

UT Austin | Portugal INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATORY FOR EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, CoLAB



SUMMER INSTITUTE 2013

Lisbon Summer Institute Courses Announced

Three Summer Institute courses are scheduled in Lisbon to begin next week.

Rosental Alves of UT's Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas will teach Entrepreneurial Journalism this year in a three-week course beginning on May 20. The course is expected to include online and offline components. Students will look at how digital media has affected the processes of production, distribution, and consumption in the news industry, and study specific examples of innovative journalism projects that have taken advantage of the opportunities offered by digital platforms.

Research Methods, led by Sharon Strover, will begin the week of May 20 as well. Students will study the basics of conducting systematic research, relying on a social sciences methodological approach. The course will address theoretical aspects of research such as epistemology, conceptualization, and measurement, and also introduce students to specific methods including focus groups, interviews, online and offline surveys, field experiments, ethnography, and other Internet-oriented approaches. This course will be very helpful for students constructing their research proposals and embarking on their doctoral projects.

A new three-week course on human-computer interaction and interactive media has been added to the Summer Institute this year and will begin June 12. Led by UT doctoral candidate William Moner, the course will focus on using the tools of the web to create a story. Students will employ proprietary and open source software to design a narrative experience that communicates the story of a place, such as a home town, using the web as a data source for materials and platforms. The course will address both theory and



production and will include discussion of mobile devices, remix culture, and transmedia storytelling.

Games Course Announced for Porto

A course on videogames has been announced for the Summer Institute program in Porto. The course will be comprised of both virtual and traditional classroom instruction, and on-site meetings will be conducted from June 17 to June 29. Informatics Engineering professor Antonio Coelho, who heads the Multimedia Masters program at U. Porto, will lead the course collaboratively with UT Austin's Bruce Pennycook, a faculty member in the Department of Radio-TV-Film and the Butler School of Music. Coelho visited UT in November 2012 with U. Porto professors José Azevedo and Raul Vidal to meet with Austin faculty and discuss opportunities for collaborative teaching and research on games. Pennycook has taught numerous courses for the Digital Media program in the past, including long-semester courses Multimedia in Performing and Generative and Automatic Music, and a variety of Summer Institute courses. He is also a key member of the new Game Development program at UT.

All the information about Summer Institute 2013 can be found at http://utaustinportugal.org/news/Digital_Media_Summer_Institute_2013

■ MORE SPRING EXPLORATORY VISITS

Four exploratory visitors came to UT during the last weeks of the spring semester. The most recent visitors included U. Porto students Cláudia Lima, Rita Sá, Daniel Catalão, and Pedro Suspiro. The students represent a broad range of research interests, from public libraries and social media outreach to online journalism, community art spaces, and interface design.

Sá and Lima visited Austin in the last week of March. Lima plans to make a comparative study of Porto and Austin libraries' online outreach strategies, and address the differing conceptualizations of public libraries in Portugal and the US. During her visit she met with Toni Grasso, marketing manager of Austin Public Library, and other staff there to learn about how the library uses web platforms, especially social media, for user outreach. Additionally, she met with Radio-TV-Film Department assistant professor Caroline Frick, an expert on online media archives and preservation, and with faculty at the School of Information.



Cláudia Lima

Sá's visit also included off-campus research. To pursue her study of art practice in open community environments, she visited ATX Hackspace, which held an opening reception for its new location during her visit. During multiple visits to the community space, she met with executive director Marshall Peck, toured the nearly 750 square meter space, and sat in on a digital media class, interviewing the students about



ATX Hackspace (Credit: Rita Sá)

their projects and collaborative trends in their work. Additionally, she met with Austin artist Jeanne Stern, who has taught experimental animation courses in Porto, and experienced Austin music culture, attending Honk!TX 2013, a community-supported festival of local bands. Sá noted, "I came to Austin to build connections for a future period of field research and I was able to study not only the places I had previously researched and contacted, but learn about other community based initiatives as well."

PhD student Daniel Catalão timed his visit to Austin to coincide with the International Symposium on Online Journalism and the Spanish-language Ibero-American Colloquium on Online Journalism, a special event that followed the ISOJ meeting. At these events and in discussions with UT faculty, Catalão was able to explore topics including new challenges for online journalism, changing consumption patterns, the engagement of publics and citizen empowerment, mobile journalism, the increasing role of social media, and the globalized public sphere. While his visit included meetings with Digital Media program director Sharon Strover, School of Journalism faculty Paula Poindexter, Stephen Reese,



Daniel Catalão

and ISOJ chairman Rosental Alves, Catalão also had the opportunity to meet professionals and scholarly researchers from other institutions. His busy visit was rounded out with research at UT's Perry-Castañeda Library and a tour of the Radio-TV-Film production facilities. Overall, Catalão found the trip very successful: "The week spent at the University of Texas at Austin was like diving in the cream of the cream of journalism research. I was able to make several very useful contacts with researchers and professors with whom I could discuss some of the issues regarding my PhD research."

Pedro Suspiro, the last exploratory visitor of the spring semester, arrived in late April and organized a busy schedule of meetings and classes, including attending courses led by program director Sharon Strover and RTF

digital media production faculty member Ben Bays. He viewed students' semester project presentations and met with faculty and advanced students from the School of Information and Advertising as well as those in Radio-TV-Film. One of the primary focuses of his meetings was human computer interaction; during his stay in Austin, Suspiro met with School faculty Luis Francisco-Revilla, who was taken part in several UTA-Portugal Digital Media program research projects, and with Jacek Gwizdka, a visiting scholar with expertise in applying cognitive psychology to interactive information retrieval.



Honk!TX 2013 music festival (Credit: Rita Sá)

■ UT Hosts the 14th International Symposium on Online Journalism

The International Symposium on Online Journalism took place in Austin from April 19-20. The program, which regularly attracts academics and professionals from around the world, was chaired by School of Journalism faculty member Rosental Alves. Alves, who holds the Knight Chair in Journalism and UNESCO Chair in Communication, heads UT's Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas and has led many short courses on digital media and innovations in journalism for the UTA-Portugal program. Digital Media doctoral students Claudia Silva, who is a visiting researcher this semester at UT, and exploratory visitor Daniel Catalão attended.

Keynote speakers included Clark Gilbert, president and CEO of the Deseret News Publishing Company and former professor at the Harvard Business School; Jill Abramson, the new executive editor of The New York Times; Andy Carvin, senior social media strategist of the US National Public Radio; and Emily Bell, the director of the Tow Center for Digital Journalism at Columbia University and former director of digital content for UK

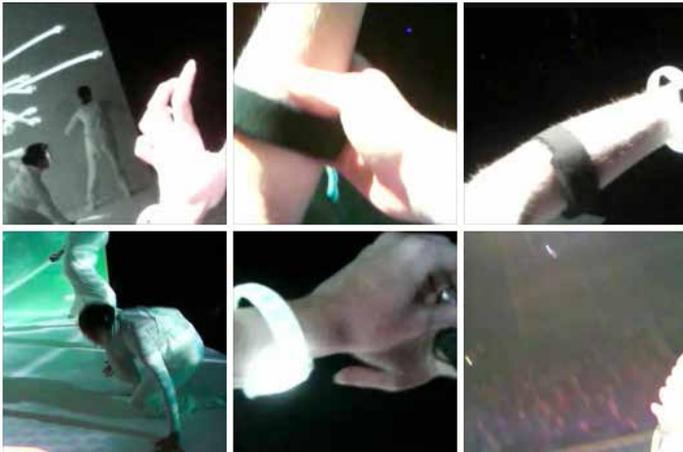
newspaper The Guardian. Carvin, previously director and editor of The Digital Divide Network, was a faculty member for the UTA-Portugal's International School on Digital Transformation in 2011.

Panel topics included trends in social media, innovations in digital platforms architecture and design, mobile journalism, and data visualization.

■ Digital Media Students' Work Featured in UT Performance

Three doctoral students, Marta Ferraz, João Beira, and Yago de Quay, contributed to *Roots and Wings*, a dance showcase presented by UT Austin's award-winning ensemble Dance Repertory Theatre from April 19-21. The event was comprised of several works from nationally known artists and UT faculty, and the students' work was featured in *3[D] Embodied*, a performance created by Theatre and Dance faculty member Yacov Sharir with the collaboration of Music and RTF faculty member Bruce Pennycook.

To create the performance's innovative effects, sensors placed on the performer measured muscular activity, heart rate, and fine motor control activity, with a Kinect system tracking body movements. These inputs controlled the biovisuals of the performance, projecting animations on a 3D box environment in which four other performers with no sensors danced, experiencing the bioperformer's biologic processes in real-time.



The performance also featured audio output from the biosensors, so that muscle contractions caused by the performer were translated into sounds.

Ferraz explained: "My idea was for this system to translate the unconscious processes of the human body, visceral processes, into conscious processes to be perceived by the dancers/audience." She used the opportunity to present her ongoing work on wearable biocomputing and biovisuals in an artistic setting while also continuing her scientific research, collecting data on the bioperformer's biologic experience before, during and after the performances using electroencephalography, measurement of galvanic skin response (GSR), and an emotional response questionnaire.

More information on Ferraz's project is here: <http://www.biotechbodies.com/biobitsarts.php>.

De Quay's website features additional information on the project: <http://www.yagodequay.com/#/category/dance-jockey-10/>



Photos Credits: Marta Ferraz

■ UTA-Portugal Faculty Participate in SXSW; Marslett's Film Wins Award



Photo Credits: Marslett photo by Patrick Rusk

UT Austin Radio-TV-Film Department faculty members Karen Kocher and Geoff Marslett were among the media producers appearing at the SXSW festival this year. The festival, which was expected to attract approximately 70,000 attendees, includes music, film, and interactive media components and took place from March 8-18.

Kocher has taught numerous short courses in the Summer Institute over the years, including Collaborative Database Documentary Workshop, Digital Documentary Workshop, and Documentary Mash-up and served as a Future Places Festival juror in 2009. For SXSW 2013, she organized a panel titled "Storytelling Devices in Interactive Documentary." The panel also featured German documentary maker and software creator Florian Thalhofer, award-winning interactive designer and storyteller Bart Marable, and Radio-TV-Film doctoral student Laura Dixon. The panelists discussed examples of existing interactive documentaries and explored how the digital format can better engage audiences in a substantive way.

Marslett has also participated extensively in the UT Austin-Portugal Digital Media program, leading a semester-long class in digital animation in addition to numerous short courses and intensives. His work with digital animation has resulted in numerous short films and an award-winning feature-length animated film, "Mars," in 2010. His first live-action feature, "Loves Her Gun" premiered at SXSW this year and met with critical acclaim, winning the Louis Black "Lone Star" Award, named for one of the founders of the festival. The film was among 133 feature-length works selected to screen at SXSW this year, chosen from a submission pool of approximately 2,100 entries. Directed by Marslett and co-written by Marslett and screenwriter Lauren Modery, the film tells the story of a woman who moves to Austin after being attacked in New York City, and how her residual anxieties lead her to embrace Texas gun culture.

Pedro Resende's short-film *Forever* was chosen to be included in the 2013 Faces of Austin short film exhibition as part of SXSW Film's Community Screenings. Pedro Resende participated on the ZON Creativity in Multimedia Award competition in 2010 winning a scholarship to visit the University of Texas at Austin, within the UT Austin | Portugal program. His film was chosen as one of only 12 works this year from a competitive pool of 57 submissions from over 48 filmmakers. *Forever* is "A journey about love, transformation & eternity." This film was made as the final project of a scholarship provided by ZON Portugal in cooperation with the RTF Department for the Sigur Rós Valtari Film Competition. More information can be found at: WWW.PEDRORESENDE.COM



Karen Kocher

■ Horácio Tomé Marques Visits Austin, Explores UT and SXSW

U. Porto student Horácio Tomé Marques spent a busy week in Austin this March exploring the UT campus, meeting with various faculty, and attending numerous presentations and events on and off campus. Marques, whose research focuses on music perception and cognition, arranged to come to Austin during the world-renowned SXSW media festival, when tens of thousands of performers, media producers, entrepreneurs, and other participants descend upon the city.

During the first days of his stay, Marques met with faculty at the Butler School of Music including his co-advisor Bruce Pennycook, who has taught several short intensive and semester-long courses with the UT Austin-Portugal program. Over the course of multiple meetings—described by Marques as “highly productive”—he and Pennycook conducted a detailed analysis of Marques's doctoral project, including evaluations of software applications relevant to his work. Marques also had the opportunity to meet with Eugenia Costa-Giomi, a faculty member whose research includes work on music perception, cognition, and early learning, and Adam Holzman, a professor of Guitar. Marques concluded his faculty meetings by conferring with Director Sharon Strover about his exploratory visit's outcomes and future plans. While exploring the campus and city, Marques was also able to meet with several fellow students who are currently based in Austin, including visiting researchers Marta Ferraz and Gustavo Magalhães and dual degree students João Beira and Yago de Quay, and discuss common interests such as human-computer interactivity, embodied technologies and contemporary digital performative arts.



While his visit was brief, Marques took full advantage of his time in Austin and saw the city at its peak activity level. Regarding the SXSW festival, he stated, “Although I did not have the opportunity to attend many events, I was impressed by the mobilization capacity of the city itself and the amount of available conferences, lectures and workshops by renowned personalities of utmost importance in areas such as games, computing, advanced interactive systems, digital arts, or films.”

■ Building on multidisciplinary to enact new frontiers for research

By Anne-Laure Mention, J.J.Pinto Ferreira, Marko Torkkeli (Editors of the New Journal)

For many years, the academic community has been organizing itself in all different ways to respond to its current and future needs, ensuring research integrity and recognition, and building on successive generations of peers to validate and support the continuation of new research streams. In fact, we owe our current state of research and development to the generations of scientists that brought all of us here. This initiative aims at preparing the future as the whole society strongly recognizes the increasing need to tackle multidisciplinary, namely in the APPROACHES ON INNOVATION.

As a result of this recognition, we aim at challenging the frontiers of MULTIDISCIPLINARITY by bringing together researchers and practitioners from both “Economic and Social Science Areas” and “Technology and Science / Industry Areas”, and by positioning our new journal as a pivot between academia and industry.

In this context, and on the forthcoming 3rd of September, we will have a Special International Workshop on MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES ON INNOVATION. Within this workshop, we will have the inaugurating event of a new international journal addressing MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES ON INNOVATION.

This new JOURNAL encourages the submission of papers addressing the multidisciplinary nature of the innovation process combining principles and concepts originating from a myriad of scientific areas, from social sciences to technology research and development. The journal encompasses all phases of the process of innovation from the conceptualization of a new technology-based product / service / process to its commercialization.

The multidisciplinary perspective associated with this Journal means that papers should combine, though not being restricted to, the following areas: Social Sciences and Humanities, Technological sciences, Physical sciences, Natural sciences and Health Sciences.

This new Journal, whose name is to be announced soon, features Associate Editors and Editorial Board Members from miscellaneous fields of research. Besides the diversity of the disciplines and scientific fields, this new journal will benefit from practitioners' contribution and should play a pivotal role between academia and industry, and create bridges between research and practice.

Further information at: <http://www.fe.up.pt/iwsmi/>

■ Events

- **Digital Media Summer Institute 2013**

May and June – Lisbon and Porto

More information at:

http://utaustinportugal.org/news/Digital_Media_Summer_Institute_2013

- **1st Meeting on Digital Media Research Methods (DiMe 2013)**

May 24th, Porto

The DiMe 2013 meeting aims to create a forum for discussion and sharing, among Digital Media PhD students on Research Methods topics.

More information at:

<http://paginas.fe.up.pt/~dime2013/>

- **StuECE 2013 - 2nd PhD Students Conference in Electrical and Computer Engineering**

25-27 June, Porto, Portugal

Conference Website:

<http://www.fe.up.pt/~StuECE2013/>

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

26-28 June, 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/>

- **Fundação Oriente XIV Arrábida meeting "Statistical dynamics of complex systems"**

1-3 July, Convento da Arrábida, Portugal

More information at:

<http://utaustinportugal.org//calendar>

■ Ongoing Opportunities

- **E3 Forum 2013 - Poster Competition**

The E3 Forum is now preparing its 3rd edition, which will happen on 27th June, 2013, so make sure you don't miss this event. E3 Forum is accepting innovative contributions for a Poster Competition to be held during the conference day.

More information:

<http://www.mitportugal.org/event-news/e3-forum-2013-poster-competition.html>
and http://e3forum.org/?page_id=2354

- **GÉANT Competitive Open Call for Additional Beneficiaries**

The GÉANT (GN3plus) project has reserved a portion of project budget to fund specific tasks. These tasks will be carried out by new beneficiaries who may join the project either as Partners or as Third Parties to existing consortium members and will be selected by means of a competitive Open Call.

All proposals must be received by May 29, 2013 (17:00 Brussels Time).

More information about the GN3plus project can be found at:

<http://www.geant.net/About/Pages/default.aspx>

- **Call For Entrepreneurship – Portugal Ventures**

Submission of applications is open until 30th May.

More information at:

<http://www.portugalventures.pt/en/contents.html?hrq=146>

- **Video contest Invest in our Future – Invest in science**

This video contest invites you to look at the world afresh and realize the great contribution of science to our lives and the amazing possibilities it opens for our future.

Video Submission ends May 31st, 2013.

All information about the contest can be found at:

www.investinscience.eu

<http://www.facebook.com/investinscience?ref=hl>

- **ICT 2013 Student ICT research project competition**

Do you have an innovative ICT-related research project? Win a possibility to showcase it in ICT 2013! Individual students or small groups (max 5) can submit ICT research projects to showcase at the ICT 2013 event in Vilnius. The projects can be submitted in 8 categories, which reflect the orientations of the ICT research in the next European research framework program, Horizon 2020.

Competition entries can be submitted until 5th June 2013, 16:00 CET.

More information at:

<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/ict2013-student-ict-research-project-competition>

- **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>

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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