



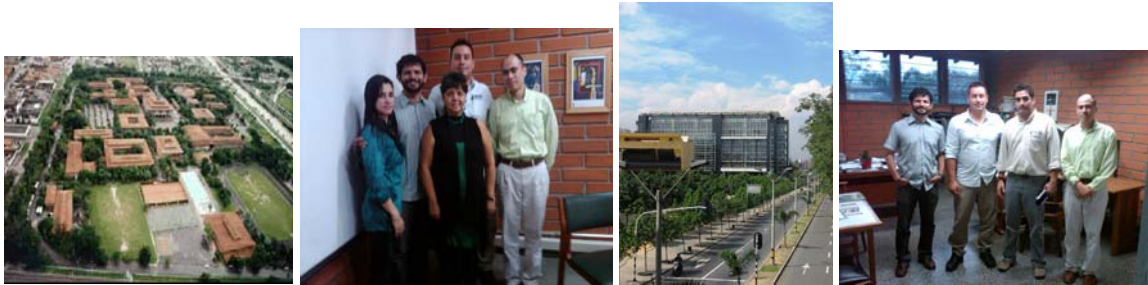
International Field Trip to Colombia

The International Field Trip to Colombia included a full-week of tours to civil engineering transportation projects like the Metro de Medellin, Metroplus, Tunel de Occidente in Santa Fe de Antioquia and a visit to Universidad de Antioquia, among other projects.



Universidad de Antioquia:

The University of Antioquia (Spanish: Universidad de Antioquia), also called UdeA, is a public, departmental, coeducational, research university based primarily in the city of Medellin, Antioquia, Colombia. It is the largest higher education institution by student population in the northwest of the country, and the second in Colombia, with more than 36,096 students. The university was established by a Royal Decree of February 9, 1801 under the name of Franciscan College (Spanish: Colegio de Franciscanos), by King Charles IV of Spain, and started its operation in 1803. (Wikipedia)



Several academic agreements were proposed from UdeA not only for ASCE but also for PUPR. Some of the agreements include students and professor's exchanges, Master and Doctorate scholarships, and a very interesting proposal for a double degree that will allow students from PUPR and UdeA to obtain the degree as a civil engineer from both universities allowing PUPR students to obtain a P.E. license in Colombia. Many of these agreements have already been established with UCF among other universities around the world. UdeA initiated with our visit the creation of their ASCE Student Chapter.

Metro de Medellín:

The Metro de Medellín is an urban train that crosses the Metropolitan Area of Medellín from North to South and from Centre to West. Traveling through the city is easy and quick, with the Metro system, you can go to anywhere in the city with The Metroplús (Bus extension to the Metro) and the Metrocable, a sky train or cable car that has revolutionized transport in the city.



Single tickets are 1,550 pesos (0,70 USD), transfers between the Metro trains, cables and buses (Metroplus) are free.. Transfer is available at the Santo Domingo station of the Metrocable K line.



See videos and more pictures of our visit in our facebook group ASCE PUPR.

Metrocable:

The system was created with the intention to improve the mobility conditions of city inhabitants. These lines keep Metro quality standards along the aerial passages which expand the area of influence of the Metro System, ensuring integration and speed by using various forms of transportation. Currently, Line K runs 2 kilometers in the northeastern zone of the city. Line J runs 2.7 kilometers in the west of Medellín. The new Metrocable to the ecopark Arví - Line L - open in February 2010 with a fare of 2,500 COP for the 4.5 km trip up the mountains



Engineering specifications:

Type of System: Uncoupleable monocable gondola, Elevation: 399 ms, Speed of the system: 5 m/second, Energy: Electrical (zero emissions), Diameter of the cable and weight: 51 mm compact soul 42 tons, Installed capacity (passengers/hour): 3.000, Number of cars: 93 with capacity for 10 users each, Distance between the cabins: 60 ms, Frequency: 12 sec., Cabins are mfd. by Diamond corp., of aluminum, with internal illumination and intercommunications, powered by solar cells affixed to the roof of each cabin.



Metroplús:

Metroplús is an articulated-bus transit system that passes through 14km of trunk roads designed to reduce congestion on Medellín's highways by transporting passengers to the existing metro network, thereby encouraging people to leave their cars at home when commuting to and from work.



Tunel de Occidente:

The Region Occidente (west) region is best known for its nearby town of Santa Fe de Antioquia (the original capital of Antioquia), which is a well-preserved city of colonial architecture. To get there, you will pass through the Fernando Gómez Martínez Tunnel which is the longest tunnel in Latin America at 4.6 miles.

