Symposium "Ways of successful science, technology and innovation cooperation between Europe and the **USA**" 23-24 April 2012, Vienna



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MIT Portugal

Overview



- Joint PhD and Master Programs
- Annual competition for research projects (Univ. + Industries)
- Venture competition

MIT-Portugal Program in Numbers

- **10** Portuguese universities, **20** research centers
- **210** Portuguese faculty, **25** MIT departments, all **5** Schools within MIT, and **70** MIT faculty members
- 4 Doctoral programs
- 1 MBA, 3 Master's of Business Engineering and Master's of Science programs. These programs currently include 314 PhD and over 50 Master's students, from 44 countries
- Over **150** Master's degree students have already been graduated. This results in over **500** students
- Altogether over 70 new courses have been developed for teaching in the various educational programs, many of which introduce curricular elements novel to Portuguese and international engineering education

Goals and Governance

- Cooperation promoted by the Portuguese government together with MIT, in a bottom-up process, which included an assessment by MIT. Main objectives:
 - Bring the Portuguese universities together
 - Promote international attractiveness of PT higher education
 - Increment the University-Industry relationships
- The implementation during the cooperation
 - Board included MIT Chancellor, Dean of Engineering and MIT Director, President of FCT, Minister Representative and PT Director.
 - PhD students took 1 year classes jointly thought by MIT and PT faculty in Portugal, and then spent typically 1 year at MIT
 - Faculty and researchers exchange was cultivated
 - Portuguese Government through FCT and industrial affiliates (in lesser extent) financed the program
 - Constantly review by an External Review Committee
 - Competitive research calls both including both MIT, PT Universities and research labs and Industry

Fields and opportunities

• The value of engineering systems as an emerging field



Recommendations

- MIT develops a culture of entrepreneurship in each student, which impacts in the Industry-University interaction
 - "Soft skills" are important, together with multidisciplinarity and problem solving ("industry") oriented education – case study
- Outlook for the future:
 - We are looking forward to open the program for other EU MS, but this requires:
- Joint call mechanisms between EU and US funding institutions based on integrated funding processes