GOLD KEY INVESTIGATES
NOVA UNIVERSITY CONTRIBUTIONS
TO GREAT VENEZUELAN PROJECTS

Group Captivated By Beauty of Caracas, Mountains, Waterfalls, Flora and Fauna and by the People

Gold Keymen, their wives, top Nova University leaders, and an official representative of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia flew down in late October to observe the contributions Nova University is making in the vast program of the Corporación Venezolana de Guayana, or C.V.G.

And incidentally to enjoy the beauties and wonders of this great country. Venezuela exerts a pervasive charm. The Nova group was captivated.

In March, 1972, Nova University’s International Institute for Planning and Research began serving the principal advisory role in human resource development for the C.V.G.

Three main areas are involved: education, community and institutional development. The institute’s activities with C.V.G. deal with the strengthening of the educational research team and its programs, planning of pilot projects in early childhood education, development of community-education programs, educational leadership development through a planned master’s degree program in administration, curriculum and research, and providing a materials and service resource base as needed. The Guayana area is involved in a fascinating experiment.

Venezuela is a tremendous center of activity and development. Its location on the Caribbean at the northern edge of South America gives it direct access to commerce and idea-exchange between North and Central America, Europe and the rest of South America.

NOVA GROUP

August Burghard
Lois Burghard
Travis Dungan
Charlotte Dungan
James Farquhar
Nan Farquhar
Abraham Fischler
Shirley Fischler

Clinton Lagrosa
Ann-Marie Lagrosa

Francis McCahill
Mary McCahill
John Morris, Jr.
Lorraine Morris
Gordon Sweet
M. R. “Cy” Young
Virginia Hagen
OIL

For fifty years, petroleum was the primary economic base. Diversification over the past fifteen years has strengthened the economy and brought new industry. Key is the Guayana Region in the southeast. This raw interior zone is under both industrial and human resource development. Twenty years ago 3800 people lived at the confluence of the Caroni and the Orinoco Rivers. Today 165,000 people reside in the planned city Ciudad Guayana, and the master plan calls for a city by 1980 of 300,000.

Applications of new ideas in planning, educational strategies and industrial development are awe-inspiring.

The Dam—Minerals—Trees. The heart of the Guayana zone’s progress is the Guri Dam on the Caroni River, ninety kilometers upstream from Ciudad Guayana. The dam was dedicated in 1968.

When the total installation is finished in 1980 the rated hydroelectric capacity of the Guri Dam will be 6.6 million kilowatts—the greatest in the world and ten times the capacity of the Aswan Dam in Egypt.

Heading the development of the Guayana Region is a corporation—part government and part private sector—called the Corporación Venezolana de Guayana (C.V.G.). The C.V.G. had the dam built and developed the electric company which sells and distributes the power.

With the world’s highest grade iron ore (three mountains of approximately 7000 feet each containing ore of between 62% and 78% purity—and exploration still going on) it was natural to build a steel plant which the C.V.G. also owns. This plant, SIDOR, produces 700,000 metric tons of steel per year. A second steel plant with double the capacity is under construction.

Venezuela’s great bauxite wealth (a primary source for aluminum) called for the building of an aluminum plant and with cooperation of Reynolds Aluminum Co. the C.V.G. built such a plant which has an annual rate of 22,700 metric tons. A second aluminum plant is under construction.

Pictured at the Venezuelan Ministry of Development reception for the Nova GOLD KEY group at the Hotel Avila in Caracas, from left to right, are Francis McCahill, Mrs. Anna Farquhar, Mrs. Mary McCahill, Venezuelan Minister of Development, Dr. Alvero Diaz, Mrs. Virginia Hagen and Mrs. Susan Vogeler.
A program of the C.V.G. in the river delta region: more than 100,000 Caribbean Pine trees are being planted daily. By 1985 a forest population of 75,000,000 trees is contemplated. These trees are among the best wood pulp sources for paper and paper products manufacture. Harvests will commence in six years at which time Venezuela should have no further need to import paper and paper-related products.

To open the interior the Orinoco River was dredged out from the Atlantic Ocean as far as Ciudad Bolívar so that ocean-going cargo and ore carriers could be used. There are cement plants, iron briquet plants, hotels, natural gas, gold, diamond mines and some agriculture in the Guayana Region.

PROGRESS NOTED

Venezuela has progressed in many directions. In the past fifteen years it has virtually eliminated illiteracy. Malaria is all but wiped out, the major water and milk supplies are as germ free as can be found anywhere. The population is slightly above 10,000,000 with more than 2,000,000 of that population living in Caracas.

The Andes Mountains terminate in far western Venezuela, the plains support agriculture and cattle. Venezuela furnished leadership to the cultural and educational Andrés Bello Pact and became a member of the Andean Nation's group. The Bolívar—its momentary unit—is one of the few stable currencies in Latin America.

STABLE GOVERNMENT. Since the ousting of dictator Pérez Jimenez in 1957-58, three democratic elections have been held, five years apart. Newspapers and their editorials have been without censorship since 1958. Establishment of three new universities (two government and one private), a new system of junior-college type higher education, and two new pedagogical institutes as well as two polytechnical institutes improved the situation. A significant element in the government's posture over the past 15 years is its dedication to a dynamic concept of planning throughout the organizational structure of the country. Each ministry and each institution has a planning office, and the concept is included in many large and small business organizations. A national planning commission with budgetary control reports directly to the president of the nation, recommends and oversees strategy planning.

Venezuela has continued to develop leadership of a real impact nature. Accumulation over the past fourteen years of educated and trained human resources at graduate levels (within the Ministry of Education alone an average of 550 participants have been engaged each year in advanced educational and training programs outside of Venezuela) is being felt at many decision-making levels.

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The International Institute for Planning and Research of Nova University is bringing its graduate program to Venezuela under the academic coordination of Dr. Robert Jones. Because of a need for manpower, Nova is supplying Venezuelans with an opportunity to continue study for their degree while remaining on the job. Dr. Robert Jones is the resident coordinator for this first graduate education program, living with his family in Barquisimeto.

The Nova program went into operation earlier this year on a limited basis in the west central portion of Venezuela. About 30 professional educators at the Pedagogical Institute of Barquisimeto are involved. Master's degrees will be available in educational administration, curriculum research, and evaluation.

Dr. Fischler, accompanied by Gordon W. Sweet, Executive Secretary of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, left the Gold Key group for one day to fly to Barquisimeto to address a group of master's program participants on educational change.

"We offered a program in Venezuela in which we, in professional cooperation with Venezuelan educators, write the study guides in Spanish, provide professional consultants on the trip to Venezuela, Nova University's President, Dr. Abraham S. Fischler, addressed a group of master's program participants, at Barquisimeto, on educational change. He is shown here, however, at the Great Guri Dam.
and workshop leaders who speak Spanish, and run the program for less than half the cost of sending the same people elsewhere for an education," Dr. Jones said.

**NEED FOR EDUCATION.** Effects of a rapidly growing teenage population is difficult to control, Dr. Jones said. Demographic data tell us that in another three years 65 percent of Venezuela's population will be under 15 years of age. As requirements for goods and services go up, the number of people in the age range to provide them goes down. Industry needs every working age person in order to meet the needs of society. It also needs people to enter technical trades.

**NOVA UNIVERSITY PLAN.** The Ministry of Education has sent an average of 500 professionals abroad each year for graduate studies at a cost of $10,000 per person per year. Under the Nova University plan, professionals in education in Venezuela may receive their post graduate degrees from Nova in selected areas of education for considerably less than the $10,000 per year cost. The Nova University Plan is a practical program based on the individual's professional position as part of his training. Gold Key people returned to the United States far more knowledgeable of the scope of the services offered by Nova University.
WILL LEEDS, OUR MAN IN VENEZUELA, SMOOTHES THE WAY FOR TRAVELERS

A remarkable man from the Nova University standpoint is Dr. Willard L. Leeds, Director of Nova’s International Institute for Planning and Research.

Will Leeds was omnipresent, explaining, introducing, making changes from one setting to another easy. He knows and is known, and enjoys the confidence and respect of the Venezuelans.

He is headquartered at Nova University but spends a great deal of time in Venezuela.

GUAYANA

Alcasa’s aluminum smelter and the plant of C.V.G.—SIDOR, a subsidiary of C.V.G.—were visited by GOLD KEY.

Cachamay Park along the rapids of the river, with its trees, animals, and plants, and the Llovinza falls occupied an afternoon’s hours.

While the men were in the industrial zone the ladies saw the Botanical Gardens.

Next day the entire party went to the vast Guri Dam and Power House.

DUNGAN STUDIES GREAT GURI DAM

Travis Dungan, head of Carter Construction, observed: “Venezuela is one of the most progressive, aggressive Latin American countries. Its people have pride in themselves, are doing things on their own and controlling their own destiny. I could not be more impressed by Guayana, a vast region about the size of California whose principal city is 450 miles from Caracas.

“I am impressed with the youthfulness of the leaders we met, the steel and aluminum plants and the great Guri Dam on the Caroni River.”

TRUSTEE McCAHILL IMPRESSED WITH EDUCATIONAL EMPHASIS

Mrs. Francis T. McCahill, Nova’s first woman trustee, said, “I am so impressed with the value that has been put on education of the young people. And they are doing something big about electrical power.”

“They are educating their people and I am deeply impressed with the quality of the young leaders we have met.”

CLINT LAGROSA ADMIRE PEOPLE

Clinton Lagrosa said he was pleased with what he saw. “Everybody seems to be employed. They don’t have a lot of money but they are all workers and all willing, all bustling, unlike some places you see. None were sitting around on curbs, playing cards, doing nothing. I am impressed with the industrial plant workers and people in offices and places of business. I have been to Boulder, but the Guri Dam is just unbelievable. Its completed stages will be something else!”

He gave the GOLD KEY group the names of two fine doctors, the U.S. Embassy, and numbers where he could be reached day or night. Key industry figures and Ministry of Development directors were present at a dinner party he arranged at Hotel Avila in San Bernardino. The Vice Minister, a former Venezuelan ambassador to London, gave an informative report on national programs and objectives.

Arrangements for translation, photographs, and general publicity were made. The caliber of the industrial and governmental figures present, the party and the dinner, and the complete coverage, were impressive.

“It is unusual,” as Will Leeds put it, “for this level of attention to be offered.”
"We were shown the planting of 100,000 Caribbean pine trees each day in the Caroni delta up to well over 100,000,000 trees. With the attitude of the people, the gold, diamonds, and agriculture, and with education, there is no place for Venezuela to go but up!"

PAST PRESIDENT MORRIS
SUMS UP EXPERIENCE

We saw what few tourists ever see.

Morris

John E. Morris, Jr., past president of the Nova support group GOLD KEY, which arranged the trip, summed it up.

"It was stimulating and highly interesting because of the insight we got into governmental programs far beyond the average tourist. The view of natural resources; hydro-electric power; and the educational and social resources within the people themselves were revealing and stimulating."

COUNTRY SHOOTS FOR BILLION-A-YEAR BUSINESS

How the Venezuelan plant complex is aimed at top world profits was shown the GOLD KEY group. The industrial complex in Guayana, a California-sized wilderness, is becoming a $1-billion-a-year exporter of iron, steel, aluminum and other products. They saw it happening.

The complex at the confluence of the Orinoco and Caroni Rivers, 462 miles southeast of Caracas, is getting a capital investment of over $1 billion.

Scheduled are: U.S. Steel’s 50-million iron briquette plant with a million-ton yearly output of 86.5 grade enriched ore; a state and private capital venture for annual production of 2.5 million tons of enriched ore; a $300 million investment to increase aluminum output to 265 million tons annually; almost $90 million for production of industrial glass, ferroalloys, and ammonia.

Gen. Alfonzo Ravard, President of the Venezuelan Guayana Corporation (C.V.G.), estimates that exports will be around $1 billion by 1980; annual export volumes of 500,000 tons of aluminum, six million tons of enriched iron ore and 25 million tons of nonprocessed iron ore.

About half of Venezuela’s total territory has undergone real development. The Orinoco-Caroní industrial center has a starting point because of two billion tons of high grade iron ore in a 100-mile radius of cheap hydro-electrical power and South America’s third largest river system.

OIL-OIL-OIL. Guayana is bordered by the Orinoco heavy oil belt, estimated to hold 700 billion barrels. Development has been limited to gold and diamond mining. In the 1950’s Bethlehem Steel and U.S. Steel began developing iron ore reserves. The Venezuelan government through the C.V.G. started to harness the Caroni River and its 10.5 million kilowatt potential.

The hub of the complex is Ciudad Guayana, a planned city. Its population is expected to reach a quarter of a million by 1975. Guayana, a developing area, will be the Venezuela of tomorrow. The GOLD KEY people reacted almost as to an electric shock at the vastness and the precision with which this area is being made productive.

CHIEF ENGINEER OF GURI DAM CHARMS HIS NOVA UNIVERSITY GUESTS

Typical of, or perhaps outstanding among is a better phrase, the brilliant young men who direct the recasting and recreation of Venezuela’s Guayana Region is Henrique Pérez, chief engineer of the massive Guri Dam operation.

He rode on the special GOLD KEY bus, pointing out features and explaining details of the lake on the Caroni River; to the point above the dam where one looks down into the gorge. Here the lake waters rush with such savage fury and power that they throw rooster tails of spray, some higher than an eight or nine story building. Then they went down into the vast insides of the dam itself.
Ing. Pérez explained how the site was selected; the dam's height, length and strength; how it anchored itself; how it could resist possible earthquakes; and how its vast megawattage would eventually supply power needs of Venezuela, Colombia, and half of Brazil.

His listeners, particularly those with engineering training such as Travis Dungan and M.R. "Cy" Young, were fascinated. This is destined to be the greatest power-producing dam in the world.

Pérez was educated at Sheffield in England and at schools in the United States and Europe. He has the build of an athlete and the assured manner of one who knows what he is doing and likes it. His name and official title:

Ing. Henrique Pérez P.
Jefe Oficina de Ingeniería
Presa Guri
Corporación Venezolana de Guayana
Electrificación del Caroni, C.A.
(E.D.E.L.C.A.)

THEY CAN REALLY LAUGH DOWN VENEZUELA WAY

The talking parrots of the zoological gardens beyond the Inter-Continental Hotel were hilarious. The park superintendent approached their aviary with the request, "Speak up to me." The reply was such an exact reproduction of his voice and its inflections that somebody involuntarily laughed. Then the laughter coming from the parrots was louder and shriller than that of the three witches around the cauldron in a modern version of Macbeth. Everybody got into the act. Silly people and silly birds laughing. It was relaxing. It was fun. It was cacophony.

ELEPHANT ROCK CAVE PETROGLYPHS FASCINATE TRAVELERS

Elephant Rock, a strange monolith formation atop a hill on the narrow road out from Puerto Ordaz en route to the Guri Dam, has been known by that name for 500 years. The Indians had no knowledge of the elephant, of course, but the Spanish conquistadors did. It stood as a remarkable monument dominating the landscape, its baleful eye staring straight ahead, down through the centuries.

Then a discovery was made. A party of young climbers, spelunkers of interest and intent, found what became the Elephant Rock Cave. That was only six years ago.

On the walls were petroglyphs made by an unknown people, scientists estimate, some 5000 years ago. These artists carved figures of men, long-legged wading birds, and strangely involved circular designs.

Engineers sank spikes in several of the big granite rocks so they could be hauled out, and took them up to the clubhouse grounds (where the group had lunch) above the dam. The carvings were painted white to give them greater visibility. How they originated, who made them, and why, are mysteries. Venezuela, believed to be one of the oldest places on the earth's surface, is pre-Cambian, going back 600,000,000 years to the time when the earth's crust was formed and the first life emerged.

Venezuelan experts consider that Elephant Rock Cave is one of the great anthropological discoveries. The oldest geological formations in the world are in this area.
THE BEST WAYS TO BUILD GOOD WILL ARE EXPERIENCED

Most have experienced surly taxi drivers, insolent-to-inefficient clerks and waiters, and a don't-give-a-damn, unhelpful attitude on the part of native residents and officials when help or information are sought.

But not in Venezuela, in so far as the GOLD KEY group observed.

Residents of beautiful “Little Venice” whether of high or low degree, were courteous, interested, and best of all, friendly.

What more can strangers in a strange land ask?

And do we remember with affection tall helpful Alfonso on the memorable 100-mile plus drive up to the 7000 foot high rain forest with its 2000 species of trees, the botanical and zoological gardens and museums and the parrots and other avians-unlimited of Rancho Grande National Park!

JOSE ANTONIO LECUNA

A major addition to the success of the Nova group was José Antonio Lecuna, Field Director for Human Resources, C.V.G., who traveled with the party, even arose early on the final morning to see us off from the airport.

It was José’s responsibility and decision to close Elephant Rock Cave to general sightseers because a few irresponsible visitors were making off with priceless relics of an historic age and an unknown people. He is a conservationist.

NEWSY DOTS

The subtle, gentle humor of James Farquhar: “The Orinoco and the Caroní meet to form the Carioca.”

The crane operator high up with his controls near the ceiling manipulated the big dipper with delicacy and precision, tilting it so that its molten contents, aluminum, poured into the giant bucket. “He can come to my house and pour tea anytime,” commented Virginia Hagen. “He didn’t spill a drop!”

“Cy” Young, Chairman of the Nova University Board of Trustees, spent his first free morning catching up on his rest out by the Tamanaco’s kidney-shaped swimming pool, which is as large as, or larger than, the Swimming Hall of Fame’s olympic-sized pool he helped build when he was Mayor of Fort Lauderdale.

Caracas, ringed by mountains, is called the most sophisticated city on the American continent. Fine dining, gold jewelry, high fashion shops, “ranchitos” of the poor on the mountainsides are features. The seafood is wonderful, the people are friendly, Latin, vital.

Venezuela is one and one-half times as big as Texas; has 1000 rivers, including the Orinoco, one of the world’s largest; the highest waterfall, Angel Falls; 16,411 foot-high Pico Bolivar; eighteen states, two territories, and seventy-two islands in the Caribbean.

Remnants of colonial times are seen in the castles and fortresses, handsome old churches, and mansions bearing coats-of-arms over their portals.
For those who saw those brilliant little jewels of hummingbirds, but could not quite identify them, they were either the green-fronted lancebill or the Rufous-breasted, Long-tailed, White-bearded, Pale-bellied, Sooty-capped, Gray-chinned, or Little Hermit; or the Blue-chinned sapphire or the Blue-tailed or Red-billed, or Coppery, Narrow-tailed, Green-tailed, or short-tailed emeralds.

There are more than a hundred and twenty species of hummingbirds in Venezuela. Here in South Florida, we only have one—the Rubythroat.

Big Hans Hauschildt, of the Restaurant Rincón Bavaria, will not be forgotten, nor will his goulash, steak and his Bavarian beer, served at the luncheon hosted by C.V.G. in Puerto Ordaz.

Venezuela was seen by Columbus in 1498. Alonso de Ojeda, observing native huts on stilts on Lake Maracaibo, named the land “Little Venice”—Venezuela. Simón Bolívar, the Liberator of Perú, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, and Venezuela was a world statesman who corresponded with people in revolutionary movements all over the world, such as Thomas Jefferson.

The Bolívar is the currency unit (about four to the U.S. dollar). Abe Fischler describes the money as B’s, half-B’s, and quarter B’s.

In 1971, Venezuela produced 3,543,000 barrels of oil per day. Almost half of it came to the U.S. The Venezuelan government is in the black.

Aubomobile traffic gets the best of small animals, even in the wilds of little-traveled Guayana. It was on the bus trip out to Guri Dam that Jim Farquhar saw the Coatimondi, a handsome four-foot long little cousin of the American raccoon.

The Pan American 727 came home over Bonaire, Haiti and Andros Island. Not a bounce nor bobble. Piles and piles of fluffy white clouds. And a congenial group of travelers.

The trip from the airport up to the 3000-foot level of the Tamanaco Hotel in Caracas, about ten miles, was easy for our bus thanks to a couple of long tunnels. “Cy” Young was in Caracas as a young naval officer in World War II, when the road was considerably higher and went around 369 curves and corners and sharp bends.

Abe Fischler (After a couple of days in the relaxing atmosphere of South America, nobody calls the distinguished educator Doctor.) remembers an earlier time when he was a guest of a family far out in the wilds of Brazil. For his first meal they served him snake soup. It would have been most discourteous not to eat it. But he knew that if he tasted it he would be sick within ten minutes. He did. And he was!

Most knowledgeable of the Nova group on iron mining and fabricating processes was Francis C. McCahill. He spent his boyhood in Minnesota, and his father helped open the great Mesaba deposits.

An ever-growing group of Venezuelan professionals is applying to Nova’s graduate programs in their country.

Everybody saw the flocks of parrots, parrotlets and parakeets. Lois Burghard, Nova’s resident expert, identified them as Blue-crowned, Scarlet-fronted, Brown-throated, Blood-eared, Maroon-faced, Rose-headed and Barred parakeets; Green-rumped and Lilac-tailed parrotlets (at Rancho Grande National Park); and Saffron-headed, Rusty-faced, Blue-headed, White-capped, Bronze-winged, Red-eared, Festive, Scaly-naped and Orange-winged, Yellow-shouldered and Yellow-crowned parrots.

Ann-Marie Lagrosa and Virginia Hagan walked the miles, stood the furnace heat, and wore the red and blue hard hats and protective glasses to see the iron, steel, and aluminum complexes.

There is a night-flying, night-singing insect in Caracas, a kind of cicada that makes a noise like a rusty wheel turning, but is more musical and a lot louder than crickets.
Frank J. Thiessen, Manager of GOLD KEYMAN Bob Law’s Fort Lauderdale Travel Service, Inc., and Paul L. Szikora of Agencia Candes C.A. (where to get pearls and gold jewelry) were most helpful.

“No wonder the Caroni River was so nervous. (It had rapids and falls and rushed around like mad.) It hadn’t yet got over coming down the spillways of Guri Dam, a good hour’s drive away!"

Other fine group trips of Nova and GOLD KEY over the at the entrance to the Hotel Tamanaco, felt he had something in common with GOLD KEY, the gold part, that is, and greeted the group with enthusiastic song each time group’s arrival.

A perky saffron yellow finch, headquartered on the wires years: Dallas, Expo-67 at Montreal, Medellín and Bogotá in Colombia, and now Venezuela.

Gold, *ab initio*, has fascinated man. And after all, that is the name of the University’s KEY. So it was not surprising that John Morris got an 18-karat watch band, and a signet ring for his son; Mary McCahill and Lorraine Morris, handsome bits of adornment. Or that Gordon Sweet found a colonial shop featuring small orchids (the national flower) made of gold with a pearl inside the blossom and bought out the entire stock. Somebody in Atlanta is going to be made happy.

Rafael Peña Alvarez, of the Corporación Venezolana de Guayana, División de Desarrollo Humano, was interested in the planting of 100,000 Caribbean pine trees daily in the river delta at Guayana.

Hotel Inter-Continental is unique in that La Llovinza Falls are spread out for almost half a mile directly below it. It was just beyond the swimming pool that Jim Farquhar discovered the three-foot iguanas in a low tree over the river.

Dr. Fischler served as a Ford Foundation consultant in Chile and Argentina for five years when he was at Berkeley.

From left to right are Dr. Willard L. Leeds, Venezuelan Minister of Development Dr. Alvero Diaz, Mrs. Virginia Hagen, Mrs. Lois Burghard, and Mrs. Charlotte Dungan at the Venezuelan Ministry of Development reception for the Nova GOLD KEY group at the Hotel Avila in Caracas.
GOLD KEY GETS EARLY CHRISTMAS PRESENT

Happiness is a brand new, cuddly baby girl.

GOLD KEY now has a little beauty of its own, the first child ever born to a current president. Caroline Moody arrived at the Boone, N.C., hospital November 30, 1973.

Her parents, President Lester and Janet Moody, had gone briefly to their summer place on Beechnut Mountain. Caroline wasn't quite due yet, but as many other Broward Countians, she just plain liked North Carolina and on her own chose it as the place for her first appearance.

Anticipation of Caroline had decided the Moodys, a while earlier, against making the long Venezuelan trip. They were missed.

But now Caroline has many proud godfathers and they all congratulate her parents and Carr and Michael, her brothers, all of whom are most happy about the whole thing, and are wishing for her and them the best of everything.