

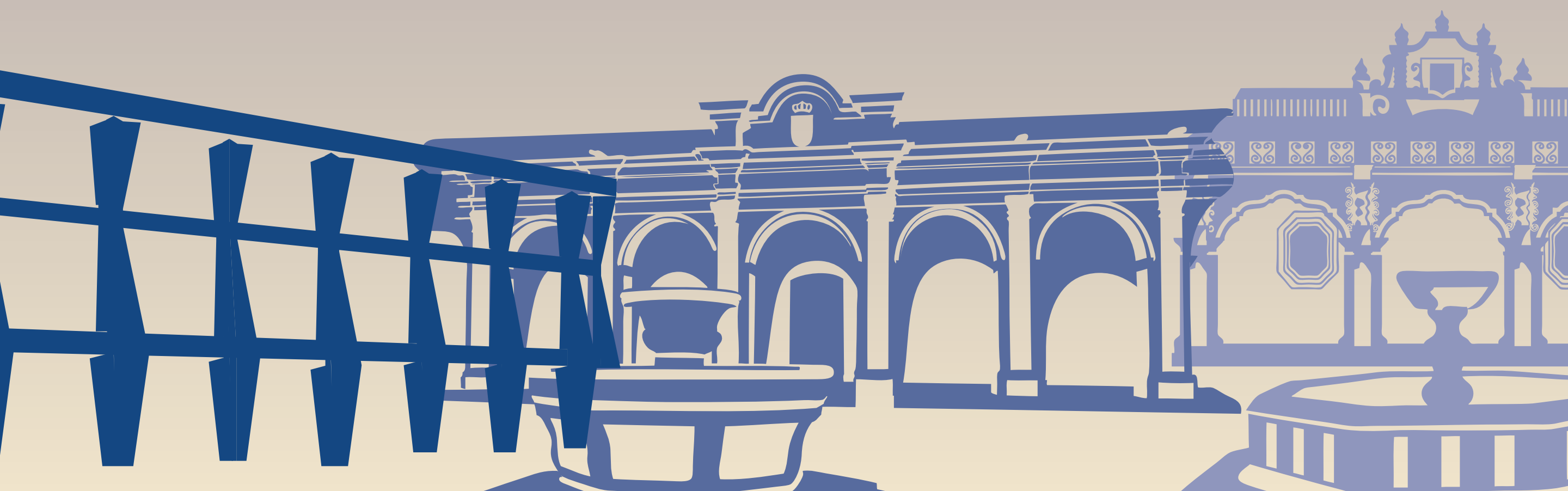


USAC

TRICENTENARIA

Museo de la Universidad
de San Carlos

MUSAC



Introduction

The museum of San Carlos University presents Tricentennial USAC, to highlight the importance of the first university in Central America, longed for since colonial times in the city of Santiago de Guatemala, whose founding took more than a century of paperwork.

The exhibition summarizes the historical evolution in four periods from its founding, organizational development, academic advancement, contribution to society and trajectory of its headquarters.

It points out the persevering participation of illustrious personalities and important institutions through whose contributions it achieves its improvement and progress.

The exhibition is illustrated with graphics and magnified by the incorporation of various historical documents, oil portraits and clothing from the university's cultural heritage collection.

The purpose is to initiate the San Carlos community and the general public in understanding the essence of the alma mater and to discover its scope, considering that it serves 70% of the students enrolled in higher education in Guatemala.

“Go and teach everyone”



Origin of Universities

LISTEN 

The word University comes from the Latin 'universitas', an association to defend the interests of people dedicated to knowledge. Universities originated in the Middle Ages to train professionals for the Catholic Church.

They were institutions created by the Royal Charter and recognized by Papal Bull. The official language of instruction was Latin. Their methodology was scholastic, which means subordination of reason to faith.

The first Western universities were:

- Bologna, Italy (1088)
- Oxford, England (1096)
- Paris, France (1150)
- Cambridge, England (1209)
- Palencia, Spain (1212)
- Salamanca, Spain (1218)
- Alcalá de Henares, Spain (1499)



University of Bologna, Italy



University of Salamanca, Spain



King Charles II

(1661–1700)

He founded the University by Royal Charter on January 31, 1676, in Madrid, Spain.

Also called the 'Bewitched,' he was born on November 6, 1661. He was the son of Philippe IV and Mariana of Austria. On the death of his father, he inherited all the possessions of the Spanish Habsburgs, including Sicily. He was king of Spain from 1665 to 1700. Of a sickly constitution, weak and of little mental capacity, until 1675 his mother exercised the regency, who entrusted the government to the valid ones, to the German Jesuit Nithard until 1669 and to Fernando de Valenzuela. From 1677 to 1679 governed John Joseph of Austria, enemy of the queen mother, and later, until 1685, the Duke of Medinaceli and the Count of Oropesa.

At the age of 18, Charles II got married to Marie Louise of Orleans, daughter of Duke Philippe de Orleans, brother of Louis XIV and Henrietta Anne of England. Ten years later the queen died and in 1690 took place the second marriage of the monarch with Mariana of Neoburg, daughter of the elector Philip William of Palatinate, Duke of Neoburg. Charles II did not have descendants with none of his two wives, giving rise to the succession problem that brought as a consequence the end of the Spanish Austrian dynasty.

The last years of the reign of Charles II were marked by the madness of the monarch, product of political pressures and palace intrigues, and by the succession problem, as a consequence of the lack of children. In the face of this last issue, a struggle for the throne and his inheritance was flared up. At first, the designated candidate was Joseph Ferdinand Maximilian, son of the Elector of Bavaria, but he died in 1699, and the problem of choosing between Archduke Charles, son of Emperor Leopold and great-grandson of Philip III, and Philip of Anjou, grandson of Louis XIV and great-grandson of Philip IV, arose again.

This provoked a contest for the succession to the Spanish throne in which the main European powers intervened. The Court was divided into two camps, on the one hand the queen supported the Austrian candidate, and on the other Charles who thought that only the support of France could ensure the preservation of the monarchy in all its territorial integrity. All this made him decide for Philip, and without yielding to pressures he maintained his election until the end leaving it in writing on October 2, 1700, in the testament that he made a month before his death.

Therefore, Charles II expired in Madrid, at the age of forty, leaving a succession that will provoke a war, the war of succession that would give way to a new dynasty in the monarchy of Spain, that of the bourbons.



Portrait of King Charles II (1661-1700) /Oil on canvas/ Donated by the Spanish Embassy in 1961; anonymous copy of the original by the Spaniard Juan Carreño de Miranda.



Emblem of the Royal and Pontifical San Carlos De Guatemala University / Oil on canvas / Author: Anonymous

Bishop Francisco Marroquín

(1499 Toranzo Santander, Spain - 1563 Santiago de los Caballeros Guatemala)

He was born in Spain, arrived from the old continent to New Spain, Mexico and in Guatemala was presented to the Cabildo of Santiago -Iximché-, on June 3, 1530, with thirty years of age, graduated in theology, educated in an era of spiritual and scientific concerns emanating from the naval expeditions that culminated with the discovery of America.

He began his mission as a spiritual pastor with which he safeguarded charity and harmony in a world devoid of them. He was named “protector of Indians”, with whom he identified himself by studying their language, customs and raised his voice demanding the conscience of the Emperor and the Spanish Kings against slavery. From his ecclesiastical position, he was named the first bishop consecrated in America in 1537, with the commitment to establish the city and elect the church as a cathedral to Christianize the inhabitants.

Due to the destruction of Santiago and the death of Mrs. Beatriz de la Cueva, he was named Governor and for his extensive civil work he was known as royal advisor, founder of towns and cities, builder of hospitals, hospices, educational procurator, institutionalized the school of first letters and initiated the steps to establish higher studies through a university, which became a reality 128 years after his first letter of request to the king -1545-: San Carlos de Guatemala University, USAC, as we know it today. In summary, a humanist and civilizer, purposeful, full of faith, strength and perseverance that from his arrival did not stop seeing Guatemala, until Good Friday, April 9, 1563, the day of his death.



University Procedures

LISTEN 



in Santiago de Guatemala

The first promoter of an educational center was Bishop Francisco Marroquín. Two months before his death, on February 3, 1563, he wrote to His Majesty about the need to create a college for all sciences, and to gather all these Creoles, who were already grown up and without doctrine.

The role played by the City Council, the Audiencia of Guatemala and several religious orders was important, since for more than a century they requested the king to establish the University.

Likewise, Friar Payo Enriquez de Rivera, Bishop of Guatemala, was very active, as well as the University of Mexico to have provided their endorsement in the establishment of the university.



Benefactors

Bishop Francisco Marroquín

In his will, he left part of his estate to create a Residence Hall, money that was used to establish the San Carlos University.

General Pedro Crespo Suárez

Benefactor of the University, donated 46,000 coins on January 14, 1646.

Sancho de Barahona and his wife Isabel de Loaiza

Bequeathed 100 ducats for the benefit of a chair at the University.



Captain Pedro Crespo Suárez
(?-1652)

He was General, Alderman and Sheriff Major of the Holy Craft of the Inquisition in the Audiencia of Guatemala.

Engraving by Pedro Garci-Aquirre, 1803.

Graduation in the Colonial Era

1. Act of repetition. The subject disserted for one hour and was argued by doctors. The colors of their tassels revealed the university degree; red for Doctors of Law; green, for Canons; white, for Theology; blue, for Philosophy; and for Medicine, yellow. Reaching the licenciatura was quite a literary undertaking.



2. Funeral night, or severe examination, which, behind closed doors, for at least two hours, the future Licenciado held. In the morning, the student would select topics -two theses- and hours later the student would have to defend them before examiners, both old and new graduates.

3. Doctoral Investiture: A spectacular reception, in the cathedral of Antigua, of the insignia of Doctor: tassel and biretta, ring, book and mozzetta. The doctors also received spurs and swords.

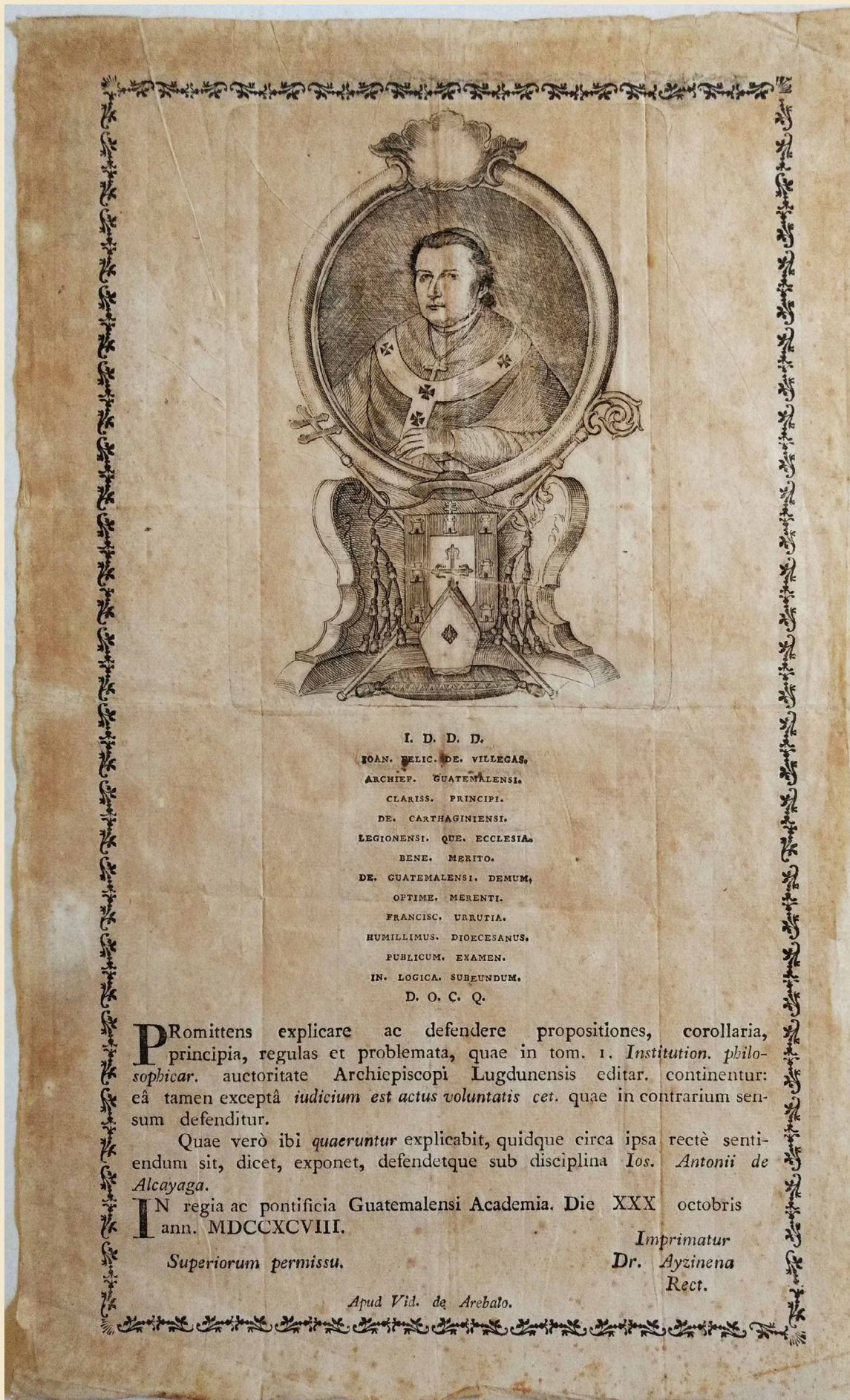


4. The new doctor rode sumptuously through the streets of the city on horseback. Trumpets and kettledrum, macebearers, doctors, authorities, gentlemen and the public announced in his presence that being a university student was the most prized pedigree of the city.

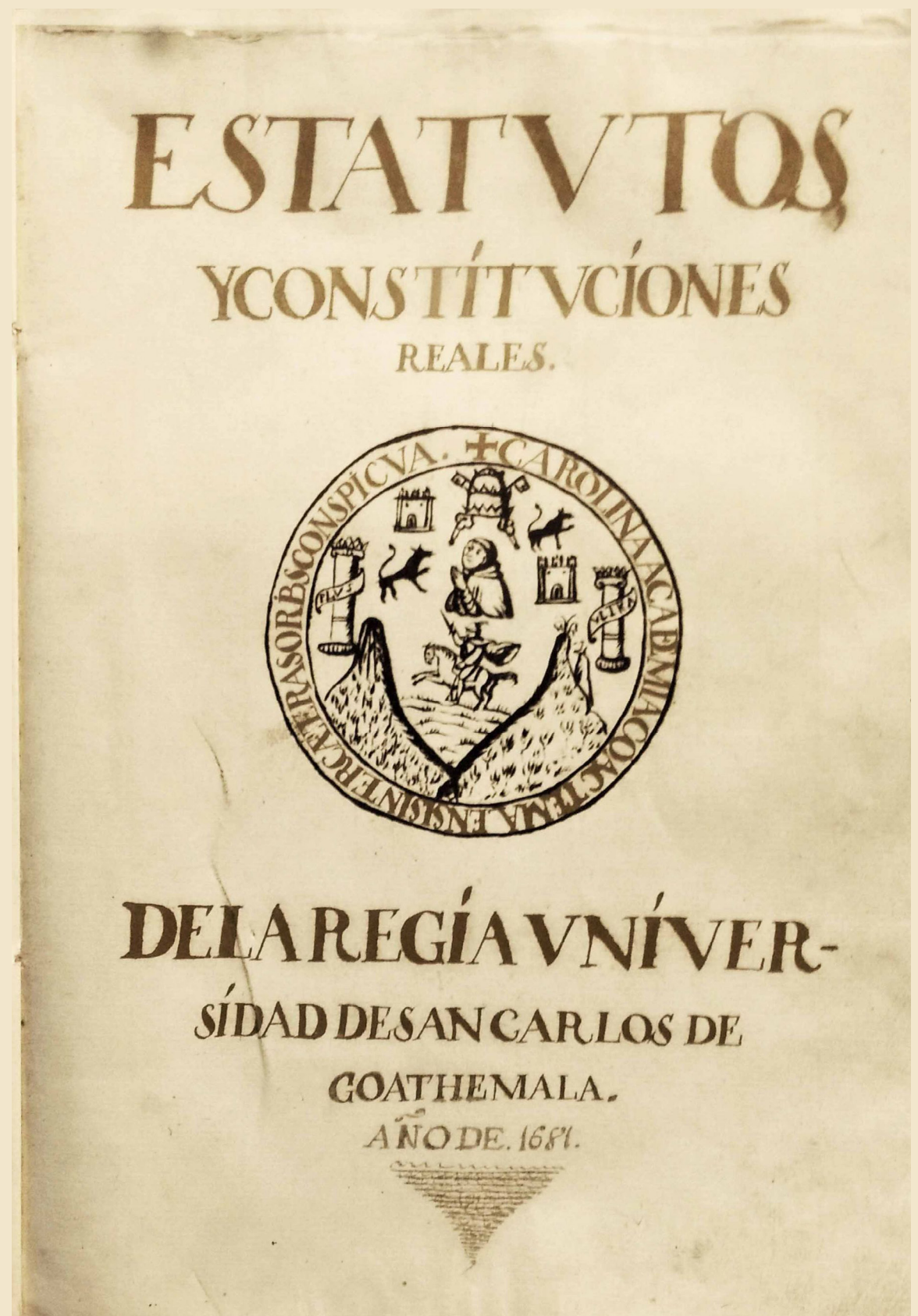


Murals: "Graduation Scenes" Guillermo Grajeda Mena in the old San Carlos University.

Graduation in the Colonial Era



Document of invitation in Latin to the Solemn Act of Graduation of the Royal and Pontifical University 1798.



Manuscript dated 1681, the first legal instrument that regulated the functioning of the alma mater.

University Work

The chairs authorized by the Royal Charter of foundation of the University of Guatemala were: Scholastic Theology, Moral Theology, Canons, Law, Medicine and two of Indigenous languages.

On January 7, 1681, higher education began, when Friar Agustín Cano read the first lectureship, thus solemnly inaugurating the work of the University.

Sixty students were admitted, distributed as follows: seven in Theology, 36 in Philosophy, 17 in Institute (Roman Law) and Cakchiquel.

On February 10, 1681, it was given the lectureship 'Law Premium', by the licenciado Antonio Dávila Quiñónez, and on October 20 of the same year, the lectureship Medicine Premium, by interim professor Nicolás de Souza.

The first rector was Dr. José de Baños y Sotomayor, appointed by His Majesty on June 9, 1686.

Statutes and Royal Constitutions

On June 6, 1680, King Charles II requested the drafting of a legal instrument that would regulate the effective financial, administrative and academic organization of the nascent University. Licenciado Francisco de Sarassa y Arce was commissioned for this noble task.

He was based on the constitutions of the universities of Mexico and Salamanca. In this way, university education was regulated, which included the opposition to professorships in order to begin classes. The task was completed on May 17, 1681.

Papal Bull

On June 18, 1687, Pope Innocent XI granted it the Bull Ex Supreme, and from that moment on it was called the Royal and Pontifical San Carlos de Guatemala University.

Papal recognition gave university studies international validity, so that a graduate could join any university in the world. With this bull, the same rank and privilege enjoyed by universities such as those of Mexico and Lima was achieved.

Pontifical Emblem

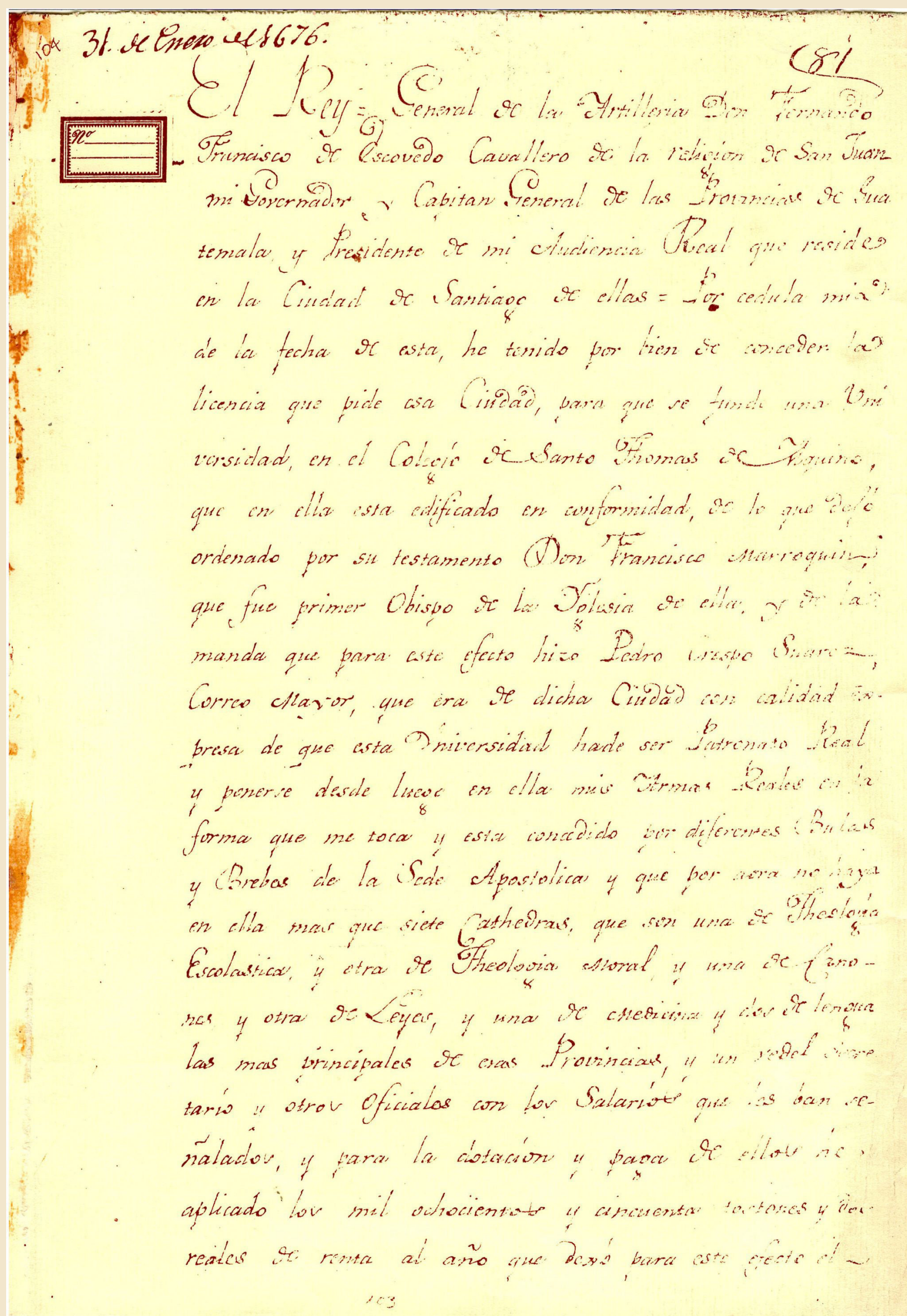


Emblem of the Royal and Pontifical San Carlos de Guatemala University / Oil on canvas / Author: Anonymous

Royal Charter

The foundation of the University was authorized by the monarch Charles II on January 31, 1676, in Madrid, Spain. The Royal Charter was received in Santiago de Guatemala on October 26 of that year; it established the first professorships and the opposition process for the selection of professors.

Here is an extract: ‘(...I have had the good will to grant (as I hereby grant) the license requested by the city of Santiago de Guatemala, to establish the so-called University in the Saint Thomas Aquinas Residence Hall, which is built there, by applying (as I hereby apply) the so-called Residence Hall to the said University...).’



University Reforms

LISTEN 



Dr. Friar José Antonio de Liendo y Goicoechea (1735-1814) was born in Cartago, Costa Rica, at that time part of the Audiencia of Guatemala. He was a Franciscan and obtained a doctorate degree from the San Carlos University.

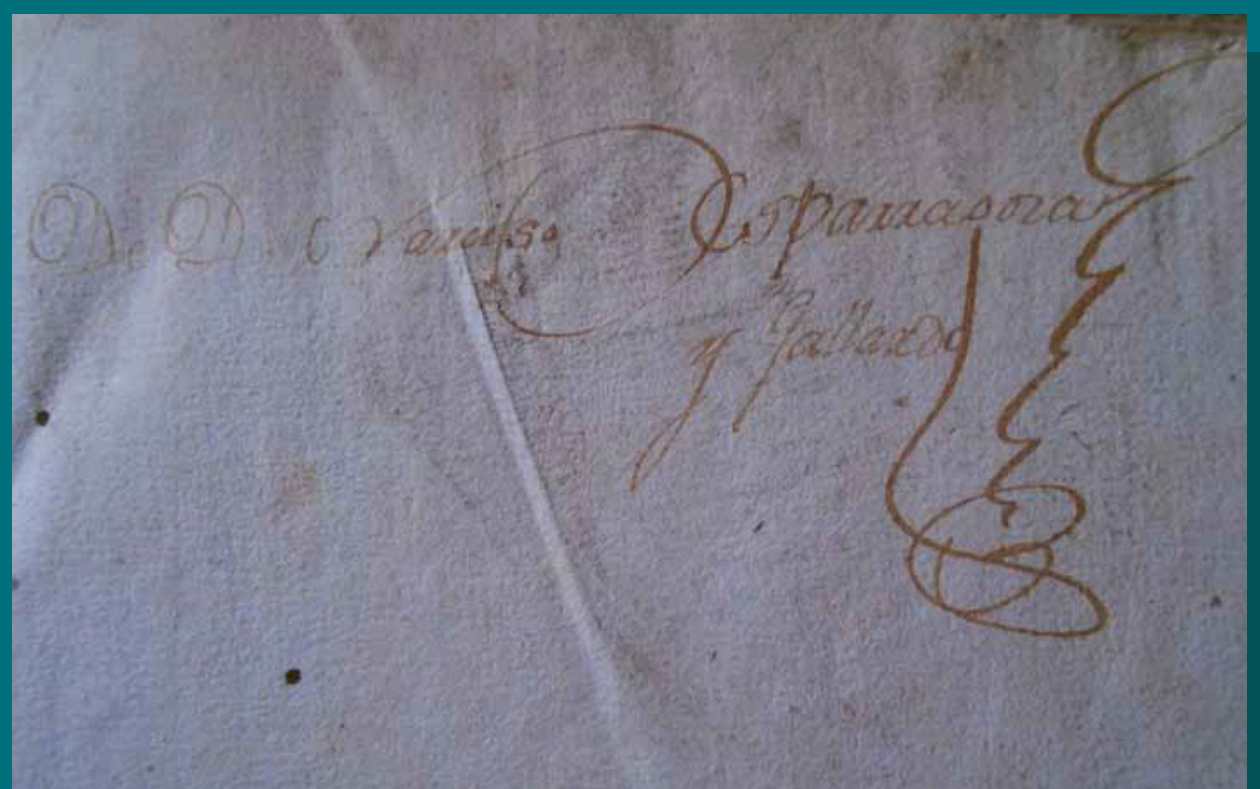
In 1782, Dr. Friar José Antonio de Liendo y Goicoechea promoted the University Reform, which had a renovating, scientific and philosophical approach, based on the European Enlightenment. His great contribution was the promotion of experimental sciences.

These changes occurred in Nueva Guatemala de la Asunción, due to the relocation of the city by the Santa Marta earthquakes of 1773. The San Carlos de Guatemala University moved to this valley in 1777.

Medical studies were expanded with the creation of the Anatomy chair, practicing dissections on animals and corpses. The modernization of the study plans was promoted with a curricular reform. The use of instruments such as the barometer, thermometer and others were introduced.

During this same period, personalities such as *Dr. José Felipe Flores*, considered the “renovator of medicine and its teaching”, were prominent. He introduced wax mannequins to facilitate the learning of anatomy. In recognition of his great contributions, the crown awarded him the title of physician to the King’s Chamber.

Among the most outstanding disciples of Dr. Flores was Dr. Narciso Esparragoza y Gallardo, creator of the elastic mass, a kind of forceps to save children in complicated deliveries.



Rubric of Dr. Esparragoza y Gallardo (Caracas, Venezuela 1759-Nueva Guatemala 1819). He donated 600 books from his personal library to the institution, one of them bearing the present signature.

Academy of Studies

(1832-1840)

LISTEN 



Mariano Gálvez (1794-1863)

Graduated from the San Carlos University and was a protagonist of the independence movements. His body and his wife rest in the Greater Hall of the University Museum.

Dr. Mariano Gálvez, once president of the Guatemalan State, suppressed the university and the Bar Association, and in its place created an academy of studies.

Among the innovations was the recovery of teaching surgery in the anatomical dissection practice, historical studies were included with a chair of Universal History on October 16, 1832, in charge of Alejandro Maruri.



Alejandro Maruri (1806-1851)

Was born in Guatemala, graduated from the Tridentine Seminary with a bachelor's degree in philosophy and from the San Carlos University with a law degree.

University by faculties (1875)

Through the organic and regulatory law of public instruction of 1875 during the government of Justo Rufino Barrios, it was established that the university would be divided into faculties and was considered a scientific and literary entity. Latin was no longer taught.

The faculties established were: Law and Notary, Medicine and Pharmacy, Engineering, Philosophy and Literature, the last one did not work due to a lack of students.



Old Law School, Nueva Guatemala de la Asunción



Old Universidad de Occidente, Quetzaltenango City. (1808)

In 1876, the Universidad de Occidente was founded in the city of Quetzaltenango.

By 1880, the capital's university had 114 students distributed in this way: 50 in Law and Notary, 60 in Medicine and Pharmacy, and 4 in Engineering. Quetzaltenango had 25 students distributed as follows: 15 in Law and Notaries, seven in Medicine and Pharmacy, and three in Engineering.

The University in the Independence Movement

LISTEN 

Conjuración de Belén

The academic training of professionals within the university, in the early nineteenth century, in the period of the Enlightenment, aware of the air of independence that came from the American continent, allowed the participation of some members, such as Dr. Tomás Ruíz, the first indigenous graduate of the university, was among those imprisoned for supporting the so-called Conjuración de Belén, 1813, an emancipation movement that proposed to overthrow the Spanish authority and achieve the independence of the Captaincy General of Guatemala.

Independence from Spain 1821

The signing of the Act of Independence was achieved on September 15, 1821, written by Dr. José Cecilio del Valle, a graduate of this university. In fact, there was official representation of San Carlos community by its rector, Dr. Antonio de Larrazábal, and by representatives of the cloister, Serapio Sánchez and Mariano Gálvez. For the Bar Association José Francisco Córdova and Santiago Milla.

Annexation to Mexico, 1822

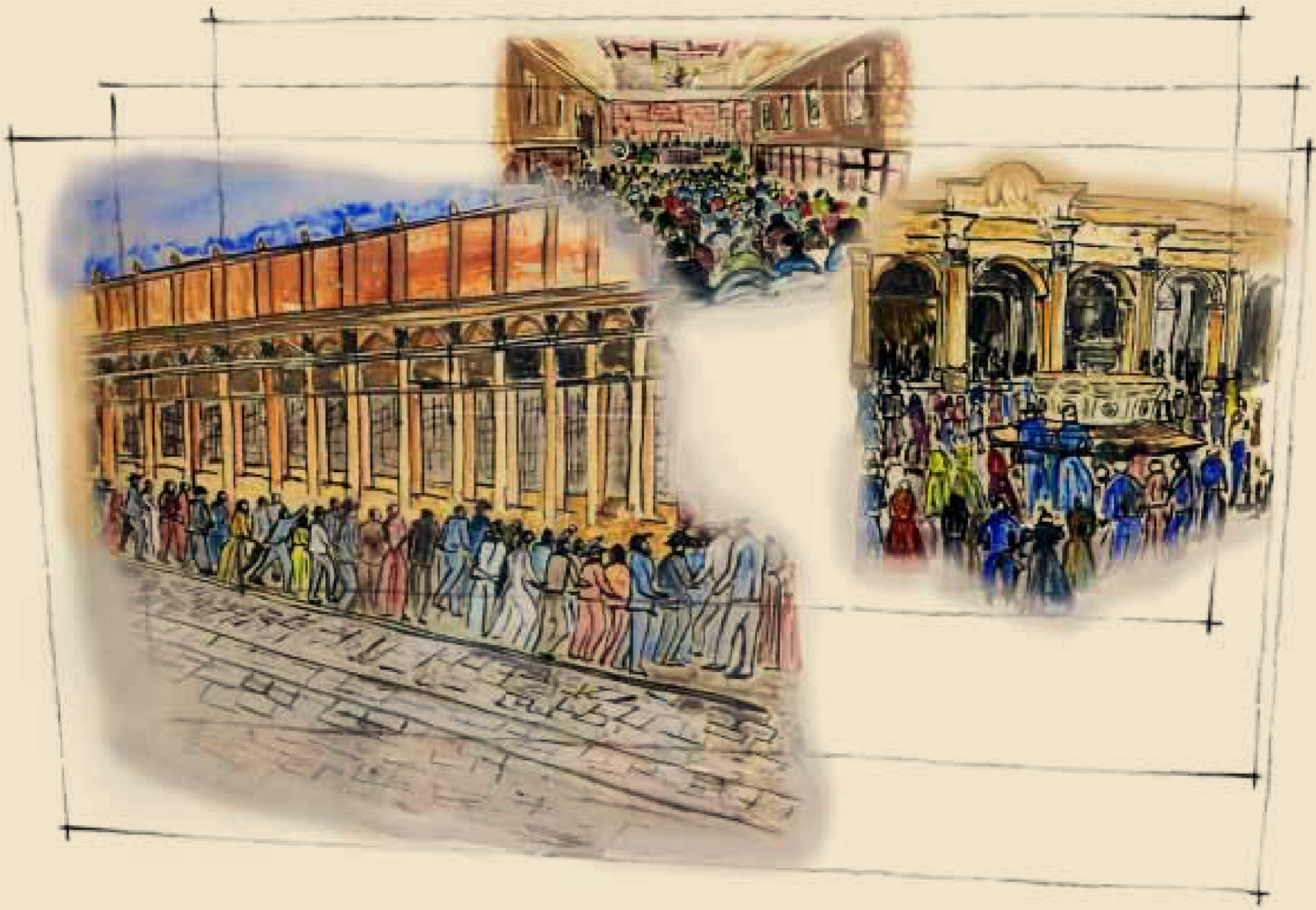
San Carlos community students and professionals opposed the annexation to Mexico on January 5, 1822. Because they disagreed, a group of professionals was attacked; the first martyred students, members of the patriotic boards Mariano Bedoya and Remigio Meda, died.



Territorial distribution of the Captaincy General of Guatemala



Guatemala Republic. The Republic was created on March 21, 1847.



Absolute Independence, July 1, 1823

Members of the National Constituent Assembly, with Dr. Mariano Gálvez as Secretary, signed the Act of Absolute Independence from Mexico and the Republic of the United Provinces of Central America was born, composed of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Chiapas and Soconusco then decided to belong to Mexico.

University Work in the Independent Era

There were reforms, such as the establishment of a chair of chemistry, on January 21, 1825, to be taught in both Medicine and Pharmacy. On July 24, 1829, by legislative order, it was agreed to integrate a commission of scholars to develop a new university curriculum. On June 27, 1831, the National Constituent Assembly agreed to open chairs of Philosophy, to be taught in the towns of the Central American Federation.

‘Within the walls of the General Mayor then resounded the strong voices of the deputies and the spontaneous people who unanimously proclaimed the longed-for total and absolute independence over any people of both the old and the new world, definitively establishing the new Republic of Central America.’ (Ferrús Roig, Major General 1778-1961)

José Cecilio del Valle

(1780 – 1834)

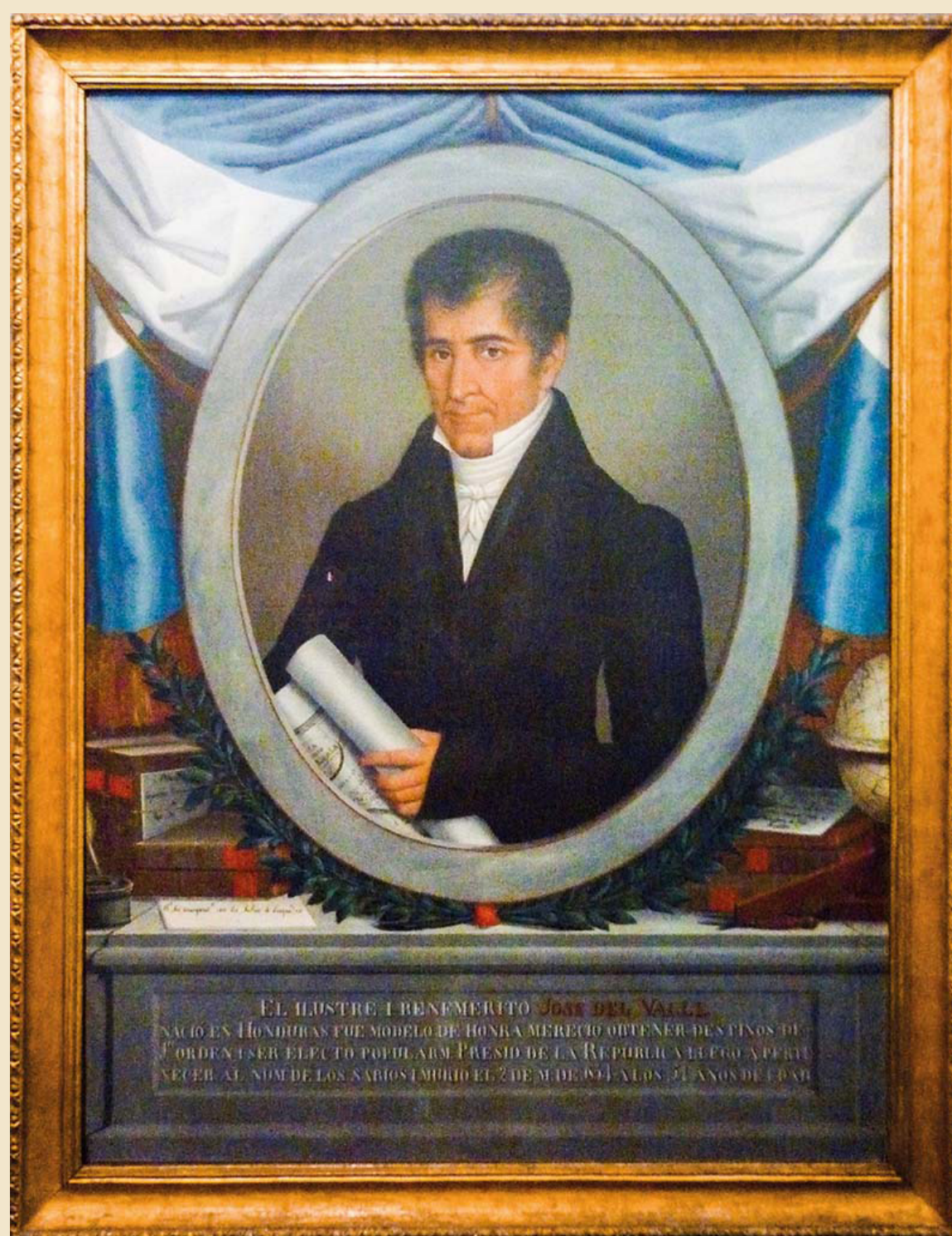
He was born in the Pacific city of Choluteca, Honduras, on November 22, 1780. His father was Mr. José Antonio del Valle and Mrs. Gertrudis Díaz. His first studies were at the Escuela Belén, in Guatemala City, and he studied Philosophy, Civil and Canon Law at the San Carlos de Guatemala University. Later, on September 1, 1803, he took the customary oath to receive his law degree. Because of his dedication to study, he was known as “EL SABIO VALLE” (THE WISE VALLE).

In 1812 he married Miss Josefa Valero. Among some of the positions attributed to him are those of Interim Deputy of the Governmental Commission of Consolidation in 1805; defender of ‘Obras Pías’ and censor of the Gazette of Guatemala City; Advisor of the Consulate of Guatemala in February 1806; Prosecutor of the Court of the Royal Corps of Artillery and Engineering of the Kingdom; in 1809 he took office as deputy of the Central Board of the Province.

On September 15, 1821, he drafted the Act of Independence, not making clear the ideas of a definitive and absolute independence, but simply a separation from the Spanish Crown.

He was the one who drafted the Decree of July 4, 1829, preventing the death penalty for people who had held high positions in the previous government.

He died on the road leading from the property “La Concepción” to the capital where he was being taken for treatment, because he was very sick, but near the property “El Corral de Piedra” he died on March 2, 1834. The government, as in El Salvador, ordered all employees to wear mourning clothes for three days; the Assembly decreed that for three days the bells were to be tolled.



Portrait Dr. José Cecilio del Valle (1777-1834) / Oil on canvas / Author: Falla

Dr. José Felipe Flores

(1751–1814)

A distinguished physician, he was born in Ciudad Real, Chiapas. When he was very young, he arrived in Antigua Guatemala and studied at the Jesuit school; then he entered the San Carlos University, where he obtained his bachelor's degree in medicine in 1773.

He used the inoculation method when a smallpox epidemic broke out in Guatemala in 1780. The epidemic was contained, and Dr. Flores obtained a resounding triumph. In 1785 he provided the hospital of San Juan de Dios with surgical instruments.

He was an eminent professor at the University and, in order to facilitate the study of anatomy and physiology, he made statues of natural size and color where the organs of the human body could be clearly appreciated; these organs could be removed and placed according to the need.

Dr. Flores wrote several works, among them "Specific new discovery in Guatemala for the cure of cancer and other most common diseases." The aforementioned medicine consisted of eating small meatballs of meat from a certain species of lizard abundant in some regions of Guatemala. The pamphlet on the cure of cancer was translated into French and German. It was known in medical forums and the lizard was included as medicinal in the medical lexicon.

In honor of his many merits, he was named the first Legal Protomedic of Guatemala by the Court of Protomedicato. Due to his great capacity, the King of Spain appointed him private physician.

He died in Madrid in 1814.



Portrait Dr. José Felipe Flores (1751-1824) / Oil on canvas /
Author: Pedro Arce y Valladares

LISTEN 

October Revolution



Land in Peasant Hands Engraving Arturo García Bustos.

It was a civil-military movement in 1944, which allowed Guatemalan society to rise up against a 14-year dictatorial government and recover its fundamental rights of freedom, freedom of expression and justice.

A triumvirate was promptly chosen to call for elections and its two governments became known as “**the democratic spring**”, the first with Dr. Juan José Arévalo and the second with Colonel Jacobo Arbenz Guzmán, entities of sports, economic, cultural and educational benefit were introduced with the creation of federation-type schools and normal schools, along with the Social Security Institute and the Labor Code. The second project involved the Agrarian Reform, construction of hydroelectric plants, highway to the Atlantic, among others.



Agrarian Reform Law Engraving Ismael Aroche



The Route to the Atlantic is Liberation Engraving J.V. Vásquez

In the educational field, at a higher level, the San Carlos University, thanks to the “...patriotic participation of the students recognized by the Revolutionary Government Committee in **decree number 12** dated November 9, 1944, granting **autonomy** to the alma mater” (Cazali Ávila).

LISTEN 

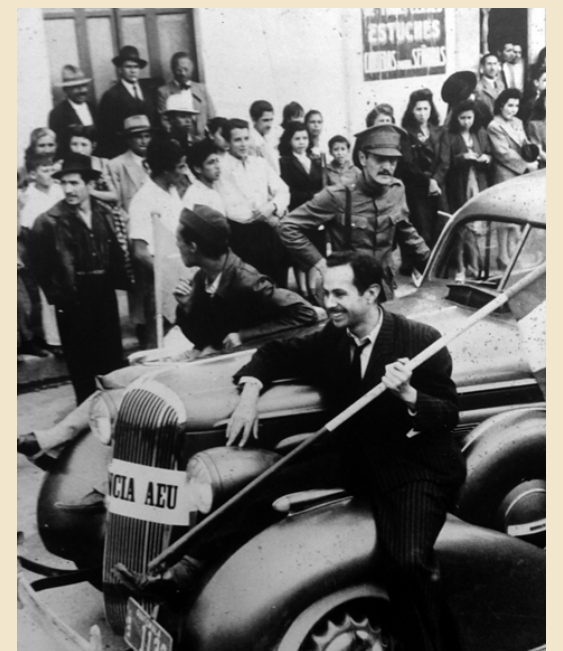
University Autonomy



Solemn act, presided over by the triumvirate from right to left: Colonel Jacobo Arbenz Guzmán, Jorge Toriello and Francisco Javier Arana.

University students played a leading role in the organization and struggle of the October 20, 1944 Revolution. The Revolutionary Government Committee issued decree number 12 of November 9 of the same year, which would come into effect on December 1. This event meant for the university the declaration of its autonomy and self-determination without government intervention.

The 1945 constitution established in article 84, that the San Carlos de Guatemala University is autonomous and is governed in accordance with the respective law in its statutes, the State shall contribute to secure and increase the university heritage, and to allocate annually the constitutional 5 percent of the general budget of ordinary revenues of the State to the item destined to the support of the university.



Dr. Carlos Federico Mora

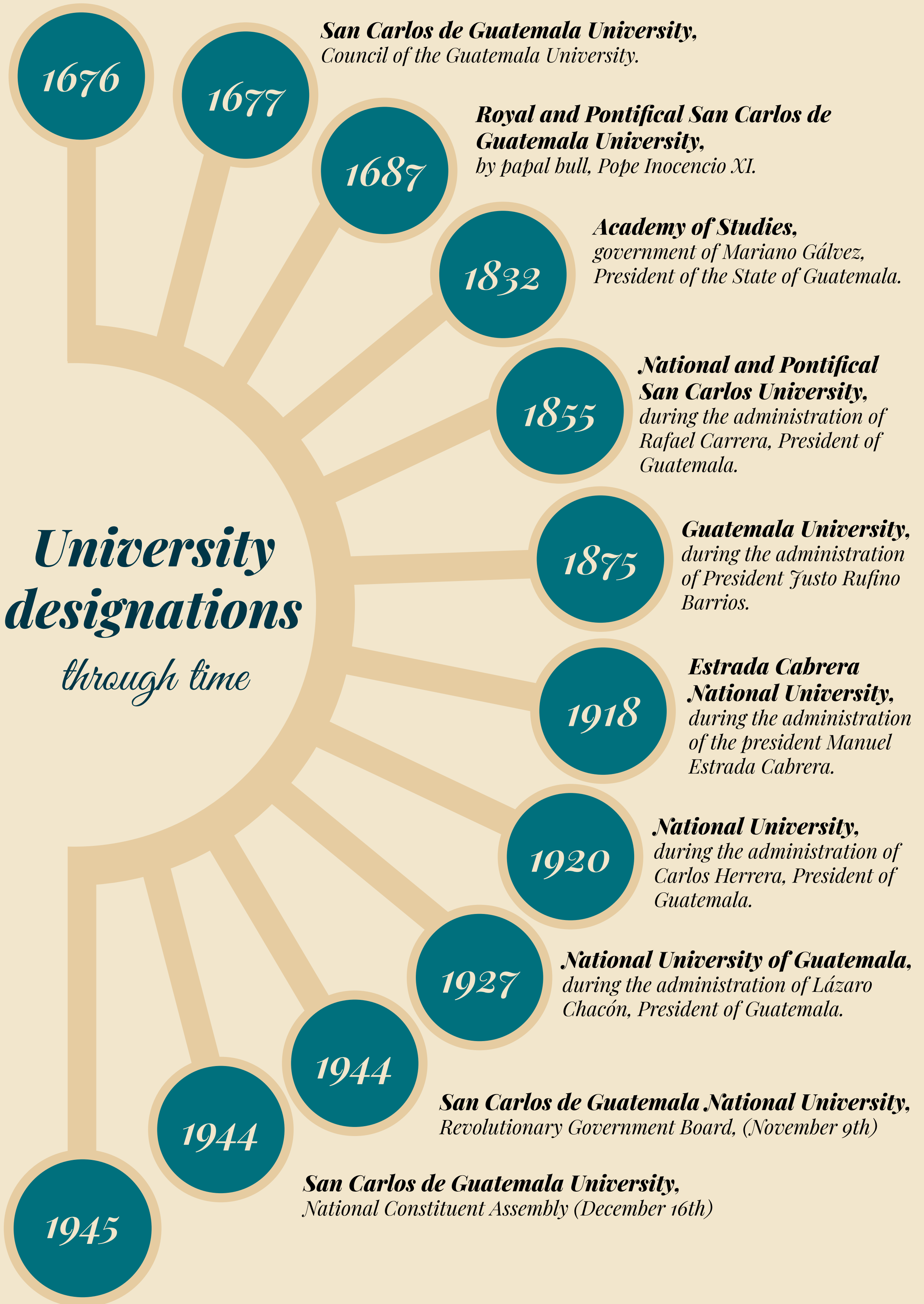
Dr. Carlos Federico Mora was the rector. The legislative assembly ratified the autonomy by means of decree number 14 of December 16, 1944, and the first rector elected during this period was Dr. Carlos Martínez Duran.

The group of 14 students who entered the Honor Guard barracks armed themselves and went out to fight.



Jorge Morales Franco, Ricardo Asturias Valenzuela, Julio César Méndez Montenegro, Óscar de León Aragón, Felipe Valenzuela Lorenzana, Fernando Bregni Chacón (wounded in combat), Julio Valladares Castillo, Ángel Villamar Contreras, Enrique Luna Castañeda, Jorge Álvarez Borges, Emilio Zea González, Antonio Nájera Saravia, Ricardo Cancelo Osorio' (Toriello Garrido, 2005).

Guatemala University.
Royal Charter of Charles II of Spain.



San Carlos de Guatemala University,
Council of the Guatemala University.

Royal and Pontifical San Carlos de Guatemala University,
by papal bull, Pope Inocencio XI.

Academy of Studies,
government of Mariano Gálvez, President of the State of Guatemala.

National and Pontifical San Carlos University,
during the administration of Rafael Carrera, President of Guatemala.

Guatemala University,
during the administration of President Justo Rufino Barrios.

Estrada Cabrera National University,
during the administration of the president Manuel Estrada Cabrera.

National University,
during the administration of Carlos Herrera, President of Guatemala.

National University of Guatemala,
during the administration of Lázaro Chacón, President of Guatemala.

San Carlos de Guatemala National University,
Revolutionary Government Board, (November 9th)

San Carlos de Guatemala University,
National Constituent Assembly (December 16th)

San Carlos de Guatemala University,
Constitution of the Republic.

Doctor Carlos Martínez Duran

(1906–1974)



*Portrait Dr. Carlos Martínez Durán (1906–1974) / Oil on canvas/
Author: Pedro Arce y Valladares*

Carlos Enrique de Jesús Martínez Duran was born in Guatemala City on March 28, 1906. Son of Dr. Carlos Martínez Gálvez and Mrs. Concepción Durán Gálvez. In 1935, he married Miss Leonor Cabarrus Poitevin. His daughter, Yolanda Martinez Cabarrus, enlarged the family by marrying and giving him four grandchildren.

He completed his Bachelor of Science and Letters studies in 1923, at the Instituto Nacional Central de Varones. In June 1931, he graduated as a Physician and Surgeon at the Faculty of Medical Sciences of the University of San Carlos, and he conducted specialization studies in other countries.

The activities and positions held in his university student life show him with a dynamic personality, initiative and organized habits with which

qualities, he plays a leadership role in the University Students Association. He was a competitive examiner of the Pathology Anatomy Laboratory of the Faculty of Medical Sciences. As Head of the Outreach Department, he taught the workers the History of Central America.

Academic Life

Begins teaching at the Faculty of Medical Sciences. Later at the Faculty of Dentistry. And the Faculty of Humanities.

University Autonomy:

Period in the history of the University, as a consequence of the demands of university students, the teachers' union and the people in general, for a new constitutional order, in which prevailed for the leadership of the country: democracy and for the alma mater: autonomy.

University system that included electing its own authorities, so that in August 1945, in accordance with the Organic Law of the Autonomous San Carlos University, it corresponded to Dr. Carlos Martinez Duran, for his integrity and proven loyalty to the Alma Mater, to take possession as the first elected Rector.

First Rectorate, stage of consolidation of University Autonomy: from August 1945 to March 1950.

Internal achievements of transcendence: Issuance of the Organic Law of the San Carlos University, (1947) legislation that organized the USAC, on new bases, and especially the principle of Autonomy was elevated to a constitutional precept.

Beginning of the construction of the University City acquiring the land for its location in zone 12 (1946-1947), among others of cultural order and in the international field, the foundation of the Union of Universities of Latin America -UDUAL- (Sept. 1949) stands out.

Second Rectorate: from 1958 to 1962.

He was responsible for the foundation of the Faculty of Architecture. School of Rural Social Service of the West and the Department of Student Welfare, among others.

Civil servant:

He held the positions of Minister of Guatemala to the Republic of Italy 1950-1951 and Ministry of Education in the Government of Méndez Montenegro 1966-1970.

Awards and Decorations:

Doctorates, Honoris Causa and Honorary. Orders of Merit and Grand Cross.

Among his publications:

Las Ciencias Médicas en Guatemala. (Medical Sciences in Guatemala) Origen y Evolución. (Origin and Evolution)

He died in Guatemala City on May 8, 1974.

Taken from: Expo Scientific Script. University Treasures. Archive Curatorial 2014.



Decreto número 12



la Junta Revolucionaria de Gobierno,

Considerando:

que uno de los anhelos más legítimos de los sectores intelectuales del país ha sido la organización de la Universidad Nacional en forma que responda a las realizaciones de auténtica cultura que el pueblo espera de ella;

Considerando:

que fue elemento valioso de la revolución trascendental que vivimos, la decisión de estudiantes y profesionales dignos, de llegar a la autonomía universitaria para poner al Alma Mater a salvo de las agresiones dictatorialistas que la habían convertido en mera fábrica de profesionales, donde la libre investigación era anulada, y el pensamiento perdía toda eficacia, al quedar bajo control hasta en sus más mínimos detalles;

Considerando:

Que la investigación de los numerosos problemas que confronta el país y la difusión de la cultura exigen nueva orientación para la Universidad, y libertad para decidir acerca de su organización, propósitos y fines,

Por Tanto:

En uso de las facultades que le confiere el artículo 77 de la Constitución de la República, en su inciso 23,

Decreta:

Artículo 1o. - La Universidad Nacional de San Carlos, con sede en la capital de la República, es autónoma en el cumplimiento de su misión científica y cultural, y en el orden administrativo.

Artículo 2o. - La Universidad Nacional tiene la personalidad jurídica necesaria para el desarrollo de sus fines, y para adquirir, administrar, poseer y enajenar bienes, contraer obligaciones y ejercer toda clase de acciones de acuerdo con la ley.

Artículo 3o. - Integran la Universidad Nacional, las siguientes Facultades:

De Ciencias Jurídicas y Sociales; De Ciencias Médicas;
De Ciencias Económicas; De Ciencias Naturales; y Farmacia.
De Ingeniería; De Odontología; De Humanidades;

y las demás Facultades e institutos que en lo sucesivo se establezcan.

Artículo 4o. Mientras se emite la nueva Ley Orgánica de la Universidad Nacional y los correspondientes Estatutos y Reglamentos, estarán en vigencia las leyes que rigen, en cuanto no afecten el espíritu del presente decreto.

Artículo 5o. El Ejecutivo dispondrá la manera de asegurar la autonomía económica de la Universidad Nacional.

Artículo 6o. La Ley Orgánica decidirá la forma en que el Ejecutivo verificará la suprema inspección que le corresponde de conformidad con lo dispuesto por el artículo 77, inciso 7o. de la constitución de la República.

Artículo 7o. Este Decreto entrará en vigor el día primero de diciembre próximo entrante, y se dará cuenta de él a la Asamblea Legislativa de la República en sus próximas sesiones ordinarias.

Dado en el Palacio Nacional, en Guatemala, a los nueve días del mes de noviembre de mil novecientos cuarenta y cuatro.

J. Arbenz.

Jorge Toriello.

Franco J. Arana.

El Secretario de Estado en el Despacho
de Educación Pública

Jorge Luis Arriola.

Facsimile of the document issued on November 9, 1944, by the Revolutionary Government Committee, granting the National University its AUTONOMY, in order to achieve freedom of organization, purposes and goals.

Colonial Buildings

LISTEN 

of the San Carlos de Guatemala University

Santo Tomás de Aquino Residence Hall, Santiago de Guatemala

It was established in 1620, in the Convent of Santo Domingo. In 1679 the arrangements of the building for the University were directed by Martín de Andújar and Juan Vásquez de Molina. They improved the building's façade, main hall, chapel, sacristy and classrooms.

During the liberal reform of 1871, ecclesiastical property was confiscated and auctioned, becoming private property.

In 1967, when Dr. Edmundo Vásquez Martínez was rector, acquired the property of Santo Tomás de Aquino's old Residence Hall.



Casa de Alcántara, Santiago de Guatemala

This building was acquired by Dr. Juan González Batres, who bought it from Mr. José de Alcántara and donated it to the University. The improvements to the building were directed by the architect Luis Diez de Navarro. The inauguration took place on October 17, 1763.

The building remained intact after the 1773 earthquake and served as a warehouse to store goods from the destroyed churches. It was abandoned in 1777 when the University was definitively transferred to Nueva Guatemala de la Asunción. It is not currently owned by the University.



San Carlos University Building, Nueva Guatemala de la Asunción

The construction of the building began in 1779, and Dr. Juan José González Batres, professor and later rector of the university, was commissioned to direct the work. It was finally completed in 1851.

Initially, it was the site for all university studies. In 1885, during the government of Justo Rufino Barrios, the careers were separated and only the Faculty of Law and Notary Publics remained in the building until 1973. The National Library occupied the Greater Hall from 1887 to 1957.

Due to the damage caused by the earthquakes of 1917-1918, restoration works have been conducted, rescuing its originality, both in the construction material and the architectural style of the end of the 19th century. Since 1994 it has been the seat of the Museum of the San Carlos University (MUSAC).



University of today

It's an autonomous institution with a legal personality governed by its organic law, statutes and regulations. As the only state university, it is responsible for directing, organizing and developing Higher Education.

Its government is headed by the University Superior Council, formed by the deans of the ten faculties, one representative from each professional association, one professor and one student from each faculty. It is headed by the Magnificent Rector who is elected by the university's electoral body for a four-year term and can be reelected.

“Id y Enseñad a Todos”



Usac Mission
and Vision



Teaching

LISTEN 

The work is carried out through faculties, escuelas, university centers, institutes and other organizations. It serves 70 percent of Guatemala's Higher Education. It is present in all 22 departments.

Tenured, temporary and assistant professors conduct university teaching. The work is supported by chair assistants, practical work and laboratory supervisors.

Academic Units:

The academic units grant licenciatura, master 's and PhD degrees. They have research institutes and programs of extension and service.

Technical area:

faculties of Agronomy, Architecture, Chemical Sciences, Pharmacy and Engineering, and the School of Physical Sciences and Mathematics.

Health area:

faculties of Medical Sciences, Odontology, Veterinary Medicine and Zootechny, and the Escuela of Psychological Sciences, Physiotherapy and Nursing.

Social-humanistic area:

faculties of Economics, Legal and Social Sciences, Humanities and the Escuelas of: History, Social Work, Political Science, Communication Sciences, Linguistic Sciences, Teacher Training for High School, Art School, Librarianship and Science and Technology of Physical Activity and Sport.

Technological institutes:

Maya of Higher Education (ITMES) and the University Technological Institute Guatemala Sur (ITUGS).



LISTEN 

Extension



The university extension department directs the cultural policy, with the objective of promoting the development of art, culture, science and sports.



Supports the participation of students, faculty and administrative staff in cultural events.



It develops its work through: multidisciplinary supervised professional practice program, sports department, radio, television and university press, university cultural center with artistic groups, Casa de la Cultura Flavio Herrera, César Brañas Library, St. Thomas Aquinas Residence Hall and the Museum of the San Carlos University (MUSAC).



LISTEN 

Research

It has specific programs and units at national level, under the leadership of the General Directorate of Research (DIGI).

12 programs and 48 units form the research system (SINUSAC).

Its motto is to delve into the problems and contribute to the transformation of society in all fields, which is why it finances 35 established projects.



Service



The university action supports services and professional assistance to the population through its different social projection programs by means of the resolution of thesis, different activities, such as the Supervised Professional Practice (PSE) and the Multidisciplinary (EPSON), Community Teaching Experiences (CTE).

This duty is also provided in museums, libraries, laboratories, computer centers and in the conservation of the environment with biotopes and natural reserves.



University city
map z. 12

University Toga

Tassel:

It is an adornment worn on the bonete. It corresponds to the color that identifies the crowned profession.

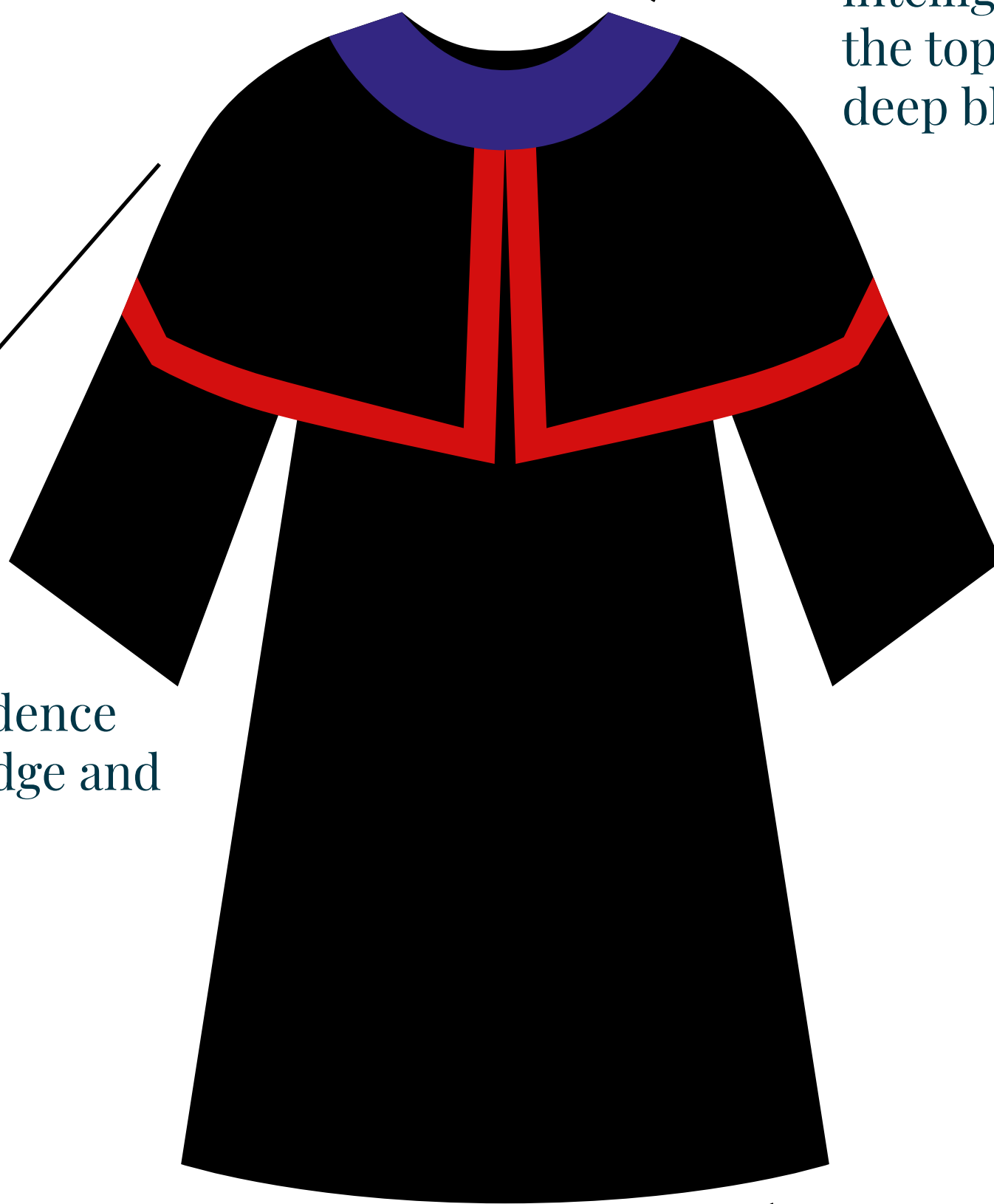
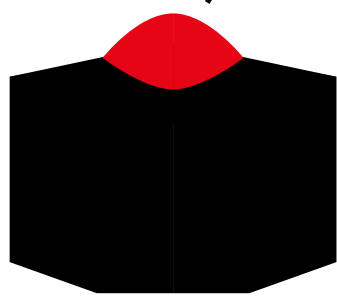
Bonete or capelo:

It is the crowning symbol of a licenciatura, master's or doctoral degree.

It implies an ethical commitment to act with transparency, avoiding corruption and immortality.

Collar or neck brace:

Symbol of communication between the body and intelligence. It is placed on the top of the slave. It is deep blue.



Cape:

It symbolizes dependence or slavery to knowledge and service.

Long black suit:

Symbol of nobility and sanctity. Worn by university graduates at the undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate levels.

It is synonymous with perfection and the ability to hold high positions and belong to a professional association.

University Toga

Origin:









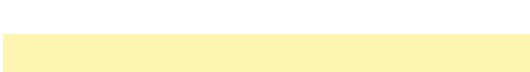











It arises with the birth of universities, inspired by the costumes of Catholic religious. It is a distinction for the academic triumph that identifies it within society.

Usage:

It is worn as part of the protocol in solemn official acts, it is the investiture of university authorities and at graduations at undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate levels.

It symbolizes loyalty to oneself, the University, the profession and society

Colors that identify the Academic Units

	Faculty of Agronomy
	Faculty of Architecture
	Faculty of Economics
	Faculty of Legal and Social Sciences
	Faculty of Medical Sciences
	Faculty of Chemical Sciences and Pharmacy
	Faculty of Humanities
	Faculty of Engineering
	Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Husbandry
	Faculty of Dentistry
	Escuela of Political Science
	Escuela of Communication Science
	Escuela of Psychological Sciences
	Escuela of High School Teacher Education
	Escuela of History
	Escuela of Social Work
	Escuela of Art
	Center for Marine and Aquaculture Studies
	Centro Universitario del Sur CUNSUR
	Centro Universitario del Norte, CUNOR

Suggested Reading

- Cazali Ávila, Augusto, Historia de la Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala (History of the San Carlos de Guatemala University) (1821-1994) Guatemala: Editorial Universitaria, (University Publisher), 1997, 3 volumes.
- Ferrús Roig, Francisco, General Mayor de la Universidad de San Carlos en Guatemala de la Asunción. (General Greater of the San Carlos University in Guatemala de la Asunción) Años (Years) 1778-1961. Guatemala: Editorial Universitaria, (University Publisher) 2014.
- Lanning, John Tate. La Universidad en el Reino de Guatemala, (The University in the Kingdom of Guatemala) Guatemala: Editorial Universitaria, (University Publisher) 1976.
- Lanning, John Tate. Reales Cédulas de la Real y Pontificia Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala. (Royal Decree of the Royal and Pontifical of San Carlos de Guatemala University) Guatemala: Editorial Universitaria, (University Publisher) 1976.
- Leyes y Reglamentos de la Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala. (Laws and Regulations of the San Carlos de Guatemala University) Guatemala: Editorial Universitaria, (University Publisher) 2009.
- Mata Gavidia, José. Fundación de la Universidad en Guatemala, (Foundation of the University in Guatemala) Guatemala: Editorial Universitaria, (University Publisher) 1976.
- Rodríguez Cabal, Juan. Universidad de Guatemala: Su origen, fundación, organización. (University of Guatemala: Its origin, foundation, organization.) Guatemala: Editorial Universitaria, (University Publisher) 1976.
- Roldán, Elfa. Fragmentos históricos de la Universidad de San Carlos y significado de sus escudos. (Historical fragments of the San Carlos University and the meaning of its emblem) Guatemala: Editorial Universitaria, (University Publisher) 1997.
- Sarasa y Arce, Francisco. Estatutos y Constituciones Reales de la Regia Universidad de San Carlos de Goathemala. (Statutes and Royal Constitutions of the Royal University of San Carlos of Goathemala) Año de (Year of) 1681. Guatemala: Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala, Editorial Universitaria, (San Carlos de Guatemala University, University Publisher) 1976.
- Revista Alero/25 años de Autonomía Universitaria. (Alero Magazine/25years of University Autonomy.) Separata Augusto Cazali A. DGEU/USAC. (Dirección General de Extensión Universitaria) (General Directorate of University Extension) February 1971.
- Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala. (San Carlos de Guatemala University) Guatemala cuenta con la USAC. (Guatemala counts on USAC) Editorial Serviprensa, (Serviprensa Publisher) 1998 and 2014.
- Guion científico exposición itinerante Usac, Tricentenaria, Museo Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala, (Scientific script for the traveling exhibition Usac, Tricentennial, Museum of San Carlos de Guatemala University) 2017.