

Sunday News No. 60

September 15th, 2019

Ivor Kenny, the late Irish academic, once said that the main problem of Ireland was that failure was celebrated, the new and different were hated, and mistrust was perceived as a sign of intelligence. I could say the same about Portugal.

However, such a problem seems to be Universal. Look to the current MIT Media Lab misfortunes (see below in Education). The decades long resentment against a new and different Lab that changed the rules of University funding, relationships with companies and even among scientific disciplines erupted after and well beyond the terrible Epstein incident. Instead of reminding readers of the [Lab's multiple accomplishments](#) and its [students great projects](#), the media went after the recent [Hype over Reality at MIT Open Ag case](#).

My research group at NOVA greatly benefitted from our relationship with the Media Lab. I hope that [Pattie Maes](#), the new Chair whom I know well, will solve the current mess.

Sunday News is a selection of about 20% of the links posted daily by the [Explora community](#). I can add you if you want (need to have a Facebook account). Newcomers can check previous Sunday News editions at [Explora live](#).

Have a Great Sunday

Antonio Camara

Education



The mess at MIT Media Lab

[MIT Media Lab director resigns after criticism over financial ties to Jeffrey Epstein](#); [Would we miss the Media Lab if it were gone? On Joi and MIT](#); and [Fundraising in Academia and the Epstein problem](#), where a former Dean of Harvard Medical School describes his challenges during a ("mere") \$750 million fundraising effort. Finally, an old but still interesting piece on MIT Media Lab's different financing model comes from Philip Greenspun who was predicting the [Lab demise in 2003](#)

Most interesting and somewhat out of sync on how we prepare and select graduate students in Portugal, are [these tips to get accepted at MIT Media Lab](#) by a current student

A foundational paper proposing that children should be taught [computational thinking](#)

[This map lets you plug in your address to see how it's changed over the past 750 million years](#)

Food

[How Tech is personalizing your diet](#)



[Ooni Karu - a powerful portable wood-fired pizza oven](#). Great product; educational Kickstarter campaign

Mobility

Try out [this interactive simulation](#), courtesy of the Washington Post, and experience for yourself how an autonomous car works

[Toronto case shows that bike lanes are good for business](#)

Jeff Dahn (works primarily for Tesla) claims that [new batteries could last 1 million miles](#)



[Flying taxis are taking off](#)

Cities, Nature and Clean Tech

“Macroeconomists used to think about the world by tallying up quantifiable stuff: capital, labor, natural resources. They weren’t sure how to account for ideas. But Mr. (Paul) Romer, in a seminal 1990 paper, showed that ideas were central to progress. His model of economic growth incorporating them enabled economists to ask entirely new questions about the modern “knowledge economy”: Where do ideas come from? How do they spread? Why are cities such hotbeds for creating them? By the late eighties, Mr. Romer was sure that cities were the urgent subject of the 21st century.”

Emily Badger, New York Times

[This building produces twice the energy it consumes, and it’s the future](#)

[Canine brains vary based on breed](#)

[What is the circular economy? Here’s a visual explanation](#)

[How to discuss climate change with friends and family](#)

[Hello from the Year 2050. we avoided the worst of climate change — but everything is different](#), a Time magazine special

Developing new companies

[Fractionalizing home equity](#)

[A great piece on the We Work IPO](#): “Valuation is a bridge between stories and numbers, and for young companies, it is the story that drives the numbers, rather than the other way around”

[Balancing game economies: an art and a science](#)

[Top 10 innovative lawyers](#)

[The best product design of 2019](#)

[The future according to YCombinator](#)

[Europe's product management problem](#)

[8 reasons why China is the most fascinating tech market in the world](#)

AR/VR/AI/ Quantum Computing (DARQ)



"I love you Lisbon guys..." SciFi writer Bruce Sterling (that inspired Matrix)

Historic video [on the first commercial AR event](#): the "2010 Auggies Unplugged". YDreams won the first Auggies (the non-official Oscar for AR) with the demo shown at 59.57". Later, we implemented a [pioneer case](#) at LA Staples Center Nike store for the NBA All Star Weekend in 2011. The relevance of our demo is that it set the foundations for the future AR/AI based computing that is now becoming possible with depth sensing and new chips as offered by iPhone 11. This [video](#) comparing the iPhone in 2009 with iPhone 11 shows how much progress was made in the last 10 years in the supporting hardware and software infrastructure

Daqri: [another high-flying, heavily funded AR headset startup is shutting down](#). But there are new exciting kids on the block: [ColorChip introduces an ultra-compact RGB pico-projector for SmartGlasses applications](#)

[Dallas Cowboys interactive MUPI](#) became viral

[Shazam for Art](#)

[Sonic branding](#)

[An update on concerts in VR — progress, but not perfection](#)



[Robot priests](#)

Printed electronics

[Ynvisible delivers electrochromic displays to a globally leading diagnostics company](#)

[Print your own speakers](#)

[MIT created color-changing ink that can be reprogrammed with light to show different images](#)

[MIT engineers develop multi-material fiber “ink” for 3-D-printed devices](#)

Far out

@JohnCleese

Nice moment at the theatre in Innsbruck last night...Just before I went on, I asked a stage manager " Will this audience know me better from Monty Python or Fawlty Towers? "He replied "I don't know. I've never heard of you "

On aging: [two books on achieving a longer health-span](#); [“old age” is made up](#)

[How do farmers make money on corn? By charging to shoot It from a cannon](#)

[What is like to take a mini horse in an airplane](#)

[A cyborg magician explains why she implanted 26 microchips and magnets in her body](#)

[How a video game is getting its players to re-think Brexit](#)



[The hills are alive with the sound of money](#)



[This amazing 2D cafe In Japan looks like it’s straight out of a comic book](#)



*"Honey, we need to have a conversation
about work-life balance."*