

Learning through the news

World ORT 11th Wingate Seminar

Lic. Martín Kalenberg
Coordinador del sitio web institucional

World ORT
Londres
11 de enero de 2011

Learning through the news

The concept of news is associated with novelty. Studying new things is part of everyday learning.

For this purpose the ORT Uruguay University's website has a news page (daily updated), a monthly newsletter (with the most important news of the month), the International Letters digital magazine (a publication that helps us to understand what happens in the vertiginous world through its articles and analysis).

It also contains a significant number of interviews with students, graduates and outstanding faculty members, research papers, teaching materials, videos, audio archives, powerpoint presentations, conferences and books published by the School of Administration and Social Sciences, the School of Architecture, the School of Communications and Design, the Bernard Wand-Polak School of Engineering, the Institute of Education and the Department of Jewish Studies, which make up the essential information about the daily academic life.

Being aware of this information is highly recommended for students as it provides them with additional value for their academic and professional lives.

The students have the possibility to get inspired by the academic and professional achievements of other students or graduates, and familiarize themselves with materials published on the web, which turns to be a boundless source of inspiration for the students.

To integrate a learning network means to have a permanent and constant knowledge about the academic and professional realizations of ORT's community. Also, it means for students the opportunity of sharing their own creations with others. Summing up, it is giving their projects an own life.

The contents of the site, therefore, generate a sense of belonging to the institution and of affinity with their peers, so we can talk about a collaborative system that operates in a network.

We would like to emphasize that the information provided by our website gives an opportunity to be up to date about what is happening in our institution. Without this way of communication it would be a complex task to know about the innovations in our university.

International Letters

The world does not stop. When in Uruguay the twilight marks the end of a day, in the Far East the sun commences to rise. To understand what is happening in this vertiginous world is indispensable a moment of reflection and analysis.

The digital magazine [International Letters](#) is a tool that tries, in a professional and systematic way, to discuss issues of international news in the academic, diplomatic, political, cultural and business fields. International Letters therefore has both academic and journalistic articles.

International Letters has published more than 100 articles in its nearly three years of existence and has 7000 readers in 110 countries.

The magazine is a project of the International Studies Department from the School of Administration and Social Science. The staff is formed by faculty members, graduates and students, all of them part of the Department. Also it has collaborators from the School of Communications and Design.

When I interviewed Prof. Javier Bonilla, the International Studies Academic Coordinator and the former President of the Uruguayan Central Board of the National Public Education, for an article that was published on the ORT website, he told me that it is very important for the magazine to have its own independent staff because it is part of the academic life of the university. He assured me: “the relationship between students and teachers cannot be limited to the classroom. This was one of the reasons why we created International Letters”.

Each week the magazine chronicles and report about international politics, economics, business and culture, among others. The majority of the articles are written in Spanish and some in English. Additionally, it includes significant documents and a vast summary about the most important weekly news. Moreover, it has an accurate search tool.

The magazine is send weekly by e- mail and is also published in the ORT University website.

Acc. Enrique Iglesias, former President of the Inter-American Development Bank, praised the magazine.