ISR-Connected 2.0

This issue of ISR-connected celebrates several achievements of our community members as well as a number of important events. We celebrate Easter, one of the most important Christian celebrations. Western Easter was celebrated on April 1st and Eastern Easter will be on April the 8th. This is also our first spring issue, after the Spring equinox on March 21st where the length of day and night become approximately the same. Interestingly, the same date marks the celebration of the Persian New year, the Nowruz. March is also the month for important New Year celebrations in several regions of India

Enjoy the reading and keep us posted on ISR-news!

José Santos-Victor

What's New

PhD student among Facebook's top Women in Tech

Shanghang Zhang was considered a top researcher demonstrating exceptional work in her academic achievements. This led her to be invited to participate in a select event organized by Facebook's Chief Operating Officer, established with the goal of promoting contact between outstanding computer science and engineering students and postdocs and Facebook's engineering team. Learn more about the event and her work here

SocRob awarded at ERL

On the 14th of March, during the European Robotics Forum in Tampere, Finland, SocRob was awarded the Task Benchmark 1 "Getting to Know My Home" prize. Professor Rodrigo Ventura was present to receive the award on behalf of the team for their participation in the Service Robots branch of the European Robotics League, which focusses on robots that could provide assistance in homes, particularly for people with reduced mobility. Read more

Walkbot could help improve the floor we walk on

The Walkbot was developed as an acquisition system that allows for the collection of data by monitoring mobility indicators in order to evaluate the state of urban sidewalks. Born out of the TecInnov competition at IST it's now spurring academic goals within the Signal and Image Processing Group at ISR. Learn more about this device and what led to its development here

Father's Day with ROB 9-16

ROB 9-16 is an IST robotics club for children aged 9 to 16, that since 2014 introduces technology-related thematics to young men and women. Every Saturday young participants are welcomed to explore fundamental concepts in engineering and on the 19th of March the club offered a program of activities where fathers and sons were challenged to build the quickest and most original boat, using tools from robotics and electronics. Learn more about ROB 9-16's activities here

Inside ISR

People of ISR - Pedro Teixeira Santos

In another edition of People of ISR we get to know Pedro Teixeira Santos, a young man who chose ISR-Lisboa as the placing for his gap year and who is developing interesting work with the Institute's EEG equipment and setup. Learn more about how this synergy came to be, as well as Pedro's journey, by reading here

Visit from an old friend

Sjoerd van der Swaan was at ISR-Lisboa from 1995 to 2001, developing work on projects like Compound Eye (1997) a study on hardware and software to bring similar navigation efficiency to that of an insect's. Nowadays Sjoerd works as CTO of 2getthere, a company working at the forefront of transit systems development. His visit at IST was a nostalgic one but also an exploration of possibilities for collaboration between the Dutch company and ISR-Lisboa.

A glimpse of the past

A handful of decades ago the area of the campus we now know and love was mostly baren. Thank you to Professor João Sanches for sharing this reminder of how quickly things can change and increase pace...
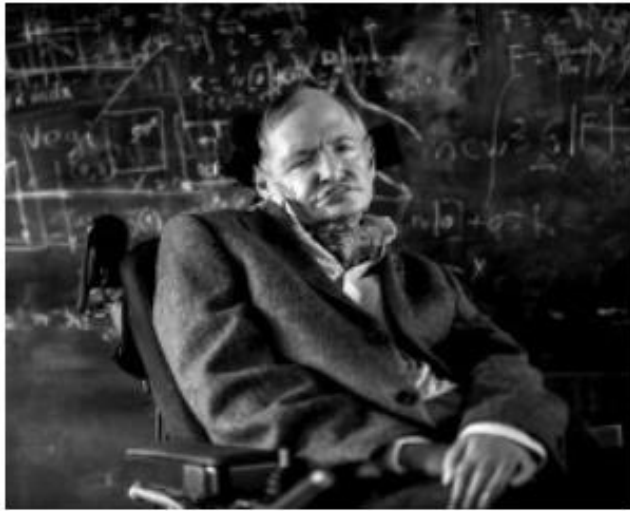
Explore more pictures of the old days of Lisbon here

Press

Euronews on WiMUST project

In January 2018 the WiMUST project trials, hosted by ISR-Lisboa/IST in Sines, were joined by a team from Euronews who dove into the researcher's efforts of exploring the seafloor with a novel technology. Learn more about what they referred to as "small army of autonomous robots" including a video of the underwater vehicles in action here.

Stephen Hawking 1942 - 2018

This month the world has suffered the loss of one the most influential and highly regarded scientists of the twenty-first century. Dr Hawking's work as a theoretical physicist and cosmologist led him to deliver great contributions, particularly in the field of general relativity and the study of black holes. He was also popular for his passion for communicating physics and the mysteries of the universe and his excellent sense of humour. Watch a particularly funny interview of his, with John Oliver, here.

Brussels calls for experts in AI

The European Commission has opened vacancies for experts in AI who might be interested in developing a project dealing with the ethical progress of artificial intelligence. The goal is to create an informed workgroup that can endorse these technological changes with a firm ethical stance, a major intention of the EC, according to Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation Carlos Moedas. Applications are open until the 9th of April and the group should be built by May. Learn more

European Commission
Commission européenne

Events

ISR-Lisboa at the 9th AIMS meeting

The Annual International Medical Students Meeting is a conference supported by the Faculty of Medicine of Lisbon Students' Local Committee. In its 9th edition, one of the main goals was to bring focus to the most engaging and exciting technological and innovative breakthroughs in recent medicine. Professor José Santos-Victor was one of the invited speakers who shared research interests in the areas of computer and robot vision and biologically inspired models. More

Parkinson Tech and Health Congress

On behalf of the World Parkinson Day, the Senior Neurological Campus is organizing their first CNS congress. The event will take part on the 7th of April in Torres Vedras, Portugal, with the theme "Will technology be able to treat Parkinson disease" and is destined not only for health professionals but also to those working with technology. ISR-Lisboa will be represented by Professors Alexandre Bernardino and José Santos-Victor. More
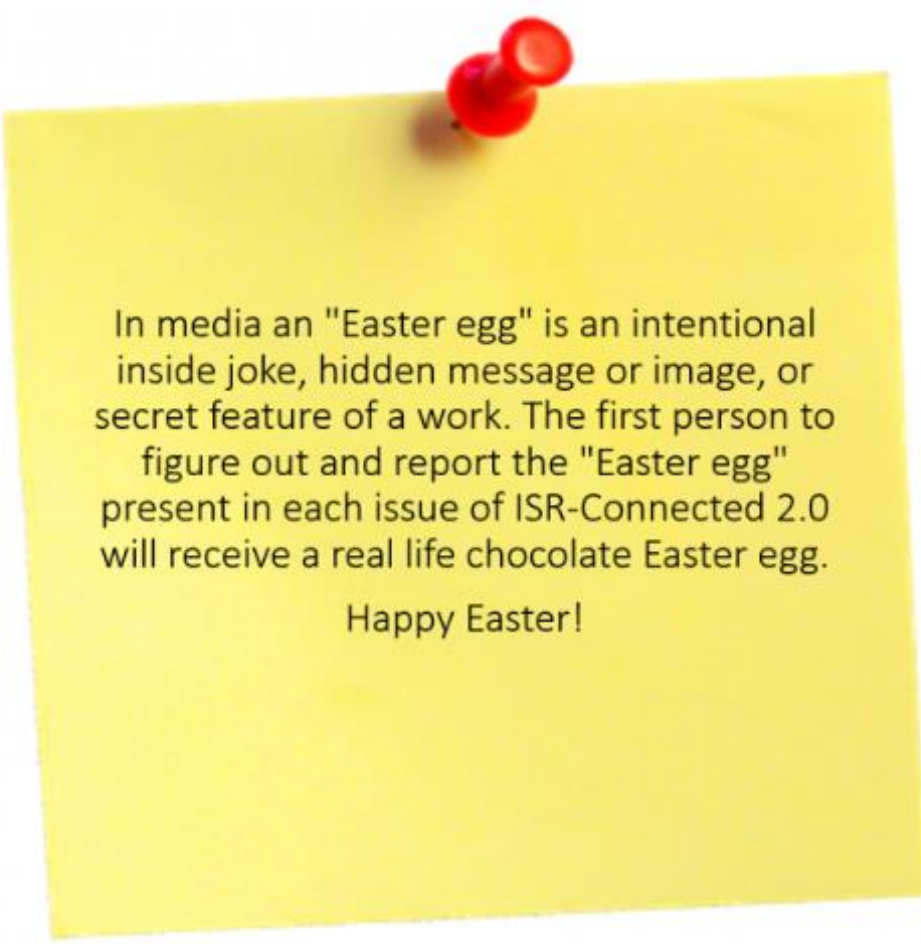
CONGRESSO CNS
7 ABRIL 2018

NVIDIA Technology Conference

The NVIDIA GPU Technology Conference took place last next week in SIlicon Valley. From the 26th to the 29th of March it feautured hunderds of sessions on AI and deep learning, providing participants with direct access to experts from leading organizations. A former postdoc researcher at ISR-Lisboa, Aamir Ahmad, will be one of the featured speakers who will share information on may aspects of his research at the Max Planck Institute. More

Sticky Note

Share a piece of information that might be useful

In media an "Easter egg" is an intentional inside joke, hidden message or image, or secret feature of a work. The first person to figure out and report the "Easter egg" present in each issue of ISR-Connected 2.0 will receive a real life chocolate Easter egg.

Happy Easter!

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