

UT Austin | Portugal INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATORY FOR EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, CoLAB



Welcome note from CoLab@Portugal Advanced Computing Director

Spring time is coming!

The International Collaboratory for Emerging Technologies (CoLab) agreement with The University of Texas at Austin was signed 2 years ago and we are currently in the middle of academic Year 3 of this 5-Year program. All CoLab programs are running at cruise speed and the academic and research programs (Advanced Computing, Mathematics, and Digital Media) continue to build momentum. This month a new set of PhD candidates will be eligible for CoLab scholarships and there are 8 newly funded cooperative research projects with UT-Austin.

The Advanced Computing (AC) program was designed to promote cross-disciplinarity among science and engineering fields that require intensive computing and data resources. UT-Austin provides an excellent model in this regard with The Institute for Computational Engineering and Sciences (ICES) www.ices.utexas.edu that includes the extraordinary resources and facilities available through TACC (Texas Advanced Computing Center) that include the 504 TFlops Ranger cluster, see <http://www.tacc.utexas.edu/>.

In order to have the required important impact on Portugal's scientific community, the AC Board envisages an open and coherent strategy to bring together post-graduate students from all institutions, researchers in several domains, national companies and governmental funding agencies, toward a set of concerted planned activities. These goals now also emphasize a more cooperative role within the overall goals of CoLab.

An especially relevant AC activity within CoLab lies with Digital Media (DM). Although some DM activities may be more oriented towards next generation ITC tools with a strong focus on social sciences (namely in communication and media), others require intensive and innovative computing solutions, specially when they include real time and interactive computational imaging. These fields require advanced research in numerical methods and algorithms, and novel approaches to transparent access to heterogeneous computing environments, using cloud, grid, cluster and/or many-core computing platforms. We believe the CoLab Advanced Computing program can make important contributions in these areas.

Activities planned for AC for the remainder of Year 3 (until the end of August) include a nationwide 1-week Spring/Summer School – at the end of May 2009 - in Advanced Computing given by TACC staff with remote access to TACC resources. This program will include an introductory Workshop on HPC and scientific visualization in Lisbon, followed by an advanced Workshop on similar topics in Porto. (More details on this AC workshop will be available soon at the CoLab website.) AC is also planning Advanced Seminars on Heterogeneous Computing Platforms. Looking beyond Year 3, new calls for scholarships and collaborative R&D projects will soon be open, with a major advertisement among the national community and stressing once more the active and important role of Portuguese companies.

Alberto Proença

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- **South by Southwest (SXSW)** – March 13th- March 22nd – Austin, Texas – For more information and registration to attend the interactive, film and/or music festivals please visit the official website at <http://www.sxsw.com>.
- **MBAPlus Job Fair** – March 20th-21st – Sana Lisboa Park Hotel – Lisboa, Portugal – For more information on how to attend please visit <http://www.mbaplus.org>.

■ CoLab News Center Computing Director

Ivan Franco (YDreams) and Bruce Pennycook (UT Austin) talk at SXSW Interactive

Ivan Franco, R&D Director for YDreams, and Bruce Pennycook, professor at UT Austin will be present at the SXSW Interactive panel "New Interfaces for Performance", taking place on March 17th, at 11:30am.



The panel will discuss how realtime computation allowed new media artists to develop interactive performances but typical computer interfaces don't offer appropriate interaction models for these contexts. It will focus on the fact that in the DIY generation artists learned new techniques to build their own instruments and how novel interfaces have surfaced.

It will try to answer questions such as: What's physical computing? What are New Interfaces for Performance? What purpose do they serve? What is mapping? What is force feedback? Is interface design to be considered art?

For information on this panel please visit:

<http://sxsw.com/interactive/talks/schedule/?action=show&id=IAP0900120>.

■ Carlos Guedes (UPorto) presents "Echo Locations" at SXSW

Carlos Guedes, of the University of Porto, will mount his installation piece "Echo Locations" at two events during South by Southwest. "Echo Locations" is a site-specific installation in which the audience interacts with the projected image of a digitized dancer and an accompanying computer-generated soundtrack. It was created in collaboration with Kirk Woolford of Lancaster University and was presented at SIGGRAPH 2008.

SXSW attendees can see it at the frog design party on Saturday March 14 and it will be available to the Austin public at Plutopia on Monday March 16: <http://plutopia.org> The annual South By Southwest Interactive Festival attracts over 10,000 creative professionals in the design, web and gaming industries to Austin each year. It is held in conjunction with the SXSW Music and Film festivals.

For more information see:

<http://www.sxsw.com>



■ UT Austin organizes Research Training Group Summer Course in Financial Mathematics



The Mathematics Department at the University of Texas at Austin will offer a three-week RTG summer course on financial mathematics from July 19, 2009 to Aug 8, 2009. This is a three-week program on financial mathematics for advanced undergraduate and 1st year graduate students. The first two weeks will contain 5 short courses, each consisting of 5-7 one-hour lectures. The lectures will be complemented by tutorial sessions in the afternoons conducted by senior graduate students from The University of Texas. In addition, the students will work on group projects dealing with mathematical problems from financial theory and practice. The last week will be a workshop that aims to give an overview of current research activities in financial

mathematics and related fields. The prerequisites for the course are advanced calculus, linear algebra and undergraduate probability. Familiarity with elementary stochastic processes and fundamental financial concepts is helpful, but not required.

Under the UT Austin | Portugal Program, CoLab, Portuguese undergraduate students ("1º e 2º ciclo") can apply for the course. Travel, on-campus accommodation and meal allowances will be provided. The application deadline is May 1st. Further information is available at the course website.

■ THE UTEN CORNER

UTEN/FCT Workshop #1 on Science and Technology Commercialization at UNL, February 8-10, 2009

The University Technology Enterprise Network (UTEN) [www.utenportugal.org] in collaboration with the UT-Austin/Portugal International Collaboratory for Emerging Technologies (CoLab) [www.utaustinportugal.org] and the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) held the first of a series of UTEN workshops that will be scheduled throughout 2009. Workshop #1 on US Technology Commercialization Practices and Challenges was hosted by the New University of Lisbon, February 8-10, 2009 and was structured around four major themes:

- University IT Practices including licensing, spin-offs, and incubators
- Capital sourcing and finance with VC, Angel, and Organic Growth perspectives
- Fostering successful entrepreneurial practices: Business Plans vs. Action Business Planning
- IP practices, portfolio management, patents and copyrights for technology-based firms

Fifty-five Portuguese workshop participants were selected to cover a range of TTO and entrepreneur experience levels and needs from UTEN's nationwide network of 15 Portuguese universities, technology parks, and incubators as well as select Portuguese intellectual property (IP) professionals, civil servants, and capital sources. The Workshop was designed to be a broad-based overview of relevant issues and concerns for Portuguese university-based technology transfer officers, incubator managers, and entrepreneurs at a range of experience levels. The objective was to encourage cross-group communication and learning among all Portuguese participants but focusing on senior TTO managers and staff, and entrepreneurs, as well as training and mentoring less experienced attendees. Content and points of discussion were provided by six US experts, Portuguese and Austin-based UTEN staff, and Portuguese entrepreneurs and managers of technology-based companies. UTEN Workshop #1 was an extraordinary opportunity to bring together a diverse group of talent and experience levels from the Portuguese technology commercialization community to exchange ideas, establish connections, and launch the UTEN workshop series. Discussions focused on key challenges and lessons learned from US and Portuguese S&T commercialization experience, utilizing real-world cases to serve as examples for problem solving and training.

Featured Portuguese Entrepreneurial Cases:

- **YDreams:** Antonio Camara, Founding CEO and Miguel Gomes (www.ydreams.com)
- **Fluidinova:** Daniela Correia, Director Marketing and Cristina Maia, CEO (www.fluidinova.com)
- **Bioalvo:** Luis Amado, CBDO (www.bioalvo.com)
- **We Adapt:** Miguel Angelo Carvalho and Pedro Souto
- **Plux:** Hugo Gamboa (www.plux.info)
- **VoxGene:** Nuno Osório, Co-Founder and CEO



US Experts: (Please refer to UTENPortugal.org for a review of these presentations)

- 1 Erin Defosse**, VP of Products and Strategy at Ediomia, Inc. and former Director of Austin Technology Incubator (ATI) Wireless. [<http://www.ati.utexas.edu>]
- 2 Bill Hulsey**, JD- IP Attorney and founding Partner Hulsey/IP [<http://www.hulseyiplaw.com>]
- 3 Laura Kilcrease**, Founding Director of ATI and Managing Director of Triton Ventures, Austin, TX, an Austin-based VC [www.tritonventures.com]
- 4 Dr. Darius Mahdjoubi**, Adjunct Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation and a Research Associate at the IC2 Institute [www.ic2.utaustin.org]
- 5 Dr. Luis Medina**, Director, Technology Business Accelerator (TechBA) assisting Mexican technology businesses to successfully enter the US market [<http://www.techbasv.com/joomla/main>]
- 6 Dr. Steve Nichols**, Professor, College of Mechanical Engineering, Director of Advanced Manufacturing Center, Chair of Free Enterprise, and founding director of the Idea2Product Competition at UT-Austin [<http://www.engr.utexas.edu>]

UTEN solicited and analyzed feedback from all participants to find ways to improve future workshop format and to select future topics to meet key stakeholder needs. Proposed future UTEN Austin Workshops will focus on such topics as (1) Negotiating and Closing the Deal ; (2) Capital Sourcing and Financial Management; (3) Technology Marketing for Entrepreneurs; (4) Government and University Policies for S&T Commercialization; and (5) Technology Licensing. To learn more about UTEN workshops including participants' comments, please refer to www.utenportugal.org

■ UTEN Austin Workshop at the Portuguese National Patent Office (INPI)

UTEN/FCT Workshop #1 on Science and Technology Commercialization at UNL, February 8-10, 2009

UTEN Austin was hosted by INPI on February 11th for a collaborative workshop on IP & Tech Transfer in Practice: Case Studies from the US. INPI hosts were Marco Dinis, Telmo Vilela, and Dina Chaves. The workshop featured interactive discussions with 32 INPI managers and staff on the unique challenges of Portuguese stakeholders involved in IP protection and evaluation for international markets. Speakers and topics were:

- **David Gibson**, Associate Director, IC2 Institute - Introduction and overview of the UTEN Program
- **Bill Hulseley**, IP Attorney- Practicing IP in the US: an overview of the patent system
- **Steve Nichols**, Professor, College of Engineering at UT Austin- University perspectives on Tech Transfer
- **Eli D. Mercer**, UTEN Austin Manager, Training and Internships - Business Intelligence applied to technology and IP valorisation
- **Darius Mahdjoubi**, IC2 Institute Scholar - Action business planning
- **Cliff Zintgraff**, UTEN Program Manager - UTEN's Technology Assessment Processes



■ António Câmara on Exame Magazine

António Câmara, UT Austin | Portugal Director, is featured on this month's issue of Exame Magazine talking about the state of education in Portugal.



■ UTEN Austin Workshop at Pedro Nunez Institute (IPN)

UTEN Austin was hosted by IPN on February 12th for a workshop on Science to Market, Technology to Business. The Workshop centred on presentations and panel discussions regarding how UTEN and IPN can increasingly collaborate to support technology commercialization for Portuguese companies looking to enter the US market. The IPN workshop was organized by Carlos Cerqueira and Filipe Neves and was designed around an interactive panel format that focused on financing and marketing for early-stage technologies and challenges of bridging the gaps between R&D, investors, and entrepreneurs.

Featured Portuguese Entrepreneurs

- **Bruno Carvalho**, CEO Active Space Technologies
- **Luís G. Arnaut**, Professor and Researcher, Chemistry Department, Coimbra University

US Panellists

- **Laura Kilcrease** - Venture Capitalist and Founding Director of Austin Technology Incubator (ATI)
- **Luis Medina**, Director of TechBA (an incubator for Mexican companies coming to the US)
- **Darius Mahdjoubi**, Adjunct Professor UT Dallas and St Edwards University
- **David Gibson**- Associate Director, IC2 Institute and UTEN Austin Director
- **Steve Nichols**, JD, Chaired Professor, College of Engineering, UT-Austin
- **Eli D. Mercer**- UTEN Austin Manager, Training and Internships

■ UTEN Portugal strengthens its team

Ana Paula Amorim, the Portuguese technology transfer consultant of the UT Austin - Portugal international partnership, will act also as liaison officer for UTEN Portugal. After working for twenty years on regional economic development through entrepreneurship and S&T commercialization, her role as UTEN Portugal Liaison Officer consists of building bridges and synergies between UTEN Portugal and UT Austin as well as with other international partners. The UTEN team has also been recently strengthened by the inclusion of Joana Ferreira who will be responsible for communication and contacts with the media. Besides being UTEN Media Adviser, she is also an assistant to the UTEN Scientific Director, José Manuel Mendonça.



■ UTEN Workshop at the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Porto (FEUP)

UTEN Austin was hosted by FEUP on February 13th for a workshop on From Technology to Business that focused on best practices to transfer and commercialize technology from the laboratory to viable and profitable businesses. Workshops hosts were Pedro Coelho and Carlos Oliveira. The workshop included presentations and interactive discussions with 84 faculty, students and public and private sector participants.

Main Speakers

- **Laura Kilcrease** - Venture Capitalist and Founding Director of Austin Technology Incubator (ATI)
- **Steve Nichols**, JD, Chaired Professor, College of Engineering at UT Austin - Taking research from idea to product
- **Darius Mahdjoubi**, PH.D, Adjunct Professor at UT Dallas and St Edwards University -Action

Panelists

- **José Manuel Mendonça**, Professor University of Porto, President INESC Porto, and UTEN Portugal Director
- **David Gibson**, Associate Director, IC2 Institute and UTEN Austin Director
- **Luis Medina**, Director of TechBA (an incubator for Mexican companies coming to the US)
- **Eli D. Mercer**, UTEN Austin Manager of Training and Internships

The UTEN Austin team also visited several FEUP laboratories where professors, researchers, and students presented current research projects, discussed challenges and opportunities, and exchanged ideas with the Texas team. These visits were hosted by Professors José Ferreira Lemos, Jorge Moreira da Costa, Viviana Silva, Sarah Pontes, José Nogueira, Fernão Magalhães, Fernando Lobo Pereira, Raul Vidal, Joao Pascoal Faria, Pedro Gomes, José Domingos Santos and Manuel Vieira.

■ UTEN Austin Workshop at the Portuguese National Patent Internship opportunities in Austin Companies (Digital Media)

The internship program has officially begun.

Those interested in internships must complete the application process which is described on the internship web page at <http://colab.ic2.utexas.edu/dm/internships/>. Applications may be submitted at any time, but the minimum time for processing and placement is 4 months, so those interested must plan ahead.

Internships will last a minimum of 6 weeks, and interns will be placed at digital media companies in Austin. During their time in Austin, interns will not only have the opportunity to learn about the digital media industry through their internship assignment, but will also be able to participate in professionalization and leadership training with University of Texas students enrolled in the Digital Media Leadership Program.

Useful links

www.utaustinportugal.org

www.utexas.edu

www.ati.utexas.edu

www.fct.mctes.pt

<http://colab.ic2.utexas.edu/dm/>

www.ic2.org

www.austin-chamber.org

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