

UT Austin Research Awards Announced: UT Austin | Portugal Digital Bits for August 2014

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INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATORY FOR EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, CoLAB

DIGITAL BITS



Research and Development Project Awards Announced

In August, the UT Austin-Portugal Program [announced](#) the five proposals that will receive funding from the 2014 CoLab Call for Research and Development Projects at UT Austin. This call, which complements but is separate from the Foundation for Science and Technology funding opportunity, supports collaboration between researchers at UT Austin and Portuguese universities in the areas of Digital Media, Mathematics, Advanced Computing, and Emerging Technologies. The selected proposals are diverse, including “Roots and Wings: Glocalized Networks and Mobile Media Entrepreneurship in Austin and Lisbon,” a collaboration among researchers at UT Austin, U. Porto, and Atlântica University, led by Wenhong Chen of UT with

co-PIs Sharon Strover and Joe Straubhaar. Other successful applications include “Phase Transitions and Battery Problems,” led by Luis Cafarelli of UT and co-PI José Miguel Urbano of the University of Coimbra, with additional team members from Instituto Superior Técnico. “MRI-Based Computational Modeling of Blood Flow and Nanomedicine Deposition in Patients with Peripheral Arterial Disease: Insights into Disease Management,” a joint effort of UT’s Thomas J.R. Hughes and Shaolie S. Hossain and Instituto Superior Técnico’s Adelia Sequeira, was also awarded funding, as was “Development of Scaffolds for Regenerative Medicine by Molecular Imprinting,” proposed by Nicholas A. Peppas of UT in collaboration with partners at the U. Minho and U. Porto, and “Additive Manufacturing of Yttria-Stabilized Zirconia (YSZ) for Dental Applications,” led by Carolyn Conner Seepersad of UT, with David Bourell, also of UT, and Paula Vilarinho of the University of Aveiro.



FUTUREPLACES 2014 and Doctoral Symposium in October

The fourth annual Digital Media Doctoral Symposium in Porto will take place on October 15, followed by the [Future Places MediaLab for Citizenship](#). The Symposium, which will be at UPTEC PINC, offers an opportunity for students to present their research to their peers and faculty and also provides a setting for the students of U. Porto and UNL to meet one another in person and exchange ideas. The seventh edition of FUTUREPLACES will follow, on October 16-18. While plans continue to develop, there has been a great deal of enthusiasm among students and members of the arts community for proposed Citizen Labs, a key component of the program.

Jaqueline Silva Awarded Research Support

New University of Lisbon doctoral student [Jaqueline Silva](#) recently won an award sponsored by the US Embassy, the Luso-American Development Foundation (FLAD), and Portugal’s EDP Foundation. Silva, who studies women and entrepreneurship, will interview some of the most successful young women in the digital media industry, focusing on entrepreneurs under 30 who live in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and New York City, as well as possibly Austin. Her interviews will include questions about how the women surmounted professional challenges and collect the women’s advice, grounded in their personal experiences. This research will be made available in an e-book suggesting best practices for Portuguese entrepreneurs.



Fernando Governo To Perform Research in Austin

Doctoral student Fernando Governo of U. Porto will spend the 2014-15 academic year doing research at the University of Texas at Austin. Governo, who initially visited UT in February 2012, will stay from September of this year to the end of July in 2015. His research focuses on the evolving future of online films, and how digital convergence has affected film distribution and exhibition. He is particularly interested in trends toward transnational taste groups and content, which are often supported by international online communities. Governo’s research is planned to culminate in a community website that brings together social networking and videostreaming, and facilitates the study of factors that promote the growth of online transnational film.



Summer Institute 2014 Concludes in Porto

The 2014 Summer Institute concluded last month with the Game Design and Development course taught at U. Porto by Bruce Pennycook, Director of the School of Arts and Digital Entertainment at UT Austin’s College of Fine Arts. The course was created

in consultation with U. Porto Faculty of Engineering professor António Coelho and focused on elements of game design, studying a range of examples in existing games. The fourteen students collaborated to create five final projects, which were presented July 12. Game Design and Development was preceded by Sharon Strover's Research Methods class, which is designed to prepare doctoral students for their thesis research. In addition to learning about the advantages and challenges of various research methodologies, students were given the opportunity to present their own research ideas to the instructor and their peers for feedback.

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