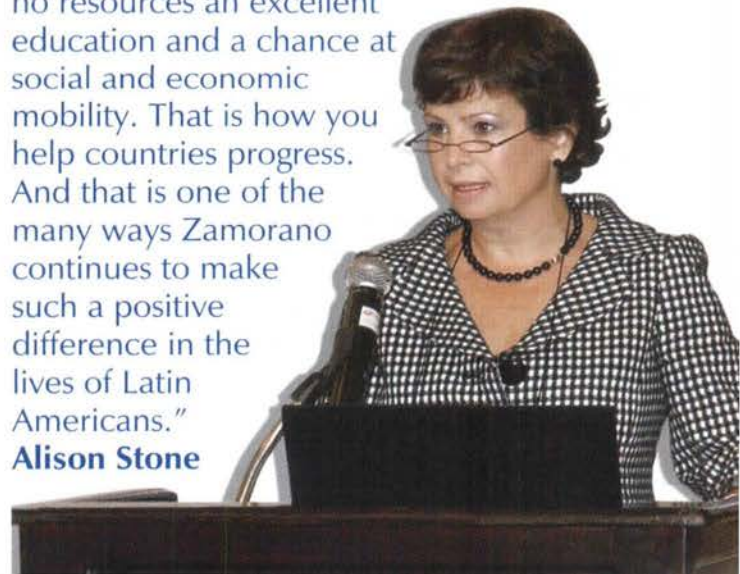
During the same visit, Dr. Stone also "fell in love" with the Alison Bixby Stone School (named for her aunt), otherwise known as the *escuelita* ("little school") of Zamorano. Founded in 1953 to educate the children of employees and re-envisioned in 1992 as a bilingual institution with an American curriculum, the school received U.S. accreditation in early 2009. Thanks in no small part to Dr. Stone's advice and support, in the past ten years the *escuelita* has grown to serve approximately 135 students in kindergarten through the sixth grade, and provides scholarships for disadvantaged children from Zamorano's neighboring communities. Dr. Stone initiated the scholarship program because, "I believe that when children study

with others from different socioeconomic backgrounds, they become more accepting of differences, better motivated to help their fellows, and better world citizens."

Since becoming a member of the Zamorano University Board of Trustees in 1997, Dr. Stone has worked on various committees, including Academic and Student Life, Development and Alumni Affairs, and Human Resources. Chairman of the Board Rick Falck believes Dr. Stone is the best choice for such leadership. "Alison is insightful, compassionate, and energetic. Her perspective blends a respect and understanding for tradition with an eye towards the younger generation's need for a modern and evolving university. Her appointment ensures that Zamorano will continue to be a seminal Latin American institution for the 21st century."

Dr. Stone shrugs off praise for herself but is quick to offer it for Zamorano students. "Zamorano graduates are really extraordinary individuals who are having a tremendous, positive impact on Latin America. They are exceptional leaders and professionals, in part because at Zamorano young people from all over the region and all walks of life are required to work together to succeed."

**"Zamorano gives kids with no resources an excellent education and a chance at social and economic mobility. That is how you help countries progress. And that is one of the many ways Zamorano continues to make such a positive difference in the lives of Latin Americans."
Alison Stone**





ZAMORANO Creates HONORARY TITLES of PROFESSOR EMERITUS and DIRECTOR EMERITUS

During the November meeting of Zamorano's Board of Trustees, the new designations of "Professor Emeritus" and "Director Emeritus" were approved. These titles honor individuals who have extraordinary records of devoted service to the university and who have demonstrated excellence in teaching and/or administration. At an evening ceremony, Dr. Kenneth Hoadley bestowed the title of Professor Emeritus on three retired faculty members: Professor Antonio Molina, Professor Aurelio Revilla, and Dr. Mario Contreras. The honorary title of Director Emeritus was bestowed posthumously upon Dr. Wilson Popenoe, Zamorano's first director, and also on Dr. Simón Malo.



Gama Sigma Delta, the Honor Society of Agriculture, bestowed a "Program Achievement Award" on the Zamorano chapter as special recognition for its extracurricular activities. These included a series of seminars and technical workshops, sponsorship of a spelling bee, and the granting of awards to students for best thesis presentations. According to faculty sponsor, Dr. Dan Meyer, during the twenty years since the Zamorano chapter was founded, it has successfully nominated more than 350 members to the international society of Gama Sigma Delta.

ZAMORANO IN THE MEDIA

The Communications Office continues to strengthen relationships with the media. This year, more than ever, Zamorano has been profiled in local, regional, trade, online and international media.

Zamorano is synonymous with excellence. From its humble beginnings, this [institution] has known no borders nor any other restrictions that could limit its lofty objectives.

VIDA Y ÉXITO
November 2009

Zamorano is a reference of agribusiness, rural development and entrepreneurship.

"Zamorano is a sort of virtual simulator that allows its students to incorporate variables, live through creative tensions, expose themselves to rigorous conditions, make decisions and enjoy the results of it all, each day", says Ricardo Orellana, a Zamorano Graduate... Orellana declares he practices the leadership skills he learned [at Zamorano] to foster sustainable development in the communities where he works.

SUMMA
October 2009

"Our students learn that the goods they elaborate must be profitable; we would not be doing any favors to society if we produce outside the business model", said Dr. Hoadley, Zamorano's President.

ESTRATEGIA Y NEGOCIOS
October - November 2009



Left: In September, in collaboration with the Socioeconomic Development and Environmental Science department, the Communications Office invited 40 journalists from Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador to attend a two-day seminar on Environmental Sustainability in Zamorano.

Outreach & Innovation

Zamorano has long been involved in promoting the social and economic welfare of Latin Americans through its outreach projects. Our experts design and implement programs that help to reduce chronic poverty, improve agricultural yields, advance the region's competitive edge in the global marketplace, promote the sustainable use of natural resources, and protect the environment. What follows are examples of a few of our many programs and events that enhance the well-being of our neighbors in the region.



"The Biodiversity Center at Zamorano announced the discovery of two new species – a lizard and a salamander – found at the remote Montaña de Yoro National Park. ... The Center also works protecting endangered species and educating the public on the importance of saving biodiversity reservations and natural areas."

La Tribuna
September 15, 2009

Right: Marcelino Guachambala (Zamorano, Class 2007), Research Assistant and Instructor of the Molecular Diagnosis Module, explains to 2nd-year students the type of tissue they must sample for the DNA extraction of the *Jatropha curcas* plant, which they will later analyze for genetic diversity. During this practical training, following biosecurity norms, students learn Molecular Diagnosis based on two types of markers (RAPDs and SCARs).

Biofuel: JATROPHA

Since 2007, Zamorano has been conducting research trials on *Jatropha curcas*, a species of flowering plant, the seeds of which produce an oil suitable for biodiesel applications. In partnership with the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture (SFSA), Zamorano is evaluating the economic prospects for *Jatropha* production in Mesoamerica and to promote the use of such biofuels in developing countries by providing practical experience in its cultivation and processing.

Zamorano faculty are studying and working at several stages in the *Jatropha*-to-biofuel process. Field trials are underway to determine best practices for *Jatropha* cultivation in a variety of soils and climates and to assess possible environmental impacts. In the lab, scientists are examining oil extraction and processing methods. A new biodiesel plant, to be completed on campus in 2010, will allow for experiments to identify the most efficient methods for biodiesel production. Zamorano has also created a *Jatropha* seed bank and is working to improve the available genetic stock through selective breeding trials.

Outreach activities are ongoing with small- and medium-sized farmers to better understand their perspectives on *Jatropha* and to promote *Jatropha* planting, processing, and biofuel utilization locally. Both Zamorano and partner Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture are excited to provide students with the opportunity to learn first-hand about biodiesel production through this new program.



On-Line Distance Learning From ZAMORANO

PAC@D

Programa de Aprendizaje
Continuo a Distancia

With funding from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), The Center for e-Learning launched PAC@D in 2009, Zamorano's flagship on-line distance learning program. Intended for those who wish to advance their skills and knowledge in Zamorano's areas of specialization, the program was also designed for Zamorano graduates, who prior to 1999, earned a three year agronomy degree; the PAC@D program gives those graduates the opportunity to complete a series of courses and obtain the new four-year undergraduate university degree, agricultural engineer.

The PAC@D program began in September with classes in "Dairy Production Management," and "Quality Control Management," with additional courses offered in February 2010 that included "Food Safety and Security" and "Processes Management within Value Chains." In May 2010, PAC@D plans to offer "Cost Management for a Competitive Business," "Integrated Water Resource Management," and "International Business Management."

Thus far, 90 individuals, including 35 Zamoranos have enrolled in PAC@D classes. Course evaluations have been very positive, with more than 95 percent of the students expressing "great satisfaction" with the quality of the classes and the curriculum. The e-Learning Center plans to offer an expanded catalog of courses in the fall 2010, including new courses in "Decision Making in Social Surroundings," and others.

Improved STOVE CERTIFICATION CENTER

The Socioeconomic Development and Environmental Science (DSEA) department has been working to help bring fuel-efficient, low-pollution stoves to rural Hondurans. In 2009, the Zamorano Improved Stoves Certification Center was established, with financial support from the TPW Energy Collaborative. The Center seeks to assist non-governmental organizations and governmental agencies to provide impoverished Central Americans with fuel-efficient stoves to combat air pollution and the severe health problems associated with traditional firewood cook stoves. These stoves also significantly reduce fuel consumption, helping to curtail deforestation and atmospheric contamination.

Stoves are evaluated for their fuel efficiency, emissions levels, and acceptability to local populations, who have preferences influenced by the common ways of preparing traditional cuisine. Zamorano helps train local, small businesses in the construction of these improved models and also provides verification



services to ensure that the stoves are built according to proper design and construction specifications to ensure maximum efficiency.

Zamorano students are participating in Learning-by-Doing modules, practicums, and thesis research in the stove certification center. They build stoves to understand construction principles, analyze various models for heat transfer efficiency and air quality, and test different fuel types, while learning about the protocols required to run a small research facility. In the coming year, Zamorano plans to offer "stove camps," where regional participants can learn stove design principals, energy efficiency analysis, and explore potential strategies to foster larger-scale implementation.