

# Ana Sofía Zúñiga,

An Inspiration for International Experience



ENRIQUE SOTO

"Carrying the flag of the Instituto Politécnico Nacional before the world is a great responsibility because it depends on us, the students who undertake an academic stay abroad, to ensure that those who follow are well received by international universities. We must give our best because we also represent Mexico and need to dispel the stereotype of the sombrero and mustache; we are intelligent people with a rich culture and much to offer the world."

This is the mindset of Ana Sofía Zúñiga Jiménez, a student in the IPN's International Mobility Program, who will be spending a semester at the Technical University of Prague in the Czech Republic. As a student in the International Business program at the Escuela Superior de Comercio y Administración (ESCA), Unidad Santo Tomás, she feels a special connection to Politécnico:

"Poli has always been present in my life; my grandparents (maternal and paternal) worked as teachers here. My parents met at Politécnico while studying languages. My mom would take us to the tree where my dad and she wrote their names.

When I took my entrance exam for higher education, it was the feast day of Saint Anthony, my father's name, and we came to see the tree. It was a heartfelt moment because my dad passed away when I was 10. My destiny was written at Politécnico."

Ana Sofía is a highly enthusiastic young woman who sees challenges as growth opportunities to become a successful professional. A graduate of the Técnico en Administración program at the Centro de Estudios Científicos y Tecnológicos (CECyT) 12 "José María Morelos," she highlighted that internationalization has permeated all areas of knowledge at IPN. While engineering is strongly supported, there is also a push to advance students in the Social and Administrative Sciences. "My career has gained much more visibility through these internationalization opportunities," she noted.

With a humble demeanor and a smile that reflects the joy of being one of the students selected to visit a Central European country, Ana Sofía emphasized that Politécnico is experiencing a period of greater openness to the world.