



ENGINews

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Highlights



41st Anniversary of the University of Minho

**Scientific Merit Award granted to José Teixeira,
Director of the Centre of Biological Engineering of the EEUM**

41st Anniversary of the University of Minho

Largo do Paço, Braga, 17th February



Universidade do Minho



The University of Minho commemorated its 41st Anniversary.

The Solemn Ceremony started with the intervention of the President of the General Council of UMinho, Prof. Álvaro Laborinho Lúcio, presenting a summary of the role of the General Council, concerning its internal intervention in the Academy and regarding the UMinho's connection with society. The speech of the President of the Student Association, Carlos Videira, highlighted the unique partnership established between the institutional structure representing the students and their University.

As every year, the event included the handover of University Medals, Student Awards, Aggregation and Doctoral Diplomas as well as the presentation of the Scientific Merit Award.

João António Santos Noivo (ALGORITMI) received the University Medal for completing 30 years working at the UMinho.

The following EEUM's students received Student Awards:

- Pedro Miguel Cunha da Silva (MIEEIC) received the Guimarães Municipality Award (granted to the best student from all 1st cycle degrees, taught at the Campus of Azurém, which achieved the best final classification, equal to or higher than 16/20).
- Cláudia Noémia da Rocha Pereira (MIEBiol) and Cátia Sofia Rodrigues Barbosa (MIEBiom) jointly received the Caixa Geral de Depósitos Award (CGD bank grants annually 11 merit scholarships to the students with the best final classification, one for each School or Institute of the UMinho).
- Cláudia Catarina de Oliveira Amorim (MIEBiol) received the AIM-Indústria Award (AIM - Minho Industrial Association grants this award to the best student from all Engineering 1st cycle degree or Integrated Master programmes, which achieved the best final classification, equal to or higher than 17/20).

The Doctoral degree diplomas were also presented to some of the EEUM's students: Delfina Gabriela Garrido Ramos (PDEIS), João Pedro Sabina dos Santos Valente (PDEEC), Luís António da Silva Rodrigues (PDTSI) and Sacha Trevelyan Mould (PDCEPC).

The Scientific Merit Award was granted to José Couto Teixeira, Director of the Centre of Biological Engineering (CEB) of the EEUM.

The Vice-President of the European University Association (EUA), Prof. David Drewry, presented the theme "Universities and Researches Europe 2020". Prof. Drewry congratulated the University of Minho for its already remarkable performance, especially in research, with 41 years of existence. The Vice-President of EUA referred that the UMinho is part of the family of the EUA and is included in the corpus of intellectual activity which is vital to the future of the competitiveness of Europe.



Dr. Manuela Soares, director for Transport of the DG Research and Innovation of the European Commission represented the European Commissioner for Research, Carlos Moedas. Under the theme “Researching in Europe 2020”, Dr. Soares’ intervention focused on the importance and strategic role of universities in the framework of the European Research Area, as well as their contribution to the creation of a solid scientific ground leading towards generating more knowledge and thus more employment and more development.

In the closing speech, the Rector of the UMinho, Prof. António M. Cunha, reminded the academy of the main performance results of 2014 as far as education, research, knowledge transfer and internationalisation are concerned. Prof. António M. Cunha referred to internationalisation as a main structural axis for future development. Considering the first 40 years of existence as a cycle and symbol of the university’s maturity, the UMinho is now preparing a new cycle of solid affirmation as a research and higher education institution.

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Awards

Scientific Merit Award 2015 granted to José Teixeira

José Teixeira, Full Professor and Director of the Centre of Biological Engineering (CEB) of the EEUM, was granted the UMinho’s Scientific Merit Award 2015. The award was presented during the Commemoration Ceremony of the 41st Anniversary of the UMinho. The award honours the researcher who is presently a reference in Biotechnology and Food Technology, his favourite research areas.



In 30 years of scientific career, José Teixeira has coordinated around 25 research projects (5 of which are European projects), co-authored of 400 papers and is part of the editorial board of several international journals. He is also President of the Portuguese Society of Biotechnology and member of the Institute of Food Technologists. Among other awards, Prof. Teixeira has received the “Incentive to Science Award” by the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) and the Seeds of Science Award.

The UMinho’s Scientific Merit Award was created by the Rectory of the University of UMinho. The award is annually granted to one of the UMinho’s professors or researchers with remarkable scientific activity.

[Prof. Teixeira’s interview to “Nós” \(online journal of the UMinho\) \(Portuguese\)...](#)

3B's research group receives funding of 2,5 million euros

The Biomaterials, Biodegradables and Biomimetics Research Group (3B's) of the EEUM will receive around 2,5 million euros of funding in the framework of the Horizon 2020 programme, namely through European Research Area - Chairs (ERA-Chairs). The project entitled FoReCast was selected among 13 approved applications (from a total of 88).



This international funding aims at fostering excellence scientific research. The funded projects will last five years and will allow research groups to attract top-level researchers, so that institutions are able to compete against excellence centres of the European Research Area. The project FoReCast aims mainly at developing *in vitro* tridimensional (3D) tumorous tissue models, through tissue engineering methodologies.

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Engineering students awarded at the 6th National Biomechanics Congress

Leiria, 6th and 7th February

Sara Cortez, Rita Machado and Ivo Silva, under the supervision of professors from the Department of Mechanical Engineering (DEM) of the EEUM, were distinguished during the 6th National Biomechanics Congress (CNB2015), among around two hundred papers.

Sara Cortez, doctoral student of Biomedical Engineering, was granted an Honourable Mention by the International Society of Biomechanics (ISB) in the category Best Student Award, with a paper entitled “Análise computacional da reorientação das fibras de colagénio na cartilagem articular” (Computational analysis of collagen fibres reorientation in articular cartilage).

Rita Machado, MSc in Mechanical Engineering, was also granted an Honourable Mention in the category Best Student Award, with the paper “Projeto de um dispositivo médico para apoio ao diagnóstico de patologias no tornozelo” (Project of medical device for supporting diagnosis of ankle pathologies).

Ivo Silva, MSc in Biomedical Engineering, was granted Best Poster Award with the paper “Análise Experimental de um Exosqueleto Articular para Assistência na Reabilitação da Marcha” (Experimental analysis of articular exoskeleton for assisting gait rehabilitation).



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Luís Almeida elected President of CT194 - Nanotechnologies

Lisbon, 19th February



Luís Almeida, Full Professor of the Department of Textile Engineering (DET) and researcher at the Centre for Textile Science and Technology (2C2T) of the EEUM, was recently elected as President of the new Technical Normalisation Committee CT194 – Nanotechnologies. The mandate will last three years. The Technical Committee, created by the Portuguese Institute for Quality, counts already on 40 members. The CT194 aims at developing standards related to terminology and nomenclature, metrology and instrumentation, including specification for reference materials, trial methodologies, modelling and simulation, as well as practices related to health, safety and environment, all in the framework of nanotechnologies.

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