

## German researcher conducts workshop on "Serious Games" with engineering students

It is the feeling of defeat that German scholar Matthias Kalverkamp incorporated into his "Serious Games" workshop. Teaching and working with students from the Universidad Arturo Prat (UNAP), Kalverkamp taught students types of organization and management when dealing with it, and how to learn from it.



Thanks to a scientific exchange project between Germany and Chile, German specialists are able to visit the Chilean university UNAP. Kalverkamp, who is a scientist at the Bremer Institut für Produktion und Logistik GmbH at the University of Bremen (BIBA), carried out two workshops, together with mostly Industrial Civil Engineering students.

While the visit of Kalverkamp falls under the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture's research section, he organized two workshops on his own initiative to teach students about methodologies used in Germany. These methodologies are based on a construction of objects similar to LEGO and are used to enhance factors such as teamwork, resistance to defeat, collaboration and quality management.

In the case of "Serious Games", Kalverkamp specifies, the methodology is used to increase the awareness within students as well as professionals who work in teams.

He explains that, through a supply chain and the construction of objects, similar to LEGO, it [the game] seeks to determine whether a vertical or horizontal organization is the determining factor for engineering solutions, and whether they allow ensuring quality management.

Kalverkamp indicates that its name determines that, although the construction of objects appears as a teaching methodology, "it is important that it does not work, if you just play." The logistics process requires an intellectual effort, he explains, and defeat must be considered as part of the lesson, "so it is important to assume that losing is a feeling that should not be taken out of the workshop."



Industrial Civil Engineering student Juan Pablo Quezada, who participated in the two workshops conducted by Kalverkamp, remarked that "this initiative was very important as we were able to actively participate and know what is being done in the field of innovation elsewhere in the world."

Fellow student Catalina Williams agrees, adding that "he taught us through another methodology to work in a team and it is much easier to learn that way."



Raul Zúñiga, professor at the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture, said that the project was developed together with the vice-rector for Research, Innovation and Postgraduate. It aims for a scientific and cultural exchange, where four [German] researchers provide their knowledge about the management of supply chains, while three of our [UNAP] researchers spread knowledge in Europe about the processes of the copper industry and its environment.