

UT Austin | Portugal

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATORY FOR EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, CoLAB

DIGITAL BITS



ImTV Conducts Second Research Workshop

Members of the [ImTV](#) research team gathered at INESC TEC in Porto this month to present recent research and plan future directions for the project. Supported by FCT and initiated in 2010, ImTV explores new trends in media production and consumption with the aim of devising an on-demand immersive framework that will give viewers a personalized, interactive experience while also helping media distributors reach viewers more effectively.

The workshop included presentations on connected viewing, immersive video, gesture-based interactions, personalized multiview spaces, and recommendation services. Over a dozen researchers from several institutions participated, including co-principal investigators João Magalhães of the New University of Lisbon and Sharon Strover of UT Austin.

UT's Sharon Strover Visits Lisbon and Porto

Digital Media Director Sharon Strover traveled from Austin to Portugal early this month to see program directors, faculty, and students and discuss plans for 2013 activities such as the Summer Institute, doctoral program courses, research calls, and entrepreneurial workshops for students. During her visit, she met with David Cristina of the Ministry of Science and Education to discuss Ministry priorities, such as commercialization and collaborative research proposals.



Strover also visited the [Lab SAPO/U. Porto](#), a facility created through the cooperation of U. Porto and SAPO, the ISP division of Portugal Telecom. The lab, which was formally opened in October 2010, supports a variety of digital media research initiatives, including REACTION: Retrieval, Extraction, and Aggregation Computing Technology for Integrating and Organizing News, a sponsored UTA-P project led by Mário Silva of the University of Lisbon and Luis Francisco-Revilla and Matt Lease of UT Austin. The facility also hosts a number of advanced student research projects. At the close of Strover's visit, she met with her fellow researchers at the 2nd ImTV Workshop.



U. Porto Visiting Researcher Filipe Lopes Arrives

The Digital Media program in Austin welcomed its first new visiting researcher of the spring semester, U.Porto student Filipe Lopes, who will conduct research at UT through March. Lopes will work with Bruce Pennycook of the Butler School of Music and the Radio-TV-Film Department, an expert on new media and audio technologies.

The new visiting researcher expects to spend much of his visit at the library, where he will make further progress on his doctoral thesis, an innovative project focusing on sound-specific space, investigating how to perform a space's "sonic personality." He joins ten other Digital Media doctoral students visiting UT for the spring semester.

ZON Intern Rui Dias at UT Through March

U. Porto doctoral student Rui Dias arrived this week at UT Austin and will stay through March as a research intern. Dias, whose work focuses on automatic music generation and interactive music systems, is advised by Carlos Guedes of Porto and co-advisor Bruce Pennycook of UT.

Dias's visit is supported by a FCT research grant given as part of the ZON 2011 Multimedia Award for GimmeDaBlues, a musical application created by a research team of which he was a member at Porto's INESC TEC. While in Austin, Dias will continue research on musical interaction in multi-user environments, a focus that grows out of the work on the FCT sponsored research project Kinetic Controller Driven Music Systems.



FCT Call for Scholarship Applications Announced

The Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology announced a new call for doctoral scholarship applications in the UT Austin-Portugal Program. Digital Media research areas named in the call include production of audiovisual and interactive content; technology; journalism; and industry, public, and markets. Applicants must submit materials including recommendation letters, transcripts, and a work plan by February 28. For more information, including a full list of application materials and requirements, please visit the [FCT site](#).

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