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Awards

Paulo Sampaio receives the Feigenbaum Medal of ASQ

California, USA, 20th May



Paulo Sampaio, professor at the Department of Production and Systems Engineering (DPS) of the EEUM will be honoured by American Society for Quality (ASQ), the world's largest network of quality resources and experts, for his innovative contributions and achievements in quality, during ASQ's World Conference on Quality and Improvement. Professor Paulo Sampaio will receive ASQ's Feigenbaum Medal for "his exceptional early-career dedication to personal mastery of the quality profession, enthusiastic pursuit in the growth and expansion of the body of quality knowledge, and his commitment to strengthening his nation of Portugal through application of quality methods and principles". The medal is awarded to an individual 35 years old or younger, who has displayed outstanding characteristics of leadership, professionalism, and potential in the field of quality and also whose work has been or will become of distinct benefit to mankind.

In November 2011, Professor Paulo Sampaio had already been included in the list entitled "40 New Voices of Quality", published by the Quality Progress journal of the ASQ, which represented the recognition of the most accomplished, promising and devoted quality professionals under the age of 40.

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News



EEUM visits UIndonesia

Jakarta, Indonesia, March

The University of Minho (UMinho) and the Universitas Indonesia (UIndonesia) signed an agreement for academic and scientific co-operation on the 2nd November 2011, in Braga, Portugal. The co-operation agreement includes a double-degree programme (Doctor of UMinho – Doktor of UIndonesia), exchange of students, faculty, scientists and staff, joint research and joint publication in international journals, exchange and development of scientific and technical material and joint conferences, workshops and short-term courses.

The President of the EEUM has recently participated in a mission to Indonesia, by invitation of the UIndonesia, aiming at commencing the co-operation in the framework of a double-degree PhD and a sandwich PhD, and the participation in an assessment jury of a 2nd year PhD. Professor António Gomes Correia, director of the Centre for Territory, Environment and Construction (C-TAC) of the EEUM and representative of the UMinho for the management of the co-operation agreement established with the UIndonesia, also participated in this mission.

Feminine academic success



In an interview regarding the number of doctorate women at the UMinho, the President of the EEUM confirmed that, although there is a higher demand of men in terms of gender distribution in engineering, a growing participation of women in several engineering areas is verified. In 2011, the number of doctorate women in engineering was three times higher than 2007. Chemical and Biological Engineering is amongst the engineering areas with higher number of women doctorates. At the EEUM, a tendency towards the equilibrium between genders is observed, as far as the number of candidates is concerned.

Researchers of the EEUM co-operate in the creation of revolutionary prosthesis



iSurgical3D, a spin-off of the UMinho, with the collaboration of Jaime Fonseca (professor at the Department of Industrial Electronics – DEI) and António Pinho (Department of Mechanical Engineering – DEM) of the EEUM, has produced a worldwide innovative prosthesis which allows the resolution of “pectus excavatum”, a chest wall malformation.

The project is a result of the close co-operation between four areas of knowledge (electronics, informatics, mechanics and health) of the UMinho. Four patients have been submitted to surgery with the new method and model, the last on the 17th March at S. João’s hospital, Porto, Portugal.

Design Institute inaugurated

Guimarães, 23rd March



The Design Institute of the University of Minho was recently inaugurated in Guimarães. It is the first undertaking of the CampUrbis project to be concluded and it results from the collaboration between the university and Guimarães – European Capital of Culture – 2012. The CampUrbis project represents an investment of 20 million euros, divided in EU funding, the Guimarães’ municipality and the UMinho. The Rector of the UMinho, Professor António Cunha, recently pointed out the importance of this new unit as it will allow anchoring the relationship between the university, the companies, the designers and other entities in an innovative platform. The Design Institute will also house a new education project, Degree in Product Design, which is a partnership between the EEUM and the School of Architecture of the UMinho (EAUM).

Micoteca of the UMinho co-operates with Universidade Católica de Pernambuco



Aiming at enabling biological sciences’ students in the area of biotechnology, the researchers Nelson Lima and Cledir Santos, from the Micoteca of the University of Minho, located at the Centre of Biological Engineering (CEB) of the EEUM, have travelled to the Universidade Católica de Pernambuco, Brazil, to lecture the advanced course “Culture collections and biotechnological potential”. The Brazilian television network “Rede Viva” presents a report on this co-operation project.

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“Crocodile hunt” studies waste tires in Portuguese roads



A recent study performed by the Institute for Polymers and Composites (IPC) of the EEUM and the National Association of Tire Retreading (ANIRP) refers that almost half of the waste tires in Portuguese highways (known as “crocodiles”) come from new tires. The study reports that the main causes of tire failure are insufficient maintenance by the user as well as impact and inappropriate pressure, and that the tire failure is not directly linked to manufacture methods. The project “Crocodile hunt”, supported by Valorpneu, with the collaboration of Aenor, Auto-Estradas do Atlântico, Brisa, Scutvias and Galpgest, aimed at identifying the tire failure causes during a six month period and to contribute to a higher road safety. More than one thousand waste tires were collected from national highways and thoroughly analysed.

ENGINews is a publication of all members of the EEUM.

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