

COLABSQUARE

UT Austin | Portugal INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATORY FOR EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, CoLAB



The CoLab team wishes you all a **Merry Christmas** and a **Happy New Year of 2012** full of academic successes.

Digital Media Doctoral Symposium Held in Austin

On December 3, UT Austin-Portugal doctoral program students gathered with visiting researchers, faculty members, and UT Austin graduate students to present their research, followed by brief talks by leaders of UTA-P sponsored projects. The five-hour symposium showcased the diverse, highly innovative work being developed in Digital Media, and allowed members of the program, who are spread across different colleges and schools at UT Austin, to share their progress with one another and get feedback from faculty members and their peers. The doctoral symposium is the second one of the year; in October, doctoral students studying in Porto and Lisbon presented their research projects during the futureplaces festival in Porto.

The meeting featured 15 presentations as well as a very successful networking lunch, and was attended by approximately 40 people, including exploratory visitors Pedro Bastos, Filipe Lopes, Rui Dias, and George Siorios of U. Porto. Directors Sharon Strover and Carlos Guedes led the symposium, which featured research from doctoral students Marta Ferraz, Luís Frias, Isabel Paiva, Tiago Vidreira, Rossana Santos, and Afonso O'Neill of UNL and Carlos Figueiredo and João Filipe Beira of U.



Porto. Figueiredo and Paiva are currently enrolled non degree-seeking students at UT Austin, and Beira is a member of the UT Austin doctoral program. The students gave brief but thorough overviews of their work, which examines a broad range of topics including interactive film, social network interactions, generative music systems, and perception of urban spaces, among many others. Additionally, visiting scholar Dr. Alcimar Queiroz of the Instituto Universitário de Lisboa discussed his research on the conceptualizing of the information society within developing countries, and interns Rui Silva and Diana Castilho talked about their respective work experiences in audio production and digital marketing.



Radio-Television-Film professor Craig Watkins, who has taught in the UTA-P Digital Media Summer Institute program, presented a mid-day talk on the future of digital media use, drawing upon his extensive expertise on youth and digital media. At the conclusion of student presentations, investigators from three sponsored projects talked about their work. Carlos Guedes and Bruce Pennycook presented on "Kinetic Controller Driven Mu-

sic Systems," Luis Francisco-Revilla and Sharon Strover spoke on "ImTV: On-demand Immersive-TV for Communities of Media Producers and Consumers," and Joseph Straubhaar explained "Digital Inclusion and Participation," a study which looks at aspects of the digital divide in the US and Portugal.

The symposium provided a space for program members from across the University of Texas to gather and learn about

students' doctoral research projects as well as other program-related research happening at UT Austin. Informative, highly interactive discussions followed the presentations and the lunch period gave Portuguese and Austin students, UT faculty, and other program visitors the opportunity to engage with one another and explore shared research interests. Attendees' enthusiastic participation made the symposium a great success.



■ Launching session of the research projects carried out in the scope of the Carnegie Mellon Portugal and the UT Austin Portugal Programs

This launching session of the three research projects in the Mathematic Thematic Area was held on November 10, 2011, at Centro Cultural e Científico de Macau, in Lisbon. The event was part of the Carnegie Mellon Portugal Program Projects Review Meeting.

This year, the international review panel was once again chaired by P.R. Kumar (Texas A&M), and was composed of Adam Wolisz (Technische Universität Berlin), Carles Sierra (Artificial Intelligence Research Institute of the Spanish National Research Council), David Padua (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Frank Fitzek (University of Aalborg), H. S. Jamadagni (Indian Institute of Science), and Ulises Cortés (Technical University of Catalonia). João Barros, national director, and José M.F. Moura, director at Carnegie Mellon, represented the Carnegie Mellon Portugal Program and Jorge Madureira represented the UT Austin Portugal Program.

The presentations of the three projects were carried out by the principal investigators in Portugal. Luísa Mascarenhas, from the Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia of the Universidade Nova de Lisboa (FCT/UNL), spoke about the goal of the project "Thin Structures, Homogenization and Multi Phase Problems," which is to obtain rigorous results (short time existence, long time existence and regularity of solution of the dynamical problem) on a continuum model for the motion of dislocations proposed by Cermelli and Gurtin.

Diogo Gomes, from the Instituto Superior Técnico of the Universidade Técnica de Lisboa (IST/UTL) talked about the "De-



generative Elliptic and Parabolic Equations and its Applications to Front Propagation" project, which target is to study the partial differential equations that arise in front propagation, namely degenerate elliptic and parabolic equations, as well as related problems, and the applications of these methods to more concrete problems, including, for instance geophysical applications.

Cláudia Philippart, from the IST/UTL, explained the importance of the "SANAF: Stochastic Analysis and Numerical Approximations in Mathematical Finance" project which aims to contribute and provide new developments of Mathematical Finance, in terms of theoretical results, computational applications and models, with special emphasis in Real Options. These three projects are funded for three years by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology.

■ 15 years of post-graduate studies in multimedia at the University of Porto

A commemorative session was held on October 20th, in the auditorium "Passos Manuel" and at the cultural space "Maus Hábitos" in Porto, with the support of the futureplaces festival. The event included the presentation of dissertations and recent projects in the areas of interactive multimedia, documentary, games and music. A lively debate on the future of multimedia studies at the University of Porto concluded the session.

In 1996 the University of Porto took a pioneering step in an emergent area with the launch of the Master in Multimedia Technology in, at the Faculty of Engineering. The program was designed as multi-disciplinary from the beginning, and was followed in the next years by the Master in Multimedia Arts in the Faculty of Fine Arts and the Master in Multimedia Education in the Faculty of Sciences. These programs were merged under the Bologna process, in 2007, registering also the participation of the Faculties of Arts and Economics and the creation of a new profile in



The actors in the multimedia project "Touch Me"

the area of interactive music. Since 2009, forty students have started the PhD program in Digital Media in the University of Porto. Today, this multimedia community involves more than 175 students and about five hundred alumni, representing a strong contribution from the University of Porto to the vitality of the creative industries in Portugal.

The presentation started in the auditorium "Passos Manuel" with the screening of documentaries directed by students, as part of the documentary lab, followed by a Q&A session moderated by

special guest Mário Augusto from RTP. The program followed with the presentation of the best student works of the multimedia and games labs and of some of the most successful dissertations in the last years. The event then moved to the cultural space "Maus Hábitos" where current research projects were presented.

In the closing debate on the future of multimedia studies at the University of Porto, students and alumni were challenged to create a virtual network to help foster multimedia communi-

cation within the community through volunteer projects.

More information at www.fe.up.pt/multimedia.



The dissertation on multi-touch against digital exclusion



The movie Blood: a biometric interaction narrative

■ The best and biggest event in the area of Videogames made in Portugal - Videojogos 2011 — gathered more than 300 participants

The 4th Conference of Sciences and Arts in Videogames, called Videojogos 2011, took place between the 2nd and 4th of December in the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Porto.

Attendance was much higher than originally expected. Initially organizers anticipated an audience of about 150, but in the end the total attendance over three days was more than 300 participants.

This success was due to the effort of an entire team that worked hard to provide the best and biggest videogaming event to date in Portugal. Videogames2011 had five workshops in different areas such as Game Design, Programming and Virtual Reality.

The invited speakers also had a huge influence on public interest in the event: Don Marinelli (Carnegie Mellon University), Diego Gutierrez (Universidad de Zaragoza), Ricard Pillosu (Crytek), Senta Jakobsen (ngmoco), Jean-Luc Duprat (Intel), Bruno Ribeiro (Seed Studios), Monchu Chen (Madeira Interactive Technologies Institute), Xenxo Alvarez (Face in Motion), Samuel Junqueira (MEO Jogos), Helena Correia Mendonça (Vieira de Almeida & Associados) and Ricardo Flores Santos (Biodroid).

More information on the Website:
<http://www.dcc.fc.up.pt/~videojogos2011/#home>

■ The Videojogos2011 event on Portuguese Media

Expresso 14/12/2011 atualizado às 15:47

Assinaturas: Tablets e Vouchers Digital

Logim | Registo | Pesquisa Personalizada

INÍCIO | ATUALIDADE | ECONOMIA | DINHEIRO | LIFE & STYLE | DESPORTO | TECNOLOGIA | FOTOS | INFOGRAFIA | OPINIÃO

Crianças | Sugestões culturais | Guia do Estudante | Iniciativas e produtos | Newsletters | Loja | Dossiês

Videojogos: Investigação e indústria em debate no Porto

18:16 Quinta-feira, 24 de novembro de 2011

Share 0 | Tweet 0 | +7 0 | Like

Comente

Porto, 24 nov (Lusa) -- A comunidade académica e empresarial que investiga e desenvolve videogames vai reunir-se entre 02 e 04 de dezembro no Porto na 4.ª Conferência Anual em Ciência e Arte dos Videojogos, anunciou hoje a organização.

A Videojogos 2011 tem confirmadas as presenças de Don Marinelli, co-fundador e produtor executivo do Entertainment Technology Center da Universidade Carnegie Mellon, de Senta Jakobsen, da Ngmoco, de Ricard Pillosu, da Crytek, e de Jean-Luc Duprat, da Intel.

Samuel Junqueira (Sapo), Monchu Chen (Madeira ITI), Diego Gutierrez (Universidade de Saragoça), Xenxo Alvarez (Face in Motion), Bruno Ribeiro (Seed Studios), Ricardo Flores Santos (Biodroid) e Helena Correia Mendonça (VdA) são outros conferencistas esperados.

RTP INFORMAÇÃO

VERÓNICA ORVALHO
Organizadora "Videojogos 2011"

10/12 10:42

RTP INFORMAÇÃO 35 A PARTIR DAS 10H • ADESAFARIOS DE PORTUGAL NO EURO 2012 AN

CONFERENCIA VIDEOJOGOS
150 especialistas de todo o mundo reunidos no Porto

10/12 10:41

■ News: Digital Media Leadership Program

Digital Media Leadership Program participants Teresa Vieira and Rui Silva are concluding three-month internships in Austin. While in Texas, each participant connected with other students and professionals in their respective disciplines, attended local events such as the Austin Film Festival and Halloween holiday festivities, and strengthened their media production skills while contributing their expertise to local organizations and projects.

Vieira, a U. Porto student in the UT Austin-Portugal doctoral program, worked at Austin's National Public Radio affiliate station, KUT. Her responsibilities included contributing videos and images to the station's website to illustrate daily news stories. In doing so, she drew on her extensive background in photography and video production. Vieira also noted that the internship also allowed her to exercise and improve her skills. She commented, "[T]he internship was a great opportunity to practice and deepen my experience in the field." Vieira also made contacts useful to her doctoral research, which focuses on facial animation for 3D characters, and was able to sit in

on a couple of relevant class sessions led by UT instructor and media professional Ben Bays.

Silva, who is currently a student in the Master of Arts in Digital Media program at U. Porto, served as a sound designer and assistant sound editor for UT faculty member Andy Garrison's multimedia documentary project, "Trashdance." While in Austin, Silva met a number of students in the Radio-TV-Film MFA program and worked intensively on a student film, contributing his audio and recording skills. He plans to return to Austin early in 2012 to do recording and audio post-production work on various films. Silva commented enthusiastically on his experience in Austin, saying, "My internship at the University of Texas at Austin put me in touch with amazing professionals such as media artists, professors, faculty/staff, and students who I am very glad and happy to now call friends. I definitely feel that this Austinite vibe, mixed with the Texas warmth, provides the best scenario for media production in the highest degree of quality."



Teresa Vieira



Rui Silva

■ 4th Edition of the ZON Creativity in Multimedia Award received 200 applications

ZON has announced that it received 200 applications for the ZON Creativity in Multimedia Award including international participants with works produced in European countries, USA and Australia. The Short Films category received the most submissions, followed by Content and Multimedia Applications and finally by the Digital Animation category.

The applications will now be evaluated according to such criteria as technology, creativity and innovation. The finalists of the three categories will be announced in December and the winners will be known in January 2012.

This is the biggest prize money awarded in Portugal in a multidisciplinary contest with a total of 200.000 euros distributed among the winners, who will also have access to a research scholarship to study at the University of Texas at Austin according under the partnership between ZON and the UT Austin Portugal Program.

■ UTEN CORNER

Workshop on “The Negotiation of Research Contracts” December 14th 2011, UPIN, University of Porto

“The Negotiation of Research Contracts” was the theme for the 6th UTEN Workshop 2011 that ran in collaboration with Fraunhofer Portugal. The workshop focused on negotiating research contracts, helping universities face the challenge of forming collaboration partnerships and dealing with cultural issues in international cases.

The guest speaker for this event was Lorenz Kaiser, the Division Director of Legal Affairs and Contracts at Fraunhofer. With 25 years of experience in negotiating contracts with industry, Dr. Lorenz Kaiser specializes in the development of models for research cooperation, negotiations and contractual solutions, which also includes the transfer of knowledge through Spin-Offs from Research organizations.

The event took place at UPIN, the technology transfer office of the University of Porto on 14th December and was an opportunity to discuss with experts issues relating to the main concerns hindering the successful negotiation of research contracts and the crucial points of negotiating non-disclosure agreements, R&D contracts and cooperation agreements with funding.

Three case studies were discussed; the first was on the crucial problems of non-disclosure agreements, the second addressed the Biotech R&D contract, which included the discussion of an offer based on the FhG standard R&D terms and conditions and a typical answer from the side of the industrial partner with a contradicting position to the Fraunhofer offer. The final case study was a discussion of the Cooperation agreement, based on the Lambert Modes contracts, with some dangerous legal “mistakes” in it.

Summary:

Contract and collaborative research is without any doubt a



Invited speaker Lorenz Kaiser, Division Director Legal Affairs and Contracts, Fraunhofer

key source of external funding for universities and research institutes. With increasing public budget cuts and in an open-innovation environment, the professionalization of this activity (university-industry engagement and negotiation of research contracts) is paramount to both parties: universities and industry. On one hand, university investigators face challenges in identifying appropriate strategies for making the necessary connections within industry and dealing with industry related cultural differences. On the other hand, industry researchers have similar issues in identifying appropriate strategies for engaging the right offices and individuals for making the necessary connections within institutions and dealing with their particular cultural differences.

■ UTEN Annual Conference 2011

14th November 2011, FEUP, University of Porto, Portugal



João Sentieiro, President of the Foundation for Science and Technology



António Rendas, President of CRUP



David Gibson, Associate Director of the IC2 Institute, University of Texas at Austin



José Carlos Marques dos Santos, Rector, University of Porto



José Manuel Mendonça, UTEN Scientific Director

Events

- **Mathematics Summer School and Workshop 2012**
July 2-13, 2012, UNL, Lisbon

This year's topic will be Stochastic Control and Mathematical Finance. Organizers: Gordan Žitkovic, Dept. of Mathematics, the University of Texas at Austin; Diogo Gomes, Director, CoLab Mathematics, IST, Lisbon.

Details are subject to change. Watch <http://utaustinportugal.org/news/> and math.utaustinportugal.org for updates.

- **TEI 2012**
19th to 22nd February 2012, Kingston, Ontario, Canada.

TEI 2012 is the sixth international conference dedicated to presenting cutting edge research in tangible, embedded, and embodied interaction. The work presented at TEI addresses design challenges, theories, experiences, systems, and new developments, with specific emphasis on all the physical aspects of human interaction with computing technology. The intimate size of this single-track conference provides a unique forum for exchanging ideas and presenting innovative work through talks, interactive exhibits, demos, hands-on studios, posters, art installations and performances. The theme of this year's conference is "fold unfold".

More information at: <http://tei-conf.org/12/Main/Home>

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 carolina.enes@fct.unl.pt.