

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SCHOLARSHIPS' ASCRIPTION FOR R&D

Title: Research Scholarship (1 scholarship)

Accordingly with the "Standards for Assignment of Scholarships in the scope of Research Projects" of the FCT (Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology), we announce the following **call for one PhD research grant for Master fellows under the research project "Express – Exploration of Portugal's High Speed Rail and Economic Development Strategy Solutions"** (MIT/SET/0023/2009), co-developed by the Instituto Superior Técnico and MIT, and sponsored by the national research funds through FCT/MCTES (PIDDAC) and co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) under the Operational Agenda for Competitiveness Factors – COMPETE. The call is open during 20 working days (as from the date of the official announcement at IST) and the corresponding terms are as follows:

Scientific Field: Systems Engineering – Transportation area

Proposed Work Plan: "Analyze the High Speed Railway' impact on urban configuration"

Among the several projects on transports infrastructures undergoing in Portugal, the assessment of the HSR project is extremely relevant. Being at an early stage of development, under a high socioeconomic instability and uncertainty, it implies a large financial investment/commitment and will cause a wide set of negative and positive effects that should be considered for evaluation. The research will be developed under the EXPRESS project that aims to analyzing the strategic planning of the HSR implementation in Portugal, with the objective to maximizing its potential within a wider transport system strategy and economic development.

HSR network will imply a deep change in the accessibility of several urban areas that will be served. These access changes will impact the relative attractiveness of such areas, which can be translated into numerous considerable impacts at a local and regional level. Under this project the goal is to model those impacts in a dynamic and interactive way. The generic tasks that the candidate shall perform under this scholarship are mainly related to the local impacts of HSR:

1. Estimation of econometric models to understand the impacts of HSR on urban structure.
2. Integration of the built models on a dynamic modeling structure that included other developed models on regional impacts of HSR.

Work place: The work will be performed at the Instituto Superior Técnico – Centro de Sistemas Urbanos e Regionais (CESUR - www.civil.ist.utl.pt/nispt), Lisbon, Portugal, under the supervision of João de Abreu e Silva (Assistant Professor in Transportation).

Scholarship duration: The scholarship will take 12 months, with a predicted start on July 2011. The scholarship can be renewed for a maximum period of 36 months.

Monthly Salary: € 980 (nine hundred and eighty Euros) accordingly to FCT standards (<http://alfa.fct.mctes.pt/apoios/bolsas/valores>).

Admission requirements:

- (1) Hold a Master Degree in Civil Engineering, Land-use Planning and/or Engineering, Physics Engineering, Economics or Statistics,
- (2) Basic background on both statistical analysis and modeling (preferably in transports) and
- (3) Master English Language (Speaking, reading and writing).

Selection procedure: Final selection of grant holders will be as follows:

- (4) Curriculum Vitae Evaluation (*35% of final score*)
- (5) Interview (*35% of final score*)
- (6) Recommendation Letters (the letters should be directly sent by the authors to the following email address: fmoura@ist.utl.pt) (*20% of final score*), and
- (7) Motivation Letter (*10% of final score*).

Publication form/notification of results: The final selection will be listed according to the final score and published in a visible and public place at Instituto Superior Técnico (Human Resources Direction's showcase) and all candidates will be notified through email.

Application Documents:

- Curriculum Vitae (indicate Passport Number if you are a foreigner),
- Certificate of Achievement,
- Motivation Letter, and
- Other relevant documents.

Applications should be sent to Ms Carina Pacheco (carina.pacheco@civil.ist.utl.pt).

Inquiries and questions should be addressed to Ms Teresa Afonso (tafonso@civil.ist.utl.pt).