



YOU CAN FIND IN THIS COLABSQUARE EDITION:

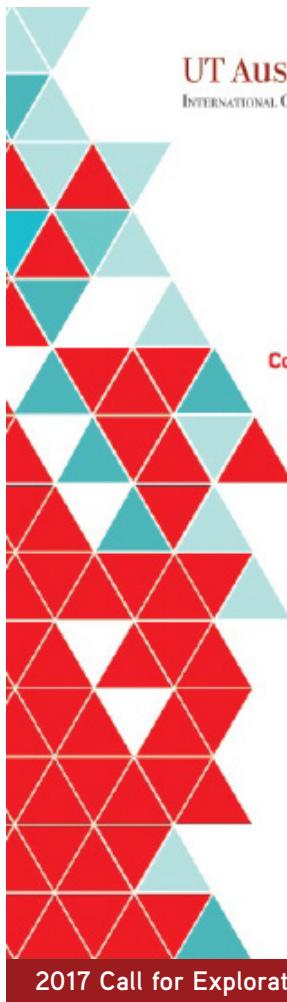
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UT AUSTIN | PORTUGAL PROGRAM 2017 CALL FOR EXPLORATORY PROPOSALS

- The FCT has announced, in January, its 2017 Call for Exploratory R&D Proposals in the UT Austin | Portugal Program. Applications were opened until March 23.

The competition for exploratory research projects under the UT Austin | Portugal Program aims to promote and finance exploratory scientific projects proposed by teams of experts and researchers.

The areas of research are those related to the CoLab's initiative - Research on Emerging Technologies, Digital Media, Advanced Computing, Mathematics and scientific areas defined in the context of the AIR Center (Space Sciences, Clean Technology Energies, Environment, Atmospheric Sciences and Climate Change, Ocean Science, Data Science, Cyber Infrastructures and E-Science).



UT Austin | Portugal
INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATORY FOR EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, CoLab

2017 Call Exploratory Proposals

CoLab Emerging Technologies Research

DIGITAL MEDIA
ADVANCED COMPUTING
APPLIED MATHEMATICS
NANOTECHNOLOGY

Scientific Areas defined in the context of AIR Center

SPACE SCIENCE
CLEAN TECH ENERGY
ENVIRONMENT, ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE,
AND CLIMATE CHANGE
OCEAN SCIENCE
DATA SCIENCE,
CYBER INFRASTRUCTURE, E-SCIENCE

Call open until
March 23th 2017

More information at www.utaustinportugal.org



2017 Call for Exploratory Proposals (Poster)

More info:

<http://www.fct.pt/apoios/projectos/concursos/utaustin/2017/index.phtml.pt>

http://utaustinportugal.org/calls/2017_call_for_exploratory_proposals

PORUGUESE SPACE TECH DELEGATION IN A FOUR-DAY TOUR IN TEXAS

The University of Texas had the pleasure of welcoming the Portuguese Space Tech Delegation Team for four days of space related research facilities.

Pinto, Aerospace Director at EFACEC, and Miguel Santos, Space Projects Director at HPS Portugal.



The Portuguese Space Tech Delegation at the NASA Johnson Space Center, in Houston

In March the delegation traveled to Texas for a four-day tour of space related research facilities, including the University of Texas at Austin, Southwest Research

The Portuguese Space Tech Delegation was created and led by Paulo Ferrão, President of the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology, Emir Sirage, Coordinator of the FCT Space Office, and Fernando Santana, National Director of the UT Austin | Portugal program. Participants included Paulo Santos, Director of the Instituto Pedro Nunes Incubator (IPN), Tiago Pardal, CEO at Omnidia, João Ricardo, Structures Business Manager at Active Space Technologies, Ivo Vieira, CEO at Luso Space, Pedro Sinogas, CEO at Tekever, João Costa

Institute in San Antonio and NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston. The visit was organized and hosted by Robert Peterson, Principal Investigator of the UT Austin | Portugal program and Professor at the McComb's School of Business, Marco Bravo, Co-Principal Investigator and Executive Director NSF I-Corps Southwest Node, and Burke Fort, Associate Director Center for Space Research. UT Austin | Portugal program managers Bruce Flory and Christopher Meyers also participated.



Meeting at the Bay Area Office of Economic Development, near the NASA Johnson Space Center, in Houston

The 2-day program at the University of Texas, began with a daylong agenda that included presentations by Srinivas Bettadpur, Associate Professor at the Department of Aerospace Engineering, Teresa Howard, Research Engineer/Scientist Associate, Jingyi "Ann" Chen, Assistant Professor at the Department of Aerospace Engineering, Dae Young Lee and Joao Encarnação, Postdoctoral fellows, Glenn Lightsey, Founder of Spire – Austin Satellite Design and Lightsey Space Research, Joe Ben, Center of Electro mechanics ,and Niall Gaffney, Matthew Vaughn, and João Barbosa of the Texas Advanced Computing Center.

Tinsley Oden, Director Institute for Computational Engineering and Sciences (ICES) hosted the morning agenda for the second day at the University of Texas and included presentations by Ufuk Topcu, ICES Director, Tan Bui-Thanh and Clint Dawson, Professors at the Department of Aerospace Engineering. The afternoon agenda included presentations by Keshav Pingali and Donal Fussell, Professors at the Department of Computer Sciences, and Clark Wilson, Professor at the Department of Geological Sciences.

On the third day, the delegation traveled to Southwest Research Institute in San Antonio. Southwest Research

Institute® (SwRI®), headquartered in San Antonio, Texas, is one of the oldest and largest independent, non-profit, applied research and development organizations in the United States. SwRI's technical divisions offer a wide range of technical expertise and services in such areas as chemistry, space science, non-destructive evaluation, automation, engine design, mechanical engineering, electronics and more. The Institute has 3,000 researchers, an annual research budget in excess of \$600M, occupies more than 1,200 acres, and provides more than 2 million square feet of laboratories, test facilities, workshops and offices.

SwRI presentations by Don George, Cubesat mission to trans-lunar space, Susan Pope, CYGNSS mission for measuring cyclone wind speeds, Simone Marchi and Catherine Olkin, the Lucy mission to Jovian Trojan asteroids, Heather Elliot and Maher Dayeh, Solar Wind and Heliosphere surveys, and James Walker and Donald Gorsch, hypervelocity impact studies, discussed ongoing research and collaboration opportunities with international organizations.

The last stop for the Portuguese Delegation Team was Houston, Texas, and a visit to the renowned NASA Johnson Space Center. Before visiting the space center, the delegation was hosted by Bay Area Houston, an economic partnership organization in the Johnson Space Center area, to discuss opportunities for international companies to participate in the overall space mission and related research. A number of speakers, including John James, Technology Transfer Specialist for NASA, and company executives from Teledyne and Emergent Space Technologies, discussed ideas for connecting and on-ramping Portuguese researchers through related contracts and programs.

The meeting, led by Kamlesh Lulla, Ph.D. NASA's Director of University Research and Partnership office, validated that opportunities do exist for international collaboration and revealed a number of avenues Portugal could employ to connect Portuguese Universities and Researchers with space related challenges and programs. This message echoed the sentiment espoused by the University of Texas at Austin and Southwest Research Institute in San Antonio - while not without challenges, international collaboration is not only possible; it is welcomed and needed by individual companies and governmental agencies.

The day culminated with an arranged tour of the NASA Johnson Space Center. The Space Center continues to be a hub of innovation and advancement for space exploration and rich in the History of Mankind's journey to the stars.

BRIAN A. KORGEL OF THE UT AUSTIN | PORTUGAL PROGRAM HAS CO-CURATED AN ART EXHIBITION

■ Science and art collided at the **Omnibus Filing** exhibit, an art installation located at the University of Texas' Visual Arts Center.

Omnibus Filing was an exhibition of artworks, inventions, prototypes and cross-disciplinary research that celebrated what happens when you embed artists into research laboratories. It showcased a new approach to innovation that combines arts, sciences and engineering in a fully collaborative process, where UT professors worked with artists to create an interactive art exhibit.

The exhibit was the result of an ongoing three-year project between Chemical Engineering Professor, Dr. Brian A. Korgel, Visiting Art Assistant Professor Dr. James Sham and artists Daniel Bozhkov, Steven Brower and Patrick Killoran.

The exhibition was at the Visual Arts Center in UT Austin from January 27 to February 24.

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Omnibus Filing interactive exhibit was named for the legal term describing a collection of unrelated ideas brought together in a single patent application. With a mandate to inhabit a variety of research environments, each artist in this exhibition was introduced to a number of scientists and embedded into unfamiliar contexts to produce these projects.

The exhibition's premise began with the idea that artists are everyday innovators, whether they invent a new way to use a material or create machines and processes to realize visions.

Acknowledging that both the laboratory and the innovation process could vastly benefit from interdisciplinarity's creative disruption, Assistant Professor Dr. James Sham and Dr. Brian A. Korgel devised a program called Rapid Design Pivot, which embeds artists into laboratory environments to conduct creative projects alongside and in collaboration with IT researchers.

The artists in the exhibition have worked in various laboratories from 2016 to 2017 with the mandate to collaborate, cross-pollinate and catalyse innovation with UT researchers and scientists.

By training the artists in the basic skills required to function semi-independently within the laboratory environment, the effects and outcomes have been widespread and varied in nature. Some projects materialize as contemporary art installations while

others manifest as research papers, prototypes and demonstrations of emerging technology.

Exhibits include a robot that drops seeds to write out robot-related poems, wearable boots wirelessly paired to speakers that squeak loudly in response to movement and a scientific manuscript printed on a stack of full-sized blankets on the floor where visitors are encouraged to relax.

More info:

<http://utvac.org/exhibitions/omnibus-filing>

[http://korgel.che.utexas.edu/korgel-group/
Omnibusfiling.pdf](http://korgel.che.utexas.edu/korgel-group/Omnibusfiling.pdf)



Patrick Killoran's Work: Shoes that respond to movement creating a sound installation entirely based on engagement | Credits: Visual Arts Center, UT Austin



Visitors at the **Omnibus Filling** interactive art exhibition | Credits: Visual Arts Center, UT Austin



From left to right - Artists: Daniel Bozhkov, Steven Brower and Patrick Killoran. Curators: James Shaw and Brian A. Korgel.

CREATIVE ECONOMY UNDER DISCUSSION AT U. PORTO MEDIA INNOVATION LABS

■ Professor Bruno Feijó, of the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio), gave a lecture on Creative Economy on February 8, at U. Porto Media Innovation Labs (MIL).

ABOUT THE LECTURE

The session entitled “Research, Innovation and Education in the Creative Economy” was held at U. Porto Media Innovation Labs and was based on the research carried out by the Digital Entertainment group of the Computer Science Department of the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio) on the results and models proposals of innovation and education in the direction of a new creative content industry. Innovative results from the same research group on Games, VFX and Interactive Storytelling were also presented.

This initiative was part of the activities of the U. Porto Media Innovation Labs, Center of Competences of the University of Porto for the media area, whose mission is to further develop the capacity of the university in the field of media, teaching, research and innovation, promoting interdisciplinary collaboration between existing university structures and articulation with external partners.

BIO OF PROF. BRUNO FEIJÓ

Bruno Feijó is an Associate Professor of the Computer Science Department of PUC-Rio, in the group of computer graphics and digital entertainment, and Coordinator of ICAD/Vision Lab of PUC-Rio, research and development laboratory in Visualization, Cinema/Digital TV, Games and Studies of technological innovation processes.

His interdisciplinary research is pioneering in Brazil in the areas of CAD, Animation, Special Effects and Games, with proposals for innovation and education that go from High School to Research Institutions. He helped to create the Academic Community of Digital Games and Entertainment in the country and was the first President of the Special Committee of the Brazilian Computer Society in this area.

He has also participated in public policy proposals on I&D and Innovation in visualization and production of digital content. He has a degree in Aeronautical Engineering (ITA) and a PhD from Imperial College (University of London). He has recently been an Associate Research Scientist at Columbia University (New York).



FIRST SMART DATA SPRINT 2017

The first SMART Data Sprint was held on January 23 to 27 at INOVA Media Lab – New University of Lisbon | Faculty of Human and Social Sciences.

SMART Data Sprint was an intensive hands-on work workshop, driven by social media data on a particular topic. This first data sprint was dedicated to the current debate of Data Journalism on Social Media and it was organized by one of the four applied research groups of the iNOVA Media Lab (an experimental laboratory dedicated to research, development and production in the fields of narrative, innovation and technologies): SMART – Social Media Research Techniques.



Preparations for the First SMART Data Sprint

SMART aims to conduct exploratory studies on connecting practices by using digital methods and designing social media research techniques. The main focus of SMART is on social platforms and practical studies. The fields of Journalism, Pop Culture and Digital Activism will guide exploratory studies in the first year of production (2016/2017).



Janna Joceli short talk on data analysis

The organization of the first SMART Data Sprint was the responsibility of the SMART Members (PhD, Masters and Erasmus Students): Elsa Caetano, Vanessa Amaral, Rodrigo Silva, Kalina Drenská and Ilo Aguiar. The coordination of the event was supported by Janna Joceli (coordinator of the SMART group study) and by Prof. Paulo Nuno Vicente (coordinator of iNOVA Media Lab).

Within the SMART Data Sprint workshop were created four working groups (who made use of digital methods for collecting, visualizing and analysing data) with projects on different platforms (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) who sought to answer the question: What is the data journalism debate on social media? To answer this question each of the four groups analysed the corresponding social network based on a set of previously defined questions.



Group sprinting with data

The reports of each project will be published in the SMART Wiki (which will be launched in March) in the iNOVA Media Lab's website (<https://inovamedialab.org/>).

Of note is the participation of Ana Pinto Martinho (ISCTE - IUL), invited to give a talk about Data Journalism on the first day of the event.

A new SMART Data Sprint is planned for January 2018.

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS OF EACH WORKING GROUP:

FACEBOOK (GROUPS):

- What findings can be achieved by applying critical analytics and engagement metrics in Facebook Group Studies?
- How the debate around Data Journalism have changed over the years? Are early concerns still up to date?
- Who are the key actors?
- What is the role URLs play on Facebook Group Studies?

FACEBOOK (Page Like Network):

- Is there a community of Data Journalism on Facebook?
- Do the pages interact with each other?
- Are these pages sharing content of each other?
- Are these pages promoting significant debate?

INSTAGRAM:

- How data journalism is represented on Instagram?
- Regarding hashtag usage culture, which hashtags are persistent/predominant over the years?
- What sort of debate the visual content implies over the years?

TWITTER:

- Can we identify whether the debate were related to the documents themselves or users subverting the hashtag original sense?
- Regarding Tweets' mentions, what associated debate raises more concerns among users?
- Can data analysis of a small sample indicate or guide to significant insights?

VERÓNICA ORVALHO WINS THE WOMEN STARTUP CHALLENGE IN NEW YORK

- Professor at the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Porto (FCUP) is an international example of innovation with the startup "My Didimo".

Verónica Orvalho won the first place in the 4th edition of the competition “Women Startup Challenge VR and AI”, after presenting My Didimo, a technology-based startup born at the University of Porto that allows anyone to create an avatar that speaks and moves in a virtual world.



Verónica Orvalho after winning “Women Startup Challenge” competition. Credits: FCUP

My Didimo let's you create virtual 3D characters (avatars) from a single photo taken with a mobile phone. In just 2 minutes you have a lifelike avatar that can speak, move and represent you in a 3D world. The technology can be used in movies, video games, but also in medicine, in sports or in retail. In 2015, the technology had already been honored with an iUP25k award at the “Business Ideas Competition” of the University of Porto.

The idea to create My Didimo emerged in mid-2010, when the team sought to develop a technology that would automatically create “virtual avatars”. It was with the “FaceDecode” project that they applied, in 2015, to iUP25k and realized the highly scalable dimensions of the project. After winning the iUP25k program, the goal

was to put the product on the market, start a business and market the technology.

The final of the international competition took place in New York and it was sponsored by the US organization “Woman Who Tech”, with the partnership of Craig Newmark, founder of Craigslist (online communities network that offers classifieds and local forums for jobs, sales, relations, services). The “Women Startup Competition” aims to showcase the most disruptive and value-added projects developed by female entrepreneurs in the areas of virtual reality and artificial intelligence. The event also aims to support the development and expansion on stage by facilitating contact with investment agents.

In the competition, the ten finalists – chosen from more than 200 candidates – had the challenge of presenting their respective projects to an international panel of investors such as Kate Shillo (Investor at Galvanize Ventures), Kai Bond (Investor at Comcast Ventures and Catalyst Fund) and Lisa Stone (co-founder of BlogHer and Entrepreneur). Each startup had 4 minutes to pitch their venture and 4 minutes of Q&A with the judges.

The awards ceremony took place on February 15 at Google’s New York facility and My Didimo, the only Portuguese finalist in the competition, won a prize of \$ 50 000 (about 47 thousand euros).

With this award, Verónica Orvalho will continue to develop a pioneering technology in the world. Investing in marketing strategy and in product development for the end user are now the two priorities of the Portuguese Researcher.

VERÓNICA ORVALHO

CREDITS: FCUP

Born in Argentina, Verónica Orvalho holds a degree in Software Engineering from the University of Belgrano in Buenos Aires. She holds a master in Video Game Development at Universitat Pompeu Fabra, in Barcelona, and has a PhD in Computer Science from the University of Catalonia. Professor of the Department of Computer Science at the Faculty of Sciences of U. Porto since 2008, she has extensive experience in the computer graphics industry.

She focused her research work on “Facial Ridding”, a system that aims to make the facial expression, in animation cinema, more realistic.

To know more about My Didimo:

<https://www.mydidimo.com>



INTERACTIVE STORYTELLING FOR MILLENNIALS: THE POWER OF COLLABORATIVE WORK (LECTURE)

This lecture showed, through examples, how to create innovative and irreverent content to capture the attention of an increasingly difficult audience and how to make the community part of the society's advancement through information.

On the 7th of March, Mariana Moura Santos was invited by U. Porto Media Innovation Labs to give a lecture entitled "Interactive Storytelling for Millennials: The power of collaborative work".

Mariana Moura Santos first highlighted the importance of a multidisciplinary team to develop interactive stories, which necessarily needs to involve professionals from the areas of Technology, Publishing, and Art/Design. She then described the teams involved and the processes behind several examples of interactive storytelling projects that gave life to journalistic works such as '**All the time everyday**' and '**Fertile Ground**' using storytelling and gamification in journalism. Mariana Moura Santos also showed projects involving virtual reality experiences such '**Greenland, where climate change meets the eye: A 360 VR experience**'.

This lecture was part of the activities promoted at U.



Mariana Moura Santos's presentation about Interactive Storytelling

Porto Media Innovation Labs, Center of Competences of the University of Porto for the Media area, whose mission is to further develop the capacity of the University in the field of Media, by promoting interdisciplinary collaboration between existing university structures and articulation with external partners.

ABOUT MARIANA MOURA SANTOS

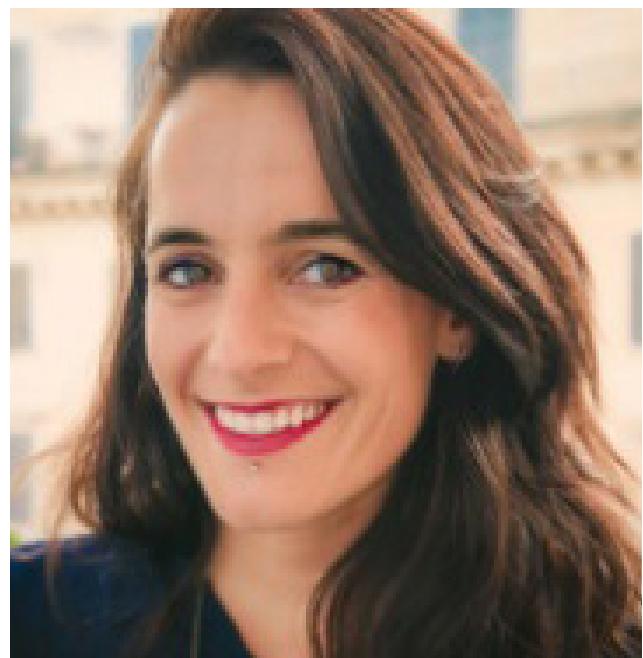
Mariana Moura Santos is a Portuguese Woman Entrepreneur and Co-Founder and CEO of Unicorn Interactive, an independent digital design and storytelling agency. She is also the Co-Founder and CEO of "Chicas Poderosas" (www.chicaspoderosas.org) a community of digital training, empowerment and leadership to increase the number of women journalists working in Technology in the media.

Until August 2016, she was Director of Interactivity and Animation in Fusion Media (a partnership between Univision & Disney/ABC) and Head of Innovation Knight in Florida International University.

In 2015, she was Fellow of the JSK Journalism Fellowship in Stanford.

In 2014, she was Fellow Knight International Journalism, where she worked throughout Latin America in large newsrooms and with independent journalists.

Mariana Santos is a storyteller who did an innovative



job as member of the interactive team of The Guardian newspaper in London. With an animation background, she pioneered the use of motion graphics in the Guardian newspaper to make the data stories more attractive.

She leads Thought Design Workshops to increase the multidisciplinary approach to storytelling and is a leader in transforming the community through digital training.

To know more about Mariana Moura Santos: <https://pt.linkedin.com/in/marysaints>

DIGITAL MEDIA DOCTORAL STUDENTS NEWS

UT AUSTIN HOSTS TWO VISITING RESEARCHERS

Digital Media Doctoral Students Jaqueline Silva and Ilo Aguiar, both from FCSH-UNL, are visiting UT Austin, this Spring, as official Visiting Researchers.

JAQUELINE SILVA



Jaqueline Silva, a PhD Student in Digital Media at FCSH-UNL, is currently in Austin, since January, as a Visiting Researcher. Her research is focused on the impact of Digital Media and Technology on Female Entrepreneurship.

She has had several meetings in the RTF Department (Department of Radio-Television-Film) at UT Austin as well as at the McCombs School of Business to find partners for the research projects she has in mind.

She was invited to be a founding member of the Austin Women Entrepreneurs Society to give her academic input.

ILO AGUIAR



Ilo Aguiar, a PhD Student in Digital Media at FCSH-UNL, is also in Austin, during the Spring Semester (from January to June), as a Visiting Researcher.

His main goal is to advance in the bibliographic review of his doctoral thesis on Data Journalism, entitled "Comparing and evaluating Data-driven Journalism: how the audience interacts with data visualization", and to collect and analyse audience data from "The Texas Tribune" newspaper, one

of the three newspapers under study in the scope of his doctoral thesis (along with the portuguese newspaper "Público" and the brazilian newspaper "O Globo").

On this visit to the University of Texas, Ilo Aguiar will also be studying "Immersive Media Production", "Social Media Research Methods" and "Mapping in Storytelling". The PhD student already had meetings and productive talks with

some professors such as Rosental Alves and R. B. Brenner, who helped him to outline his work and to choose the courses he is currently attending at the UT Austin.

In April, Ilo Aguiar will participate in the 18th International Symposium on Online Journalism, which will take place on April 21st and 22nd at the UT Austin.

UT AUSTIN WELCOME THREE EXPLORATORY RESEARCHERS IN APRIL

Credits: UT AUSTIN

The Digital Media Doctoral Students **António Baía Reis**, **Ivo Vaz** and **Süse Ribeiro** are visiting UT Austin, in April, as official Exploratory Researchers.



António Baía Reis, a Digital Media Doctoral Student at the University of Porto, will visit UT Austin, in April, as an Exploratory Researcher. His main goal is to conduct an audience reception study that consists of analyzing, in various dimensions, people's response to a selected series of immersive news pieces. Additionally he seeks to understand the ways in which audiences respond to immersive news pieces in domains such as exposure, engagement, insights, uses, gratifications and cultural awareness. He will visit R. B. Brenner among other faculty.



Ivo Vaz, also a Doctoral Student from the University of Porto, is interested in research related to human-computer interaction, tangible media and technological accessibility. His research aims to design a multi-sensory environment for a museum, in order to enhance exhibitions' accessibility – especially for the blind and visual impaired visitors. He is also interested on researching how to develop an interactive interface to communicate museological themes as related to the samples in the exhibition.



Süse Ribeiro, from the University of Porto, is a Digital Media Doctoral Student with expertise in Acoustic Engineering, Performing Arts, as well as the Visual Arts. She will visit Bruce Pennycook at the Butler School of Music (College of Fine Arts) and the Center for Arts and Entertainment Technologies.

MEET FLORENCE & OTHER SCHEMES

Every day, Florence & Other Schemes selects the best events, references, tools and academic content for its followers on Facebook and on Twitter. The project's goal is to share what really matters in INFORMATION VISUALIZATION.

Florence & Other Schemes is an online space to discussion and reflection for Information Visualization enthusiasts: a space to debate and value the production of Information Visualization in Portugal and abroad.

The project is lead by Ana Figueiras, a UT Austin | Portugal Digital Media PhD Graduate, Ilo Aguiar, a UT Austin | Portugal Digital Media PhD Student and Sara Figueiras, a Fine Arts PhD Student at the University of Lisbon, who are all doing research in Information Visualization.

By disseminating articles, websites, tools and other resources of interest, the promoters expect it creates a space for dialogue between researchers, students, teachers, journalists and data analysts.

The project aims to enhance the meeting of stakeholders in the area of Information Visualization, in order to promote the exchange of knowledge, ideas and projects, bridging the gap between academic production and commercial production.

The project is in the phase of the Community building. Soon the team counts on moving forward with informal meetings, with specialized guests in this theme, bringing different approaches and different points of view.

Get to know Florence & Other Schemes:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/florenceotherschemes/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/florenceviz>

THE FACES BEHIND THE FLORENCE & OTHER SCHEMES

ANA FIGUEIRAS



Ana Figueiras is a PhD Graduate in Digital Media from FCSH-UNL, under the UT Austin | Portugal Digital Media PhD Program. She has a master's degree in New Media and Web Practice and holds a degree in Communication Sciences from the same university. She does research in the area of information visualization, namely in Narrative Visualization. Ana is particularly interested in visual forms of storytelling and how to introduce narrative features into visualizations.

ILO AGUIAR



Ilo Aguiar also holds a master in New Media and Web Practice from FCSH-UNL and he is currently a PhD doctoral student under the UT Austin | Portugal Digital Media PhD Program. He is a journalist from Fortaleza, in Brazil. His research focuses on the interactive visualization of data, namely on what is currently done in data-driven journalism in Portugal and Brazil.

SARA RODRIGUES



Sara Rodrigues is a communication designer, a teacher and a Master in Communication Design and New Media at the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lisbon (FBAUL-UNL). She currently attends the 3rd year of PhD in the field of interactive information visualization. Her research focuses on making graphical decisions for the design of information visualization interfaces.

PhD Conclusions

DIANA ALISSA CHESTER

Thesis: Creative Response – A New Look at Archiving: The Role Artists Play in Developing Creative Response from Field Recordings of Ethnographic Research

My dissertation explores the separation between practice and theory in the academy, and proposes a paradigm that presumes there is a benefit that results from unifying these two approaches for inquiry and analysis. By exploring the boundaries of and employing methods and techniques from the disciplines of Digital Media, Ethnographic Studies, and Archival Studies, my research aims to identify new pathways revealed through this hybrid disciplinary approach.

I began my research by looking at creative responses to material of sensitive expressive culture that I created, either by myself or collaboratively, in three different case studies; The Theyyam Festival in Kerala, India; Lest We Forget, a vernacular photography archive in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, and the Sonic Storyboard, an exhibition and sound map that explores the call to prayer from mosques around the world. Within my thesis I reflect on each of these case studies of creative response and ask the question: What did the creative responses contribute to the preservation and sustainability of cultural heritage? What were some of the limitations and challenges of using creative response? And finally, what larger “lessons” about the role creative response might play in the future of archives, can I draw from these case studies?

I use two related but separate methodologies in my dissertation. The first, ethnography, pertains to my method of data collection, while the second, digital ethnography, pertains to my method for analysis of that data.

This research project began out of a problem I experienced when trying to engage in intercultural exchange with the communities where I conducted research. I was writing academic papers about my experiences researching within these communities and I felt that the academic authoritative approach was not enough and did not allow for the type of engagement I sought. We have certain standards that govern ethnographic research, which help to



guide the way academics interact and engage with communities, cultures, and people whom they are researching. Traditionally, the role of ethnographer has been understood as one who observes, describes, and documents cultural practices and artifacts for purposes of preservation.

By ceding opportunity for engagement to the community whom they are observing, and by engaging the community in creative response projects like developing oral histories in response to old family photographs, the ethnographer is no longer folklorizing or archiving their ethnographic research, rather they are creating a type of preservation that allows for inclusion of the nuanced details of the community, their interactions, inter-generational dynamics, and the impact of the evolution of the community in the context of the changing landscape and climate of the world. This approach to ethnographic research and documentation moves away from traditional observation-based preservation and toward an approach that engages a community in their own preservation.

When we produce an academic artifact or paper it is meant to communicate a very specific area of study to a very specific community, which does not tend to include the communities with whom I partner in my research. An Artwork however is something that speaks for itself without explanation. It is something one can relate to without explanation even if one relates to it differently than it was intended to be received. Through creative response I am not only acknowledging my subjectivity I am

bringing that subjectivity to my work and research. I am showing this to the people with whom I am working in the same way that they are sharing their festival and lives with me. This creates a leveling of the playing field by giving back in the way I am receiving, and this is what allows for resonance between cultures.

By comparing and contrasting these three case studies I was able to draw conclusions about the role creative response can play in archiving and collections development, as well as the relationship between creative response and mediating human interaction in ethnographic research. By placing these three case studies in conversation with one another I was better able to identify the findings of my research, which include: 1) the role and

impact of creative response on intergenerational archive building, 2) The Ethical Considerations of the Outsider-Insider approach to research, 3) The role of human mediation in creative response, and 4) The role of Technological mediation in creative response.

The major contribution of this study is an approach to artistic practice mediated by digital media technologies using materials of sensitive expressive culture, and the contributions of the resulting creative work on the sustainability and preservation of cultural heritage and traditions. The process of creative response is both intellectual and creative in its nature; it is an ideal hybrid of the theoretical and practical elements of the way that we think and function as human beings.

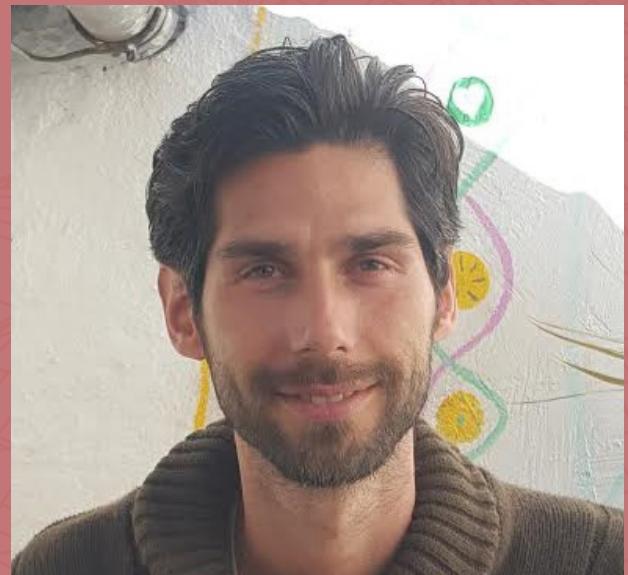
GUSTAVO MAGALHÃES

Thesis: Value creation and barriers in the commercial use of open government data

With most of the work done in the U.S., particularly its empirical part, my PhD research focused on the commercial use of open government data to develop new products and services or to achieve competitive advantage.

The basic premise of open government data is that the release of public sector data in an open and machine readable format may be of significant value to non-governmental actors— citizens, non-profit organizations, and the private sector —who can use it for a variety of political, social, and commercial purposes. Accordingly, open government data is seen as a potential driver of efficiency in the private and public sector, increased transparency, citizen participation, and innovation.

Although the use of public sector data by firms has existed for decades, it was only more recently, with the widespread of data technologies and the implementation of Open Government principles in governments around the world that it became the subject of attention to both scholars and practitioners. In this context, the goal of my dissertation was to understand how private-sector organizations create value from open government data, and to identify the main barriers that hinder



the commercial use of the data.

Drawing on two distinct qualitative studies in which various firms that use open government data were analyzed, the research advances the extant knowledge theory in the commercial use of open government data. In addition, based on our findings, my thesis offers a set of proposals for entrepreneurs or intrapreneurs to be more informed about how value can be derived from datasets in a commercial setting. Simultaneously, it provides government officials with relevant suggestions about which aspects need closer attention in the implementation of open government data strategies, in particular those attempting to foster private sector innovation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

■ MADEIRA 6th FILM FESTIVAL

Date: April 17-23, 2017

Venues: Reid's Palace Hotel & Teatro Municipal Baltazar, Funchal, Madeira, Portugal

More Information: <https://www.facebook.com/madeirafilmfestival>
<https://twitter.com/MadeiraFilmFest>

■ 18th INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ONLINE JOURNALISM

Date: April 21-22, 2017

Venue: Auditorium of the University of Texas at Austin's Blanton Museum of Art

More Information: <http://www.isojo.org/>

■ 11º ANNUAL DIGITAL MEDIA SUMMER INSTITUTE

Date: June 5 – July 14

Venue: iNOVA Media Lab (FCSH - UNL, Lisbon) and U. Porto Media Innovation Labs (University of Porto)

Topics include: Production of Immersive Short Documentaries, Augmented Reality for Storytelling, Entrepreneurial Journalism, Environmental Communication and Imagery, Digital Archiving, Digital Humanities Research and a workshop in Visual Connectivity.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

■ CALL FOR PARTICIPATION: EICS 2017 DOCTORAL CONSORTIUM (DC)

EICS 2017 invites submissions to the Doctoral Consortium. The Doctoral Consortium (DC) provides an opportunity for PhD students to present their research goals as well as intermediate results and to discuss them with leading experts in the field as well as with peers. Students will receive feedback on the quality of their presentation and on the proposed research itself. Students can be in intermediate or advanced stages of their research, but should not have completed their work yet, and should thus still be able to take feedback from the Consortium into account.
Application Deadline: April 17, 2017

EICS 2017 DOCTORAL CONSORTIUM (DC): June 26, 2017

Venue: Rectorate Building of New University of Lisbon (UNL)

More information: <http://eics.acm.org/2017/>

■ ADVANCED DIGITAL MEDIA MOBILITY AWARDS

Support for Digital Media doctoral students making exploratory visits UT Austin

Deadline: Open (Please apply at least 6 weeks before your desired arrival date)

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

MORE OPPORTUNITIES can be found at FCT website: <http://www.fct.pt/concursos/>

USEFUL LINKS

www.utaustinportugal.org

www.fct.pt

www.utexas.edu

www.ic2.org

www.ati.utexas.edu

www.austin-chamber.org

www.utenportugal.org

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