



MagIC Data Research Meetup

The future and challenges of Data Science

Understanding a world shaped by complexity and interdependence requires new ways of thinking about data. This was the focus of the 3rd Data Research Meetup, hosted by MagIC at NOVA IMS. Bringing together students and researchers, the event explored how data science must evolve to address today's societal and urban challenges, featuring a keynote by Esteban Moro from Northeastern University and presentations of ongoing MagIC research and doctoral work.

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International partnerships

Expanding global academic collaboration in Asia

Strengthening global connections is key to advancing knowledge. Through new academic partnerships with institutions in South Korea and Japan, NOVA IMS is expanding its international presence in regions with strong activity in data science and information management. The agreements with University of Seoul and Nagoya University of Commerce and Business foster mobility for students, faculty and staff, promoting academic exchange and international collaboration.

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Research excellence

NOVA IMS recognised at NOVA Science & Innovation Day

NOVA IMS took part in the NOVA Science & Innovation Day, an initiative focused on research and innovation across the NOVA ecosystem. Professors Mauro Castelli and Pedro Simões Coelho were recognised at the NOVA Research Impact Narratives & Awards for the projects "AI4IA – AI for Impact Assessment" and "The Sustainable Health Index", and PhD student Mariana Girão Carrilho received the PhD Flash Talks Award.

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International urban policy

People-centred smart cities at UN-Habitat

Miguel de Castro Neto, Dean of NOVA IMS, took part in a global expert meeting promoted by UN-Habitat focused on the development of the People-Centred Smart Cities strategy, hosted in Baku. The meeting brought together international experts to contribute to the framework that will inform the World Urban Forum. During the initiative, the work developed by NOVA Cidade – Urban Analytics Lab was presented, focusing on the role of data and analytics in urban quality of life.

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PROJECTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Greenshift

An EU-funded online Joint Master's in AI and HPC for sustainable transport, delivered by a Europe-wide university and industry consortium.

+Valorcer

A nationwide initiative modernizing Portugal's cereal sector through digitalization, training, and blockchain traceability.

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Blockchain, real projects and a slice of pizza

What happens inside the NOVA Blockchain Lab? At the latest NOVA IMS Pizza Night, organised by the Students' Union, the NOVA Blockchain Lab gave students a closer look at its team, ongoing projects and real-world blockchain applications.

[MEDIA GALLERY](#)



Leadership

A new Board at NOVAe

NOVAe - the student-led entrepreneurship hub based at NOVA IMS - welcomed its new Board, led by Gustavo Neves (President) and David Malínek (VP & Director of R&D). This team aims to strengthen NOVAe as the place where students turn ideas into real, hands-on projects. Best of luck to the new team.

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IN THE NEWS



NOVA IMS launched a blockchain-based system that gives students control over their academic credentials, enabling secure sharing and verification.



In partnership with Expresso, the NOVA Cidade Urban Analytics Lab, led by NOVA IMS, shows that around 30 municipalities have no secondary schools, forcing some students into long daily commutes.



Two studies co-authored by NOVA IMS researcher Jörg Henseler suggest that social media users focus mainly on organic content and quickly disengage when clear commercial cues appear.



Miguel de Castro Neto says AI is turning programming into a conversation, and quantum computing could supercharge this shift, blurring the line between user and creator and enabling faster, larger-scale results.



On Rádio Observador's Contra-Corrente, NOVA IMS researcher Samuel Santos brought data into the road-safety debate, analyzing recent years' figures and how Portugal's road safety has evolved over time.



NOVA IMS students and faculty discuss the risks and opportunities of using AI in higher education, highlighting its role as a learning support while warning against practices that may weaken critical thinking.



Speaking at Plataforma Saúde em Diálogo's Annual Conference, Pedro Simões Coelho underlined the need to reconcile innovation with NHS sustainability, while defending proximity-based medicine dispensing.

SAVE THE DATE

Unigis Talks - Modelling "Place" in GIScience

21st January

Join us for another UNIGIS Talks online session on integrating human experience and emerging data sources into spatial models, with Professor Vicente Tang, moderated by Professor Marco Painho. [Learn more and register here](#).

From the data revolution to data justice

26th January

Join us for a seminar on producing and analyzing data of, for, and with favelas, with Flavia F. Feitosa, Associate Professor at UFABC and Innovation Coordinator at CEFATELA. [Learn more and register here](#).

Expresso Podcasts Live at Rectorate

27th January

Once again, NOVA IMS partners with PODFEST - the festival that brings some of Expresso's leading podcasts to life in a live event at the Rectorate Auditorium. **More details coming soon.**

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