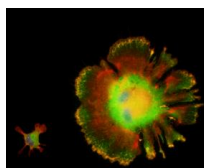




ENGINews N° 28, 31st may 2012

Awards

Researcher from the 3B's creates cover for Stem Cell Research journal



Diana Soares da Costa, researcher at the 3B's research centre of the EEUM, won the 3rd place on the Stem Cell Research Cover Competition, with an image of stem cells of adipose tissue.

The image will be the cover of the July edition of the scientific journal Stem Cell Research.

Researcher from the 3B's wins Basic Science Travel Grant award



Hélder Pereira, researcher at the 3B's research centre of the EEUM, was granted the Basic Science Travel Grant award, during the Congress of the European Society of Sports Traumatology Knee Surgery and Arthroscopy (ESSKA), with the paper "Human meniscus segmental characterisation: building the basis for tissue engineering".

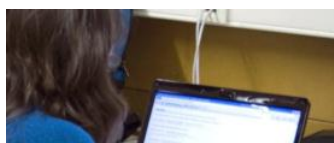
Best Oral Presentation award for Researcher from the 3B's



Rogério Pirraço, researcher at the 3B's research centre of the EEUM, won the Best Oral Presentation award during the 7th Meeting of the Portuguese Society for Stem Cells & Cells Therapy. The award, granted by the company Criolestaminal, was granted to the paper entitled "Pericytes and endothelial cells contribute to the *in vivo* vascularisation of osteogenic tissue formed after cell sheet transplantation".

News

Patronage in Informatics Engineering



The Direction of the Degree in Informatics Engineering (LEI) of the EEUM, in collaboration with companies working in the area of Information Technologies, created the award "informatics engineering @uminho". The award will be granted to two students who conclude the secondary education in the area of Science and Technology with a classification of 16 or higher. An average classification of 16 or higher in the subjects Mathematics and Portuguese for the 11th grade is also required, as well as an university access classification of 16 or higher. The students must enroll in the 1st cycle degree in Informatics Engineering for the academic year 2012/2013.

The awards will be a monetary prize equivalent to the annual enrollment fee for the degree in Informatics Engineering and will be offered by the company Eurotux Informática, S.A. and by the CESIUM – Informatics Engineering Student Centre at the UMinho.

Project Gradouro on “Next Big Idea”



Project Gradouro, developed jointly by the Mechanical and Materials Technology Centre (CT2M) of the EEUM and by the Centre of Physics of the UMinho, was awarded the Applied Engineering Award on the 25th edition of the Santa Fe Symposium, in 2011, the largest world symposium on jewellery.

Project Gradouro is now the star of the programme “Next Big Idea”. Gradouro is considered one of the main worldwide projects on this research area and aims at contributing to the international affirmation of the Portuguese jewellers through the application of its innovations and results. Professor Filipe Silva’s next big idea (professor at the Department of Mechanical Engineering of the EEUM and co-ordinator of the Project Gradouro) is to develop gold with new colours.

[More...](#)

Researchers of the EEUM create biodegradable outdoors



A type of biodegradable material, made from fibres existing in nature, has been produced in Portugal with the support of national and international companies. This material will be used to create advertising outdoors which are not harmful to the environment and the human being. The initiative was launched by a researcher from the Fernando Pessoa University, Portugal, in co-operation with the UMinho.

The new outdoors “are made of fibres of soy, corn and bamboo”, explains Professor José Neves, Professor at the Department of Textile Engineering (DET) of the EEUM.

Entrepreneurship at UMinho honoured by COTEC

Lisbon, 9th May



The UMinho has been honoured with the award “Strategies Boosting Entrepreneurship” in the framework of the National Competition for Valorisation and Boosting of Entrepreneurship. Launched by COTEC Portugal – Industrial Association for Innovation, the competition is directed to the 16 higher education institutions which are part of CRUP – Council of the Rectors of the Portuguese Universities.

The Rector of the UMinho, Professor António M. Cunha, the Vice-Rector for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Professor José Mendes (leader of the team which applied to this award) and the President of the EEUM participated in the award ceremony.

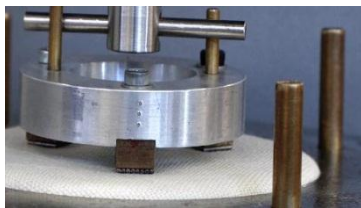
PIEP develops solutions for high speed



A consortium, created by PIEP – Pole for Innovation in Polymer Engineering, UMinho’s interface, the companies Amorim Cork Composites and Alstom, and the ISQ – Institute of Welding and Quality, has developed a project for optimisation of materials’ application, which provides eco-efficient solutions for last generation trains, aiming at increasing the sustainability of the railroad sector.

The development of more efficient, lighter and more comfortable integrating solutions of cork composites, which could be applied in pavements, lateral panel and partitions in last generation trains has adopted “several innovative dimensions, from the applications of natural materials – in this case, cork – in components which did not included this type of material so far, up to the environmental and ecological component of the project”, states Carlos Ribeiro, project manager.

Comfort scales contribute to apparel commercialisation



The comfort of a piece of clothing is subjective and relates to personal taste. However, in the future, comfort may be quantified according to a sensorial comfort scale. The Science and Textile Technology Centre (2C2T) of the EEUM has concluded an initial study which identifies the physical and mechanical characteristics of the fabrics and their relationship with the individual's touch.

The project is being developed in the framework of the Portugal-France agreement: Programme PESSOA 2010-11, which, in this case, co-ordinates resources and research from the UMinho and from the University of Haute-Alsace, in Mulhouse, France.

The project aims at creating a comfort pattern which people can identify when buying clothes. According to Professor Ana Cristina Broega, researcher at the 2C2T and project responsible, "information on comfort patterns could be added with the implementation of a label in the garments, which would help boost e-commerce".

Worldwide innovation saves water



The project Agrocontrol, pioneer at UMinho, allows significant water saving during the watering process, while improving the quality of fruits and the soil evenness.

Agrocontrol is co-ordinated by the spin-off Sinergeo – Applied Solutions in Geology, Hidrology and Environment, by the spin-off Vinalia – Biotechnology Solutions for Vineyard, the Centre for Biological Engineering (CEB) of the EEUM and EVAG – Wine Station Amândio Galhano (Campos Lima Farm). The project has already been tested in vineyards. Jorge Oliveira, founding partner of Sinergeo, explains that "the efficiency of the project was confirmed in different soils – granite soil and fluvial terraces – and also in different hours, days and climates".

ENGINews is a publication of all members of the EEUM.

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