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Highlights

RoboParty in Brazil



RoboCup 2014 welcomed an experimental RoboParty

Dean and Vice-Dean of the EEUM visit Asian partners

Cambodia, Indonesia, China, July

The Royal University of Phnom Penh, in Cambodia, as well as the Asian Institute of Technology, in Thailand, received the visit of Professor João L. Monteiro, Dean of the EEUM, aiming at discussing new collaboration strategies in education and research with these institutions, namely in the framework of the Erasmus Mundus Programme for joint and double degrees. The Universitas Indonesia, with which a cooperation agreement has been signed in 2011, already leading to several cooperation activities in Doctoral Programmes at the EEUM, received the visit of the Dean of the EEUM and the Vice-Dean of the EEUM, Professor António Gomes Correia. Several work meetings were held to prepare new forms of cooperation with UIndonesia. The programme included an official visit to the institution, with the presentation of the EEUM and a debate on new collaboration opportunities for 2nd cycle degrees as well as regarding a new group of students interested in sandwich and joint degree agreements for 3rd cycle degrees. Professor António Gomes Correia also participated in the evaluation panel of progress reports from two students currently in the framework of cooperation agreements with the EEUM.

The Vice-Dean of the EEUM, Professor António Gomes Correia, also travelled to China, where work meetings were held with China Three Gorges University during two days, originating the signature of a general cooperation agreement. The first cooperation activity will start with a 6-month training period of a CTGU's researcher at the EEUM.



UMinho and UNTL organize International Conference in Díli

Dili, East Timor, 16th and 17th July

The UMinho and the National University of Timor Lorosa'e (UNTL) jointly promoted an International Conference on Research, Education, Cooperation and Development. The opening session included speeches by the Rector of the UNTL, Aurélio Guterres, the Rector of the UMinho, António M. Cunha, and the Prime Minister of East Timor, Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão. During the event, several themes were discussed, namely international cooperation and development, in a panel constituted by representatives of several countries of the CPLP, and also academic cooperation and development, in a second panel constituted by representatives from the UNTL and from Portuguese universities which have maintained close collaboration activities with East Timor. The UMinho was one of the institutions participating in this panel, represented by the Vice-Rector, Rui Vieira de Castro. The conference also focused on relevant issues in the domains of Social and Political Sciences, Engineering and Education. Professor Luís Amaral, President of the School Council and professor of the Department of Information Systems (DSI) of the EEUM, also participated in this conference, along with other professors from the UMinho.



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Paulo Flores founding member of International Association

Busan, South Korea, 30th June to 3rd July



Paulo Flores, professor at the Department of Mechanical Engineering (DEM) of the EEUM, is one of the founding members of the recently created International Association for Mechanical Systems Dynamics. The Association was created during the 3rd Joint International Conference on Multibody System Dynamics, which took place in Busan, South Korea. The main goals of the Association are related to promoting research, development and industrial application in the scientific and technical domain of mechanical systems dynamics. The IAMSD aims also at fostering the international cooperation between scientists and engineering and at promotion the public dissemination of the results of its activities.

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Student from the UMinho selected for new MIT programme

MIT, USA, 18th to 22nd August



Ricardo Rodrigues, finalist of the Integrated Master in Biomedical Engineering of the UMinho, is the only Portuguese student selected for the first edition of the MITx Global Entrepreneurship Bootcamp, in USA. The goal of this bootcamp is to create new companies which promise to “revolutionise the world”. The intensive training programme counts only with 50 of the 55.000 applicants. Ricardo Rodrigues applied for the competition with his business idea “Low Cost Bet”, which increases 20 times the probability of winning the lottery or Euromillions. With three clicks only in a certain website or a mobile phone short message, one could bet in 20 combinations for only 2 euros.

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Textile Engineering in sports



Clécio Lacerda, student of the Doctoral Programme in Textile Engineering, is developing a football glove whose palm imitates the hoof of the mountain goat, aiming at increasing impact absorption, adherence and comfort. The project, which started from the student’s PhD thesis “Development of a textile mimetic surface and its application to sports”, will be patented and has already captured the attention of the market. The PhD student considers that the developed technology may be applied to other sports or contexts, such as impact absorption on accidents with bicycles and motorcycles, climbing shoes or hockey goalkeeper protections.

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RoboCup 2014 in Brazil receives experimental RoboParty

João Pessoa, Brazil, 19th to 25th July



RoboCup is the largest robotics event in the world, gathering more than 2500 participants from around 50 countries. The teams compete with mobile and autonomous robots built in the previous year, in order to promote the development of technology and similar areas. There are several leagues in the competition, from soccer-playing robots to domestic chores, finding victims in destruction scenarios, etc.

In the 2014 edition, the EEUM counted on the representation of the FC Portugal team (including researchers from the Universities of Minho, Aveiro and Porto) in the 2D Simulation and 3D Simulation leagues (humanoid robots).

The 2014 edition also included a RoboParty, a Portuguese event co-organized by the UMinho and the company SAR - Soluções de Automação e Robótica. At RoboParty, young students learn how to build mobile and autonomous robots, from its mechanical construction to electronics and programming. By the end of the event, the robots have to face predetermined challenges and each team takes their own robot home.

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UMinho's spin-off chosen for CMU's acceleration programme

displr, a spin-off of the UMinho created in 2013, was selected by Carnegie Mellon Portugal for a new business acceleration programme in USA. The team developed a network of screens, on which the user is allowed to share content and influence what is presented. displr will participate in the 1st edition of inRes - Entrepreneurship in Residence. The company aims at developing a global service of public interactive screens in which users may create and publish any content. "Public screens will have many of Facebook's functions and will mostly value the physical presence of users, which will take the screen's functions for their own use. These screens will later be connected in a network and some will even be able to salute you or hand over coupons", claims Rui José, coordinator of displr and professor at the Department of Information Systems (DSI) of the EEUM.

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The logo for displr, featuring the word "displr" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letters are black, and the background is white.

New Cooperation agreements

UMinho signs Cooperation Agreement with ARCTEL



Under the proposal of the EEUM, namely from the Department of Information Systems (DSI), the UMinho recently signed a cooperation agreement with ARCTEL – CPLP, the Regulatory Association for Communications and Telecommunications of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries. The agreement establishes a general collaboration framework between the UMinho and ARCTEL, aiming at sharing competences and skills from each of the entities and also at launching cooperation in research and development, training and technical consultancy in the areas of Electronic Engineering, Telecommunications, Computers and Information Systems, apart from other areas considered as strategic by the parties.

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APPLICATIONS 2014/2015

MASTERS: 25TH AUGUST TO 8TH SEPTEMBER

DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES (PHD): 25TH AUGUST TO 5TH SEPTEMBER

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