

Future Places Celebrates Its Sixth Year: UT Austin | Portugal Digital Bits for November 2013

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UT Austin | Portugal

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATORY FOR EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, CoLAB

DIGITAL BITS



Future Places Celebrates Its Sixth Year

The Future Places MediaLab for Citizenship held participant-driven workshops, symposia, and performances in Porto from October 28 to November 2. The project, which includes activities occurring throughout the year, developed out of the Future Places Digital Media Festival, begun in 2008. The week's sessions included keynote speeches by UT Austin faculty member Nancy Schiesari and UK filmmaker Debbie Anzalone and a roundtable on the state of contemporary filmmaking that included Anzalone and Schiesari in addition to doctoral students André Valentim Almeida and Andreia Magalhães and musician and filmmaker Bruce Geduldig. Another highlight of this year's Future Places was a crossover session with the Latin-Iberoamerican Conference on Management of Technology, which took place concurrently with Future Places. Professor Manuel Heitor of the Instituto Superior Técnico, the former Secretary of State for the Ministry for Science, Technology, and Education, joined with Professor of Design and New Media Heitor Alvelos of U. Porto to present a workshop titled "Futures of Uncertainty." [Photo credit: Luís Barbosa]

Fifteen Students Present at Doctoral Symposium

U. Porto and UNL students presented research projects to peers and

FUTUREPLACES



program faculty at the third annual doctoral symposium in Porto on October 28. The day opened with a keynote speech by UT Digital Media Program Director Sharon Strover (pictured at left). The presentations reflected the diversity of the program, with topics including senior healthcare, public library outreach programs, cultural journalism, and facial animation rigging systems. Students from every cohort year participated in the three highly interactive sessions, which kicked off a week of activities including Future Places and a ceremony to formally inaugurate the UTA-Portugal program's second phase. The day concluded with a presentation by the Emerging Technologies component of the UT Austin-Portugal program, featuring professor Brian Korgel of UT's Department of Chemical Engineering and Paula Vilarinho of the Department of Materials and Ceramic Engineering at the University of Aveiro. [Photo credit: Luís Barbosa]

Gustavo Costa Visits UT

Gustavo Costa, a second year student at the University of Porto, came to Austin on an exploratory visit in mid-October. Costa's work focuses on the creation of live electronics for free improvised music contexts, and his dissertation project will include elements of music composition, human computer interaction, programming, and software design. Costa is especially interested in music performance using physical objects and in instrument sustainability. While he was at UT, Costa met with faculty including Program Director Sharon Strover and Bruce Pennycook of the School of Music, as well as with some UTA-Portugal visiting researchers. In addition, he took part in Austin's local cultural scene, performing October 19 at a prominent community art space, The Church of the Friendly Ghost.



UT Austin Portugal Program Inaugurates Its Second Phase

Representatives from the office of the Secretary of State for Science and the Foundation for Science and Technology, rectors and faculty members from participating universities, and students gathered at the University of Porto on October 29 to mark the beginning of the UTA-P's program second five-year phase, which began this year. The program featured an opening session with speakers José C. Marques dos Santos, Rector of U.Porto, Pedro Carneiro, the Vice President of FCT, and António Rendas, the President of the Council of Rectors of the Portuguese Universities. Presentations from each of the program's primary areas followed, describing the accomplishments and plans of



Digital Media, Advanced Computing, Mathematics, Emerging Technologies, and the University Technology Enterprise Network. Incoming National Director of the UTA-Portugal program Fernando Santana spoke next, accompanied by Marco Bravo and Mark Calhoun of UT's IC2 Institute. [Photo credit: Luís Barbosa]

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