

CLARA GONÇALVES (Head of Knowledge Transfer and Innovation)

Clara Gonçalves is an Innovation and Technology Believer, with big expertise in worldwide knowledge networks, involving academic communities, enterprises, and startups.

Clara is currently, since April 2020, Head of Knowledge Transfer and Innovation of B.ACIS, Center for Health Innovation, School of Medicine, University of Minho.

Since October 2019, Clara is Vice President of ENSICO – an association aiming, in a three years horizon, to include a computation course unit in the Portuguese pedagogic curricula, from primary to high school.

Additionally, Clara is a member and Advisory Board Member of Firefly – a Global Platform for Prevention Entrepreneurship in Public Health, a project promoted by City University in New York, USA with IE Business School in Madrid, Spain.

Since 2018, Clara has also been the main organizer and an active member of the Steering Committee of the “Future of Computing” Summer School, an international school for learning future computing technologies based on quantum, neuromorphic and biochemical computing.

From September 2007 until June 2019, Clara was the Executive Director of UPTEC - Park of Science and Technology of the University of Porto, Portugal. She implemented an effective knowledge and technology transfer model between academia and business, supporting more than 500 tech-based start-ups and spin-offs and attracting around 30 Innovation Centers from national and international enterprises to

University of Porto's ecosystem. She was also involved in several seminars and conferences as a speaker and organizer in Portugal and abroad.

Moreover, she was a member of the Scientific Council of the Fine Arts School of the University of Porto, where she organized several entrepreneurial programs with Post Doc, Ph.D., Masters, and Under Graduated students. She led the establishment of international partnerships with universities, companies, and technological organizations, in a national and international context.

In 2016, the U. S. Department of State (USA) invited Clara to the International Visitor Leadership Program that took place in several US cities such as Washington DC, San Francisco, Albuquerque, Detroit and New York.

In 2018, the Business and Innovation Network (BIN), a knowledge network between the University of Porto, the University of São Paulo, and the University of Sheffield, awarded Clara as the "Champion of the Year 2018".

In 2019, the Portuguese Engineers Council and Strongstep awarded Clara as the "Portugal Personality of the year award 2019 in Innovation".

Clara Gonçalves has a degree in Agronomic Engineering, Sciences School of the University of Porto, a specialization in Innovation, Knowledge, and Entrepreneurship by Economics, Management and Industrial Engineering Department of the University of Aveiro, and is currently doing an executive MBA at Erasmus University – Rotterdam School of Management.