
ICANN85 Mumbai | CF – LAC Space
Tuesday, March 10, 2026 – 15:00 to 16:00 IST

RODRIGO SAUCEDO

Hello, and welcome to the LAC Space session. My name is Rodrigo Saucedo, and I am the remote participant manager for this session. Please note that this session is being recorded and follows the ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior and the Community Anti-Harassment Policy.

During this session, questions and comments submitted in the chat will only be read out loud if put in proper form, as if noted in the chat. I will read the questions and comments out loud during the time set by the chair or moderator for this session.

Interpretation for the session will include English, Spanish, and Portuguese. When speaking, be sure to mute all devices and notifications. Please speak clearly and at a reasonable pace to allow for accurate interpretation. With that, I will hand the floor over to Rodrigo de la Parra.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA

Hi. Hi, everyone, and welcome to the LAC Space here in Mumbai. We have some colleagues from our region who are not able to attend in person, but I hope they are somewhere there virtually,

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although I understand the time zone difference can represent an issue. But anyway, thank you for being here.

Before I give the floor to our moderator, Laura Margolis, just let me point out that in our agenda, we intend not to discuss too many topics as we've done in the past, because apparently, we always run out of enough time. So today, in addition to the ICANN Board members update, we appreciate, as always, they are coming here to share with us and the regional organizations, LACNIC, LACTLD, and LACRALO. This time, we've decided to go for just one topic, which is an activity that is being conducted in Mérida in Yucatán, Mexico. And Jorge Canto from the Modelo University from Mexico is here with us, and on Universal Acceptance, my colleague, Geraldo Ferreira. The purpose is to showcase the type of efforts conducted in the region intersessionally, how we collaborate and work together in different topics, particularly in this case, Universal Acceptance. And if we have sufficient time, we'll discuss other things.

So we'll now give the floor to our star moderator, Laura Margolis.

LAURA MARGOLIS

Thank you so much, Rodrigo. Good morning, good afternoon, good evening, I don't know, wherever you are, those who are online. Myself, I barely know what the time is here now today. But anyway, thank you for being here. As Rodrigo has already introduced the agenda, in our first block, we'll have the Board member updates. Then we'll get some updates from our regional organizations,

LACNIC, LACTLD, and LACRALO. And then Jorge will speak about the Universal Acceptance project in the Mexican University.

And finally, we'll have some time for questions or comments which we did not have in the previous session, and there was some complaints about that. We're not many here. So what do you think, Rodrigo, if we close the doors, we shut them off so nobody can escape or run away?

Well, let's start with the Board members. The only one I see here is Raúl. Raúl, you have the floor.

RAÚL ECHEBERRÍA

Thank you. Hello. Good morning. Well, good afternoon. This is not the best time because there are many activities going on now. Leon is coming because there is currently GAC and Board's joint session, so I will have to leave. I hope you do not lock the door. I hope it.

This is my first official meeting as Board member. Although the onboarding process is extensive, it's quite lengthy, and you already get acquainted with the Board activities long ahead my first assumption was in Dublin, and this is my first full meeting. There was a workshop in Singapore. We had another workshop ahead of this meeting, as we did the last time. You can already imagine what we were discussing.

But an interesting new aspect of this workshop is that—here's Leon—we discussed the geopolitical situation, the potential impact on ICANN, and the topic that is present virtually in all

sessions, which is the impact of technological evolution, and also considering the update of the Strategic Plan process, which has just started. Well, these issues are of relevance for these updates.

I'm sure you've seen these topics being present in all agendas, the Board meetings with other constituencies. There are guided questions for gathering inputs in order to update the Strategic Plan. In our workshop, we also obviously discussed about the new gTLD round, everything is working as planned within the expected timelines. There is nothing that makes this a thing or expect anything unforeseen. That is good news, both in terms of execution and resources. Everything is quite well.

Another central thing—and I'm quite sure Esteban will refer to this—is the update of the governance frameworks for the RIRs. And there are also other discussions about the root server operators. These are topics of discussion for the Board, and we are holding very constructive discussions.

Then what else? Something that is also on your discussion table is the urgent request, the implementation of recommendations that require a more efficient cooperation with law enforcement agencies and rapid response to some requests. That is something that is also getting the Board attention. We are also working on it. And that creates some anxiety in the community, but progress is being made, because this is something that presents several complexities, as you've seen in the session with the GNSO

contracted parties' meeting. I don't know, Leon, if you have anything else to add on?

LEON SANCHEZ

Thank you. First, I want to apologize because my invite said 1A.

LAURA MARGOLIS

That was a trap, actually.

LEON SANCHEZ

Yes, it was. And again, I will have to leave very quickly because there is conflict with another meeting I have with the GAC. You know how complicated these schedules are. I want to bring Patricio's apologies because actually he has three concurrent sessions. So he said, "Yeah, really, I'm sorry this time. Please say to my LAC Space colleagues my apologies. I won't be able to attend."

We will have our open public meeting on Thursday. As it happens in every meeting, we already have our agenda with several items. I think Raúl has already mentioned them. Let me make a mention of the work conducted by the Review of Reviews group. Let me recommend you to attend the plenary meeting this group will have because we actually require your comments. It's of utmost importance for us to understand what are your concerns.

Osvaldo, who is a member of this group, I'm putting him in the spotlight. Sorry. But we're working in trying to find some format or methodology to determine the frequency of these reviews and also

their focus or approach. But above all, to embed flexibility into the system so that we are not standing where we're standing today, which is paralysis, because the huge volume of recommendations that are not being implemented, and other challenges, the excessive demand of resources each of these reviews required, etc.

So within your capabilities, I urge you to attend this plenary on the Review of Reviews because your comments will be of help to us. And it's also important to have the Latin American perspective.

RAÚL ECHEBERRÍA

If I may, Laura, something I said I forgot, which is about the October meeting. The CEO, Kurtis, has already referred to this. For now, the meeting is going to be held. Both the Board and the staff is closely following this. The ITU Plenipot will be in Doha in November. There have also been exchanges with them and consultations. And if any decision is taken otherwise, you will be given immediate notice. But for now, the commitment is not that the Board and the staff are looking elsewhere, but just that everything is following on as expected.

LAURA MARGOLIS

Thank you, Raúl and Leon. As always, a pleasure having you with us here. Now we will move on to the next block of updates. Is Rocio online? Yes, she is. So let's continue with the same order of our agenda. I will give the floor to Esteban Lescano who is member of the LACNIC Board.

ESTEBAN LESCANO

Thank you, Laura. As always, it's a pleasure to share this space with the Latin American and Caribbean community. We have some pieces of information to share with you. The first of all is that considered in the recent events of Mexico. We had to relocate the meeting in Guadalajara to other location. We expect to have another event to be held in Guadalajara as soon as possible. This year, it will not be held.

Another thing I wanted to share is the current status of the ICP-2, which is the Internet Policy Coordination to this document. Why is it important for LACNIC? Because this provides provisions for the acknowledgement of the Regional Internet Registry.

This is a document from 2001. This is the document under which LACNIC was acknowledged in 2003, and AFRINIC later on. And things have changed, and the Internet has changed. So some review is required. The document will be revised. Actually, the revision work has started in October 2023, it's already two years of work, so we're close to the finalizing stage. We expect it to be done by December this year.

This is something that has been discussed under the ACSO, together with Ricardo Patara from Brazil. We've been gathering the community feedback. And this week, during this ICANN event, we've held some meetings with other constituencies to continue

getting the feedback and comments. And as I said, we hope to have it ready before the end of the year.

A couple of news for those of you who want to get trained, we have the self-assisted courses in the LACNIC e-Campus. basic ones such as management and network security, IPv6, and the LACNIC policies. There is one on advanced IPv6, autonomous public private systems. All of them are available, and you can manage them through the LACNIC websites.

And finally, the FRIDA program. For those of you who do not know, FRIDA is the program that provides supports to projects and initiatives in a region contributing to the open, stable, and safe Internet. In recent years, we've been discussing Internet connectivity, free Internet, AI applied to Internet and networks. We wanted to let you know that the course will open in May. You will find further information, and the program of frida.net, this website, you are all invited to disseminate information about the projects and present your initiatives. Well, this is my update. Thank you.

LAURA MARGOLIS

Great update, Esteban. Thanks a lot for sharing such great news from LACNIC. We will stay tuned. I don't know if Rocio is online already. I think she is. Wonderful. Rocio de la Fuente from LACTLD now has the floor. Please, Rocio, go ahead.

ROCIO DE LA FUENTE

Hello, Laura. Thank you so much. I hope you can hear me well okay. Unfortunately, I had to cancel my trip this time. That's why I cannot join you in person. But I'm still very happy to join you online.

I would like to share some news from LACTLD. We've been working on some initiatives since last year. One of them is the review and reform or review and amendment process of our Bylaws following a General Assembly resolution adopted in June 2025. We have a 13-member committee representing a third of our members. And since November 2025, we have been holding meetings every two weeks. In order to carry out this review process, we are focusing on a series of Bylaw articles. This review is ongoing, and we believe it is a crucial project for LACTLD.

Our aim is to come up with a new set of rules and procedures that would set the stage for LACTLD's operations in the future. At the same time, we are developing our Strategic Planning process which started with an open consultation to our members and other sister organizations in the ecosystem. We thank you very much for participating. We appreciate your feedback, and we welcome the opportunities of joint projects. We will move forward with this plan, building on your input and feedback, together with input from other organizations in the ecosystem.

Further, we have a new member, CIRA, the .ca ccTLD administration. CIRA has joined as an associate member. And associate members are TLDs that somewhat cooperate with our region. So we are very happy to welcome CIRA, the .ca ccTLD

administrator. They joined our community after cooperating with us for several years.

On a separate note, we have been supporting our members, and we recently participated in a public consultation held by the telecom regulator of the Dominican Republic, whose aim was to gather input regarding the reform of the telecommunications law in the Dominican Republic in relation to the allocation and assignment of IP addresses and domain names. So we decided to participate in this public consultation together with the .do ccTLD, and we welcome this opportunity.

In addition, we have been engaging with authorities in the ecosystem. We will be part of participating in the fourth IGF Summit. It will be held in Montevideo, Uruguay, against the backdrop of the IGF Parliamentary Track. We invited senators, representatives, and policymakers from the different countries that are LACTLD members. We believe that this initiative has a multistakeholder component, and we detected several legislative initiatives with some inaccuracies in relation to the ccTLDs. So we welcome the opportunity to engage with these stakeholders to raise awareness about the characteristics of our regional ccTLDs. Luis Arancibia will be participating on behalf of LACTLD.

And finally, we will keep engaging with authorities. We will hold our workshop about an open, secure, stable, and reliable Internet. We hold this workshop together with LACNIC and other sister

organizations. We renewed our agreement in order to hold this workshop jointly.

I hope I was able to give my update within the allocated time. I tried to be as brief and as to the point as possible.

LAURA MARGOLIS

Thank you so much, Rocio. I don't know how you managed, but you did it in exactly five minutes. Well done. Thank you very much for your updates. We will be participating in the Parliamentary Track which will be held on the 24th in Uruguay. So we will meet Luis and other colleagues from the region.

Now I will give the floor to Lance Hynds who is not fluent in Spanish yet, but he is about to become fluent in Spanish. So, in the meantime, I will give him the floor and he will speak about the ICANN Near You Initiative held in Georgetown. And with that, Lance, the floor is yours.

LANCE HYNDS

Thank you, Chair. Lance Hynds again for the record. Excuse my voice. I'm slightly hoarse.

Along with ICANN Near You, it was just to give an idea of where we are, especially in view of the fact that we came in as a new board in October. We briefly took a step back just to take stock. The RALO has been around for 20 years. Does it still work? Can it still work in its current form? So we decided to look internally, embrace the true concept of a board in terms of joint decision-making, the equal

spread of responsibilities, and really committing ourselves to being as responsive and as nuanced as possible for what is requested of us.

I think we are happy with some deliverables. We were able fairly early to comment on the LAC Strategy Plan. I think we are happy with the quality of comment that we made in terms of what we submitted. We are making effective use of the CROP program early and within schedule. We have already established, thanks to Unisa framework for our capacity building program, we have really designed four webinars and two training sessions. I believe two of those webinars have been completed.

Then it is our contribution towards ICANN Near You because that exemplifies the partnership between an ALS and the GSE. In terms of the ALS really believing that this was a potential opportunity, having that discussion with the GSE, and the GSE responding the way they did, and coming into Guyana, and really providing an education on what ICANN is about, what they do, the policy development process, the engineering, and also, to some extent, trying to persuade in terms of what is the benefit of ICANN to your daily life, your government, public sector, private sector. And I think it, to some extent, it is probably a blueprint in terms of what is possible, certainly in the region as we go forward.

In terms of—and we have said this before, to really see whether in the sub-region we can introduce either whole or part of the UA program in one of the universities, that is a work in progress in

terms of discussions in Guyana, and hopefully we could get that done either during this year or the next. So that is one action item that we are watching carefully.

The next major activity is an ALS retention program. And to really determine what is the optimum size of LACRALO and what size is going to take to make it effective to provide the support that is required. As I think we mentioned in an earlier session, it doesn't make sense having those numbers on paper, and they're not operating. So the idea now is to go back again, try to reengage. But not so much ICANN retention, but the reengagement program. So go back and see where there are issues, if they are issues, why they aren't participating, and then, based on the response that we get, we could then make some other decisions in terms of what it is that we're going to do. I see the chair is looking at me. Is my time up?

LAURA MARGOLIS

You still have one minute.

LANCE HYNDS

Oh, Lord.

LAURA MARGOLIS

Because it's you.

LANCE HYNDS

Oh, thank you. So the idea is we will continue to look at the RALO in terms of its performance, and really looking to see, after 20 years,

what is our effectiveness as RALOs. We have done nothing much philosophically with the RALOs since then, and that, I think, is going to be the time for us to go make some changes. Look at the rules of procedure, look at the operating principles, to begin to see where we were, where we are, and where we're going for the next 20 years. And with that, my tongue is dry. Madam, thank you.

LAURA MARGOLIS

Thank you, Lance. Thank you for your updates. And I agree with you. It's not easy to make outreach and engagement. In our region, I think all around ICANN, because ICANN have very specific topics, and not everyone is interested in our conversations. So that makes it more challenging. But thank you. Well, now I will switch. Oh, sorry. Apologies to the interpreters. I will now switch to Spanish, and I will give the floor to Jorge Canto.

Jorge Canto is from Mexico, and he will give a presentation on a survey on Universal Acceptance in the academia. So, Jorge, welcome. The floor is yours. You have exactly 20 minutes for your presentation. Thank you.

JORGE CANTO

Thank you, Laura. I will speak in Spanish as well. Here at ICANN, I have learned that when we speak our own language, we feel more confident and we feel more included. This is something I learned as an ICANN Fellow, and we need to think regionally and locally. With

that, before I get started, I would like to give you some background on this presentation.

We will be looking at Universal Acceptance from different perspectives. I am an engineer in electronics by training, and I focused on Industry 4.0 and its impact on society. And through that lens, I started analyzing Universal Acceptance and from other perspectives as well. In turn, this led to many opportunities to the students at the different universities where I am a faculty member. I worked at Modelo University and at Mérida University.

We integrated Universal Acceptance in the Software and Development and Engineering graduate course. The UA Study Program was developed throughout two or so years, and I am very thankful to Daniel Fink and Geraldo for their guidance throughout this process, and I also thank Rodrigo for his support. While we were working on this program—and this started when we participated in one of the UA Day editions. After that, we decided to host an event, thinking precisely that we need to work with faculty members if we want to spread knowledge in universities, because students stay there for four or five years until they graduate, but the faculty members remain. So, on UA Day 2024, we focused on the faculty members and their priorities and how we could include UA in the different courses of studies.

While we were working on that, we stumbled across or upon many unexpected circumstances. For example, content on Universal Acceptance is hardly available in Spanish, and this in turn poses a

difficulty to faculty members willing to teach Universal Acceptance. Hence, we started translating Universal Acceptance literature into Spanish, together with the faculty members at Modelo University. So we started eliminating those language barriers.

By 2025, instead of hosting a UA Day, we hosted a UA Week. Geraldo very kindly delivered different training sessions in Mérida, and we devoted the whole week to in-person capacity building to faculty members, and we also had virtual training sessions. We hosted this UA Day locally. However, because we had robust hybrid participation tools, we decided to hold the event at a national level, so several universities were able to join online. So we held an online course which we recorded and made it available on a website that I will afterwards show you.

Then after this meeting, we signed an agreement with ICANN to express our commitment to include this course in the curriculum in less than two years, and after that, well, that's a job we had to fulfill, a commitment. The issue was to see how, and that required us to make the necessary adjustments for our state and national laws from the Secretariat of Education and the Ministry of Education would accept the course within the official curricula. And that was another challenge, because for the local and Mexican laws, before including a course, you are required to have bibliography specific for a course in a considerable number in Spanish language, and they should not be specific of one technology, but more abstract,

more conceptual for them to be used several years, at least five years.

So the UA curriculum proposed by ICANN is very interesting with all the available information that is necessary to give the course, but officially, we were not able to present it as such. We had to replace the 12 modules into three units of study and for them to be conceptually more overarching and more extensive. So we decided to rename the course as Interoperability and Global Standards. So that was the way we found so that we could use it for UA and IDNs. This was actually not an academic work but rather bureaucratic-type work, but the faculty helped us conceptualize the curriculum for the Mexican official authorities. Next slide, please.

We believe that the work had already been done, but actually, with the UA days and after holding the meetings with the public authorities, we realized that this is something that we should approach at universities from different academic angles or sides. Not just technological, but also in a more general or holistic way.

Universal Acceptance, we realize, is a silent indicator of the digital maturity of societies and institutions. Because institutions with the greatest digital transformation now, those that were able to understand what UA is about, so those with greater digital maturity have a greater sense of understanding of Universal Acceptance. So there were people interested in this, not only from the technical community, but also from humanities.

In my university, there is this program of literature. I am a guest lecturer sometimes, and it makes sense to them from the humanistic, digital side, but they do not understand. They do not quite get to the technical portion. It doesn't make sense to them what digital inclusion means, neither the linguistic nor the cultural parts, both for the academic and the development terms. Now, in the engineering community, they do understand it, the faculty members, but their knowledge is more basic. They know what ASCII is about, Unicode. They understand it but everything in silos. Now, with what they've heard, they understand what Universal Acceptance is about.

On this slide, you can see pictures of the events we held, the UA days, the watershed event, in this process, we've already made outreach with 18 universities in Mexico from the north and center. With the [inaudible] with CEDIIES and ANUIES, we were happy to see that some Latin American individuals or organizations from other Latin American countries were able to participate online. Six universities, actually. So they had this engagement with us in Mexico.

We were also able to get the attention of the Yucatán government, very relevant for us. From the State Technology Secretariat, they gave us support to create a visibility of our presence, which is in the picture are the authorities of our university and the government, the state authorities that pushed this event.

And to date, at least from the point of view of our records, we've had 289 teachers involved. We already have planned and committed to the UA Day 2026. Here we see how we can shorten the process required to be completed by all faculty who want to include this course in their universities and programs.

With regard to the teacher training that Geraldo supported, there were 20 participants in person, 50 online throughout the country, with 26 universities and some representatives from the Yucatán government who showed great interest. And they are already expecting the next UA Day to organize and participate in the activities so that they continue learning about this.

In parallel, we've held some talks on how to do the UA process. Our teacher, [inaudible] came to Colombia, to the DNS Week. We were invited to the Paraguay DNS Forum, too. Very interesting. Gave us the opportunity to see the Paraguay perspective.

In Mexico, the local universities invited us to the Software Technology event so that we presented on the technological development of this topic. And this was just the first of the talks. There will be another one. Before talking about the software technology, I say to them what the ISOC is, what ICANN is, the ICANN Near You is, explaining what are the spaces where they can engage. We will have a meeting at El Salvador.

Then we have the CEDIIES where you can find all the information that will fill your interest. Next slide, please.

These are the double-blind peer review papers we are working on so that we can publish them. This is a peer review article, the first one on UA, then book chapter on female academic leadership, and the official curriculum in Spanish showing how we aligned the technical concepts into more general concepts. Next slide, please.

The diagnostics. This is the outcome of the implementation process of UA. We want to provide to the community a lab to conduct the practical assessments in Raspberry devices so that they can be downloaded anywhere else. This is a survey that probes on the level of knowledge and understanding of the needs, the barriers and needs, the level of institutional preparedness. And this survey, this diagnosis, will allow us to develop strategies to give support to Latin American universities in this implementation process.

These are the responses we've got until now per country. Not much, actually. We're still waiting for further responses from faculty or university managers or public authorities to have viable statistics.

LAURA MARGOLIS

Jorge, five minutes before you will be kindly asked to stop.

JORGE CANTO

Why your participation in this survey matters? Because we've had very little Latin American representation in UA academic efforts. We want to see more because we want to develop documentation

in Spanish for managers to decide to implement the curriculum, to enter into agreements with ICANN. We believe universities can lead the UA discussions in Latin America, generate knowledge, and transfer capacities. So we should develop strategies for this to happen in more effective and fruitful way. Something of importance as well is to reduce individual efforts and go for the strategic, collective efforts. These are our expectations from the survey outcomes.

So what is the expected impact? Well, the design of regional academic strategies to promote the curriculum. Then include the curriculum based on Latin American evidence, which is our closest to reality, and the identification of the teacher training needs so that we can implement the actual teaching. Then the building of Latin American UA network, we can share knowledge and exchange strategies. Getting communication from outside sometimes has been very complicated.

This is the QR for the survey. I will kindly ask both the online and the in-person attendees to participate because it would be very helpful for us to have a high number of responses because that will give us more certainty in our analysis. Next slide, please.

These are the pillars that I have developed for my research, the UA research line is already one of my work lines, and the academic work will focus on this. The technical community has already been worked upon because of what ICANN has. The Academic and Education, which is the purpose of the network, Digital Economy

and Business, Social and Community, Linguistic and Cultural. All these lines are the interest shown by the teachers with whom we've been working. Next slide, please.

The ongoing projects are the UA Lab, which I already mentioned, that actually presented the need for this survey because this is a survey to decide for students with and without connectivity in their universities so that they can work with the practical assignments. The development of a podcast. This is something I'm working with the bachelor of science program. Then we have software engineers, industrial engineers, students of the economic programs, and none of them understood anything.

So we decided it was necessary to do a podcast. I'm not good at that. So we are curating them with AI, and the podcast is already available in Spotify, explaining and discussing UA from different angles. As we work with AI, we've been getting very interesting results. And for young people, it is much more easier to digest. These are the NextGeners, and I always joke and I say, "Then I am a LastGener. So that's why we need to work together."

And regarding the new technological trends colloquium, well, that's something that I have been working on since 2017. So, back then, we decided on the new technologies for postgraduate students, and this time around, we opened up a space devoted to Internet and Internet governance.

This is the call for applications for the colloquium. We didn't want to include only Internet governance as the main topic because we

didn't want to seem biased. Hence, it's called Internet and Its Governance. And you also have information about our podcast on Universal Acceptance and higher education, which is based on all ICANN official literature on Universal Acceptance so that it has a solid foundation. I am in charge of curating the podcast.

And once again, I would like to thank Daniel, Rodrigo, and Geraldo for this opportunity to be here today, giving this presentation, seeking further opportunities of collaboration between the academia and ICANN, with a global perspective from the Latin American and Caribbean region. Thank you so much for your attention.

LAURA MARGOLIS

Thanks a lot, Jorge, excellent presentation. Congrats on what you're doing. Let's hope it's replicated elsewhere in the region and globally as well. I think it would be great to circulate the survey and this presentation, not only on the LACRALO mailing list, but also on other mailing lists from other regions. Perhaps ICANN global comms can help us circulate the survey on different media platforms so that it reaches more universities. I don't know if Geraldo would like to chime in.

GERALDO FERREIRA

I would like to thank Jorge for his work since the first meeting we had. Well, it wasn't a meeting, it was just a chat. We had a chat during the ICANN meeting held in Istanbul, and that was the

starting point. And everything turned out really well, thanks to Daniel Fink's support. Then we worked on UA Day 2025. And a couple of weeks ago, it was officially announced that the UA curriculum would be integrated into the Modelo University courses of studies, and this university has an agreement with ICANN. So this is very, very important, and it's a highlight for our region.

LAURA MARGOLIS

Lance has been requesting the floor for a while now. So, Lance, the floor is yours. Please go ahead.

LANCE HYND

Thank you, Chair, and thank you for the presentation. Just briefly. In the first part of the presentation, you said that when you integrated UA into the software development program, it was a graduate program. Is it that is the level of the UA or there are courses that are high enough for graduate, but there is also an undergraduate program as well? There is both?

JORGE CANTO

We integrate in the graduate as a course, and on other courses, we integrated some topics of. We don't integrate in post-graduate because the agreement with ICANN it was reiterated.

GERALDO FERREIRA

Actually, from ICANN, we demand the university to integrate in the undergraduate course. And because we want to have new

developers developing applications ready for UA, and so the idea is, the goal is to have new developers UA-ready. So this is the reason that the program is dedicated to undergraduate course, like computer science or IT, for example, and not graduate. Of course, you can have, for example, graduate projects using UA.

LANCE HYND

Okay. So your academic board has incorporated this. So this is credits towards graduation. It now becomes a regular course or this is still a specific track in your department?

GERALDO FERREIRA

No, it's a specific course. This specific course, it's not optional. It's on the curricula of the older program, and it's in third semester, starting the career, because we think that then they have made projects about UA more in the last semesters. And the projects that I have now, I'm teacher of post-graduate, so I made projects of UA in post-graduate, and we talk students of undergraduate to participate in those projects. That's not the course. There is no course for that career, but they still learn about the topic.

LAURA MARGOLIS

Thank you. Before that, before I give the floor to Rodrigo, I would like to know if ICANN is planning to hold a meeting in our region. You haven't been around in our region for a while.

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA

Well, I was hoping I would speak about something else. But anyway, we are desperately looking for a venue to hold the meeting. It has to meet the necessary requirements to hold a meeting. It's not that easy. Those of you attending ICANN meetings already know that we need far more than a room with 2000 seating capacity that's available in almost everywhere in the world. But we do need rooms like this one where we are holding this region with this setup so that we can hold certain type of meetings. Then we need another setup for the GAC. We generally offer 102 sessions, many of which are held concurrently. That's why there aren't many venues in the world that meet these requirements. And then we also need to take into account logistics in the host city.

However, if you go to the ICANN Meetings page, you can check the requirements. And it would be really helpful if you could check those requirements, and if you know of any place, of any location or venue that meets those requirements, well, please let us know. And also circulate the requirements, that would be really useful.

LAURA MARGOLIS

Thank you. I know this is not easy. But anyway, thank you. Thank you very much. Rodrigo?

RODRIGO DE LA PARRA

Going back to Jorge's presentation on Universal Acceptance, working together with ICANN global, as you know, we started working on Universal Acceptance several years ago, and we started

with awareness-raising initiatives, and that is what we did for quite a long time. But we started changing our strategy in terms of Universal Acceptance, and we shifted from awareness-raising to implementation. Because people are already aware of this issue, but now we can roll up our sleeves and we can get down to work, and we can focus on implementation, and that's the next stage in ICANN's global strategy.

Jorge's presentation is focused on implementation, and what he's doing is really advanced, because as Geraldo was also explaining, we need to tackle undergraduate students. We need to tackle students who are pursuing their first degree so that we have developers worldwide that already have the knowledge to implement UA.

ICANN has an agreement with three universities, and we are very proud of this initiative, and we applaud Jorge's initiative and what he's doing in Mexico. And we would like to inspire others. I think Lance would also like to work along these lines. So, now, when you have a UA project in mind, please go beyond awareness-raising and focus on implementation and focus on the academia. Thank you. And once again, Jorge, congratulations.

LAURA MARGOLIS

This brings us to the end of our session, but before we wrap up, I think Sandra wanted to take the floor.

SANDRA RODRIGUEZ

Thank you. I would like to congratulate Jorge, and I would like to let you know that I will be hosting an event on April 15th, and we would be honored to host you, either in person or virtually, because, in my case, I am working with the University of El Salvador. We would be honored to have you as a guest speaker so that you would give this presentation to my students and students from five other universities.

JORGE CANTO

Of course, Sandra. Thank you very much. I would be more than happy to join you. I'm always very pleased to spread the word and to work with other universities.

LAURA MARGOLIS

Wonderful. I see that this has also served as a networking session. So, well done.

And with that, I don't know if, Rodrigo, you would like to wrap up the session. If not, I would like to thank everyone very much for joining us here in the room and also virtually. We are looking forward to ICANN87 because we will not be holding our LAC Space in ICANN86. Correct me if I am wrong. We cannot extend the session any longer because of the time allocated, but we can continue our discussions online. Thank you all very much for joining us.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]