

## **Report on the Tenth University Fair of Suchitoto, May 29, 2016**

The formal university scholarship and loan programs in Suchitoto organized the tenth university fair for high school graduates, this year in a new coordination with the CORDES-City of Suchitoto scholarship program and with high school students from not only Suchitoto but from the neighboring cities of Tenancingo, Cinquera and Tejutepeque. The fair was held on Sunday, May 29th in the Centro Arte para la Paz (Arts Center for Peace) from 8:30 to noon. Two hundred and eighty two (282) high school and eighty (80) university students attended the event. The attendance of high school students from the rural area was high due to the provision of transport and good weather and of course the added students from the other municipalities with some forty (40) students from Cinquera, thirty five (35) from Tejutepeque and one hundred and eleven (111) from Tenancingo; the number of students at the fair from the INSU was low as in past years. Several high school teachers, representatives of fourteen (14) institutions of higher education as well as the National Police Academy (ANSP), EsArte-Primer Acto and SACDEL/FESPADE attended. There was a total assistance of 425 people at the fair in 2016. The Fair was opened by Fredy Argueta Portillo current student from the National University of El Salvador (UES) and Claudia Paz as masters of ceremony, with remarks from the Mayor, Pedrina Rivera, Sister Peggy O'Neal of the Center and Professor Elynn Alas de Garcia from the school in La Ciudadela Manuel Ungo, this was followed by the presentations of the institutions attending and the organizational sponsors and supporters. Robert Broz director of the Palo Alto Friends Meeting spoke and dedicated the fair to its founder Frank Cummings. Following the opening session students were able to talk with the different university and other institutional representatives, were provided material on the scholarship and loan programs and had the opportunity to talk to current university students in different fields of study. The Fair concluded with refreshments for the students and a lunch for the institutional representatives.

Statistics on the high school student attendance is given in Table #I and compared to that of previous years in Table #II. It is worth noting that the number of high school students planning to graduate was lower this year with this year than last, 245 in 2016 versus 313 in 2015. Students attending represented 39.2% of potential graduates from Suchitoto in 2016. At least ten (1) student from past or future promotions were present. Although we do not have concrete data about participation from the other municipalities we think it was close to 100%.

This year we did not have any new institutions participate in the fair. It was impossible to confirm the participation of 3 institutions which have participated in past fairs these were CENAR, the Lutheran University and the Francisco Gavidia University, Centro de Amigos al Turistas of MiTur, EsArtes-PrimerActo and Ayuda en Acción, informed that they would not be participating this year. Data on institutional assistance is given in Table #III.

**Table I. Assistance of pre-university students, 2016**

<b>Institutions</b>	<b># Assistance</b>	<b># to Graduate</b>	<b>%</b>
INSU 2nda Gen	10	81	12.3
INSU 3ra Tec	7	56	12.5
Complejo Educativo Caserío El Barío	12	19	63.2
Complejo Educativo Caserío Las Américas	9	18	50
Complejo Educativo Caserío Ciudadela Guillermo Ungo 2nd Gen	22	26	84.6
Complejo Educativo Caserío Ciudadela Guillermo Ungo 3ra Tec	11	15	73.3
Complejo Educativo Caserío Los Almendros	16	16	100
Complejo Educativo Caserío Copapayo	9	14	64.3
<b>Total de Suchitoto</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>39.2</b>
<b>Otros Municipios</b>			
Tejutepeque	35	<b>35*</b>	<b>100*</b>
Cinquera	40	<b>40*</b>	<b>100*</b>
Tenancingo	111	<b>111*</b>	<b>100*</b>
<b>Total de otras Municipalidades</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>186*</b>	<b>100*</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>431*</b>	<b>65.4*</b>

**Table II. Assistance of pre-university students, 2007-2016**

<b>Institution</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
INSU (including past graduates)	68	16	21	40	25	38	12	15	29	17
INSU-weekend program					55	41	43	0	0	0
Complejo Educativo Caserío Las Américas	5	5	3	13	11	2	1	11	1	9
Complejo Educativo Caserío El Barío	10	22	5	31	21	20	8	6	15	12
Complejo Educativo Caserío Los Almendros	9	8	4	14	22	19	7	21	18	16
Complejo Educativo Caserío Ciudadela Guillermo Ungo	0	0	3	6	24	42	6	20	26	21
INDEC (La Colima)	0	7	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Complejo Educativo Caserío Copapayo						11	3	5	10	9
<b>Total de Suchitoto</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>96</b>
IN San Francisco Lempa	13	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other H.S.	20	16	10	4	2	5	1	11	0	0
New in 2016										
IN de Tenancingo										111
IN de Cinquera										40
IN de Tejutepeque										35
<b>Total de otras municipalidades</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>186</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>282</b>

**Table III. Higher Education and Other Institutions in Fair**

<b>Institutions Invited</b>	<b>New in 2016</b>	<b>Attended 2016</b>	<b>Years attending</b>
UES		X	9
Utec		X	7
U Pedagógica		X	10
U. Andrés Bello		X	9
UMOAR		X	8
U. Don Bosco		X	10
UCA		X	6
U. Francisco Gavidia		NP	2
U.Católica/Megatec		X	7
Zamarano		X	4
U. Evangélica de ES		X	4
U. Salvadoreña Alberto Masferrer		X	3
U. Luterana Salvadoreña		NP	1
ITCA-FEPADE		X	6
ITCHA		X	6
ENA		X	6
CENAR		NP	2
EsArte		NP	7
ANSP		X	5
Ayuda en Acción		NP	5
SACDEL/FESPAD		NP	2
Plan		NI	1
MITUR-CAT		NP	3
Education USA		X	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	

(X=Present, NP= Did Not Participate, NI=Was Not Invited)

The Palo Alto University Loan Program, the Comité Parroquial de Becas (Parish Scholarship Committee), The city of Suchitoto, CORDES and a new committee of scholarship students organized the Fair. The Municipal Council provided the major funding for the Fair with further assistance from Santa Cruz El Salvador Project. Transport costs were covered by Santa Cruz-El Salvador program, the Palo Alto University Loan Program and CORDES. The Centro Arte para la Paz, as in previous years, provided all important in-kind services and support.

The Fair was preceded by 1) visits of Robert Broz, members of the scholarship committee and the coordinator of CORDES to the six high schools in late May with verbal reminders to the directors by calls and in meetings just before the Fair, 2) contacts by Robert by phone, e-mail and a formal letter with all the institutions invited to send representatives starting in mid-May and continuing to just before the Fair.

The finances for the Fair are shown in Table IV. The Centro Arte para la Paz provided substantial in-kind support for use of their space, sound equipment, tables and chairs, and preferential prices for food. The Arts Center for Peace staff provided excellent service. The Municipal government continued its substantial support this year providing more than half of the funding.

The relatively low participation of INSU students is of concern especially as the bulk of the students who continue their studies are from the INSU and as institutions with their own scholarship programs such as the Catholic University do not make individual school visits. Effort of individual professors and directors lead to high participation of students from the Schools of Los Almendros, El Bario, Guillermo Ungo and Copapayo.

**Table IV. Finances, 2016**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount (\$)</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Municipality of Suchitoto	\$1350.00
Palo Alto Friends Meeting/Patrick O'Hara	\$125.00
Santa Cruz El Salvador	\$80.00
CORDES	\$919.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2474.00</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Refreshments Centro Arte (350@ \$1.50 )	\$525.00
Lunches Centro Arte (75 @ \$5.00)	\$375.00
Breakfast and lunch for students from other municipalities	\$919.00
Fair promotion, photocopies	\$15.00
Transportation from students in rural Suchitoto	\$160.00
Transportation for students from Cinquera	\$100.00
Transportation for students from Tejutepeque	\$100.00
Transportation for students from Tenancingo	\$250.00
Gas (High school visits)	\$30.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2474.00</b>