

### Creating the future



2015 was a year of reinvention for the office. We rebranded ourselves, adopting a new name, a new image, closer to the one of the University of Porto, and a new website. UPIN is now U.Porto Innovation and with a refreshed outlook our commitment to better serve our University, the region and the community in general is stronger than ever. For the first time in our University an event especially dedicated to celebrate innovation took place, the Innovation Gala. It was a pleasure and an honour to have played a role in the organisation of such an event and we aim to actively contribute to keep innovation as one of the core pillars of the University of Porto.

This activity report sums up U.Porto Innovation past year, describing our main achievements and our involvement in the development of programmes for U.Porto community.

> Maria Oliveira, Head of Office U.Porto Innovation

#### "With a highly qualified and motivated team, U.Porto Innovation is a cornerstone within our innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem." (Pro-rector Carlos Brito)

The University of Porto is responsible for more than 20% of the Portuguese scientific production. In this context, we do consider the valorisation of knowledge not only an opportunity but also an obligation.

In order to respond to this challenge, the university is strongly committed to the co-creation of value along with the industry. In doing so, we aim at fostering the competitiveness of Portuguese companies, increasing tech-based exports and, last but not least, contributing to the creation of high qualified jobs.

U.Porto Innovation assumes a central role in this strategy since it promotes the commercialisation of intellectual property, the emergence of knowledge-based spin-offs and the provision of added value services to the most important companies both in Portugal and abroad. With a highly qualified and motivated team, U.Porto Innovation is a cornerstone within our innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem.

> **Carlos Brito,** Pro-rector of the University of Porto for innovation and entrepreneurship



Carlos Melo Brito (pro-rector) and Sebastião Feyo de Azevedo (Rector) at the Innovation Gala

#### **U.PORTO'S INNOVATION GALA**

For its inaugural edition in December 2015, more than 200 business people, researchers, entrepreneurs and national investors sat down to dinner in an elegant and animated atmosphere. On a night celebrating Innovation and Volunteerism, with the motto of "How to make a difference?", the new Port of Leixões Cruise Ship Terminal could hardly contain the enthusiasm of the quests, the rousing speeches of the participants and the ambitious future plans of the Rector of U.Porto, Sebastião Feyo de Azevedo, and the Pro-Rector,

Carlos Melo Brito. Organised by U.Porto Innovation and U.Porto ALUMNI, the Innovation Gala was a memorable networking event and a highlight of 2015 for U.Porto. This annual event promises to continue to reflect the investment that the institution has been making in the Third Mission and in creating closer ties with businesses. The organisers promise future editions will continue working towards uniting these two worlds by creating a pleasant atmosphere and positively surprising participants, year after year.

## [Spotlight]

#### THE AMAZING JOURNEY OF VENIAM WORKS

As a spin-off of the University of Porto, IT and the University of Aveiro, Veniam has shown in a very practical way how the knowledge produced by investing in science and technology can be transformed into products for the global market, as well as into skilled employment in Portugal. At the forefront of the "Internet of Moving Things", Veniam transforms buses, cars, lorries and other vehicles into Wi-Fi hotspots, capable of bringing Internet connectivity to all citizens. Through cloud-managed services, Veniam is even able to improve the quality of transportation fleet services

and the operational efficiency of controlled industrial spaces such as ports, airports, mines, factories, and so on. The proof of concept was done in Porto, where Veniam is responsible for the creation and management of the largest vehicular Internet network in the world, which includes the entire STCP fleet, having provided so far over 4 million Internet sessions to more than 400 thousand users. With the help of UPTEC and an intellectual property agreement executed through U.Porto Innovation, Veniam has made strides in important international markets, such as Singapore and New York.



Veniam team

As a former student and currently a full professor at the University of Porto, Veniam's CEO João Barros stated: "It is an enormous pleasure to be able to lead this project and work with an extraordinary team". Recently, Veniam received a nearly 22 million Euro investment in a Series B round of financing, raising Veniam's total venture capital to 26 million Euros.



Top row (left to right): Filipe Castro, Maie Peetri, André Fernandes Bottom row (left to right): Fátima Ramalho, Aude Gabrielsen, Sara Fidalgo, Sofia Varge, Carlos Brito, Maria Oliveira

# What can I get from U.Porto Innovation?

U.Porto Innovation was created in 2004 with the objective of supporting the University's innovation value chain by fostering the transfer of knowledge and reinforcing the bond between the University and businesses.

> With over 10 years of experience, U.Porto Innovation focuses its activities on research at the University, entrepreneurship within the academic community and U.Porto's growing connections with industry.



### **Our Story**



## **Our Numbers**





[ \* All data refers to accumulated activity through December  $31^{\mbox{\tiny st}}$  2015 ]







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