



PG | Post Graduation
Entrepreneurship: Tech Startups

PROFESSORS



MARCO LAMAS
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT ISLA GAIA

Assistant Professor at ISLA Gaia, where he coordinates the Business and Innovation LAB (BIL). Serves as Director of the Master's in Management and the Postgraduate Programme in Entrepreneurship: Tech Startups. Co-founder of the international SHINE project and member of the Santander X Explorer Advisory Board. Acts as an external expert for the COST Association and an Early Warning Europe mentor. Certified as a Senior Marketer by APPM, and works as a mentor and consultant for start-ups.



JOAQUIM SILVA
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT ISLA GAIA

Assistant Professor and researcher, currently pursuing a PhD in Economics and Business Administration. Specialist in taxation and accounting, teaching in the areas of accounting, taxation, information systems, and strategic compensation management. Certified Accountant and entrepreneur in the fuel sector.



SÉRGIO RESENDE
CEO OF RMP - RISK MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

Holds a degree in Accounting and Administration and a Master's in Auditing from ISCAP, as well as a PhD in Management, Strategy, and Entrepreneurship from the University of A Coruña. CEO and founder of RMP and the C2R Observatory. Previously responsible for risk management at SGS and Universalis. Works as a consultant, trainer, and lecturer, serving as an Adjunct Professor at ISLA Gaia and guest lecturer at the Polytechnic Institute of Porto.



MÓNICA SANTOS
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT ISLA GAIA

Assistant professor at ISLA Gaia and the Higher School of Education of Coimbra. PhD in Design from FBAUP, in partnership with UA, completed a Master's degree in Multimedia Art at FBAUP and FEUP. Researcher at ID+, her research focuses on design in society, health literacy, empowerment, and design education.



JORGE DUQUE
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT ISLA GAIA

Holds a PhD in Computer Science and is currently pursuing postdoctoral studies. Coordinates the Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science for E-Commerce, the CTeSP in Artificial Intelligence Application Development, and the Postgraduate Degree in Analytics and Business Data Science, as well as the computer science research lines at ISLA Gaia. His research focuses on Data Science.



SÉRGIO ÁGUIA
PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

Professor, trainer, public speaker, and workshop facilitator. Works with companies and educational institutions to develop skills in communication, leadership, active listening, soft skills, and pitch creation. Member of Toastmasters International, where he holds leadership positions at the international level. Speaker curator at TEDxPorto, and part of the team responsible for selecting and preparing speakers.

PROFESSORS



RICARDO CARVALHO
PROJECT MANAGER AT AVE SOCIAL HUB

Holds a bachelor's and master's degree in Creativity and Innovation, with diverse international experience in creative communication, innovation consulting, education, and entrepreneurship. Founder of two entrepreneurial projects, one of which earned first prize in a national ideas competition. Currently serves as Project Manager at Ave Social Hub, a centre for impact entrepreneurship.



THIAGO VIEIRA
CEO OF CYBERTECH ACCELERATION PROGRAM

With 16 years of experience in technology and innovation, he is a forensic expert, lawyer, PhD candidate in Artificial Intelligence, angel investor, and founder of Cybertech Acceleration – the first acceleration programme for cybersecurity start-ups in Portugal.



CARLOS MIGUEL OLIVEIRA
DIRECTOR OF THE ISLA GAIA SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Holds a PhD in Management and is a coordinating professor at ISLA Gaia, where he also serves as Director of the School of Management. Researcher at CEOS.PP, focusing on business strategy, people management, human resources management, strategy, and entrepreneurship. Coordinates institutional and scientific projects, and acts as a consultant and expert evaluator for ANQEP and IGEC.



ANDRÉ COSTA
TEACHER AND TRAINER

Teacher and trainer with experience in the technology sector, having collaborated with SMEs and international projects, including Apple Maps Portugal, as well as projects with over €500,000 in funding. Active in AI since 2021, and founder of the SuperHumano AI community. Teaches future skills in AI, digital technologies, and digital products. Trainer, teacher, researcher, and PhD candidate.



PEDRO CARAMÉZ
TRAINER, CONSULTANT AND MENTOR

Trainer, consultant, and mentor with over 15 years of experience helping companies, B2B sales teams, and marketing professionals leverage LinkedIn to generate leads, increase brand visibility, and build strategic relationships. Based in Viana do Castelo, he combines his passion for digital with his characteristic positive energy.



PAUL COYLE
DIRECTOR OF THE ENTREPRENEURIAL MINDSET NETWORK

Director of the Entrepreneurial Mindset Network, an international community dedicated to developing an entrepreneurial mindset, with followers in 104 countries. His work focuses on higher education, providing specialised support in teaching, research, leadership, and organisational development. Inspires professionals to make their unique contribution to the world.

PROFESSORS



SLAVA BARANOVSKIY
FOUNDER OF ELIGENT CLUB

Tech entrepreneur and CEO of Eligent, a company that develops customised digital solutions. Founder of Eligent Club, Tech Accelerator, and Eligent Film Festival – the first international film festival dedicated to start-ups. With a background in engineering and management, he is a mentor, director, and international speaker focused on innovation and project expansion in Europe.



SHARINE FERNANDEZ
WOMEN TECHMAKERS AMBASSADOR

Innovation lawyer, specialist in start-ups, legaltech, and robotics. Dedicated to developing solutions with generative AI, LLMs, and Google technologies, always with a focus on ethics and social impact. A finalist in awards such as Poliempreende and Born for Knowledge, she works at the intersection of law, technology, and innovation with purpose.



LUÍS OSÓRIO
UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR AT ISLA GAIA

PhD candidate in Computer Science. Specialist in technical SEO since 2008, as well as web accessibility and programming. IT operations manager with experience in retail. Holds a degree in IT and a postgraduate degree in Networks. Works with PHP (Zend/Laminas, Laravel), Python, databases (Oracle, SQL Server, MySQL, MongoDB), digital marketing, SEO, and web design (WordPress). University professor and trainer.



JOÃO FRANQUEIRA
CHIEF PEOPLE OFFICER AT COVERFLEX

People-centred leader with 18 years of experience in technology, fintech, retail, and e-commerce. Focused on building high-performance teams and fostering organisational cultures of excellence, integrating neuroscience and psychology into leadership. Recognised for his impact at Prozis and Coverflex, where he led significant growth and transformations in demanding environments.



SÉRGIO RODRIGUES
PRESIDENT OF INVICTA ANGELS

Electrical engineer, inventor, and entrepreneur with extensive experience in developing technological products. Founded and sold several software and electronics companies, having lived in cities such as Madrid, London, Hong Kong, and Singapore. Former Head of Product Development at Sage, currently Managing Partner of an investment fund and President of Invicta Angels, where he supports technology start-ups.



JOSÉ NETO
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT ISLA GAIA

Holds a PhD in Economics and Business from the University of Santiago de Compostela. Currently serves as Director of the Bachelor's Degree in Business Management at ISLA Gaia and is responsible for Advanced Training and Foreign Services. Author of several scientific articles published in indexed journals, with research interests focused on the banking sector and fintech.

PROFESSORS



PEDRO FONSECA
DIGITAL STRATEGY CONSULTANT

Supports brands and companies in developing clear, purposeful, and impactful communication. Founder of Kaksi Media, working with SMEs and entrepreneurs to build digital presence and content strategies. Also teaches, mentors projects, and believes that communication is more of a tool than a style.



JORGE PACHECO
PROFESSOR AND DIGITAL MARKETING CONSULTANT

Holds a PhD in Communication from UVigo, a Master's in Digital Marketing from ISCAP, and a Bachelor's in Marketing from UFP. Guest lecturer in higher education in marketing, sales, communication, and digital marketing at ISCAP, IPCA, ISPGaya, ISLA Gaia, and Porto Executive Academy. Former Digital Strategist at WhySurreal (UK), working with clients such as Symington Family Estates, Caves Campelo, Corticeira Amorim, Stryker, GBLF, Indian Motorcycles, and Hotel Feel Viana.



DIEGO MARTÍNEZ
SENIOR DIGITAL CHANNELS ANALYST AT ENTEL

Senior Digital Channels Analyst at Entel, with experience in data science, machine learning, and marketing analytics. Holds a Master's in Data Science & Advanced Analytics from NOVA IMS, with a specialisation in Business Analytics. Also holds a degree in Commercial Engineering from PUC Chile, with a diploma in Negotiation and a minor in Psychology.

FOUNDERS



PEDRO DIEZ GASPAR
DIRECTOR OF NEW BUSINESS TECHNOLOGIES

Innovation expert and founder with experience in sectors such as telecommunications, fintech, energy, and smart cities, across regions including Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and the USA – always in leadership positions in innovation. Currently serves as Director of New Business Technologies at CEiiA and as a Member of the Board of APDSI.



SAMUEL SOARES
CEO AND CO-FOUNDER OF SAMSYS

Studied Mechanical Engineering at ISEP and completed a Postgraduate Degree in Commercial Management and Sales at IPAM. Author of O Caminho do Sonhador (The Dreamer's Path) and co-author of AMA o Marketing e Networking: 100 Cenas (Love Marketing and Networking: 100 Scenes). Leader of Samsys, recognised for excellence and organisational happiness. In 2025, distinguished as "Happy Boss" for his humane and inspiring leadership.



PEDRO LOURENÇO
FOUNDER OF PORTAL DA QUEIXA

Entrepreneur from Porto and founder of Portal da Queixa, the largest consumer social network in Portugal. Created Consumers Trust, a global brand that internationalised the platform. Former communication designer, EU Consumer Rights Ambassador, and co-founder of MEXE-TE. Believes that "done is better than perfect."



RUI FONSECA
CEO AT ALTRONIX LDA AND AUTOID, S.L.

CEO of Altronix and AutoID, professor at IPAM and ISCAP, and member of several advisory boards. Began working at the age of 13 and has over 30 years of experience in management and on the factory floor. Distinguished as SME Hero 2019, and currently Vice-President of the Red Cross in Trofa. His motto: "If it's impossible, I need five more minutes."

MENTORS



JOÃO FREITAS
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Holds a degree and an MBA in Business Finance, with over 25 years of professional experience in both the public and private sectors, including 20 years in business consulting in a multi-sector environment. Possesses strong expertise in e-commerce and business internationalisation. Serves as a mentor in entrepreneurship projects.



ADRIANO FIDALGO
CEO OF ASTROLÁBIO - ORIENTAÇÃO E ESTRATÉGIA S.A.

Chairman of the Board of Directors of Astrolábio - Orientação e Estratégia S.A., with 14 years of leadership experience. Coordinates postgraduate courses at IPAM and works as an administrator focused on project incubation and acceleration. Business manager, higher education lecturer, and specialist in strategy, internationalisation, entrepreneurship, marketing, sales, negotiation, and management control.



MARCO POLIAFICO
PROJECT FINANCE AND RENEWABLE ENERGY SPECIALIST

Specialist in renewable energy and project finance, with international experience in Europe, MENAT, APAC, and LATAM. Has developed more than 3 GW in solar and wind projects (onshore and offshore) and led financial and strategic modelling at GE Co-Dev. Brings over 11 years of experience in renewable energy. Mentor to start-ups and holds an Executive MBA from Bayes Business School.



MIGUEL COELHO
CEO & LEARNING DESIGNER AT THESTARTER

Designer and co-founder of TheStarter, a start-up focused on advanced training in UX and Product. Has worked on dozens of international UI/UX projects and is dedicated to personalised teaching of digital skills such as research, design systems, and leadership. Passionate about start-ups, communities, and digital products.



SAVIO MEIRELES
BUSINESS CONSULTANT

Professional at the intersection of communication and strategy, helping start-ups and organisations tell compelling stories, attract investors, and expand into new markets. With international experience, has been working in Portugal for the past three years, supporting incubators, accelerators, and founders.

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