

UNIVERSITY OF EL SALVADOR
SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT



THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN THE ACADEMIC LIFE
AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROFESSORS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF EL SALVADOR, MAIN CAMPUS, 2017.

PRESENTED BY:

Josué Nehemías Hernández Salgado HS06020

Krissia Beatriz Herrera Barahona HB06009

Julio Cesar Quintanilla Juárez QJ92001

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ADVISOR:

Lic. José Israel Oliva

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Maestro José Israel Oliva

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Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world

(Nelson Mandela).

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ABSTRACT

This research is about finding out how important the mastery of the English language (reading, understanding, speaking, and writing) is for the professors of the University of El Salvador, Main Campus, a research carried out during the second semester of the academic year 2017. A convenience sample of 80 professors out of about 1110 professionals both men and women, were interviewed in their respective school and were asked 4 basic questions dealing with the pertinence of English in their area of work, the role of English for their professionalization, and what their belief was about English, in general. The results show that most of the professors believe English is an important language these days, but on an individual basis they say English is a tool that they can do without. Also, they said they have a positive attitude toward English. The most important finding is that very few professors have functional mastery of English, say to give lectures or presentations on their expertise in English or write academic articles for academic magazines edited in English. These results are very telling as the role in the professors academic and professional life is arguably of little pertinence. To strengthen the validity of this study, a bigger sample that includes professors from the other three campuses (Santa Ana, San Vicente, and San Miguel) might be used.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

For many years English has played a major role in the advancement of science and technology, and in a number of other areas. It is the case that nowadays being competent in English has become a priority for many people around the world as English has become a sort of lingua franca. English is learned in many parts of the world as a tool that can serve to gain fresh knowledge about science and technology, or for professional development. Being education one of the areas in which English is playing a major role, it can arguably be said that a teacher who masters English is more qualified to dispense better teaching by providing students with more insight about what is going on in the areas the teacher himself or herself is knowledgeable on. For a college professor the need to read, understand, write and speak English is unavoidable if we believe that universities are the places where students come to study a specific area of science or technology and that the information or ideas they are given must be actual and fresh.

As a tool of communication being competent in English is for professionals a great area of opportunity. We use language in different situations; when reading a book or listening to a speech; teaching in a class. Then, professors should be capable of reading, speaking, listening to or write in English in order to communicate, explore, learn or innovate in their developing area. In addition to that, English is considered the most commonly used foreign language. It opens the door for those who know this language. English is being taught and learned around the world as a second language, so learning it is now important for any professional.

This research work wants to find out the impact on personal and professional development of professors at the University of El Salvador. English is so important as a tool for communication and the development for science. Professors can communicate with other colleagues outside the country and share information, they can push their careers forward and

study abroad, and they can have access to any information on line or in books. However, some of them refused it because of the lack of knowledge of English language.

Being competent in English is then not only important but necessary for personal and professional development. Moreover, to be competitive in life English is crucial. As a professor the acquisitions of knowledge never ends, and there is a great chance to be the best in your area if you also master a second language. Professors of the University of El Salvador should deal with this fact. To overcome this situation, this research is going to discover the importance of English language skills in this context. The researchers try to bring professors as close to reality as possible, so they can have a better understanding of the functional aspect of the target language.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Even though it is a truism to say that English somehow rules in the world, in some quarters, this is hardly the case in some places, as geographical, political and ideological conditions have given English a bad reputation, as English is considered an imperialistic language. This bad reputation has served many people well to dispense with the mastery of English as part of their basic academic competencies. It might be argued that this lack has had some impact in the students learning or development of competencies the University is expected to give them but so far there is no research that can explain away that possibility. There is a strong need to diagnose whether the latter is actually happening, and for examining that situation an understanding of how the professors of the University of El Salvador fair on this matter is key.

To implement content- rich education the University needs competent professors because it can offer high quality of education. To understand, speak, read, and write in English language for each professional should be a priority. Noticing that English is the most spoken language worldwide, there should be a different interest from professor and authorities. The attitude

taken by professionals now to learn English is crucial, it might motivate not only them but also their students. Definitely, this language pushes your personal and professional life out the moon and also provides credibility in your developing area.

1.3 Background and Need

This research idea came from the fact that there is no project in this university focused on this topic and because professors should understand that English skills would help them to be better professionals and have the best opportunities for development. Professors may think that they do not need to know English because they have the necessary knowledge to teach what they know. But, now you need to consider that the world is different than ten years ago everything changes you may need to do it as well. In fact, teachers must consider learning English as part of their life. Every day people are forced to learn more than one language, especially those languages that have become universal, as English. However, the majority of professionals including educators, do not know English. That is probably one of the reasons why the whole educational system and curricula is not moving forward.

Learning a second language has become an important tool to be competitive in nowadays challenges. Anyone has the necessity of communicating with others and interchanging information and thoughts, being competent in English would help them to do so easily. Professors then, need to remember that attitude is one of the major key factors for success in language learning. Their willingness will help them to understand the importance of English skills. They must know that English is described as the language of opportunities. It would open professional chances, it would give you access to some of the world's best universities and the best literature, it would allow you to attend international conferences and events. For all those reasons this study will be a good source for future researchers who would like to continue contributing to this research area.

1.4 Purpose of the study

The purpose of this study is to explore the importance of English for professionals in a University level. Education has progressed tremendously in all areas, now professor might look for different sources to complement their knowledge in a different language. There is a great opportunity of sharing ideas and information from professor – students and professor – professor in and outside the classroom. Despite of this progress, there is still a feeling of apathy about English. Some professors still consider it as not important, and others admit that should be part of their professional growth but there is no action taken to change that fact. To get participants' opinions contribute to suggest changes and strategies to overcome this lack of interest.

1.5 Research questions

1.5.1 General research question:

To what extent is the functional competence in the English language key in the professors of the University of El Salvador personal, and professional development?

1.5.2 Subsidiary questions:

What programs of study demand more use of English at the University of El Salvador?

What is the attitude of the professors of the University of El Salvador towards the English language both personally and professionally?

Does the competence in the English language lead professors to a better professional development?

1.6 Significance of the study

The importance of this study focuses on the teacher's need to be competent in English. According to Caine (2008), English is an international language which is spoken in many countries both as a native and as a second or foreign language. For that reason, it is important

for educators to have a good or acceptable level of English skills to be more updated with all new information worldwide. Everybody knows that most studies or relevant information published is in English, so if professionals want to have a better development when performing a class for example, is more than necessary to be involved with English language.

This study is significant because it seeks to find out how important is for professionals at UES (Universidad de El Salvador), to be competent in English language and how useful it can be for them to improve their knowledge in order to have better bases to teach as professors or in any other field. Nowadays, education is one of the most demanded fields where English is used. Professionals need to have a continuous academical growth and to get a professional improvement day by day, so by being able to understand, speak and write in English they can do it.

1.7 Delimitations

This research was carried out with professors of The University of El Salvador in around all schools, where the researchers interviewed 80 professionals at Main Campus in order to find out if professors at University are working and publishing academic or scientific papers in English language. As researchers knew that University of El Salvador has more than one campus in the country (Santa Ana, San Miguel and San Vicente). Since researchers are students of main campus and they did not have enough time, transportation and enough budget either to go to all facilities inside the country, researchers decided to work at main Campus where the largest number of teachers is concentrated. In order to accomplish the research an interview was administrated to some professors randomly chosen to get the data. This investigation was started and carried out from May 2017.

1.8 Definitions of terms

This section provides conceptual and operational definitions about the key terms used in this research. The main concepts in which the investigation relies on are the importance of

English, and English as a tool for professional development. There are many definitions about these terms, but the researchers used those that are more appropriate for the present study in order to avoid misunderstandings, in relation with some activities. This part is divided in two parts because it is very important to clarify both. The activity for all professors shall be measured with investigation or some articles published in important magazines.

1.8.1. Conceptual definitions

This section contains the definitions of key words that have been used in the research. The concepts were taken from the website www.oxforddictionaries.com, www.vocabulary.com/dictionary, www.depts.ttu.edu/gradschool/academic/docs on February, 2018.

1. **Attitude:** is a settled way of thinking or feeling about something.
2. **Programs of study:** A program of study is a comprehensive, structured approach for delivering academic and career and technical education to prepare students for postsecondary education and career success (<http://cte.ed.gov/initiatives/programs-of-study>)
3. **Professor:** Someone who teaches at a college or university. Professor is officially a teacher of the highest rank, above adjuncts and lecturers, but college students can call them all professor.
4. **Major:** The major professor is the faculty member who oversees all aspects of the student's academic program as per the requirements set forth by the University and the department.
5. **Mastery of English:** comprehensive knowledge or skill in a particular activity (in this particular case English).
6. **Professional development:** is learning to earn or maintain professional credentials such as academic degrees to formal coursework, attending

conferences, and learning opportunities situated in practice. It has been described as intensive and collaborative, ideally incorporating an evaluative stage. There are a variety of approaches to professional development, including consultation, coaching, communities of practice, lesson study, mentoring, reflective supervision and technical assistance.

1.8.2. Operational definitions

In this study the key terms mentioned above will be defined in simple words to have the reader inform about what is the research about it.

- 1. Attitude** is the behavior that professors show towards the English language, it can be favorable, unfavorable or neutral.
- 2. Programs of study** is an academic plan which is developed at The University of El Salvador and it is part of their curricula.
- 3. Professor** is the person teaching what he/she knows in a certain developing area, in this case a person hired for working at The University of El Salvador (UES).
- 4. Major** is the specific knowledge that someone has in his/her own area of study.
- 5. Mastery of English** is the capacity of being able to understand, read, speak and write in English language.
- 6. Professional development** is the professors' knowledge gotten by having studying outside the country, such knowledge should help them to grow professionally and personally.

1.9. Organization of the study

The research report consists of five chapters. Chapter 1 provides a description about why this research is important. Chapter 2 focuses on literature review used to support the ideas that

gave birth to this research. It also serves the purpose of supporting the areas that the research covers. Chapter 3 discusses the methodology implemented to carry out the research and participants and a description of the instrument used. Chapter 4 introduces the results obtained based on data collected. Then, chapter 5 discusses the results that the research turned out. At the end of the work there is a resource section to seek additional information.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

English is considered the most spoken language everywhere, it is called the language of science, it has also been used and mentioned as the universal language as it is the major communication tool for science events, business, aviation, entertainment and diplomacy all over the world (Guo & Beckett, 2007) English is important for our future life such as to find a job and to be able to talk across culture. The introduction section will show how English plays an important role for college professors and how being a master in that language can lead professor to a more fulfilling teaching experience.

2.1 The demand of English in the college environment.

The demand of learning English has become an important requirement in nowadays society due to globalization and the high level of opportunities offered to those professionals capable of developing in a specific area. English is now part of our daily life and jobs, professors have the challenge to grow professionally and personally by learning English; one of the reasons is that literature in all the different disciplines is written in English. However, in some cases this is still a denied and ignored option by those teachers who feel comfortable with their work in their native language. In today's global world, with the help of developing technology, English has been playing a major role in many sectors including medicine, engineering and education, those are the areas where English is needed the most (Garg & Gautam, 2014)

English is considered the "lingua franca" in the medical field (Rosendo, 2018), so medicine is one of the major areas where English is needed and used, the reason is because even when now we count with new technology still most of medical information comes in that tongue. English is by far the most used language in international medical meetings as well as the main medium for medical textbooks, journals, abstracting indexes, scientific research and magazines. It is also the method of communication between colleagues abroad and in many cases between doctors-patient. The reasons mentioned above about the use of

English in medicine are the most representatives and show a little of the importance that English has in this carrier.

The second area where English is useful according to Delgado (2013) is engineering. To be able to overcome professional engineering jobs English is crucial. It is one of the elements to be competitive in nowadays challenges. English is a fundamental tool in the overall education of future engineers, the modern world demands the appropriation of different skills to function successfully in the professional field. Furthermore, if you work in business area of any company, you need to be able to read a technical text in perfect English, most of the publications or papers will be written in the universal language; it means that as an engineer you must acquire the skill. Moreover, engineers today have to communicate with their counterparts across the globe and most of those people should be able to communicate their impressions, feelings, suggestions or anything in English. With the information above you can notice that reading and speaking English has an important role in the field of engineering.

The use of English is important to everyone in the modern-day world. Most people study English for work, businesses worldwide or they use English as the universal language and medium of communication, to be able to either immigrate or work in English speaking continents like North America, Europe and Australia. An example of this are educators, they have such quantity of opportunities to travel, study, work, get a master degree at any place worldwide, but some of them declined because the lack of English knowledge. That is why the importance of learning English when you are a professor. Besides that, to enrich personal knowledge in your mastery would lead you to be a better professional by reading literature without the language barrier. There is also a great opportunity by teaching on line, imagine what would happen if you as a professor are not able to affront that type of challenges (Nave, 2015). Indeed, English is in education not a privilege but a necessity.

English is every day used in almost all areas of knowledge, it suggests that to be able to have a successful academic life and professional development professors need to increase their necessity to know a second language. To be competitive and to be able to get any opportunities to go outside their origin country is now necessary to know the target language. To communicate with others in nowadays world and to go far enough to share any information. In addition to that, every day English is getting power at any business discipline including new literature providing a wide range of helpful information, so open your mind to new frontiers knowledge.

2.2 Attitude of professors of the different areas of specialization toward English

Professors are very important in the academic and scientific development in the education field, a wide range of knowledge is needed for a better development of the competences in their academic and administrative tasks. But what happens when something such as knowing a second language interferes with the teacher's development? Do you ever notice that most of the time when you ask to professors if they know English, the most common response is, “No, I do not know it” Sadly, that is the reality of the educational system in this country according to this research not only in the University of El Salvador Main Campus 2017, but also in many other places like Honduras (Aguilar & Ulloa, 2014).

The professors in the University of El Salvador are categorized by levels according to the numbers of years of study, and by their own professional training. It that individual professional growing should be included to know English; because it might demonstrate the committed professors have in what they do. Professors in some departments or schools do not want to improve their attitude and this leads to many of them being very tired of so many years of academic teaching. The research indicates that everyone should be prepared for a better development in the classes but also reflects that do not everyone is interesting in that fact

Motivation is a process; an important tool to reach personal aims. The way it works is that we first, we feel an interest and set a goal and decide to take an action accordingly. Then, we try to maintain our interest and struggle to realize our purpose. This process plays a big role especially in language learning since it makes language learning more meaningful. Motivation provides professor with a way to follow. To have success in a language, intellectual capacity is not the main factor, but the learner's attitudes towards language learning. Research on attitude warns that every professor should always be prepared to acquire more knowledge and perform activities that help their professional growing.

According to data obtained in the process, it shows that teachers do not speak English but do not want to make scientific publications either. It is difficult to find teachers with the interest of wanting to learn a new language. The attitude of a professor with many years of experience is different from that of a young teacher who wants to do many activities with his students.

The professor has a lot of experience in the UES, it is different than a young professor who wants to do new activities that another teacher does not want to perform. Willingness is an important factor that is instrumental in carrying out an activity successfully. Learning a foreign language is useful for having a meaningful and effective way of communication with different members of a society. This research reveals that professors have a positive attitude toward learning English. Moreover, some of the professors at University of El Salvador express that there is no time to learn a second language, they read literature in English, but they pass that information over in their native language.

2.3 To be a better professional English language knowledge is key.

In a globalized world every day, we realize that it is important to know another language and, in some cases, more than one. Parents are aware about the importance of learning a new language. People interested in getting a better life or more opportunities know that is more

than necessary to be involved is a new language. In the globalization era that is filled by challenges and competitions from other professionals, everyone is demanded not only have a high level of education, but also required to have a special capability, commonly called skill. One of the skill that most needed today is English language.

English is the one of important language in this world. It is an international language which is spoken in many countries both as a native and as a second or foreign language. According to Caine (2008) he has noted that English is spoken worldwide as the first, second, foreign language or other language. It is clear that English Language has become more dominant around the world. By mastering the English language, people can communicate further so that the insight in information technology will be more open. Similarly, by having the ability to communicate using the English language is one of the big steps in the world and face the technological advances that are always moving forward. In developing countries such as El Salvador, English language has a vital role in all aspects of life, especially in science, technology and education, because all literature, books, magazines, web sites etc. with the most advanced and actual information is in English.

The fact that English is now the main international language is indisputable (Caine, T. M. 2008). There are two main reasons that professionals must know about why English is the current requested language, political history and economics. One of the main reasons why English is the international language in the world today is the fact that Britain was the global superpower in the nineteenth century and United States of America is the global superpower in the twentieth and twenty-first. For example, these two English-speaking countries were the most important countries in terms of the military and trade (Maurais, J. and Morris, M. A. 2003).

The United States of America is currently a major trading partner with almost every other country on the planet due to the size of the consumer economy. This explains why in many

countries, English is a compulsory subject in all levels at school. Governments try to apply a program of education that motivates students to learn English in public schools (Maurais, J. and Morris, M. A. 2003). Private schools also offer English for all students through their different levels, from kinder garden until high school. High education in El Salvador is also taking into account how important English is for their graduates. For example, from 2006 The Instituto Tecnológico Centroamericano (ITCA) applied a program for all their students to graduate bilingual technicians, teaching English from the very beginning of the career. The Universidad Don Bosco (UDB) requires an English test from the beginning to evaluate level of English for Students who want to study there.

English language is important because people have more chances such as better work opportunities, scholarships abroad etc. Understanding English is good sufficient then someone will be able to understand about globalization, because there were many foreign terms that have been used (Fairclough, N. 1989). Also increases the potential and the quality of oneself. Someone who has skill in foreign language will usually be more confident in public spaces, in addition to support better living standards with the own qualities and abilities. Another role of the importance of English is expanding their mind to the entire world. No doubt that someone who knows English will be able to socialize and communicate properly with anybody worldwide.

One of the main reasons why people want to learn English in daily life is because it is a very important tool for getting a job. In this era, many people are jobless even though they have a degree. In education we all know that annually, Universities in El Salvador graduate many students in different fields of education. Language Foreign Department at University of El Salvador for example is one the most demanded schools for their careers in different languages. It is important to be conscious that if professionals do not know English as a

Second Language, they are stuck in knowledge which basically stop their academic and performance and personal life.

In general terms, researchers concluded that from the information taken even when English is important in almost all areas of education, there are some fields like Medicine or Engineering demanding certain level of knowledge about English since the most updated information sometimes is not translated to our own tongue. Besides that, throughout the literature review was evident that a large number of professors agree about how important learning English is. However, in this society that is different, some comments on the websites assumed that English is not a requirement to be hired in some college, so that there is a lack of interest that is gradually changing in our country. Moreover, it is indisputable that mastering English leads any person to have a better academic and professional development, professors can have access to more information about their field of study and they can keep updated with the most relevant data.

III. METHODOLOGY

This part of the report deals with how researchers carried out this work. It provides a deeper understanding of how knowing English language will help professors to have a better personal and professional development at his or her own expertise area. The content of the study will be based on experiences and behaviors of the participants. With the information collected, the research questions will be answered and there will be a clear idea about the attitude professor has toward English and how it influences their development among the areas where English is useful. Moreover, the study encloses the importance of being competent in English as professor, and researcher at the University of El Salvador, Main Campus, 2017.

The research is considered as qualitative because it allows the research to investigate the meanings that people attribute to their behavior, actions, and interactions with others. It seeks to interpret meaning from these data that help us understand social life through the study of targeted populations or places. In addition, it is non-experimental design because the variables could not be controlled, manipulated, or altered by the researchers; instead, they depend on interpretations and interactions to come to conclusions.

The methodology chapter has the following sections: Introduction, setting, participants, procedure, instruments, procedure and data analysis, and limitations. This chapter includes all processes needed to collect and analyse such data, it provides a general description of the instrument, population and sample involved in the research. Besides that, the researchers consider observations and sources available at the University of El Salvador.

3.1 Setting

This study took place at University of El Salvador, Main Campus located in San Salvador city. The University of El Salvador (UES) is the largest and oldest institution of higher

education in the Republic of El Salvador, and the only public university in the country. The University of El Salvador was founded on February 16, 1841. It has the biggest population in comparison to other institutions. The Campus counts with nine faculties three Multidisciplinary Faculties and offer 169 different careers of study. Besides that, the UES employs more than 1,122 professors that instruct 55,000 students coming from all places of the country.

3.1.1 Participants

The participants were all professors of all schools, The University count with more than one thousand educators. The Central Campus of the University counts with 1122 professors. All population are Salvadoran, and they were chosen in a real work-day environment. All interviewed educators have a permanent job at University and were approached randomly from each school; there was no restriction to talk with them. Researchers used convenience sample because professors available at the time were selected, without prior notice, all of them had the same chance to be approached.

Considering that each school has a different number of professors, the quantity chosen from each one was proportional to the total number of members in order to have equitable sample. For instance, Medicine school which is the one with the largest number of workers, researchers took more professor and so on until the faculty with a smaller number of professors, it does not matter about edge, experience or gender, since we have professors with many years of experience men and women in order to get a better focus about where study is headed. Let's take a look to the table that show that information in order to facilitate the understanding of how these participants were chosen. There was a total of 80 professors now presented in a descent way.

Participants' table by college schools

School	Amount of professors	Sample
Jurisp. Y Cien. Soc.	59	8
Odontología	68	8
Economía	69	8
Ciencias Agronómicas	70	8
Química y Farmacia	92	8
CCNN y Matemáticas	109	7
Ingeniería	153	11
Ciencias Humanidades	180	10
Medicina	321	12
Total	1122	80

Data obtained at University of El Salvador, Main Campus 2017

On the table above, there is a classification of professor by faculty and the numbers of participants taken from each one depends on the total number of people working in the school.

3.2 Instrument

An interview guide was administrated to 80 professors at the nine faculties of the university, they were all visited at their offices and were asked four open questions in a friendly talk about their experience in the University. Eventually within the talk the members of team included some comments associated to the four questions without asking directly to avoid any obvious answer, this because it was required to lead professor to express their personal thinking about English and its use in the University. All interviews were made in a real work-day environment that made the process easy an eventually comfortable for participants.

Have you noticed any of your coworkers reading books, magazines or teaching in English?

Do you provide materials or schedule any assignment in English?

Do you consider that the English language can help teachers for better personal and professional development?

Have you ever applied or have gained a scholarship for professional studies?

3.4 Procedure

The first move to collect data was to pilot a set of questions with a small group of professors. Researchers decided to use an interview guide, it facilitates to approach professor in their offices and have a conversation with them. The questions were integrated in the conversation, this process allows to have a general idea about the impression professors had about the role of English in their personal and professional development. The piloting procedure provided excellent data, after having looked for 10 professor the team decided to implement the interview as the instrument of the research study.

The data collection procedure took place over six weeks period time. The interviews were conducted at each school site, the procedure did not disrupt the participants' normal, daily, classroom activities, and it did not take more than 10 minutes. The interviews were developed in a natural setting. Besides that, it took 4 weeks more to collect information from authorities at University Campus, information such as scientific researches, magazines or publications carried out by professor working in the University. Despite that, the sources found were not the expected ones, it helped the process because the second option was to look for each Liberian in their respected schools. This provide new data to support the research study.

Professors with different characteristic were selected to the process. To be able support this study with reliable and consist information, all participants were chosen randomly, male

or female, young or older, amateur or expert. This variety of people gave a really important input to the study, because the researches realized that younger people is willing to try new strategies for watching and innovate the teaching process. Different to older people who prefer to continue with the traditional way of teaching but making emphasis on the importance of English in their personal and professional development.

3.3 Data analysis

The data analysis provides the outcome in the investigation. All information collected were analyzed and interpreted by the researches by observing and interviewing the participants of the study. This part is very important because the core part of the research is based on the database:

- The data collected in this research was documented and recorded to obtain valid results of the fields' information. Besides that, to show a clear and understandable information all data was tabulated and organized by faculties; showing result of the participant's opinions.
- Researchers visited different places like ICMARES, CIAN, SICUES, Etc. To obtain the background about the use and contributions of the English language in the UES. Since the University of El Salvador does not have data files. It is very complicated to obtain general information related with professors and The English language since there is not data files.
- Tables for this research were created after having discussed the best way to organize all professors listed as employees, on November 16th, 2017 such data was tabulated in relation to faculties and number of permanent professors working in the campus, (see appendix A). Then, some different tables were created to label participants of each

school showing their age, gender, and a short answer to each research question (see appendix C).

- An interview guide was written with some easy question for participants to answer (see appendix B). Four open question were asked through the conversation, then they turned into some closed questions so as to obtained frequency counts.

The study followed a qualitative method in order to carry out the research questions and answer them properly. In other words, for the data analysis, researchers used descriptive method to show throughout the tables the results obtained from professors.

IV. RESULTS

The present study was focused on “the importance of English language in the academic life and professional development of the professor of the University of El Salvador, Main Campus, 2017” With the help of the instrument the researchers found out the answer of the research questions. The interview helped to obtain and provide an accurate result to the reader. After analyzing the information per each faculty, the researchers decided to create a relationship between the ages of the participants and their opinion to show as simple as possible the results and make it understandable. The information you will read is based in 80 interviews carried out in the Main Campus of the UES to different professionals in their regular work environment.

Composition of sample

RESULT TABLE					
Range of ages in years	Number of participants	Which programs of study demand more use of English?	What is the attitude of the professors of the University of El Salvador towards the English language both personally and professionally?	Does the mastery of English improve professor to a better professional development?	Result
20-30	5	+	+	+	+
31-40	26	+	*	+	+
41-50	43	+	*	+	+
51-60	6	*	*	+	*
	80				

Table 2 shows the relation that exists between the ages and the opinions of the participants of the study. Were: + favorable, - unfavorable,

*neutral

4.1 Analysis of the research question and subsidiary questions

4.1.1 General research question

To what extent is the functional competence in the English language key in the professors of the University of El Salvador personal, and professional development?

Based on the results obtained from the interview the researchers can state that English is considered by professors of the University of El Salvador very important in their careers, taking this from the answers they gave in the interview the 90% of the participants expressed that each professor working in the University should be capable of at least reading information in English language, so they can teach in a higher and proficiently manner. Moreover, only the 40% of the professors in the study make use of the language by reading, listening, speaking or writing. This means that, there is a disposition about the continuous practice of English but there are no actions in the classroom. As table 4.1 shows it can also be observed that the youngest professors are the ones making used of the language in contradiction to the oldest professors who prefer the traditional way of teaching by reading even no new literature but books they have from long time ago.

4.1.2 Subsidiary research questions

What programs of study demand more use of English at the University of El Salvador?

According to the results obtained, the English language helps professionals in all ways, because nowadays, it is important not only for one career but for all of them. The opinions by the professors in the interview help to understand the answer to this important question. According to the literature review chapter it was found out that English is useful in three main specific areas which are Engineering, Medicine and Education. According to participants' opinions 3% of them considers Engineering as the most important area, 90% of the participants were expressing that English is indispensable for all areas of study, for everything

you do day by day. The remaining 7% considers that English is not that important in careers like law, economy and social work but maybe in others.

What is the attitude of the professors of the University of El Salvador towards the English language both personally and professionally?

In regards of attitude of professors toward English, based on the results it is visible that older teachers show less empathy about the Language, they accept that learning a new language is crucial to improve their academic or professional life, since they can learn more about their specialty from different sources worldwide. From a sample of 80 educators from all schools more than 80% over 30 years old considered that English is important, but do not learn it. Besides that, in contrast to the previous result younger professors, which is less than 20% of the sample, totally agree about the English language in their professional area and do their best to improve their knowledge through learning a new language in order to have access to all information written in English.

Does the competence in the English language lead professors to a better professional development?

The principal function in this investigation is to verify the influence that English language has in professor's personal and professional development. Considering that the participants of the study were proportional to the number of educators of each faculty (80 participants). Based on that, the opinion and result gotten of each participant provides a reliable information to have a better panorama about what professors think in regards of mastery of English language in their field of knowledge or all areas in general.

Independently of the faculty, edge or professional development of the participants the result was the same. All of them answered that mastery of English language drives people in

general to a better academic and personal development, people can travel and study outside of their native country, to get better salaries, chance of exchanging information with other colleagues etc. 100% agreed that people have to learn English. To sum up, it is necessary to encourage professors at University of El Salvador to get involved in the use of a second language because even though some of them agree on how important is for development, they do not speak, read or write in English.

4.2 Validity of collected data

It is crucial to administer a valid instrument to gather reliable results. For that reason, after formulating the questions to present in the interviews, researchers did a piloting process to get feedback from professors' opinions and to find out if the questions were actually appropriate. Interviewers asked three questions to some educators randomly chosen in any school of the university. After administering piloting results, corrections needed were applied to process the correct instrument to the participants. The instrument was administered to educators only, there are much more employees at UES, like administrative personnel or security guards etc. But researchers were interested in professors because they are the ones in charge of teaching and sharing their knowledge with students. This makes a valid research because all information gathered is taken from the correct people from different schools of University.

V. DISCUSSION

Professors around the world have been facing different challenges through their careers, one of them is the capacity of being competent in English (Mulford, 2003). This language is now one of the mayor skills that a good professor should have because it would help them to have the capacity to share updated information with their students, to travel and study abroad, to communicate with colleagues everywhere and many other reasons mentioned before. This situation calls researcher's attention because after getting some data, the result showed that professor at University of El Salvador feel willing to learn English and putting in practice in real class environment, but they actually do not speak, read, write or listen in English. From that fact, the idea of this research came and after many months of investigating the result were presented in chapter IV. The data collected help to answer the research questions and show the importance of being competent in English for professor at University of El Salvador.

5.1 General research question

To what extent is the functional competence in the English language key in the professors of the University of El Salvador personal, and professional development?

The mastery of English language according to theory is playing a major role in the education arena, that is why during the investigation it was expected a relationship between real environment and literature information. However, the findings obtained in this study proved to be different. The relation found is not what researchers were expecting. One of the main findings found is the agreement among professors of the UES about the importance of including English knowledge in the classroom and as a resource for each of them, but those were only words; the reality shows something different. From more than one thousand professors working in the central campus it should be logical that most of them speak, read, or write in English language since they are models for all people there, but actually just a small portion of them do it. The study revealed that there was a positive attitude from professors to

learn the language and they do feel motivated from those younger ones that are already in the trendy of knowing English.

Another factor that should be considered is the difference in opinions between younger and older professors. Older professors usually have more experience than younger ones but what researchers notice is that they feel comfortable with their knowledge and do not look for new strategies or new study plans to suit in the modern teaching environment. Some of them even do not make use of technology equipment to share information. On the other hand, younger and new professor are looking for opportunities to go and study abroad, some of them mentioned that had used English in the classroom or as a recommendation for students to read, and this encourages students to learn the language for study purposes, is it innovation? No matters the name it has it is a new way of education.

5.2 Subsidiary research questions

What programs of study demand more use of English at the University of El Salvador?

There are several factors that might influence result in a research project, in this particular case researchers tried to build a distance and avoid any type of manipulation of the environment, participants or anything that could affect a reliable result, from that fact it is acceptable to say that there is a lack of interest regarding to the use of English as a source for teaching and learning as professional in The University of El Salvador, even though literature information reports that English is the language of science, and it is also considered as a universal language here in the University central campus that is still a unusual theme. Despite of having some centers like (ICMARES, SICUES, CIAN, and Instituto de Vulcanología) where professors can contribute with any scientific project the reality shows a different panorama, professors feel comfortable with what they know, with what they do and just about 10 out of more than 1000 professionals investigate and publish scientific documents in English language. In addition to this, there is an evident interest from the younger professors for

implementing and practicing new teaching strategies, in contradiction to older professors that keep with themselves the teaching way they acquired long time ago. Despite of the findings mentioned above, there are people working hard to change this reality and trying to move forward with the use of new technology in a modern world like this one.

What is the attitude of the professors of the University of El Salvador towards the English language both personally and professionally?

In any place of the world English language has become a tool of communication between professionals, attitude has a crucial role in a professional growing. Knowing that attitude is an opinion and a feeling that everyone has about something. Learning a foreign language is no exception. Thus, attitude to language is a construct that explains linguistic behavior. In the education field being capable of sharing ideas and gaining additional knowledge professors might master English language at least in a basic level, all this because a competent professional should look for different sources to absorb the information associated to his or her developing area. Most of the participants selected for this research project admit that English is very important but most of them do not speak, read, write or understand the language. Thus, there is a feeling of fear among them. Professors recognize that English will help them in many different ways, but they do not learn it. It is evident according to results that this apathy about English is more present in older professors rather than younger ones. Also, there is another portion of the population in The University of El Salvador that shows a very particular interest in mastering English, to make this possible there are schools that offer English classes to any professional with the desire of learn it. Some participant mentioned in the interview that they were part of that project, but they declined because the lack of time. On the other hand, there is another small group of professors that already know English, and they motivate their colleagues to do not give up and to use new and updated sources, to interchange information with colleagues in any place of the world. So, the attitude that

professors have toward English is different depending on motivation, anxiety, learning achievements, aptitudes, intelligence, age, or personalities.

Does the competence in the English language lead professors to a better professional development?

It is important to mention that if any professional in this globalized and changing world wants to be competent in his academic or professional life he or she has to learn at least one more language, different to his mother tongue. Even if there are important languages like French or Chinese, most of researcher nowadays consider English like the most important language to learn.

If we take into account that the science in its different fields is always investigating new phenomena, applying more techniques of research or developing new technologies almost all of that information is published or translated in to English language. Based on the participants' response, professors at UES are aware of the importance of English for their development, however, the majority of them do not know it and, they do not look for the way of learning it. It is not enough to be aware how important to learn a new language is, professionals have to go further. New generations are demanding better educators, because the world is also demanding capable professionals that is why sometimes the scholarships that The University of El Salvador offer to professors are rejected. So that, professionals look for an opportunity where they feel comfortable with instead of taking it as a challenge that can improve their lives.

5.3 Limitations

When carrying out the research it was found out that it is not an easy work, there are some aspects that researchers encountered through the process that had to be solved to make the research possible. The lack of sources and information from libraries at University was a limitation. The researchers went to central library expecting to find names or record of

professors that have been involved in English programs or scientific projects published in English language, but what was discovered is that university authorities do not have record of any publishing in their internal system of search about what we were researching.

While the research was getting body, in order to find reliable information and in order to cover all different places and possible records of the topic, the researchers decided to go to libraries at different schools to talk with each librarian, but it was the same story they do not know or have information about professors publishing any piece of paper in English. For that reason, the best choice was to ask personally to each professor in all areas of the university, this led the members of the team to the following limitation. Even though, some helpful information was collected.

Another limitation found was the quantity of participants involved in the research, because in qualitative research a small portion of the population is the one chosen to get a result. The strategy was to approach professors and ask some easy questions but not all of them had disposition to help or being interviewed, it was hard to get access to them. In spite of that, the information recollected shows that some professors have good contributions in their fields of education, but University of El Salvador does not have record of those articles or researches because its authorities do not follow up those projects, that is why professors have to do it independently and do not feel the necessity to report it because there is no recognition or anything for them.

5.4 Recommendations

Based on the result of the study, there are several recommendations for future researchers with the objective of making a more relevant study.

Regarding to setting

1. Qualitative research is conducted in natural settings. This means qualitative researchers study things as they are. They do not manipulate the environment. For instance, there are no experimental and control groups. So, Since this study took place at Main Campus of the University of El Salvador the members of the team recommend to new researches move on to other branches of the university located in other cities such as Santa Ana, San Miguel and San Vicente. That, would help them to have a new vision of each place and it would contribute new elements that can be missing considering only one place of study. Then, they can also compare them to obtain a wide result.

Regarding to participants

2. In some qualitative research participants are selected who can best inform the research questions and enhance understanding of the phenomenon under study. Hence, one of the most important tasks in the study design phase is to identify appropriate participants the sample size is not generally predetermined. The number of participants depends upon the number required to inform fully all-important elements of the phenomenon being studied. That is why for future researchers to select a biggest number of participants in the study should be a good option, since this is a qualitative research the information is subjective inductive and descriptive at the time of provide results, so with the mayor number of participants better and reliable information would be collected.

Regarding to the instrument

3. The information collected by the researchers is probably the most important section of the investigation because it answers the research questions. So, an organizing

interview is a very adequate instrument. As a researcher, you need to make arrangements for the interview, explain matters of confidentiality, prepare consent forms, make your interview participant feel comfortable, and find the right words to open the interview situation. Implement the instrument in a biggest scale will lead you to better results, adding the number of questions and increase the participant's number with a variant of ages or gender for example might provide extra information to analyzed and contribute to new and better result.

5.5 Conclusions

The importance of mastery English language for personal or professional developing is a key as to be updated and to be capable of sharing, comparing and contributing with others. Since, the results of this study showed that English language is present among professional as part of their daily routine or as a general knowledge in fact, it needs a push from authorities to put it in practice. Because, the demand of knowing a second language should be a requirement for all professionals. Thus, University can offer to students the best quality of education with the most capable professionals. The three mayor conclusions can be made from this study:

1. English language is present in any developing area around the world, since this is considered the language of science, but here in the University of El Salvador the use of this language has more impact in engineering, medicine and education. being engineering the one with the higher use of the English language because there are younger people working there with new ideas and desire of innovation.
2. The attitude that professors at University of El Salvador have toward English is very positive, most them expressed interest in learning the language in case they do not know it, so University authorities should implement a study plan for professors and create an opportunity to learn English language. Some professors also consider English language as a fundamental tool for teaching and being updated.

3. Being competent in English language would help professors at University of El Salvador to be better in what they do, and would open the door to a wide range of opportunities to continue growing as professionals, opportunities such as obtaining a master degree, traveling and communicating with people all over the world, sharing ideas and information with colleagues and accessing to any scientific document.

Going through the University campus is going like a ride on a time machine. Each school has a different background, people from different ages, professionals with different goals, students with different dreams, and that made the research team thought what can be different? How all this can be improved? One way of doing that is mastering English language. In fact, knowing a second language can open several opportunities for professionals, it can show them how things work in other universities in case you have the chance to study abroad, for example as professional you can bring those ideas and innovate locally, share what you learned and motivate others to grow. The time to change the fact that most of professors believe English is important language but they do not use it is ahead, team members hope this work would contribute to study other branches of the University to build the validity of this study.

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APPENDICES

INDEX A

Numbers of professor working in the UES by categories.

Facultad	Nº de Docentes	Prof. Universitario (PU III)	Prof. Universitario (PU II)	Prof. Universitario (PU I)
Odontología	68			
CCNN y Matemáticas	109			
Ciencias Humanidades	180	120	50	10
Ciencias Agronómicas	70			
Química y Farmacia	92			
Medicina	321	219	65	38
Jurisp. Y Cien. Soc.	59	38	15	6
Ingeniería	153	92	38	23
Economía	69	60	5	4
Total	1122			

- 3 Multidisciplinarias Occidente, Paracentral y Oriente.

- Datos proporcionados por el Oficial de Acceso a la Información Pública

INDEX B

Objective: To know professor's opinions about the importance of English language for their personal and professional development at Main Campus of The University of El Salvador, 2017.

Questions of the interview

- Have you noticed any of your coworkers reading books, magazines or teaching in English?
- Do you provide materials or schedule any assignment in English?
- Do you consider that the English language can help teachers for better personal and professional development?

Have you ever applied or have gained a scholarship for professional studies?

INDEX C

Table 1						
Facultad de Medicina						
N°	Encuestados	Edad	Sexo	What programs of study demand more use of English at the University of El Salvador?	What is the attitude of the professors of the University of El Salvador towards the English language both personally and professionally?	Does the competence in the English language lead professors to a better professional development?
1	Maestra	48	F	Todas las carreras	Me gustaría aprender	Sin duda alguna
2	Maestro	41	M	Todo lo que hacemos	bueno para los docentes	definitivamente
3	Maestra	43	F	indispensable en medicina	Me gustaría	Si es muy beneficioso
4	Maestra	33	F	En cualquier ámbito	Estoy de acuerdo	Claro que si
5	Maestra	35	F	Todo lo que hacemos	Suena interesante	Sin duda
6	Maestro	45	M	en todo	Bien por nosotros	Por supuesto
7	Maestro	36	M	Todas las áreas	Muy buen proyecto	Claro que si
8	Maestra	50	F	Es necesario en todo	Me gustaría	Definitivamente
9	Maestra	39	F	Todos los ámbitos	Me entusiasmaría	Si, claro que si
10	Maestra	55	F	En la enseñanza	Estoy de acuerdo	Claro que si
11	Maestra	41	F	Todas las carreras	Me gustaría	Si de cierta forma
12	Maestro	50	M	Todos	Me encantaría	Si claro

Table 2						
Facultad de Ciencias y Humanidades						
N°	Encuestados	Edad	Sexo	What programs of study demand more use of English at the University of El Salvador?	What is the attitude of the professors of the University of El Salvador towards the English language both personally and professionally?	Does the competence in the English language lead professors to a better professional development?
1	Maestra	48	F	Hoy en día todo	Es importante	Sí, obviamente
2	Maestro	38	M	Todo lo que hacemos	Debería incluirse	claro
3	Maestro	48	M	En mi área no es importante	No siento interés	Postpuesto que sí
4	Maestro	36	M	En todo	Positiva para aprender	Sí por su puesto
5	Maestro	39	M	Todo lo que hacemos	Me gustaría	Sin duda
6	Maestra	43	F	En todo	Bien por nosotros	Claro que sí
7	Maestra	48	F	Todas las carreras	Me gustaría	Desde mi punto de vista sí
8	Maestro	53	M	Todas las áreas	Me gustaría	Definitivamente
9	Maestro	30	M	En cualquier cosa	Interesante	Sí, tiene muchos beneficios
10	Maestra	38	F	En todo	Debería incluirse	Por supuesto

Table 3						
Facultad de Ing. Y Arq.						
N°	Encuestados	Edad	Sexo	What programs of study demand more use of English at the University of El Salvador?	What is the attitude of the professors of the University of El Salvador towards the English language both personally and professionally?	Does the competence in the English language lead professors to a better professional development?
1	Maestra	44	F	Todas las áreas	Necesidad de aprender	Indudablemente
2	Maestro	36	M	La mayoría de áreas	Me siento entusiasmado	Por supuesto
3	Maestro	60	M	En Ing. es indispensable	Definitivamente	Sí es muy beneficioso
4	Maestro	29	M	En cualquier ámbito	Me gustaría	Sí me beneficia
5	Maestro	35	M	Considero que en todo	Estoy dispuesto	Sin duda
6	Maestro	45	M	En las ingenierías	Sería interesante	En definitiva, sí
7	Maestro	39	M	Todas las áreas	Me parece muy bien	Claro que sí
8	Maestro	48	M	Es necesario en todo	Sí me gustaría	Estoy de acuerdo
9	Maestro	43	M	Todas las carreras	Indudablemente	Entiendo que sí
10	Maestro	42	M	En todo lo educativo	Estoy de acuerdo	Claro que sí
11	Maestra	60	F	En todo lo educativo	Me gustaría	Sin duda fortalece

Table 4						
Facultad de Ciencias Naturales y Matemáticas						
N°	Encuestados	Edad	Sexo	What programs of study demand more use of English at the University of El Salvador?	What is the attitude of the professors of the University of El Salvador towards the English language both personally and professionally?	Does the competence in the English language lead professors to a better professional development?
1	Maestra	41	F	Todo ámbito	Me gustaría	Sí, sin duda
2	Maestro	43	M	Indispensable en todo	Saber lo básico es imp.	Claro que sí
3	Maestro	39	M	Necesario en todo	Necesario aprender	Pospuesto que sí
4	Maestro	37	M	En todo	Quisiera aprender	Sí claro
5	Maestra	50	F	Para cualquier área	Me gustaría	definitivamente
6	Maestro	45	M	Para estar actualizado en todo	Buena oportunidad	Sí nos abre muchas puertas
7	Maestra	38	F	Todos los programas	Sería muy positivo	absolutamente

Table 5						
Facultad de Química y Farmacia						
N°	Encuestados	Edad	Sexo	What programs of study demand more use of English at the University of El Salvador?	What is the attitude of the professors of the University of El Salvador towards the English language both personally and professionally?	Does the competence in the English language lead professors to a better professional development?
1	Maestro	30	M	Todos los ámbitos	Necesidad de aprender	Claro que sí
2	Maestra	39	F	Todo lo intelectual	Indispensable	Muy de acuerdo
3	Maestro	41	M	Cualquier área de estudio	Motivación por aprender	Es importantísimo
4	Maestra	43	F	En todo	Me gustaría	Sí estoy de acuerdo
5	Maestro	33	M	En el aprendizaje y enseñanza	Sí quisiera aprender	Claro que ayuda
6	Maestra	45	F	Todos los programas	Importante	Definitivamente sí
7	Maestra	47	F	Para todo	Sí me gustaría	claro
8	Maestro	55	M	En todo	Incluirlo sería bueno	Sin duda

Table 6						
Facultad de Ciencias Agronómicas						
N°	Encuestados	Edad	Sexo	What programs of study demand more use of English at the University of El Salvador?	What is the attitude of the professors of the University of El Salvador towards the English language both personally and professionally?	Does the competence in the English language lead professors to a better professional development?
1	Maestro	45	M	En todo	Me gustaría	Sí definitivamente
2	Maestra	39	F	Para todo	Es importante	Sí estoy de acuerdo
3	Maestro	38	M	Todas las carreras	Quisiera aprender	Claro que sí
4	Maestro	45	M	En todo	Me gustaría	Definitivamente sí
5	Maestro	40	M	Cualquier área de estudio	Indispensable hoy en día	Sí claro
6	Maestro	50	M	Todo lo que hacemos	Es necesario	Sí tiene toda la razón
7	Maestra	43	F	Para todo	Sí me gustaría	Toda la razón
8	Maestro	47	M	En todo sobre conocimiento	Me daría gusto	Yo creo que sí

Table 7						
Facultad de Odontología						
N°	Encuestados	Edad	Sexo	What programs of study demand more use of English at the University of El Salvador?	What is the attitude of the professors of the University of El Salvador towards the English language both personally and professionally?	Does the competence in the English language lead professors to a better professional development?
1	Maestro	38	M	Todas las carreras	Es necesario	Sí en definitiva
2	Maestra	29	F	Para todo en la actualidad	Es importante	Sí definitivamente
3	Maestra	33	F	En todo	Muy importante	Claro que sí
4	Maestra	41	F	Todas las áreas	indispensable	Claro que sí
5	Maestro	45	M	La demanda es en todo	Me gustaría saber mas	Sí todos lo sabemos
6	Maestro	47	M	Para todo	Se necesita para poder enseñar	Considero que sí
7	Maestra	50	F	Para cualquier cosa a hacer	Sí me gustaría	Sí, yo creo que si
8	Maestra	42	F	Todo lo que hacemos	Muy de acuerdo en aprender	Definitivamente

Table 8						
Facultad de Economía						
N°	Encuestados	Edad	Sexo	Which programs of study demand more use of English?	What is the attitude of professors at college of the different carriers toward English?	Does the mastery of English lead to a better professional development?
1	Maestro	36	M	En todo	Es indispensable	Claro que sí
2	Maestra	30	F	Para todo	Todos deberían conocer	Considero que sí
3	Maestro	40	M	Todas las carreras	Me gustaría	Definitivamente
4	Maestro	43	M	Indispensable en todo	Importante para enseñar	Mejora la calidad
5	Maestro	55	M	Todos los ámbitos de estudio	Para actualizarse es necesario	Sí nos hace competentes
6	Maestra	45	F	Para todo	Me gustaría que se enseñara	En mi opinión sí
7	Maestro	47	M	Todo	Me sentiría emocionado	Sí claro
8	Maestra	39	F	Para todo	Me gustaría conocer mas	Definitivamente

Table 9**Facultad de Jurisprudencia y Ciencias Sociales**

N°	Encuestados	Edad	Sexo	What programs of study demand more use of English at the University of El Salvador?	What is the attitude of the professors of the University of El Salvador towards the English language both personally and professionally?	Does the competence in the English language lead professors to a better professional development?
1	Maestro	40	M	Para todo	Necesario hablar	Sí claro
2	Maestro	39	M	Todos los programas	Deseos de aprender	Obviamente
3	Maestro	43	M	Considero que en todo	Debemos dominar el idioma	Definitivamente
4	Maestro	45	M	Todas las carreras	Me gustaría aprender	Es cierto
5	Maestra	47	F	Presente en todo	Buena idea de curricula	Sí por supuesto
6	Maestra	50	F	En todo	Me gustaría	Claro que sí
7	Maestro	33	M	Todo lo que hacemos	Lo uso si necesito	sí
8	Maestra	36	F	En todo	Debería implementarse	Sí ayuda