

## eHealth Researchers Convene in Lisbon: UT Austin | Portugal Digital Bits for February 2015

UT-Austin | Portugal Digital Media Program <updates@utaustinportugal.org>  
Reply-To: updates@utaustinportugal.org

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### eHealth Researchers Convene in Lisbon

The Digital Media Program organized an eHealth Research Symposium on February 6 at UNL-FCT. The meeting attracted about 60 attendees and brought together students and faculty members from UT Austin and Portuguese universities including UNL, U. Porto, and the Lusophone University of Humanities and Technologies. Researchers gave presentations on topics including smartwatches for health tracking and interventions, using messages to increase physical activity in dialysis patients, evaluating consumers' understanding of online health information, improving prenatal health communication with male consumers, and integrated personal health records. Other presentations addressed techniques for health information retrieval, training and scientific publishing in the field, and opportunities for future research collaborations.

The Symposium took place during the visit of several UT faculty members who are

### **MOVE! Coming in March**

Dual degree doctoral students João Beira and Yago de Quay and visiting researcher Rodrigo Carvalho are contributing to **MOVE!**, a performance presented by the UT Department of Theater and Dance from March 6-14. The students are collaborating with UT faculty members Yacov Sharir and Bruce Pennycook in the production of Sharir's *AdMortuos*, an exploration of virtual environments with computerized choreography.

### **Cláudia Silva Returns to Local Community Foundation**

UNL doctoral student Cláudia Silva returned to Austin this semester and is working at the River City Youth Foundation in Dove Springs, a community on the outskirts of Austin. Silva, who worked extensively with the organization during her dissertation research, is serving as an instructor in the TechComunidad program, training families to use various digital devices. About 80 families have participated in this digital inclusion program so far. Silva is in the final stages of her

dissertation.

collaborating on research projects with their Portuguese colleagues. The day concluded with an industry presentation from Pedro Pinto, CEO of Take the Wind, the company behind the cutting-edge 3D medical simulator Body Interact. A full program of the event including slide presentations, research project synopses, and biographies is available [online](#).



### **Nuno Correia and Mónica Mendes Visit for New Agendas Conference**

Mónica Mendes, an alumna of the Digital Media doctoral program, and Nuno Correia, the program's academic director in Lisbon, came to Austin for the Moody College of Communication's New Agendas Conference on February 26-28.

The annual conference features

the research of emerging scholars in different areas. The 2015 conference focused on immersive media and was planned by Sharon Strover. Mendes, who is now a professor at the University of Lisbon, presented some of her dissertation research in a talk titled "Creating Immersive Experiences of Nature Using Networked Surveillance." Correia served as a conference discussant. During their stay, the two visitors also met with several Digital Media doctoral students. A program of the New Agendas Conference is [here](#).

### **Magalhães Participates in Open Data Day at World Bank**

**Bank** U. Porto doctoral student

Gustavo Magalhães

collaborated with Joel Gurin, founder of the Center for Open Data Enterprise, to lead a workshop at Open Data Day at the World Bank in Washington,

DC. The workshop, "The Business Case for Open Data," gave participants the opportunity to use a draft of Open Data Enterprise Canvas, a tool Magalhães has developed. Using this tool, participants studied how open data can be integrated into new and existing business models. Magalhães, who has previously worked with Code for America and NYU's GovLab during his dissertation research, is a visiting researcher at UT Austin.



### **Strover and Alves Attend NEM Portugal Launch**

Sharon Strover of the Digital Media Program and Rosental Alves, the Director of the Knight

### **Students Coming to Austin**

Several students from UNL and U. Porto are planning short visits to Austin this spring. Among them are Ivo Teixeira of U. Porto, arriving March 8, and Rui Leitão, also of U. Porto, who will arrive April 4. Other students planning exploratory visits include UNL students Sandro Dias, arriving March 29, and Ilo Aguiar, Madalena Miranda, and Carla Saraiva, arriving April 4.

Center for Journalism in the Americas, attended the kickoff



of New European Media-Portugal in late January. NEM Portugal is a developing platform for the discussion of national research on new media technologies, content production and innovation. The initiative is led by INESC, working with ADDICT Creative Industries Portugal and [TICE.PT](#), and will mirror a larger, existing version

that spans Europe and includes major telecommunications and media companies in addition to research organizations.

Alves served as a keynote speaker for the kickoff event, talking about the importance of partnerships between technology companies and content producers. At the conclusion of the program, Strover and NEM Portugal representatives signed a document recognizing the commitment to future collaboration between NEM Portugal and UT Austin-Portugal.

**UT-Austin | Portugal Digital Media Program**

University of Texas at Austin  
Department of Radio-TV-Film  
2504 Whitis Ave. A0800  
Austin, TX 78712-1067  
[www.utaustininportugal.org](http://www.utaustininportugal.org)