

UT Austin | Portugal INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATORY FOR EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, CoLAB



■ Welcome Note from CoLab@Austin Digital Media Director

The Digital media program is looking forward to an exciting summer this year. We plan to offer several courses in both Lisbon and Porto, and will inaugurate the International School for Digital Transformation in Porto in July. The ISDT is truly innovative and promises to be a unique venture drawing students and faculty from around the globe. It will bring innovative and active students together to share information about many of the newest tools and ideas around using the capabilities of the Internet for governance, social programs, and building communities in a week-long, intensive and highly interactive session. You can read more about the ISDT in this issue.

As well, many of the faculty who have taught in Portugal before are returning to teach academic courses in Lisbon and Porto, including online journalism expert Rosental Alves, internationally known film scholar Tom Schatz, animator Geoff Marslett, screenwriters Richard Lewis and Stuart Kelban, and documentarian Karen Kocher, among many others. Altogether there will be ten courses spanning the media-making domains of sound, music, video and writing. We plan as well to offer a few more business-oriented seminars during the summer, focusing on new media practices and opportunities.

We hope you join us and participate in the many events associated with the International School for Digital Transformation and our summer courses.

Sharon Strover

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- **UT AUSTIN | PORTUGAL PROGRAM PHD AND POST-DOC APPLICATIONS** – April 1st – April 30th – For more information and applications please visit our official website at www.utaustinportugal.org
- **10TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ONLINE JOURNALISM** – April 17th-18th – Avaya Auditorium (2.302), ACES Building at UT Austin – Austin, Texas (USA) – For more information on how to register and attend please visit the official site at <http://online.journalism.utexas.edu>.
- **CIÊNCIA 2008 POST-DOCTORAL POSITIONS IN MATHEMATICS APPLICATION DEADLINE** – April 20th – For more information on how to apply please visit <http://www.utaustinportugal.org/Events.aspx?event=231>.
- **INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL ON DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION APPLICATION DEADLINE** – April 30th – University of Porto – Porto, Portugal – For information on how to apply please visit <http://www.utaustinportugal.org/Events.aspx?event=232>.
- **12TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TECHNOLOGY POLICY AND INNOVATION** - Paper Abstracts deadline, April 30th, Porto, Portugal – For more information www.utenportugal.org.

COLAB News Center

UT AUSTIN | PORTUGAL PROGRAM opens calls for PhD and Post Doc Scholarships

The UT Austin | Portugal Program announces the opening of the PhD and Post-Doc Scholarships calls for 2009. The Calls for the PhD scholarships opened on April 1st and the deadline for applications is April 30th. The Post-Doctoral call is open continuously since April 1st. All interested candidates must submit their application electronically or by post to the UT Austin | Portugal Program.

The Program is accepting PhD and Post Doc applications in Digital Media and Mathematics and PhD applications in Advanced Computing. The Digital Media applicants can apply to the following subjects: Audiovisual and Interactive Content Creation (including film and television, interactive music and sound design, participative media for education and culture), Journalism, Technologies, Industry, Public and Markets. The Mathematics applicants can apply to the following subjects: Algebra and Number Theory; Analysis and Numerical Analysis; Analysis and Partial Differential Equations; Geometry and Topology; Optimization; Stochastic Processes and Mathematical Finance and Dynamical Systems. The Advanced Computing applicants can submit their applications regarding in the following areas: Computer Science, namely in methodologies and techniques in High—performance-computing (HPC), distributed/grid computing and large-scale data analysis & management; Computational Engineering and/or Science with specific requirements in advanced computing.

For more information about this call please go to the Program's official website (www.utaustinportugal.org) or send your questions to the directors of your interest area (in English): dm.colab@fct.mctes.pt (for Digital Media), ac.colab@fct.mctes.pt (for Advanced Computing) and math.colab@fct.mctes.pt (for Mathematics).

PORTUGUESE visit Austin in March



Ivan Franco and Bruce Pennycook present panel at SXSW2009.

Sofia Santos brought along an entourage of journalists from the print and electronic media. Susete Francisco, Paulo Chitas, and Paulo Cêpa reported from the Interactive conference and toured the various CoLab programs at UT. The Digital Media program also hosted a visitor to the South by Southwest Film conference and festival. ZON Prize award winner Nuno Rocha attended SXSW film, and screened his film at the Alamo Ritz downtown as part of the Radio-TV-Film department's showcase. These visitors bridged both disciplines and geography during SXSW week.

March saw a flood of Portuguese visitors come to Austin for the South by Southwest (SXSW) Interactive and Film conferences and festival. Ivan Franco, director of research and development at Lisbon-based YDreams, participated in a panel at the Interactive conference. He and UT Austin professor Bruce Pennycook spoke on "New Interfaces for Performance." U.Porto professor Carlos Guedes also demonstrated interactive music technology. He and his creative partner Kirk Woolford of the University of Sussex came to Austin and installed their piece, "Echo Locations," at the Frog Design party, one of the centerpiece events of the Interactive conference. The piece featured animation based on motion capture of UT dance MFA student Charlotte Griffin superimposed over an image of Austin's iconic Congress Avenue bridge. The animation and music responded to the movements of the audience, creating an interactive space at the entry to the party. More traditional media was also present for the Interactive conference.

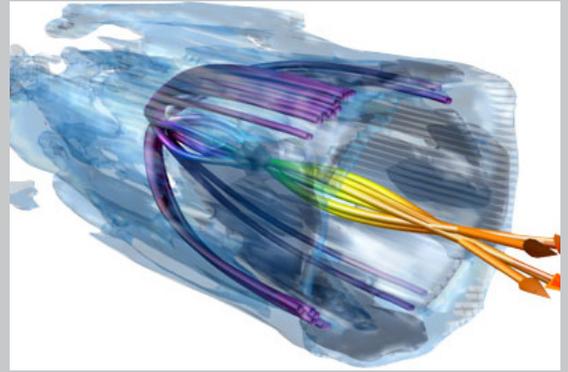


Portuguese journalists interview Luis Caffarelli.

■ TACC Spring School in Advanced Computing comes to Lisbon and Porto

The Advanced Computing program at CoLab is organizing a Spring School with two Workshops that will take place at Instituto Superior Técnico (IST), in Lisbon, and at Universidade do Porto, in Porto. The Workshops will be given by staff from the Texas Advanced Computing Center, TACC, including TACC's Director Jay Boisseau. This Spring School is a collaborative effort between IPFN, IDMEC, CIIST (IST), UPorto and TACC (UT Austin) and the UT Austin | Portugal Program.

The target audience for both Workshops are researchers in computational science & engineering fields wishing to learn and to take advantage of high performance cluster computing resources, including those available at TACC, where lies the largest open science computer system worldwide, the Ranger, with over 62,000 cores.



The 1st Workshop, at the Centro de Congressos of IST, from May 25th to 27th aims to introduce basic concepts on parallel programming and scientific visualization, and also to promote and trigger interaction with one of the leading High Performance Computing Centers in the World, as well as the first contact between Computational Science & Engineering PhD students and TACC.

The 2nd Workshop at Universidade do Porto, on May 28th and 29th addresses optimization issues and advanced visualization topics, and will also create the opportunity for the TACC personnel to share their expertise and establish contacts among the Portuguese Community in Advanced Computing.

Registration for both Workshops will open shortly. More information about the Program and how to attend will be available soon: for Lisbon's Workshop visit <http://taccspringschool.ist.utl.pt> and for Porto's Workshop visit <http://taccspringschool.dcc.fc.up.pt>.

■ WORKSHOP on “Mathematical Aspects of Imaging, Modeling and Visualization in Multiscale Biology” gathers experts at UT Austin



The Workshop, taking place at the University of Texas, at Austin, from March 31st to April 4th, focused on a selected range of interdisciplinary topics handled from both mathematical and engineering applications perspectives, aimed at prompting interesting dialogue among the conveners. The target audience is especially mathematicians and engineers as well as graduate students interested in doing research on problems related to Mathematics, Medical Imaging, Biomechanics, Biology, and Bioengineering.

For more information, please go to the workshop's official website at <http://www.ma.utexas.edu/colab/>.

■ DIGITAL MEDIA opens International School on Digital Transformation's Applications

Plans for the inaugural session of the International School on Digital Transformation, to be held at the University of Porto this July, are well under way. This new program, sponsored by the UT Austin | Portugal Collaboratory, is being organized by faculty and staff at the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Porto. The School is a six-day intensive residential program, bringing together emerging and established scholars, professionals and activists from around the world to discuss the ways in which digital media use is affecting societies, government, and culture. ➡



The program will feature a variety of topics, focusing on primary themes including the democratic transformations of society through digital media, digital arts and culture and developing policy issues, and the extension of the digital community to new users.

The unique nature of the program, which will bring faculty and students together for daily presentation and discussion sessions and communal evening meals, is intended to promote lasting professional relationships and collaborative work. Over twenty primary and associate faculty members are confirmed to attend, representing innovative research and action projects from around the world. The faculty includes political columnist and social entrepreneur Andrew Rasiej; Sunil Abraham, Director of Policy at the Centre for Internet and Society based in Bangalore; Tanya Notley of Tactical Technology Collective; Jorge Martins Rosa of the New University of Lisbon; Siva Vaidhyanathan of the University of Virginia, and Laura Stein of the University of Texas at Austin. A full list of faculty is available on the School's website, at www.digitaltransformationschool.org.

Approximately 50 students are expected to attend the program, which is scheduled for July 19-24. The School is intended for advanced students and people at the beginning of professional careers, and applications can be submitted through the program's website.

■ **ADVANCED COMPUTING** seminar on Multicore Platforms takes places in Braga in June

The Advanced Computing program at CoLab is organizing a 3-day Advanced Seminar on Multicore Platforms in June 1-3, which will bring to Braga, in North Portugal, experts from academia and from industry.

The Seminar will be based on a combination of tutorial sessions and research talks, and the planned agenda will address the following topics:

- OpenMP/Threaded Building Blocks: Arch Robison, Intel
- CUDA and OpenCL programming: Michael Garland, NVIDIA
- Hierarchically Tiled Arrays: David Padua, University of Illinois at Urbana
- Amorphous Data-parallelism in Irregular Programs: Keshav Pingali, University of Texas at Austin.

The target audiences are computer science or computational science/engineer researchers with experience in parallel programming. More details on the event will be released soon.

■ **UT Austin | Portugal** new PhDs and Post Docs meet with Program's Directors in Lisbon

The UT Austin | Portugal management group organized a get together between the 24 new PhD and Post-Doc students and the program's directors and older students. This event took place on the 11th of March in the FCT/UNL campus, in Monte da Caparica.

The students were able to meet not only the directors of CoLa their future mentors on their PhD and Post-Docs. The first group of students from the program was also present to share their ongoing experience, successes and doubts.



■ **THE UTEN CORNER** (WWW.UTENPORTUGAL.ORG)

UTEN@AUSTIN'S PROGRAM MANAGER VISITS PORTUGAL



Eduarda Silva, Marfa Catarino and Pedro Silva from TecMinho, Cliff Zintgraff from UTEN@Austin, João Vilaça, Jaime Fonseca and Marques Pinho from iSurgical3D

From March 23 to March 31, Cliff Zintgraff, UTEN Program Manager, visited universities throughout Portugal advancing technology commercialization training efforts. Visits were made to Technology Transfer Offices and with researchers, inventors and entrepreneurs at the University of Aveiro, University of Porto - UPIN, University of Porto – Faculty of Engineering, University of Coimbra, University of Minho, and the Institute of Molecular Medicine in Lisbon."

During the trip, Technology Transfer offices were trained on the assessment techniques used by the UTEN program, specifically the RapidScreen and MarketLook assessments used to review Portuguese research, emerging ventures, and spin-offs. The focus of this trip was on early stage research that is just entering the commercialization process. In addition, 32 technologies were identified in meetings with TTOs and researchers.

These technologies are candidates to become "living cases" in the UTEN program, and UTEN will join with the TTOs to perform joint commercialization assessments of the technologies. The assessment training and living cases are part of UTEN's larger strategy for training TTOs, researchers and others who contribute to the Technology Transfer system in Portugal. UTEN's mission is to help create a globally competitive and sustainable technology transfer system in Portugal.

■ **DIGITAL MEDIA** commercialization experts evaluate Portugal's landscape in the area

The week of March 2-6, 2009, a team of digital media and commercialization experts from the **UT-Austin|Portugal CoLab** (<http://utaustinportugal.org/>) visited university, industry, community and government leaders throughout Portugal in the digital media space. Visits were conducted in Lisbon, Coimbra, and Porto. The members of the team were:

Dr. Don Turnbull of the University of Texas at Austin (UT-Austin) School of Information is a consultant to industry in search systems, information architecture and design, informetrics and analytics as well as intellectual property research and development.

Dr. Bryan Sebok of the UT-Austin Film Institute and Department of Radio-Television-Film is a film producer with a focus on media convergence. He has taught his course on "Convergent Hollywood" in Austin and Portugal.

Dr. James Jarrett, a Senior Research Scientist at the IC_Institute, University of Texas at Austin focused on evaluation of innovative public sector programs, metrics for science and technology commercialization, management and productivity of public sector organizations, and regional economic studies for enhancing technology based economic development.

Prentiss Riddle, Program Manager for the **UT Austin|Portugal Program (CoLab)**, based at the **IC Institute** of UT-Austin, with a background in computer science and web technologies.

Two CoLab programs cooperated to conduct the visit. The Digital Media program (<http://utaustinportugal.org/DigitalMedia/>) includes UT-Austin and universities from throughout Portugal. Its mission is to collaborate and create digital media centers of education and research excellence to be located Portuguese universities, including the creation of joint degree programs. The University-Technology Enterprise Network (UTEN), also a CoLab program, is helping create a globally competitive science and technology commercialization infrastructure in Portugal.

Digital Media and UTEN cooperated to identify cross-program research projects and to identify emerging science, technology, and companies in the digital media space in Portugal. As a result of the visit, potential research projects will be proposed, and emerging companies will be trained in entrepreneurship and global market assessment.

Meetings with leaders in the digital media field are aimed at building networks in Portugal, including the development of "clusters" of capability and expertise that can be promoted globally. In Lisbon, the team met companies and researchers at the New University of Lisbon, learning about innovative Portuguese technologies and making recommendations about potential joint research, and about commercialization potential of the technologies. The team also met with an emerging cluster of digital media startup companies in the Lisbon area developing software and products for social networks, advertising, and other digital media applications. Several of these companies are funded by the Portuguese venture capital company InovCapital.

In Coimbra, the team conducted visits with researchers and entrepreneurs from Instituto Pedro Nunes, the University of Coimbra, and the University of Aveiro, with technologies in diverse areas such as 3D virtual world gaming, audio analysis, multimedia telecommunication, and multimedia content presentation.

In Porto, the CoLab team visited sites in downtown Porto that are part of the emerging digital media cluster in the Porto region, meeting local leaders from the community, government, universities and industry. The team met InovCapital companies in Porto, researchers and entrepreneurs from TecMinho, and with companies in the film production space.

During their time in Portugal, the team met with over fifty leaders in the digital media space. Based on meeting results, CoLab staff and partners from Austin and Portugal will develop and promote Digital Media clusters, identify and promote research projects, and train Technology Transfer offices and entrepreneurs in commercialization practices.

■ **UTEN** Austin Meeting with MIETE at U. Porto

On March 19th Eli D. Mercer and MIETE Director Prof. Joao Jose Ferreira met to discuss possible areas of collaboration including joint training sessions, upcoming workshops, and potential academic programs.

■ **UTEN** Austin Meeting with FEUP

On March 20th Eli D. Mercer met and worked with the University of Porto Faculty of Engineering team to plan upcoming collaborative efforts including joint workshops, training, and ecosystem building. Hosts: Carlos Oliveira and Pedro Coelho.

■ **UTEN** Austin visits the U. Coimbra Chemical Engineering Labs

On March 24th UTEN Austin (Dr. David Gibson, Cliff Zintgraff, and Eli D. Mercer) visited the Chemical Engineering Laboratories at the University of Coimbra. Hosts: Professors Nuno Oliveira and Rosa Maria Ferreira.



■ UTEN Austin/IPN Seminar on Entrepreneurship, Creativity and Innovation

On March 25th UTEN Austin took part in one of a series of seminars designed to showcase Creativity and Innovation at the University of Coimbra. This session discussed how to successfully start and grow an entrepreneurial venture as well as how to foster an ecosystem and mindset for entrepreneurial growth. The program began with presentations from IPN as well as several successful local entrepreneurs. Dr. David Gibson, Cliff Zintgraff, and Eli D. Mercer presented and engaged in Q&A with the audience of students, faculty, local businesses, and researchers. Hosts: Carlos Cerqueira and Filipe Neves.

■ ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

Digital Media:

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN AUSTIN COMPANIES

We have recently updated our internship program and encourage graduate students and early-career professionals interested in gaining hands-on experience working at Austin-based companies to apply. The program includes airfare to Austin, housing for up to 3 months, health insurance, and visa fees. We also list interns as "visiting researchers" at the University of Texas, which grants them access to the university library system, gyms, and other campus amenities as well as the city bus system. Those interested in applying can find more information about the program, including application procedures 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.

FUTURE PLACES 2009 – CALL FOR ENTRIES

The FUTUREPLACES Festival is an international competition celebrating digital media work. FUTURE PLACES explores the potential of Digital Media when applied to specific cultural and social environments.

The festival features exhibitions, conferences, workshops, concerts, performances and parties. We are interested in creative and new languages for interactive and media expression, and their impact on local cultures, society and public space.

For 2009's edition, the competition will have give a first prize award of 3000€ and a second prize award of 1000€.

FUTURE PLACES recognizes the authors of the best works presented at the festival with two cash prizes, and the opportunity to participate in a three-month residential program at the University of Porto and/or at the University of Texas at Austin. The winner will be offered airfare and three months' lodging at the residency site.

The deadline for submissions is May 31st. For more information on the festival or the competition please visit FUTURE PLACES official website at www.futureplaces.org or contact the organizing committee personnel: Karen Gustafson (futureplaces.kgustafson@gmail.com) or Fátima São Simão (fssimaofp09@gmail.com).

Mathematics:

POST-DOCTORAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The UT Austin | Portugal program in the area of Mathematics invites applications for post-doctoral positions under the FCT Ciência 2008 program: Ciência 2008 URL: <http://alfa.fct.mctes.pt/apoios/contratacaodoutorados/>

These are five year research positions at one of the Portuguese institutions participating in the UT Austin | Portugal Mathematics program, namely Universidade de Coimbra - Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia, Universidade de Lisboa - Faculdade de Ciências, Instituto Superior Técnico, and Universidade Nova de Lisboa - Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia.

Candidates should have a PhD Degree in Mathematics, obtained less than 10 years ago and a minimum of 3 year post-doctoral experience.

How to Apply:

Applicants should send a curriculum vitae, a description of research project and ask that three letters of reference are sent directly to: Joanne Laranjeiro - jlaranj@math.ist.utl.pt. **Deadline for Applications: April 20, 2009.**

Useful links

www.utaustinportugal.org

www.fct.mctes.pt

www.utexas.edu

www.ic2.org

www.ati.utexas.edu

www.austin-chamber.org

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

www.utenportugal.org

We want to hear from you! Want to share your doubts and concerns about something you read? Want to see other topics featured in next month's newsletter? Want to contribute with articles or art? Please send all your feedback to sofia.santos@fct.mctes.pt.