

News from Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Management

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MIT Sloan to explore joint programs with Portuguese universities

Effort complements a larger research and education initiative by MIT with Portugal

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., LISBON, Portugal, October 11, 2006--Already active with business schools in a range of nations, including Korea, Mexico and China, the MIT Sloan School of Management formally launches a ninemonth exploration of program development with faculty from leading Portuguese universities today. A meeting in Lisbon , which is set to include Portuguese Prime Minister José Sócrates, senior MIT administrators and leaders from Portuguese institutions, will be a key development in plans by MIT to work with Portuguese government and academic leaders to significantly expand engineering and management research and education at many of Portugal's top universities.

MIT Sloan's goal is to help advance management education and training in other nations while further exposing its own faculty and students to global economic, business and other trends and developments. "We can never have enough international activities going on at MIT Sloan," said MIT Sloan Deputy Dean Paul Osterman. "The MIT-Portugal Program is very much a two-way street. We're impressed with the quality of Portugal's educational institutions. We have something to offer them, and we'll certainly gain from working with them."

Sloan's involvement in the program is just part of a major initiative undertaken by the Portuguese government to strengthen the country's knowledge base at an international level through a strategic investment in people, knowledge and ideas. It will complement a wide-ranging initiative with MIT– the largest of its sort in Portugal – that will involve professors, researchers and students from the schools of engineering, science and technology, management and economics at ten schools of higher education and seven Portuguese universities, along with other research centers and laboratories.

During their nine-month mutual exploration into possible programs, MIT Sloan and Portuguese university counterparts will focus on three primary areas:

- Design of a Global MBA Program, to be led in Portugal by the Portuguese Catholic University and the School of Economics and Management at the Universidade Nova de Lisboa, and involving faculty of the ISCTE Business School, and the School of Economics and Management at the Technical University of Lisbon;
- Development of a mid-career program in entrepreneurship, following the conclusions of the assessment study conducted by MIT in Portugal;
- Launching a program of seminars, "Lisbon-Sloan Seminar Series in Management Science", with the Portuguese Catholic University, the School of Economics and Management at the Universidade Nova de Lisboa, the ISCTE Business School, and the School of Economics and Management at the Technical University of Lisbon.

A longer-term collaboration could be built around MIT Sloan's International Faculty Fellows Program model, which trains and mentors international faculty for six-month periods at MIT Sloan. Portuguese faculty would design their own programs based on MIT Sloan input.

More than 40 faculty from all five schools at MIT, including MIT Sloan, have been involved in the MIT-Portugal Program.