

2nd ALUMNI CONFERENCE

**INSTITUT CIRVIÀNUM DE TORELLÓ
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

“ENGLISH : LANGUAGE OF WORK”



**High School Sports Hall
December 13th 2011, 12 pm.**

PRESENTATION

The Department of Foreign Languages at IES Cirvianum de Torelló is pleased to organize our 2nd Alumni Conference for the purpose of providing our Batxillerat students a space for reflection on the English language and its important role in our life. Within our 2010-2013 PELE project (Pla Experimental LLENGÜES Estrangeres: Millora de la Competència Comunicativa General de l'Alumnat), one of our aims is to foster not only oral production but also oral language reception and interaction through different discussions with former students who are or have been living in English speaking countries.

Our 1st Alumni Conference which was entitled *"The importance of English Language in the present time as global language: some local experiences"* was significant for our students as they became aware that we live in a world that is already globalized and where the role of the English language is crucial. In our 2nd Conference we would like to go a step further and talk about the importance of the English language in the workplace with some of our former students for whom English is a must in their working fields.

Our former students' contribution is of major importance to our High School as it allows the exchange of their experiences with our present students.



SPEAKERS

Albert Costa Miralbell, Torelló 1984.

Albert has a BA degree in Agricultural Engineering from Universitat Politècnica de Barcelona (2006) as well as a BA degree in Winemaking from Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Tarragona (2008).

He became interested in winemaking during his early childhood. He loved walking through the vineyards and the winery which his father, the notary Enric Costa, and the singer, Lluís Llach, founded at the beginning of the 1990s in Porrera, a small village in the Priorat: Celler Vall Llach. The winery's aims have always focused on rigour and quality and Albert, as its oenologist and in charge of the American market, has firmly embraced the project. Most of his wines have received awards in different countries and the winery has been present at important events like the New York Wine Experience, one of the world's most prestigious wine tasting events. Albert's professional background also includes working in different wineries in Australia, New Zealand and California.

Ingmar Espauella Sala, Torelló 1983.

Ingmar has a BA degree in Tourism from Universitat de Vic (2005) and a masters in E-Commerce and Touristic Marketing from the CETT School in Barcelona (2006). In his last academic year, he joined the Erasmus exchange programme and studied at the University of Cardiff (Wales, United Kingdom). His professional background includes working in tourist information offices, online travel agencies (Atrapalo.com) and airlines. He is currently working at Ryanair as a Cabin Service Supervisor-Line Checker and due to his job he has lived in Sweden, Italy and Scotland for over 3 years.

Jordi Piella Bagaria, Sant Pere de Torelló 1987.

Jordi has a BA masters in Chemical Engineering from Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (2011) where he also worked as an assistant at the Department of Chemical Engineering and received an award for having the best academic record 2005-2006. He completed his final project (master's thesis) at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (Trondheim, Norway) during his Erasmus programme in the Colloid and Polymer Chemistry research group. While there, he began to get involved in Nanotechnology and especially its applications in biology, medicine and materials. Nowadays he is doing a master degree in Nanotechnology and Material Science at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona as well as working as a PhD in the Catalan Institute of Nanotechnology on the QNANO project (the European Union-funded infrastructure for nanomaterial safety testing). This project aims to discover nanomaterials impact on people's health.

Jordi has also been the winner of the Best UPC 2011.

Gil Serrancolí Masferrer, Torelló 1987

Gil has a BA masters in Industrial Engineering, specializing in Mechanics, from Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (2010), where he was given an award for being one of the top ten students, three years running. During his Erasmus programme at Chalmers University of Technology (Göteborg, Sweden) he worked on his Final project (master's thesis) entitled *"Optimization of stiffness and damping properties of below-knee prosthesis"* receiving Honour marks. Currently he is carrying out his PhD studies on Biomedical Engineering, working on his doctoral thesis (Analysis of the Force-Sharing problem in the Biomechanics of Human Motion) and teaching "Mechanical Problems" to the 2nd year students as well as collaborating in the subject "Biomechanics" of the Master on Biomedical Engineering (UPC-UB) he attended in 2010 in order to start his doctorate studies.

