

UT Austin | Portugal INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATORY FOR EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, CoLAB



## 2011 ZON Creativity in Multimedia Award winners announced

Fourth edition of the Prémio ZON includes three winners associated with CoLab.

The program is very proud that several members and associates of UT Austin | Portugal Digital Media have been named winners of the 2011 ZON Creativity in Multimedia Award. An initiative of leading Portuguese media company ZON Multimédia, the nationwide competition is supported by the Science and Technology Foundation (FCT) and the Cinema and Audiovisual Institute (ICA).

**GimmeDaBlues, an innovative iOS music application developed by several members of the UT Austin | Portugal program, won first prize for the Contents and Multimedia Applications category.** The team includes Rui Dias, George Siorios, Gilberto Bernardes, Telmo Marques, and Digital Media co-director Carlos Guedes of U. Porto. The graphic user interface design for the application was created by Clara Morão and the iOS programming was done by Amaury Hazan. The application's development grew out of the FCT-sponsored research project "Kinetic Controller Driven Adaptive and Dynamic Music Composition Systems," led by Guedes and Bruce Pennycook of UT Austin.

GimmeDaBlues allows users to generate Blues music in real time, experimenting with several known Blues styles. Through a touch screen interface on an iPad or iPhone, users can work with a virtual quartet comprised of a trumpet, piano, double bass, and drums, exercising a varying level



Carlos Guedes - 1st place Contents and Multimedia Applications



Grand Prize winner Humberto Santana from Animanostra

of control over each instrument. The application represents a new paradigm in music applications for smartphones, as users can play and interact at a high musical level without formal musical knowledge. Videos demonstrating the application are available at <http://vimeo.com/35743843> and <http://vimeo.com/31607650>.

Still in the Contents and Multimedia Applications category, the jury distinguished two works in a tie for second place - "Smart Companion" which is an android platform to the senior population - and "iflexi.mobi", an application of corporate TV. The jury decided not to assign the third place in this category and its monetary value was distributed between the other finalists and honorable mentions.

"Ginjas", a Portuguese children's animated series produced by Animanostra was the winner of the Grand Prize achieving the first place at the Digital Animation category as well. "Ginjas" is an animated children's series that explores the formal resources of drawing and movies. This is an extremely didactic and educational format that guides children through the world of visual arts.

**Second prize in the Digital Animation category was awarded to David Mourato. Mourato, a freelance animator, is an alumnus of the 2011 ZON Digital Animation Advanced Lab, an eight-week intensive course led**

by University of Texas instructors Geoff Marslett and Ben Bays in Austin. The winning submission "Depressure" was partly developed during his visit at UT. Looking into the future, Mourato stated, "Now I want to start thinking about a new short, new story, new ideas. But most of all I want to be a great animator and director." One of his goals includes pursuing an online professional training program in character design offered by iAnimate.net.

João Alves, another alumnus of the 2011 ZON Digital Animation Advanced Lab program, was honored with third prize in the Digital Animation category for his entry "The Extraordinary Adventures of Dog Mendonça and Pizzaboy II," an animated trailer for the well-known graphic novel. Alves, who works at Lisbon Labs, is the creator of another award-winning short, "Bats in the Belfry." Regarding the ZON prize, Alves expressed joyful surprise, stating, "It was amazing—we had little expectation with just four guys working for a month

and a half and competing with established producers with huge crews, but we did it. The team effort really paid off, and it was amazing to hear "Dog Mendonça and Pizzaboy" being announced!"

In the Short Film category the jury ruled that the presented works didn't fit in their classification criteria. Therefore the overall value of the prize attributed to the winners in this category (50.000€) was distributed among the 10 finalists, according to the regulations of the prize.

The award ceremony was held in the Champalimaud Foundation and was attended by Miguel Relvas, Parliamentary Affairs Minister and Carlos Oliveira, the Secretary of State of Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Competitiveness.

For a complete list of 2011 winners, please visit: <http://www.zonold.com/premio/default.aspx>



Contents and Multimedia Applications winners, Carlos Guedes (GimmeDaBlues), Francisco Neves, Franhauffer Institute (Smart Companion), Edgar Neves, Miaki (iflexi.mobi)



Digital Animation winners, David Mourato (Depressure) and João Alves (The Extraordinary Adventures of Dog Mendonça and Pizzaboy II)



Miguel Relvas, Minister to Parliamentary Affairs gives the ZON Grand Prize to Animanostra



Short-films category finalists



Rodrigo Costa ZON CEO

## ■ Visit of the Ambassador of Portugal to the United States to The University of Texas at Austin

On February 2, 2012, The University of Texas at Austin welcomed Nuno Brito, the Portuguese Ambassador to the United States, accompanied by the Deputy Chief of Mission Rosa Batoreu. As the first official visit by the Portuguese Ambassador to Texas, his main goal was to become acquainted with the activities of the UTAustin|Portugal CoLab program and analyze the potential of this ongoing collaboration between FCT and The University of Texas at Austin.

During the day, the Ambassador met Dr. Juan Sanchez, Vice President for Research, and Dr. Robert Peterson, Associate VP for Research and CoLab PI. Following this meeting, the Ambassador met with UT faculty members

affiliated with the program and Portuguese students and researchers who are currently working in Austin.

The Ambassador then met with Dr. John Butler, Director of the IC2 Institute, to discuss the success of the UTEN technology commercialization activities performed within the scope of the UT Austin|Portugal CoLab program regarding networking and training opportunities for technology transfer professionals and business development efforts for university-based startup Portuguese companies.

By the end of the visit, both parties expressed their willingness to continue a dialogue directed at exploring future avenues for collaboration.



Nuno Brito (Portuguese Ambassador to the US), Dr. Juan Sanchez (VP for Research, UT Austin)



Ambassador Nuno Brito and Deputy Chief of Mission Rosa Batoreu with Dr. David Gibson, Dr. Greg Pogue, Marco Bravo and Heath Naquin from the IC2 Institute



Ambassador Nuno Brito with UTEN and CoLab faculty and Portuguese students



Ambassador Nuno Brito, Dr. John Butler (Director of the IC2 Institute) and Dr. Greg Pogue (Senior Research Scientist and Interim Director at the IC2 Institute)

## ■ Doctoral Student Vânia Gonçalves ended her exploratory visit to UT Austin

Vânia da Silva Gonçalves, a Digital Media doctoral student at U. Porto, visited UT Austin for several days in early February. During her time in Austin she met with professors Sharon Strover and Phil Doty to discuss different aspects of her research. Gonçalves studies Internet policy and business trends, focusing on how networks are evolving to develop services and meet new demands such as the increasing use of video streaming. Her research looks at the design principles shaping the future of the Internet, evaluating their impact on policy issues such as network neutrality and on industry trends such as traffic shaping and tiered pricing according to bandwidth usage.



Gonçalves met with Digital Media Program Director Sharon Strover, an Internet policy expert, to discuss the current state of the telecommunications market and the debate over network neutrality regulation. Additionally, their conversation explored appropriate research methods for Gonçalves' project. Doty, the Associate Dean of UT's School of Information, talked with Gonçalves about the history of the Internet's development and funding, as well as current market trends. Gonçalves found both meetings very useful, stating, "The visit to UT Austin allowed me to identify new ideas and perspectives that will be useful for the progress of my doctoral research."

## ■ UT Austin | Portugal PhD students presented their work at Pavilhão do Conhecimento

Every day we interact with the most sophisticated technological tools. Inevitably, arts have not escaped a fascination for this digital world. In Portugal, a new generation of creators, thinkers and cultural mediators are using these new languages in a reliably way.

"Algoritmos Criativos" (Creative Algorithms) was an exhibition of 12 works in diverse areas such as interaction design, physical computing, robotics, artificial intelligence and systems engineering.

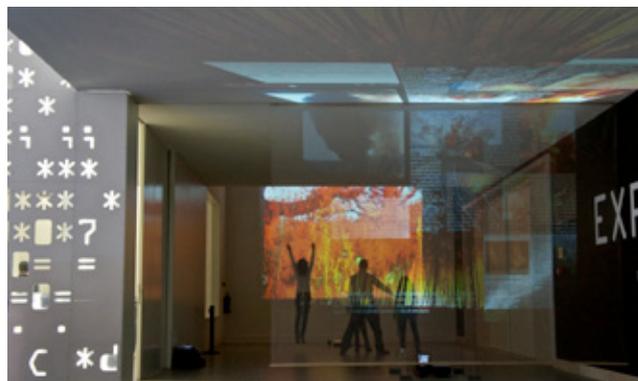
This was a project launched last year between Ciência Viva (a Portuguese government funded institution promoting science and technology awareness), Espaço do Tempo (a cultural association in Montemor-o-Novo that promotes artistic residencies in a beautiful local convent in a castle to further emergent artistic practices in performing and digital arts) and Audiência Zero (a Portuguese association promoting creative technologies, knowledge sharing and collaborative development in the edge between art, science and technology). The final result was displayed at Pavilhão do Conhecimento in Lisbon during February 2012.

### • **Play with Fire by Mónica Mendes, Pedro Ângelo, Valentina Nisi, Nuno Correia + collaboration Filipe Cruz and Ricardo Webbens**

<http://playwithfire.artivis.net>

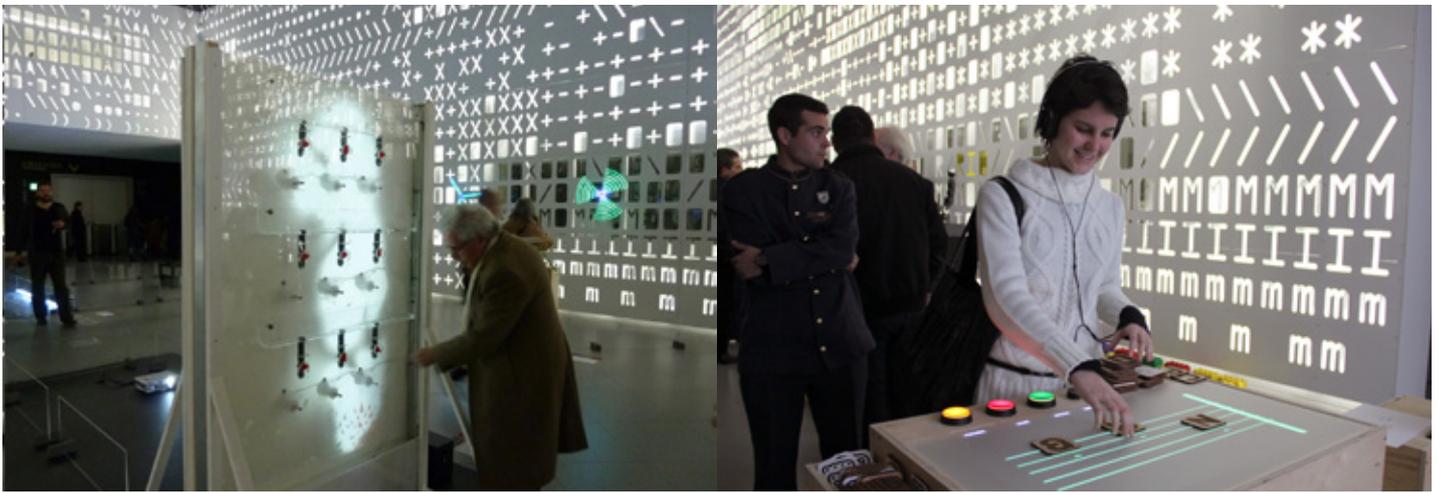
*Play With Fire is an interactive installation that asks participants to paradoxically set generative fires over live streaming video of forests to stimulate environmental awareness, created and developed by Mónica Mendes, Valentina Nisi, Nuno Correia and Pedro Ângelo, with the collaboration of Filipe Cruz for the mobile application and Ricardo Webbens in sound design.*

*More than the participation in this exhibition, the whole de-*



Play with Fire

*velopment process and the support and collaborative work environment provided by the organizations was very important in furthering our research work, both for Mónica at a time where documenting the work and performing user testing is paramount, as for Pedro, already gathering important information and insight about the needs of digital creators for his research on next generation creative programming tools.*



PREFALL135

Onomaphonic

- **Onomaphonic by Julie Staebler and Filipe Pais**  
<http://la-neige-en-ete.net/filipe/ongoing/onomaphonic/>

*Onomaphonic is a sound machine that transforms the alphabet into sound and illustrated onomatopoeias, allowing us to play and to build small sound and visual compositions.*

*By placing the wood letters on the table, the system associates each one of them to a sound, for example: D for Dring, B for Boom and I for Ips. The user is then able to listen to the composition by using the headphones, to change the BPM, add or remove letters to compose while listening and finally*

*print the sound score. The print shows an illustrated version of the score, displaying the different onomatopoeias according to the relative position of the letters on the table.*

*Behind this ludic experience, we find the pedagogical intention of connecting, alphabet, onomatopoeia, sound and musical concepts that seem to be so important in children's development.*

- **PREFALL135 by Rodrigo Carvalho**  
<http://www.visiophone-lab.com>

*I participated in the exhibition with an installation called PREFALL 135. It's a co-creation with Javier Chavari and Katerina Antonopoulou. We meet in Barcelona in a Master Degree in Digital Arts and we created the first prototype of Prefall135 for a school project. For this exhibition the installation piece suffered significant changes and developments. (first version here : <https://vimeo.com/6719421>)*

*Prefall 135 is an interactive audio-visual installation. It uses the energy of falling water to make watermills rotate and produce sound and graphics.*

*By opening and closing the taps, the user is controlling the*

*water circuit and defining the parameters of the audiovisual system: <http://vimeo.com/31347266>.*

*In inauguration day I had good feedback from the visitors, most were very curious about the functioning and the way of interaction with the water and the mills.*

*Maybe because it's not a very common way of interaction, the public was very interested in discover how by interacting with a nature elements, the water, they were able to interact and produce a direct feedback of digital elements the audio and the visuals.*

## ■ Summer Institute 2012 is on its way

The UT Austin | Portugal project is gearing up for Summer Institute courses. Several UT Austin instructors are proposing courses to the summer months, and in February students will have a chance to indicate their interest in various topics. The proposals include subjects such as: scriptwriting; making documentaries; digital cinema; entrepreneurial journalism; participatory culture; human-computer interaction; trans-media franchises; new media ethnography; animation; and researching digital media users. The basic model for the courses is a three week duration, with intensive meetings

of three-four hours each day of the week, plus work outside the class. These courses do carry academic credit.

We hope to offer two or three courses in Lisbon and in Porto, and will choose the final courses based on student interest. If you are interested in taking some of these, please contact one of the following persons: at UNL, Professors João Mário Grilo or Nuno Correia; at University of Porto, Professors Carlos Guedes or Heitor Alvelos.

## ■ UTEN CORNER

### Workshop on “Bayh-Dole Act: Opportunities for Portugal” February 27th 2012, INPI, Campo das Cebolas, Lisbon

“Bayh-Dole Act: Opportunities for Portugal” was the theme for the 1st UTEN Workshop 2012 that ran in collaboration with the IC<sup>2</sup> Institute of the University of Texas at Austin with support from the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT). The workshop focused on the history and implications of the US Bayh-Dole Act for modern university technology transfer. The guest speaker for this event was Michael Barrett, a Partner with the international law firm Fulbright & Jawoski, L.L.P.’s, who specializes in patent litigation, prosecution and analysis in various technology areas.

The event took place at the Instituto Nacional de Propriedade Intelectual (INPI) and was an opportunity to provide attendees with not only an international perspective on IP but also insight into the university’s role in both IP and technology transfer on a policy and practical level.

The workshop was divided into three parts: “An American Perspective”, “A Portuguese Perspective” and “Opportunities for Portugal”.

Part one of the workshop, “An American Perspective”, began with opening remarks from Vasco Varela (FCT) and included a Keynote Speech by Michael Barrett. This was fol-



Michael Barrett

lowed by comments from José Mendes (University of Minho) and Marco Bravo (IC<sup>2</sup> Institute, University of Texas at Austin). Telmo Vilela (INPI) then presented the “The Portuguese reality – challenges and opportunities” with comments from Heath Naquin (IC<sup>2</sup> Institute, University of Texas at Austin) and Maria Oliveira (UPIN, University of Porto Innovation).

Marta Catarino (TecMinho, University of Minho) opened the second part of the workshop, “A Portuguese Perspective” with her presentation on the “Perspective from a Technology Transfer Office”. This was followed by comments from Jorge Gonçalves (University of Porto) and José Paulo Rainho (University of Aveiro). Pedro Araújo from Advanced Cyclone Systems then presented the “Perspective from a spinoff company” with comments from Vasco Varela (FCT) and Pedro Vilarinho (COTEC).

The third and final part of the workshop focused on “Opportunities for Portugal” and José Ricardo Aguilar (Instituto Pedro Nunes –IPN) was the first speaker. His presentation highlighted the “Key take-aways and opportunities for Portugal”. The workshop concluded with closing remarks from Leonor Trindade (INPI).



Marco Bravo (IC<sup>2</sup> Institute, The University of Texas at Austin); José Mendes (University of Minho); Michael Barrett (Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Austin)

Miguel Seabra, Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT); Leonor Trindade (INPI); Michael Barrett (Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Austin)

## International Internships

João Nuno Simões - CTEC@CMU

My UTEN Internship was a unique international hands-on experience on how to perform technology transfer and enterprise creation as a full officer at the host institution / CTEC@CMU. This experience was not only relevant for self-professional development or enhancement but also for the home institution and for the entire IT ecosystem in Portugal, as a new insight on international trading in this activity has been created.

During the term of my stay, I had the opportunity to conduct several projects, covering from the invention disclosure stage to the actual licensing, alongside numerous issues concerning intellectual property management. I was given full access to files, people and resources to fulfill the tasks I was entrusted with, as a true member of the team.



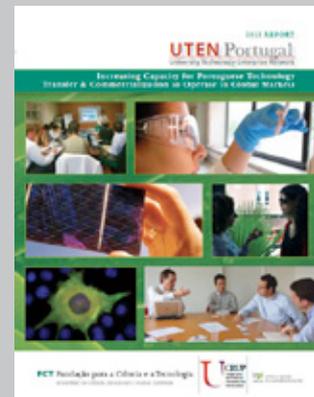
João Nuno Simões

The outcome of this internship allowed me to acquire additional and necessary training in professional technology transfer skills in an international context, and to prepare a set of recommendations and reviews on procedures, tools and techniques. Furthermore, I had the opportunity to gather some key insights on technology business activities in the US and to build a network of connections for the leveraging of technology transfer and venture creation from Portugal into the US.

In summary, the UTEN Internship allowed me and UC TTO to enrich our structure with new and improved skills, while being trained in matters of international technology evaluation, IP protection and valorization, through licensing and other paths for the commercialization of technology.

## UTEN Portugal 2011 Report distinguished

The UTEN Portugal 2011 Report, designed by Margaret Cotrofeld and co-edited by David Gibson and Marco Bravo, has won the highest award given by the Printing and Imaging Association of Mid-America. It got Best Of for the category "Books, Paper Cover"! This is the highest award for the category and covers mid-America.



## Marta Ferraz's work published on Diário Digital

The Portuguese news website "Diário Digital" has made a story about the work of Marta Ferraz, a student of the Digital Media doctoral program.

The full article, signed by the journalist Fátima Moura da Silva, can be found here:  
[http://diariodigital.sapo.pt/news.asp?id\\_news=560158](http://diariodigital.sapo.pt/news.asp?id_news=560158)

## 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 Žitković, 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](http://math.utaustinportugal.org) for updates.

- **2012 SXSW Interactive Festival**  
9-18 March, Austin, Texas, EUA

The South by Southwest® (SXSW®) Conferences & Festivals offer the unique convergence of original music, independent films, and emerging technologies. Fostering creative and professional growth alike, SXSW is the premier destination for discovery.

More information: <http://sxsw.com/>

## ■ Ongoing Opportunities

- **One-year Postdoctoral Position in Computational Mathematics**

Deadline: 16 Mar 2012

The UT Austin | Portugal Program and the CMUC | Department of Mathematics of the Faculty of Sciences and Technology of the University of Coimbra (under the project below) invite applications for an one-year Postdoctoral Position in Computational Mathematics, beginning September 2012 (or earlier May/June 2012).

The focus of the research is on imaging sciences and scientific computing. It involves variational image processing, image analysis, partial differential equations, numerical analysis, optimization, visualization, and inverse problems in imaging, with applications in medicine and emphasis on endoscopic images.

Applicants should have a PhD in Mathematics or Computational Sciences and Engineering (preferably obtained after December 31, 2006). The position obeys to the Portuguese scholarship system and the corresponding salary is €1495 per month (tax free). No teaching duties are associated with the position.

Applicants should send by email to [isabelf@mat.uc.pt](mailto:isabelf@mat.uc.pt) the following information:

- Curriculum vitae (publication list included).
- Statement of research interests (one page maximum, describing concisely scientific interests and the relation with the proposed post-doctoral position).
- Names and email-addresses of at least two scientists willing to provide references.
- Period for applications : from February 20th to March 16th , 2012.

This position is funded by the research project UTAustin/MAT/0009/2008 (UTAustin | Portugal Program, <http://www.utaustinportugal.org>). Contact for further information: Isabel M. Narra Figueiredo (<http://www.mat.uc.pt/~isabelf>)

- **Advanced Digital Media Mobility Awards**

Awards for Digital Media faculty and student travel to UT Austin.

For more information please visit

<http://utaustinportugal.org/calls/dm-travel>.

- **Digital Media Internship Call**

Deadline: 31 Mar 2012

The Digital Media Leadership Program offers professional internships at Austin-based companies to graduate students and early-career professionals.

For more information please visit

[http://utaustinportugal.org/calls/digital\\_media\\_internship\\_call](http://utaustinportugal.org/calls/digital_media_internship_call).

### Useful links

[www.utaustinportugal.org](http://www.utaustinportugal.org)

[www.fct.mctes.pt](http://www.fct.mctes.pt)

[www.utexas.edu](http://www.utexas.edu)

[www.ic2.org](http://www.ic2.org)

[www.ati.utexas.edu](http://www.ati.utexas.edu)

[www.austin-chamber.org](http://www.austin-chamber.org)

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

[www.utenportugal.org](http://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](mailto:carolina.enes@fct.unl.pt).

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THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**TEXAS**  
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Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia  
universidade de nova lisboa e coimbra