Ancell Scheker “I Love Education”  
By Arismendy Calderón

Ancell showed intelligence, perseverance and study skills from early childhood. She cultivated excellent friendships and trust with peers, and was part of a group of young people formed a "Youth for Youth" Foundation to help underprivileged children with health problems. That experience was unforgettable Ancell tells us "regularly visiting children's homes to share with them and were looking for ways on how to help (sponsoring treatments, operations and maintenance of the household). Those experiences developed in me a greater sensitivity to the needs of others and sense of solidarity."

Her grades as a student were always outstanding, she was always up to date with her homework, although part of her time was occupied with playing tennis, which has been one of her passions. "I was always a good student, was well aware of my duty, and had a high level of responsibility".

"In addition, it was in the early years I decided to seek God and that made all the difference in my life. What started in my youth has remained. Today I work in the Dominican Republic Hope Worldwide Association, affiliated with the Church of Christ of Santo Domingo, of which I am a member. Since there are organized different programs to serve children and poor people. Currently every Saturday I dedicate it to those voluntary work, especially literate adults."

She has always received the necessary support from her parents "in everything she undertook": from a young age she knew she could count on her parents. "They always had high expectations for me and my brothers and gave us all the opportunities available to us to develop us as useful to society people and we managed our goals. They led me to ask for any advice. My family is very united, they formed us with very strong values, then led us by example. We maintain a very close relationship. They are my greatest support."

Ancell acknowledges that in the process of life always disadvantages, obstacles arise, but these difficulties are overcome persevered. "I personally helped me faith and trust in the Word of God." Work, success. "I think that success is the result of work, effort, and love that you do things. You need to persevere despite setbacks and some frustrations. We've all been through difficult situations, but those moments are the ones that help form our character."

"For me to study abroad, away from my family, it was a great challenge. Being in a place where I knew no one, in a different culture, have to face different situations for myself, are experiences that helped me grow and beat me. They were great challenges. It is very important the attitude one takes in each situation."

"For example, writing my thesis was a tense moment because I tend to be a perfectionist and that made to end it took longer than expected, but it was worth. You feel that you will not be able to do and think to leave, but that is where we must persevere, regain strength and continue". Ancell received recognition from the University for her Doctoral research thesis and was chosen as dissertation distinguished by the School of Education.

Not only has she faced difficulties in her studies but also in her work. "I face complex situations every day in my work, which is very delicate as it involves a lot of responsibility, as for example implement the National Tests, a useful tool, essential to identify the deficiencies we have in the educational system and to overcome them. Thousands of obstacles of all kinds are presented. Things do not always turn out as planned and organized, as one would like."

Educating is the difference. The decision to enter preschool education was to Ancell a goal that crowned with success. She was always convinced that only student can make a difference in the world. "And while we started earlier educate children, achieve faster live in a better society." Ancell loves education and, as always repeats, "it is my passion and my mission." She had good examples and remember with gratitude to several people, like Miss Minetta Roques, Director of the Santa Teresita School, who gave herself completely to the task of educating; to Mechy Hernandez, Director of the Children Circle College, where she started as a teacher. "She and the teachers with whom I shared believed in me, I formed, I broadened my vision and guided."

"Besides, I cannot but acknowledge gratefully the learning and the support received from my professors at the University of Albany, especially my thesis advisor, Dr. Gilbert Valverde, to reach the Doctorate (Ph.D.) in Educational Administration and Policy the Fulbright Scholarship granted by the United States. I recently received the International Award of Excellence. This is one of the most emotional moments of my professional life."