



Portugal Program renewed for five years

Agreement with the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology will continue the program through 2017.



Nuno Correia (CoLab Director in Portugal), António Rendas (President of the Council of Rectors of Portuguese Universities), Juan Sanchez (Vice President for Research, UT Austin), Miguel Seabra (President of the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology), Robert Peterson (CoLab Director at UT Austin)

On November 5th, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) and The University of Texas at Austin to renew the UT Austin | Portugal Program through 2017. The agreement specifies that the program will receive € 2 million in support per year, with the funds divided among the principal programs at UT and partner institutions in Portugal. The renewal will allow the program to continue its objective of academic and research excellence while increasing its emphasis on entrepreneurship and cooperation with industry.

The UT Austin | Portugal Program, also known as the International Collaboratory for Emerging Technologies (CoLab), began in 2007 with a focus on three academic areas - Digital Media, Mathematics and Advanced Computing - as well as the creation of a network for the commercialization of Portuguese innovation, the University Technology Enterprise Network (UTEN).

In the past five years the program has brought together more than 40 professors and researchers and 120 students from Portuguese universities and research institutions. It has supported over 105 doctoral and post-doctoral fellowships, 250 visits to UT Austin for research collaboration, and 110 public events such as workshops, summer schools, and the Futureplaces festival.

For more information please visit:

FCT Notícias: Programa UT Austin | Portugal: segunda parceria internacional renovada

Press release: Programa UT Austin | Portugal garantido por mais cinco anos

FIVE YEARS OF FUTUREPLACES

by Heitor Alvelos, Karen Gustafson and Fátima São Simão
based on a keynote address by Heitor Alvelos, October 17, 2012



The FUTUREPLACES digital media festival, one of the key initiatives of the UT Austin|Portugal program in digital media, has this year completed five consecutive editions. From day one, it remains an event deeply rooted in the cultural landscape of Porto.

Work began very intuitively in late 2007, around the thought that rather than organizing a digital media festival according to expectations, it would be best to consider the contextual challenges when digital media faced the city's multiple realities. When we think of a digital media festival, we tend to think of a showcase for cutting edge technology, or a celebration of the convergence between technology and the creative act: these festivals do provide great environments for technological development to be presented, experienced, enjoyed, and consumed. Yet FUTUREPLACES decided to propose a clear focus on socio-cultural impact. This was a means of territorial differentiation, but was also an acknowledgment of the purpose of a festival within an advanced R&D program joining universities, partners and entrepreneurs.

The image of this year's edition of the festival was the illustration of a turtle, drawn by a 19th Century Austrian illustrator, Aloys Zötl, and as such was a way of representing that, while honoring cutting edge technology, we do believe that there is lot more that needs to be acknowledged when we speak of digital media, particularly within the context of advanced research: we need to bring in past and present, analogue and digital, short-term and long-term. We need to consider the impact, the dangers, the benefits, the traps, the poise, the underlying promise. We need to be reminded that, particularly in the social realm, some futures take decades to be constructed, in stark opposition with the vertigo of digital novelty.

So early on, FUTUREPLACES decided to speak less about technology per se, and more about what technology could do for us as a complex social and cultural fabric. And this meant: surveying and nurturing existing local realities (projects, communities, interpretations, routines, needs, oddities); incubating new projects we believed necessary and possible; and consulting with partners with similar missions. In this process, over twenty international universities have joined the festival's activities; nine partner festivals, including South By South West and Futur En Seine, have collaborated; all major local institutions, including

the Serralves Museum and Casa da Música, hosted futureplaces events; and the festival has maintained a wide network of institutional partners, including various City Halls, Research Centers, international award-winning citizen projects and media labels. Leading international thinkers and practitioners in new media have provided keynote addresses, names such as Golan Levin, Hugh Forrest, Siva Vaidhyanathan, Peter Sunde, Elizabeth Stark, Philip Marshall, Teresa Nobre, Sérgio Branco, Philip Dean, Jon Wozencroft, Blaine L. Reininger, and Negativland's Jon Leidecker. **FUTUREPLACES has reached over 30 countries, and has welcomed a very diverse mix of cultures, people and missions. Events have included masterclasses, concerts, theater plays, forums, workshops, jam sessions, public family portraits, interviews, flash mobs, symposia, brainstorming sessions, cooking sessions, car discos, exhibitions, awards, performances, book editions, music editions, website launches, Q&A sessions, random music labs, situationist mappings, research projects, cell phone symphonies, installations, networking sessions, digital graffiti murals, a written speakers corner and a series of analogue tweet events.**



The last five years have thus been quite an adventure in what we may call "social fertility". This surveying, this incubating and consulting brought us to work with, and bring together, politicians, musicians, homeless citizens, hackers, universities, graffiti writers, NGOs, tech-heads, and disabled youth. We invited researchers, DJs, human rights groups, artists, museums, sexual minorities, other festivals, pirates, schools, street musicians, start-up companies, bloggers, activists, security guards, designers and cooks. And we brought in mayors, headhunters, academics, media labels, car tuning communities, radio producers, anarchists, seamstresses, entrepreneurs, immigrants, tourists, and people who just happened to pass by. FUTUREPLACES began to present itself as a festival without an audience: all joining are active participants. After five years, more than an event, FUTUREPLACES is now a community of creative and engaged citizens.



FUTUREPLACES has thus:

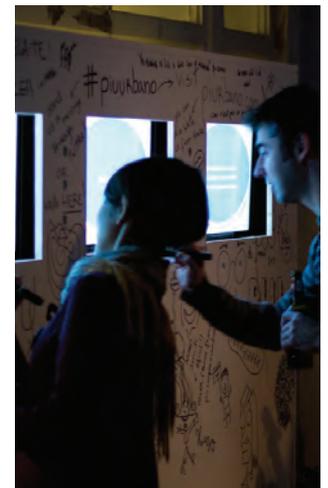
- facilitated the bridging between a bankrupt shopping mall turned music hub and the largest music auditorium in Portugal (Casa da Música), as well as Summer festivals;
- given birth to the foundations of the first full-time broadcasting independent radio station in Portugal since unlicensed radio was outlawed in the late 1980s;
- advised on the birth and development of Manobras no Porto, a two-year project by the City Hall that invites citizens of the historical center to rescue, legitimize and project creative activity in daily life;
- featured the branching out of "plus minus" (\pm), AKA the "Portuguese Banksy", into participatory approaches of collective authorship, in our case the creation of a written "speakers corner";
- begun hosting a series of participatory websites, FUTUREPLACES "spin-offs" that consolidate the mission of social involvement via digital media beyond the festival's dates.
- developed participatory approaches which have later been adopted and implemented as methodologies in curricular and research contexts.

Additionally, the festival has helped consolidate a series of applied research projects that involve media archives made by citizens, merge industrial heritage with personal narrative, re-invent Portuguese iconography and visual heritage, bring DIY interface technology to wider

audiences, and apply entertainment principles in social media to health networks. Most of this work has been accomplished via Citizen Labs and Technology Skills Labs, over twenty workshops offering different levels of expertise to a very wide variety of participants.

If anything, we do believe this is still the beginning: because five years on, the fairly oblique motto of media and society has flourished not only as something a lot more readable, but as a generalized activity. Let's keep in mind Facebook revolutions were a long way into the future, back when FUTUREPLACES began its gestation in late 2007.

Yet we believe recent developments in Portuguese society make our original motto even more poised, more decisive. The major economic challenges the country has been facing have recently fueled a resurgence of a specific kind of citizen involvement. People have been taking the streets more and more often in the last year, demonstrating heavily against harder and harder austerity measures. They have been setting up demonstrations on Facebook, recording confrontations on their phones, tweeting and posting thoughts, ideas and photos, printing posters... even handing out flyers with alternative national anthems. Yet the word "austerity", while describing the current financial strain, may also speak of the danger of a lack of social fluidity. Somehow a festival can no longer provide pure entertainment. Yet it cannot become a demonstration either.



As far as citizen involvement goes, both party and protest often seem unfulfilled tactics. Protest is often reactive, born out of despair. And party is often a parenthesis without a particular purpose besides "chilling out". So back to the work at FUTUREPLACES. In a way, we have been attempting to combine both party and protest, but trying to reach a balance that maintains the best of both: constructive engagement (i.e. protest minus the aggression), and a celebration with purpose.

This is clearly quite far detached from the appropriation of the mythology of revolution by consumer products. And so much of new media companies have been doing just that throughout the decades - just recently, a perfume company used the national demonstration of September 15 as the backdrop narrative for an imaginary love story between two young activists in a viral advertising campaign.

This is not to say other modes aren't possible or valid or desired - or desirable; it's saying that a bottom-up process of reinvention and regeneration of the social fabric tends to be healthier. We as humans value authenticity. It makes for new kinds of ideas, new kinds of bridges, new solutions and new ways of interacting and negotiating. And most of this work is neither sponsored nor dependent on a higher order - especially because new media is in fact becoming truly accessible.

So, back to "social fertility". These are the kinds of dialogues we believe a healthy social fabric can engage in.

The musician meets the homeless citizen meets the hacker meets the entrepreneur. The DJ meets the human rights group meets the start-up company meets the security guard. The designer meets the terminally ill meets the academic meets the cab driver meets the radio producer meets the homeless citizen. The seamstress meets the tech-head meets the immigrant meets the people who just happened to be passing by.

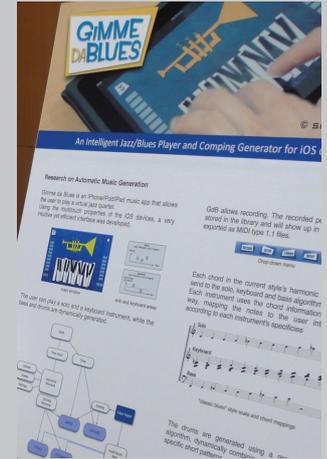
And yes, digital media can play a role, but for that, it needs to look beyond the allure of simulation. We are invited to make full use of what digital media can accomplish, way beyond the narrow constraints of what we are offered on a more immediate level. Digital media not announcing a brave new world, but attempting to unravel a healthier world.



At FUTUREPLACES, we have been fostering this approach, not just because we believe in it, but because, throughout these last five years, we have actually witnessed its seeds. The growing heritage of FUTUREPLACES is a testament to the dedication and determination of a community formed around the UT Austin | Portugal program in digital media; but most decisively, these five years of FUTUREPLACES vouch for the real possibility of true citizen emancipation.



GimmeDaBlues at SIGGRAPH Asia 2012



Rui Dias, a doctoral student at UT Austin | Portugal doctoral program in Digital Media and Carlos Guedes, national co-director of the Program were at SIGGRAPH Asia 2012 (Singapore, 28th November to 1st December) presenting **GimmeDaBlues, an iOS application** developed in research project **"Kinetic Controller Driven Adaptive and Dynamic Music Composition Systems"** (from the first call for research projects, reference UTAustin/CD/0052/2008; principal investigators: Carlos Guedes, Bruce Pennycook, Tomás Henriques).

GimmeDaBlues won 1st prize in Prémio ZON (Multimedia Applications) and is available in the App Store at: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/gimmedablues/id577893506?mt=8>

Yago de Quay Directs Performances for Thousands in São Paulo

Digital Media doctoral student Yago de Quay, who is currently enrolled at UT Austin pursuing a dual degree, was invited to act as Project Director for the Peugeot dance show at South America's largest automobile trade show in São Paulo, Brazil this fall. Peugeot, whose staff had seen de Quay's TEDx "Dance Jockey" video online, asked him to direct a performance to promote Peugeot's 2012 theme "Let Your Body Drive." De Quay's work, which focuses on sound, motion, and technology, was perfect for this purpose. During October and November, he traveled to Brazil to develop, rehearse, and ultimately participate in the performance, which was viewed by many thousands of attendees over the car show's 12 days. "Looking back at it, I can't believe we managed to pull through 90 successful performances, all of them so intense and technical," commented de Quay.

The show, with music composed by De Quay, featured several components: Four performers playing the car as a percussive instrument, with four microphones placed on different parts of the car; interactive dance, as de Quay played electronic instruments through a Kinect camera placed onstage; a Dance Battle showcasing performers' best urban dance moves; and choreographed dance of eight performers accompanied by de Quay singing and beatboxing. All of these elements came together in one explosive six-minute show, bringing repeat viewers. De Quay observed, "The show attracted a lot of people. I remember seeing kids begging their parent to watch it for the third time in a row."

De Quay will direct a piece for the Ears, Eyes + Feet show at UT Austin in May 2013. Ears, Eyes + Feet showcases the talents of students and faculty from the Department of Theatre and Dance and the Butler School of Music, presenting innovative music, movement, and video art. His performance will tell a romantic story performed by two dancers wearing special sensors. With the help of these sensors, the dancers will produce sound and images every time they come into contact with one another.



University of Porto Students Explore UT



University of Porto Digital Media doctoral program student **Rodrigo Guedes Carvalho** came to Austin from November 25 to December 2 to meet with faculty and discuss prospective research and performance projects. Carvalho's research focuses on the relations between sound, image and movement in real time audiovisual interactive

spaces, including dance and music performances. He is enrolled in his second year of the program and is considering returning to Austin as a visiting researcher in the latter half of 2013.

In preparation for his visit, Carvalho contacted a number of UT faculty from across the university. During his stay he met with Charlie Otte and Yacov Sharir of Theatre and Dance; Ben Bays and Bruce Pennycook of Radio-Television-Film; Xochi Solis of UT's Visual Arts Center; and Rob Turknett, the Digital Media, Arts, and Humanities Coordinator of the Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC). Describing these meetings as "very positive," Carvalho identified potential opportunities for future collaboration on

and toured several of UT's facilities including the TACC Visualization Laboratory, a research hub for human-computer interaction among other research areas and home to Stallion, one of the highest-resolution tiled displays in the world. Also during his visit, Carvalho consulted with João Beira and Yago de Quay, University of Porto students with similar interests who are currently engaged in the dual degree program and are enrolled full-time as doctoral students in Radio-Television-Film.

Another U. Porto Digital Media program student, Henrique Sero, also visited UT this month. Sero's area of research focuses on 3D printing, with the goal of improving Mask Projection Stereolithography (MPSLA) processes by developing a robust, affordable, and user-friendly desktop 3D printing system.

University of Porto Faculty Visit Austin

November saw several Porto program members come to UT Austin—in addition to hosting two exploratory students, the Digital Media program also received University of Porto professors **José Azevedo, Antonio Coelho, and Raul Vidal**, who stayed in Austin several days at the end of the month touring facilities and meeting with a number of faculty. **Azevedo, a professor of Sociology, is the new academic director of the Digital Media doctoral program at U. Porto, assisted by Informatics Engineering professor Coelho, who also leads the Multimedia Master's program there. Vidal heads the Informatics Engineering Department.**

The faculty visited Austin to discuss plans for the 2013-2017 program cycle, focusing especially on the new priorities of videogame research and development, health informatics, stimulating entrepreneurship, and research on Lusophone media and communication. During their visit they met with faculty from across the university including Rosental Alves, holder of the Knight Chair in International Journalism and a frequent instructor at the UTA-P Summer Institute; Keshav Pingali of Computer Sciences, Director for Advanced Computing in the UTA-Portugal program; and Jorge Peña of Communication Studies, a specialist in computer-mediated-communication and co-principal investigator of the INVITE research project. In addition, the U.Porto faculty met with Craig Watkins of Radio-TV-Film, an expert on youth and digital media; Paul Toprac, the Associate Director of UT's new Game Development Program; Don Fussell, the Director for the Laboratory for Real-time Graphics and Parallel Systems in Computer Sciences; and human-computer interaction researcher

Luis Francisco-Revilla, a professor in the School of Information and co-principal investigator on both the REACTION and Project Breadcrumbs projects.

Azevedo, Coelho, and Vidal took part in several tours, learning about the RTF media production facilities and seeing several components of the Texas Advanced Computing Center, which supports "big data" research and visualization interfaces through resources like Longhorn, a 256-node visualization cluster designed to support remote interactive visualization and data analysis. TACC's new system, Stampede, is currently under construction and will be one of the largest high performance computing systems in the world for open scientific research.



José Azevedo, António Coelho and Raul Vidal

The U. Porto visitors also met with Project Director Marco Bravo and UTA-P Program Manager Prentiss Riddle at UT's IC2 Institute, to discuss the program's initiatives to stimulate entrepreneurship during the next five years. They concluded their whirlwind visit by attending the Radio-TV-Film Department happy hour, where they were greeted by many UTA-P visiting researchers and students.

Azevedo expressed great satisfaction with the week's meetings, commenting, "The visit allowed us to contact different academic communities, from journalism and communication to the arts and computer sciences, disciplines which we know may have disparate goals and very different cultures. Yet from the meetings there emerged a mix of ideas that makes us think the next five years could be full of beneficial collaborations." Coelho similarly described the conversations with UT faculty as very valuable, focusing on how upcoming collaboration can draw upon the complementary intellectual assets of research groups at U. Porto and UT: "The identification of common interests between researchers from both universities potentiated the outline of initiatives, already in 2013, that will leverage the strengths of both scientific communities... The University of Texas at Austin hosted

our visit with great sympathy and willingness to launch new bridges of understanding for the near future. " On their last day, the faculty held a final meeting with Digital Media Director Sharon Strover, discussing the exciting new directions the program is taking and outlining plans for the next year.

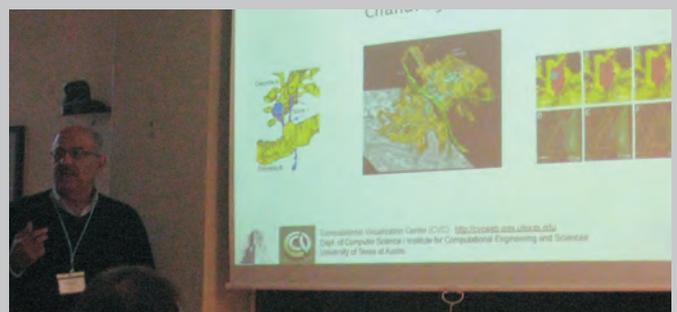


Advanced Computing UT Austin | Portugal Workshop on Modeling and Simulation of Physiological Systems December 6-8, IST, Lisbon

What has been observed and learnt from human physiology (and nature, more generally) is a constant and rich source of wonder, which has often served in proposing solutions to many problems in modern scientific society. Critically, understanding the complex processes of physiological systems is paramount in providing ever improving healthcare and medical assistance. Within the UT Austin | Portugal collaboration program (CoLab) in the area of Advanced Computing, a Workshop on Modeling and Simulation of Physiological Systems was run during the period of December 6-8, 2012, at the Instituto Superior Técnico, Lisbon, Portugal <http://cemat.ist.utl.pt/MSPS2012/>. The workshop was scheduled to coincide with the closing of **project UTAustin/CA/0047/2008 - "Cardiovascular Imaging, Modeling and Simulation: SIMCARD"**.

State of the art in a wide range of research topics regarding physiological systems was addressed, principally in the fields of Advanced Computing and Mathematics. Numerical models and simulations for varied topics included: hemodynamics, mathematical and computational modeling, clinical intervention, computational fluid mechanics, thrombosis, fluid-structure interaction, heart mechanics, continuous and discrete models, experimental studies, medical imaging and processing, cell behavior, prognosis and diagnosis practices.

Participants of different countries attended the workshop comprised of peer academic professors, undergraduate and postgraduate students and medical doctors. A national interest to the event meant that around half the participants were from Portuguese institutions, giving them the possibility of meeting and discussing with eminent researchers with relative ease. The total number of participants was around sixty, with over thirty speakers.



The large set of topics covered was discussed between peers and students, with the input and feedback from medical doctors, giving a vital contribution and resource to accurate modeling and simulation issues. The clinical doctors participating were in turn enthusiastic of the potential resources that modeling and simulation can provide to the medical community. The set of topics covered allowed participants to learn about the state of the art in physiological systems beyond their solid ground of expertise, and often permitted or gave novel insight and solutions to problems to be provided. The presentations were from all levels, from undergraduate students to eminent professors, and medical doctors, giving an open field for exchange throughout the participants.

The CoLab framework will run for a further five years and future events, including topics of HPC applied to physiological systems, are expected. The organizers are grateful and would like to thank the UT Austin|Portugal Program, the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology and CEMAT/IST for support and funding.

■ UTEN CORNER

“ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION: BUILDING PORTUGAL’S FUTURE” - 17TH DECEMBER 2012, LISPOLIS (LISBON, PORTUGAL)



Closing remarks Robert Peterson, Carlos Oliveira and José Manuel Mendonça

The Academy of Finland has conducted a study regarding UTEN and the remaining FCT International Partnership Programs. Final recommendations emerging from this study were that technology transfer, innovation and entrepreneurship activities should be maintained and that UTEN's activity should be extended to cover the whole Portuguese research and innovation system.

Based on such results, UTEN has defined “Entrepreneurship and Technology Commercialization: building Portugal's Future” as the theme for the 2012 UTEN Annual Conference, which took place the 17th December, in Lisbon.

The Conference gathered stakeholders from the entrepreneurship and technology transfer sphere, such as researchers and students, entrepreneurs and investors, industry and policy makers, in a total of 150 participants with a common goal in mind: discussing how a coordinated agenda for entrepreneurship and technology transfer may help create a better future for Portugal.

More than 150 live tweets (visible [here](#) hashtag #UTEN Portugal) posted by the participants, animated the discussion and registered the conference highlights.

During the opening statements, Miguel Seabra, President of the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology, and Leonor Parreira, Secretary of State for Science, declared that UTEN is recognized by stakeholders as well as by the Academy of Finland as a big success. João Guerreiro, in representation of the Council of Rectors of Portuguese Universities, stated that the relation between universities and companies has improved substantially during UTEN Program activity and Robert Peterson, UT Austin –Portugal, expressed that Universities worldwide must be engines for economic growth. José Manuel Mendonça, UTEN Scientific Director, described UTEN as an open network that welcomes new ideas and that a second-generation Program should be build on the lessons of the current one.

Gary Hoover (Founder of Bookstop, Hoover's Inc., TravelFest, and Story Stores), the keynote speaker for the first panel “The entrepreneurial journey”, enticed the participants by affirming that: “Entrepreneurship is not about getting rich but great personal satisfaction in serving others”. Observation and conversation skills, great curiosity and lifelong learning were the attributes that allowed him to create 5 companies, and more will follow. He also described Portugal as an easy country to start a business and for trading across borders. Vinit Nijhawan (Boston University), stated in his speech that “the risky path today is to go work for somebody else”. He also presented his view about the main reasons why entrepreneurs fail: “limited market research, poor hiring, market timing and location”. Nuno Carvalho and Pedro Pissarra understand failure as a step in an entrepreneur's life that will help them reach success later on.

The focus on the US market has been one of the flagships of the UTEN Program and was addressed during UTEN Conference by Helena Vieira, from Bioalvo, and João Barros, from Veniam & Streambolico. They presented the risks and opportunities of scaling a business, based on their experience, and shared some recommendations which might help other Portuguese companies enter the US market.

Emíció Gomes believes that funding the startup phase is still a critical problem in Portugal and that a way to face this problem is to work on innovation networks and most important, long term programs (including special tax rates for technology based spin-offs). Francisco Veloso shared his opinion about the government need to change some of incentives to create competitive universities and to attract and retain talent, suggesting, among others measures, a sabbatical leave for researchers that want to create a company.

As a knowledge network, UTEN chose to dedicate the conference's final panel to "The Power of Technology Transfer Networks". This panel collected valuable inputs and experiences from top level representatives of RedEmprendia, the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM) and ProTon Europe. Views and best practices on how to use networks to promote technology transfer and entrepreneurship, as well as the best organization model for these types of networks were analyzed.

For Senén Barro the success of RedEmprendia, besides the strong support of Santander, is a consequence of the high commitment of the 20 universities that compose the network towards a common goal; fostering entrepreneurship in Ibero-American countries. Laura Schoppe provided tips to attendees on how to build a strong tech transfer portfolio, including information about the AUTM Global Technology Portal to disseminate technologies and connect with relevant marketing targets. Michel Morant also presented his view on how to get value from networks such as ProTon Europe and the importance of working on adequate indicators to measure success in technology transfer.

Technology transfer is not about the money but in creating an engine of innovation and educating the next generation was one of the conclusions of this discussion.

Main findings of the two UTEN studies "The evolution and current scenario of technology transfer" and "The performance of spin-offs linked to Portuguese universities",

■ 3 Day Startup Lisbon

2ND-4TH NOVEMBER 2012 - INSTITUTO SUPERIOR DE ECONOMIA E GESTÃO (ISEG)

The Técnica Entrepreneurship Club, in association with Entrepreneurs Break, have organized the "3-Day Startup Lisbon - 3DS Lisbon", which took place between 2nd-4th November 2012 at the Instituto Superior de Economia e Gestão (ISEG). **The 3 Day Startup is an entrepreneurship education program designed for university students with an emphasis on learning by doing.** Pedro Conceição, one of the members of the event's organizing committee, wanted to be part of the 1st edition of 3DS in Lisbon and considered that the outcome of event was positive. Pedro has complimented the evolution of the ideas, the participants' ability to work under pressure and with very few hours of sleep. According to Pedro Conceição, this event can also play an active role in promoting entrepreneurship.

conducted by Aurora Teixeira, Marlene Grande and Jim Jarred, were also presented and Nordine Es-Sadki compared Portuguese data with France, Spain and the EU average.

José Manuel Mendonça, Robert Peterson and Carlos Oliveira made the closing remarks of the 2012 UTEN Conference. Carlos Oliveira presented the government strategy to foster entrepreneurship, supported in the +E+I Program, and offered some hints about the future program that will continue UTEN's work.



Gary Hoover (Founder of Bookstop, Hoover's Inc., TravelFest, and Story Stores)



2012 UTEN conference opening statements Robert Peterson, João Guerreiro, Leonor Parreira, Miguel Seabra, José Manuel Mendonça

More information about the 2012 UTEN Conference [here](#)



The panel: Pedro Moura (Wishareit and representative of Startup Lisboa), Hugo Macedo (Founders Institute) and Alberto Cunha (TagusPark)

The total of 37 students that included the 3DS Lisbon event formed seven work groups and each group worked on a business idea supervised by mentors, who are experts in different fields. A total of nine mentors participated in this event: **Diogo Cruz** (eMove), **Gregory Cooper** (3-Day Startup), **Joana Mendonça** (Pocketed), **João Rocha** (Live Sketching), **Paulo Pinho** (Planno), **Pedro Balas** (eMove), **Pedro Janela** (WyGroup), **Pedro Moura** (Wishareit), and **Ricardo Sousa** (Switch Conference).

Mentor João Rocha stressed that this was an opportunity to bring together people from different fields (management, design, technology), who otherwise would not have been able to work together as a team. Pedro Moura clarified that these events demonstrate that having a good idea is not enough and entrepreneurs should not look for positive confirmation. Self-criticism and the ability to adapt are critical for any entrepreneur. Joana Mendonça, the only female mentor of the event, characterized the mentoring as a tiring and yet fulfilling activity as the participants were very committed and always paid attention to the comments and suggestions. Joana Mendonça also considered that the 3DS event should be replicated in more cities, especially in the interior regions of Portugal.

Gregory Cooper was thrilled about the event, which he described as “a blast”. The organizers, mentors, and participants were just fantastic -- smart, enthusiastic, and tireless, he stated. Gregory added that each group learned to talk to customers and overcome challenges, and made strong pitch presentations.

Alexander Kustov, who supported the teams in the programming and informatics fields, considered that those who did not leave the event with a project will at least have gathered valuable contacts of people in the entrepreneurship field. Kustov was also impressed by the evolution of the first, often unrealistic pitches, to the final ideas that matured over the 3 days of hard work.

On the third day of the 3DS Lisbon, the seven groups pitched seven business ideas: BLOOMP, CHEF'S LUV, HOME SERVICES, JOBBING YOU, OUTCOOK, TAG MY STEP, and THE GRAIL TALE.

Participant João Troncão (CHEF'S LUV) described the 3DS Lisbon experience as “unforgettable” and highlighted the constructive criticism from all the mentors. The mentors' role is also highly valued by Alex Gonçalves (TAG MY STEP), who that mentors gave participants the exact advice that they needed to hear. Alejandro Artacho (JOBBING YOU) was greatly surprised with what he has learned over the short period of three days, a thought shared by Salim Batlouni (HOME SERVICES) who considered that he gained a much better understating of how a startup should work. Hugo Tavares (BLOOMP) enjoyed working under heavy stress during the three days and felt that working with people with different and complimentary backgrounds was very positive. This idea was also highlighted Ivo Capelo (THE GRAIL TALE) who stated that “the adrenaline and the lack of time really helped us develop something”. But not every participant dreamt of creating their own

startup. Sara Sousa (OUTCOOK), for instance, decided to participate in 3DS Lisbon to understand better how business people think, how they do networking and create business ideas.

Each presentation was followed by the feedback of three renowned panelists: **Alberto Cunha** (TagusPark), **Hugo Macedo** (Founders Institute) and **Pedro Moura** (Wishareit and representative of Startup Lisboa). Alberto Cunha considered that events like the 3DS Lisbon are part of the training component that Universities should offer students. Furthermore, he stated that he is always pleased to hear young people who come up with ideas and create things.

As 3DS Lisbon prizes, the best three pitches will be incubated in technology parks - HOME SERVICES will be incubated at Startup Lisbon, while BLOOMP and TAG MY STEP will be incubated at TagusPark.

All three editions of 3DS in Portugal were actively supported by UTEN Portugal, following the network's mission to promote the development of globally competitive and sustainable infrastructures to commercialize Portuguese technology.

FINAL PITCHES

BLOOMP – Online application which helps improve networking and interaction in real-time.

CHEF'S LUV - Online platform which sells and delivers gourmet dishes designed by professional chefs.

HOME SERVICES – Online service where you can request for and book trustworthy domestic service.

JOBBING YOU - Worldwide online platform that uses an algorithm to match the skills of job candidates to the requirements of job offers.

TAG MY STEP – User-friendly mobile application that tags images created by other users to show points of interest in a city and help users build paths.

THE GRAIL TALE - Mobile “gamified religious” system that intends to bring people back to their community. The system also allows users to self-assess their good deeds.

OUTCOOK – Certified and equipped kitchen space to cook, accommodate clients or accommodate friends.



HOME SERVICES PITCH



BLOOMP PITCH



CHEF'S LUV PITCH



JOBGING YOU PITCH



THE GRAILE TALE PITCH



TAG MY STEP PITCH



OUTCOOK PITCH

■ Events

- **17th International Conference on Tangible, Embedded and Embodied Interaction**

February 2013, Barcelona

TEI 2013 is the seventh international conference dedicated to presenting the latest results in tangible, embedded, and embodied interaction. It will be held 10th to 13th February 2013 at Universitat Pompeu Fabra, in Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain.

The work presented at TEI addresses HCI issues, design, interactive art, user experience, tools and technologies, with a strong focus on how computing can bridge atoms and bits into cohesive interactive systems. 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.

TEI is sponsored by the ACM SIGCHI.

More information at:

<http://tei-conf.org/13>

- **Blender PT Conference 2013 Promoting, Bridging and Sharing Digital 3D**

April 2013, Porto

An event gathering researchers, professionals and freelancers to promote the open-source 3D digital tool Blender, debate about its real impact at an academic and professional level and build bridges between digital 3D communities in a knowledge sharing environment.

More information at:

<http://www.problender.pt/en/conf2013>

- **1st Biometric Recognition with Portable Devices Competition**

26-28 June 2013, Póvoa de Varzim

This competition is part of the ICIAR 2013 - International Conference on Image Analysis and Recognition (<https://www.iciar.uwaterloo.ca/iciar13/>), which will be held in Portugal from the 26th to the 28th of June of 2013.

The competition website with further information can be found at:

<http://www.fe.up.pt/~MobBIO2013/>

- **1st VISion Understanding and Machine Intelligence School**

July 2013, Porto

Visum 2013 is the first VISion Understanding and Machine intelligence (visum) School that targets to gather at Faculdade de Engenharia da Universidade do Porto, Portugal, Ph.D. candidates, Post-Doctoral scholars and researchers from academia and industry with research interests in computational vision and machine intelligence.

More information at:

<http://www.fe.up.pt/visum/>

■ Ongoing Opportunities

- **Advanced Digital Media Mobility Awards**

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

More information at:

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

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.

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