



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM



The University of  
Nottingham

# Our engagement with Brazil

## Nosso compromisso com o Brasil



# A strategic partnership

## *Our engagement with Brazil*

The University of Birmingham and The University of Nottingham first embarked on a strategic partnership in February 2011, combining strengths in international activity to enhance both universities' global impact. The partnership unites two leading, research-intensive UK universities with global reach, with a combined annual turnover of over £1 billion; a combined annual research income in excess of £300 million; campuses in China and Malaysia and regional offices in Delhi, Shanghai, Santa Catarina, Nigeria, Ghana and Brussels.

Given the notable quality and ambition of Brazilian universities and a strong and growing economy, both universities recognised the potential to enhance research connections and develop mutually beneficial partnerships with the leading Brazilian institutions, including:

- Long-term research collaborations
- Researcher mobility
- Doctoral training
- Educational collaboration and mobility of staff and students
- Interactions with industry in both Brazil and Europe to enhance research
- Business engagement and knowledge transfer

The combined strength and resource of the two institutions has enabled us to make significant progress in the space of just two years.

We continue to support development and collaboration with leading universities and key public and private sector organisations in Brazil and are jointly investing £4 million in our engagement with Brazil over three years. We have launched a joint representative office in Brazil, and established a joint investment fund worth £480,000 with the State of São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) and launched a visiting fellows scheme, all intended to promote collaborative research between Brazil, Birmingham and Nottingham.

To date, we have enrolled more than 100 students through the Science without Borders scheme, launched in 2012, and as part of our scholarship agreements with funding councils, CAPES and CNPq, we have welcomed more than 25 PhD students to our campuses. Our successful Visiting Fellows scheme has also welcomed more than 25 fellows in its first two years and we continue to attract increasing numbers of postgraduate and undergraduate students from Brazil to our campuses.

Our joint approach offers us a unique position that has been praised by UK organisations such as UKTI and the British Embassy. Our Brazilian partners are also able to link to two leading UK universities, both in the top 75 of the QS Global University Rankings.



'Our landmark collaboration has already enabled us to strengthen our research and teaching, share and develop innovations, and diversify income streams. Our strong partnership is delivering strategic advantages and enables us to collaborate in areas where it is mutually beneficial, while we continue to work closely with other leading institutions.'

*Professor David Eastwood,  
Vice-Chancellor of the University  
of Birmingham*

'The framework for collaboration between our two universities has focused and expanded some pre-existing links and provided a foundation for new ones. Our partnership has recognised each other's strengths and used them to leverage and exploit new opportunities, whilst maintaining our distinct identities.'

*Professor David Greenaway,  
Vice-Chancellor of The University  
of Nottingham*

# Uma parceria estratégica

## *Nosso compromisso com o Brasil*

A Universidade de Birmingham e a Universidade de Nottingham embarcaram inicialmente em uma parceria estratégica em fevereiro de 2011, juntando forças nas atividades internacionais para ampliar o impacto global de ambas as instituições. A parceria uniu duas universidades britânicas de liderança e de pesquisa intensiva com alcance global, movimentação anual somada de mais de £1 bilhão, rendimento combinado em pesquisa acima de £300 milhões por ano, campi na China e na Malásia e escritórios regionais em Delhi, Xangai, Santa Catarina, Nigéria, Gana e Bruxelas.

Dada a qualidade notável e a ambição das universidades brasileira e a economia forte e crescente, ambas as universidades reconheceram o potencial para ampliar os contatos em pesquisa e desenvolver parcerias de benefício mútuo com as principais instituições brasileiras, incluindo:

- colaborações de longo prazo em pesquisa
- mobilidade ao pesquisador
- treinamento de doutorado
- colaboração em educação e mobilidade de equipe e de estudantes
- interações com a indústria no Brasil e na Europa para ampliação de pesquisa
- engajamento em negócios e troca de conhecimento

A força e o recurso combinados das duas instituições nos permitiu fazer um progresso significativo em um período de apenas dois anos.

Nós continuamos a apoiar o desenvolvimento e a colaboração com universidades proeminentes e organizações importantes dos setores público e privado no Brasil e estamos, conjuntamente, investindo £4 milhões em nosso compromisso com o país ao longo de três anos. Abrimos um escritório de representação no Brasil, estabelecemos um fundo de investimento combinado no valor de £480,000 com a Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo (FAPESP) e lançamos um esquema de Pesquisadores Visitantes, tudo com a intenção de promover a pesquisa colaborativa entre Brasil, Birmingham e Nottingham.

Até o momento, matriculamos mais de 100 estudantes por meio do programa Ciência Sem Fronteiras, lançado em 2012, e, como parte de nosso acordo de bolsas com as instituições de financiamento CAPES e CNPq, demos boas-vindas a mais de 25 estudantes de doutorado em nossos campi. Nosso exitoso esquema de Pesquisadores Visitantes também recebeu mais de 25 acadêmicos em seus dois primeiros anos, e continuamos a atrair um número crescente de estudantes de graduação e pós-graduação do Brasil para nossos campi.

A abordagem conjunta nos oferece uma posição única, elogiada por organizações britânicas como UKTI e Embaixada Britânica. Nossos parceiros brasileiros também estão aptos a se ligarem a duas das principais universidades do Reino Unido, ambas no top 75 dos QS Global University Rankings.

'Nossa marcante colaboração já nos permitiu reforçar a pesquisa e o ensino, compartilhar e desenvolver inovações e diversificar fontes de financiamento. Nossa forte parceria está facilitando vantagens estratégicas e nos permite colaborar em áreas onde há benefício mútuo, enquanto continuamos a trabalhar de perto com outras instituições proeminentes.'

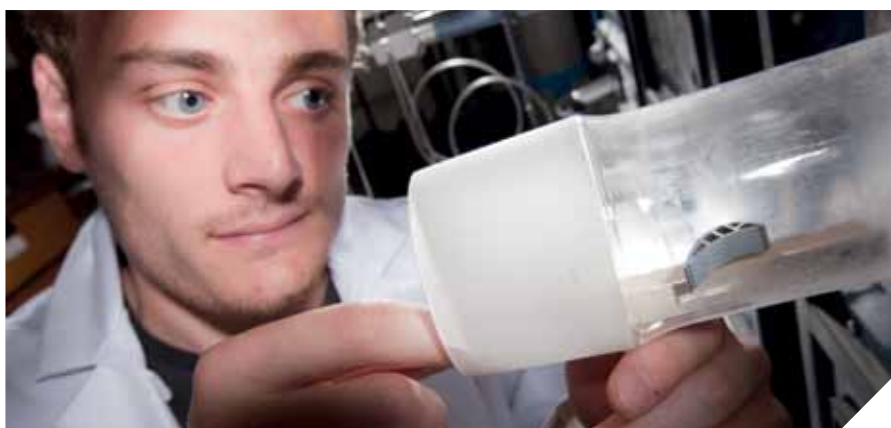
*Professor David Eastwood,  
Reitor da Universidade de Birmingham*

'O sistema de colaboração entre nossas duas Universidades tem focado e expandido alguns vínculos pré-existent e proporcionado uma base para outros novos. Nossa parceria tem reconhecido as qualidades das duas instituições e as usado para alavancar e explorar novas oportunidades, enquanto mantemos nossas distintas identidades.'

*Professor David Greenaway,  
Reitor da Universidade de Nottingham*



# Key initiatives



Two Brazil Visiting Fellows, Samira Jalil and Flávia Rodrigues

**We are working in close co-operation to implement a number of new initiatives to support enhanced research collaboration and engagement in Brazil. These include:**

## Academic workshops

A series of joint workshops on themes such as oil and gas, bio-energy, sporting mega-events and public accountancy has taken place with many more planned, including corpus linguistics; biomaterials; head and neck cancer; MRI and food security.

## Brazil Visiting Fellows Scheme

This scheme provides 20 early-career university lecturers or post-doctoral researchers per annum the opportunity to spend three months at either the University of Birmingham or Nottingham carrying out identified research projects.

## PhD scholarship scheme for academic excellence

This provides 20 full-fee scholarships per annum over three years with living and travel costs provided by the Brazilian funding council CAPES.

Subject areas have included energy, food security, globalisation, neuroscience, astronomy, the digital economy, and global infection and health care. Scholarships are open to all disciplines.

## Joint research fund with FAPESP

We have established a joint investment fund worth £480,000 with the State of São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) supporting research projects between FAPESP-funded researchers and academics from Birmingham and Nottingham.

'The Universities of Birmingham and Nottingham have showed imagination and determination in seeking to create and deepen partnerships in Brazil, keeping in close touch with the British Embassy. The opportunities in Brazil are considerable but not easy to translate into concrete results. Birmingham and Nottingham are developing the long-term connections which are essential to success.'

*Alan Charlton, former HM Ambassador to Brazil.*

## Contacts

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## Our partnership in numbers

- A joint operating budget close to £1 billion
- Joint research income of £300 million per year
- 70,000 students across our campuses, of which over 25,000 are non-UK nationals
- In the top 1% of universities worldwide
- In the top 75 of the QS Global University Rankings
- 31% of our academic staff non-UK nationals



# Our current activity

## Science without Borders (Ciência sem Fronteiras)

Both Birmingham and Nottingham are delighted to be two of the UK institutions selected to participate in the Science without Borders (Ciência sem Fronteiras) scheme. Brazilian government funding enables students in certain subject areas to spend 12 months in the UK as part of their degree at a Brazilian university; undergraduates spend nine months studying followed by a three-month laboratory placement. Funding is also available for sandwich or full PhD studies in the UK.



Science without Borders students at a University of Birmingham event

Students throughout Brazil will have unprecedented access to geospatial technology, thanks to a joint collaboration between the University of Nottingham, Universidade Federal do Paraná and the Universidade Estadual Paulista, as part of the ICA-OSGeo initiative.

With education aims at the heart of this initiative, the use of free, open geospatial software will enable students from all backgrounds to get the latest desktop and web applications, bringing the world of geospatial education to their fingertips. The team will also start work on 'Train the Trainer' geographical information systems (GIS) programmes for school teachers all over the world, including Brazil.

The Nottingham Geospatial Institute is a world-renowned research centre specialising in satellite navigation and positioning systems, photogrammetry, remote sensing, sensor integration and GIS. The University of Nottingham established the first Open Source Geospatial Lab in the UK following an agreement with the Open Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo).

## The Nottingham Geospatial Institute



Olivier Hanotte, Professor of Genetics and Conservation at The University of Nottingham, won funding to look into an area of importance for food security in Brazil. Professor Hanotte will work with Brazilian colleagues to examine the way in which cattle can adapt to different tropical environments and the fitness of hybrid cattle. This will eventually lead to a strategy for cross-breeding programmes, with implications for farmers and food producers.



Jonathan Grix (Director, Centre for Policy Research in Sport) Andre Arantes and Zena Wooldridge (Director, UBSport)

Birmingham is a leading UK university in sport, exercise and health – ranked first for research – making us an ideal partner for Brazil, one of the world's great sporting nations. Birmingham is currently advising and working with the Ministry of Sport on the development of their school sports policy and Olympic legacy strategies in this area.

The School of Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation Sciences (SportEx) and, in particular, the new Centre for Policy Research in Sport, is in regular contact with key actors from the Ministry, recently hosting a visit from Andre Arantes, Director of Basis Sport and High Performance in September 2013.

## Research as part of the Sao Paulo Research Foundation investment

Academics from both universities have won funding from the São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) to undertake research into priority areas spanning the sciences, social sciences and humanities. FAPESP hopes that these projects will have the potential to spawn future collaborations between researchers in both countries.

Working with academic peers from institutions from across the State of São Paulo, the scope of the joint research includes:

### Urban water quality management

As urban populations rise and rainfall patterns change, the demands and pressures increase on fresh water supplies and the natural environment. This project aims to identify these future pressures and solve the key issues in water quality management.



### Fear memory processing and associated brain function

The three research teams will identify how chemicals in the brain affect moods, which will lead to discovering new medications to prevent anxiety and depression.



### Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) was invented at Nottingham, for which Sir Peter Mansfield was jointly awarded the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 2003. The Sir Peter Mansfield Magnetic Resonance Centre is a world-leading centre for the continuing development of MRI, and is the UK centre for ultrahigh-field MRI. MRI has revolutionised diagnostic medicine, with more than 26 million investigative procedures carried out each year. Brazil is now putting similar facilities in place and the teams in São Paulo, Nottingham and Birmingham will share expertise and develop techniques on functional brain imaging to gain new insights on neurodegenerative and other brain diseases, leading to better treatment for these diseases.

### Developing quantum sensors for precision positioning and underground mapping

Working with the Brazilian team, who already have world-class facilities in place for the study of 'ultra-cold atoms', the combined international expertise will develop new applications in underground mapping, for processes such as mineral exploration.



### Brazil's rise and its implications for world order

Dr Marco Vieira is the principal investigator in a FAPESP/Birmingham-funded research project on Brazil's rise and its implications for world order. This project will look at the manifold dimensions of Brazil's political leadership on the world stage and how it might influence and re-shape international relations.

Dr Vieira has solid and ongoing links with renowned higher education institutions in Brazil such as the Department of Political Science at the University of Sao Paulo and the Institute of International Relations at the Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro. His research has had a clear impact on global policy and academic debates on rising powers' influence, particularly through his work on south-south groupings, such as the India-Brazil-South Africa Dialogue Forum (IBSA).

Hanshan Dong, Professor of Surface Engineering at the University of Birmingham, has secured funding to work with Brazilian partners on a project to improve the surface properties of stainless steel used in the oil/gas industries through plasma assisted thermochemical treatment.



# Profiles of our representatives

## The University of Nottingham



**Professor David Greenaway, Vice-Chancellor, The University of Nottingham**

Professor David Greenaway became Vice-Chancellor of The University of Nottingham in October 2008. Professor Greenaway is an

Economist who was Chairman of the Armed Forces' Pay Review Body (2004–2010). He was also a Member of the Senior Salaries Review Body (2004–2010). Other appointments have included non-executive positions on National Health Service Boards and advisory positions to various government departments. He has also acted as a consultant to the World Bank, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the European Commission, the United Nations, and HM Treasury.

Professor Greenaway is a member of the UK government's Higher Education Task Force and its Asia Task Force. He is currently leading a major independent review of UK postgraduate medical education and training.

Professor Greenaway's research interests are in the area of international trade and cross-border investment. He has published more than 150 scientific papers in refereed journals and authored or edited 40 books. He has served on three Research Assessment Panels (chairing two) for Economics and Econometrics; served on the Council of ESRC; and on the Council and Executive of the Royal Economic Society.



**Professor Saul Becker**

Professor Saul Becker is Assistant Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International) for the Americas at the University of Nottingham. He was formerly Head of the School of Sociology and Social Policy at Nottingham; Professor of Health and Social

Care at the University of Birmingham; and Professor of Social Policy at Loughborough University, UK. He has over 500 publications and conference papers and is regarded internationally as the world's leading authority on 'young carers' – children who provide unpaid care to other family members, usually parents, who are ill, disabled or have other health and supervision needs. He is a Fellow of the UK's Academy of Social Sciences and of the Royal Society of Arts.



**Dr Alan Burbidge**

Dr Alan Burbidge trained as an ecologist and spent 12 years in academic research as a plant molecular geneticist. Since 2003, he has managed the commercialization of life sciences technologies developed at the University of Nottingham. He has a

strong track record in evaluating new technologies, securing development and investment funding, culminating in the negotiation of licence deals

and/or the establishment and further development of spin-out companies including Azotic Technologies Ltd. He has acted as non-executive director of university spin-out companies. His close involvement in the initiation and management of major institutional research bids which have a strong element of knowledge transfer has led to awards totalling over £25 million.



**Dr Maeve Fitzpatrick**

Dr Maeve Fitzpatrick joined The University of Nottingham in March of this year in the newly created role of Research Development Manager for the Americas. Prior to joining Nottingham,

Maeve worked for the University of Limerick where she lectured in Operations Engineering and was responsible for research development for the centre for Enterprise Research. During these five years, while completing her PhD in Systems implementation, she was awarded 7.8 million Euro in government and EU research grants in both Education and Innovation.

Prior to joining the University of Limerick, Maeve worked full time for more than ten years in international engineering and systems management roles for organisations including Dell Computers, Honeywell and United Technologies Corporation.



**Dr Marcos Alcocer**

Dr Marcos Alcocer is Brazilian, and completed his Pharmaceutical Sciences degree and MSc at the University of Sao Paulo, where he worked for two years as a lecturer.

After eight years working in the food industry, Dr Alcocer moved to the UK to complete his PhD. After working for the Food Research Institute and John Innes Centre, Dr Alcocer moved to Nottingham and now bases his group at the School of Biosciences.

Dr Alcocer has authored more than 50 peer reviewed research papers on food allergy, is editor of several scientific journals and is currently setting up a spin-off company on diagnostic systems for allergy.



**Dr Hervé Morvan**

Dr Hervé Morvan is the Director of Research for the Institute for Aerospace Technology (IAT) and also the Head of Fluids and Deputy-Director for the Rolls-Royce Transmissions UTC. He has worked across industry and academia over the years,

including as a specialist seconded to Rolls-Royce (full-time and on a one-day-a-week basis) and as Speedo's Aqualab CFD advisor for the last two Olympics, where he is associated with the success of their LZR Racer suit. He has authored over 120 research papers and technical reports, and has received over £8 million in research contracts (personal share). His wife is a *Paulistana*.



## University of Birmingham



### **Professor David Eastwood, Vice-Chancellor, University of Birmingham**

Professor David Eastwood became Vice-Chancellor of the University of Birmingham in April 2009. He was previously Chief Executive of the Higher Education Funding Council for

England (HEFCE) and former posts include Vice-Chancellor of the University of East Anglia and Chief Executive of the Arts and Humanities Research Board.

He was Fellow and Senior Tutor of Pembroke College (1988–1995) and is now an Honorary Fellow of both St Peter's College, Oxford, from where he graduated in 1980; Keble College, Oxford, where he was a Research Fellow from 1983 to 1987; and also the University of Swansea. Since 1991 Professor Eastwood has been a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, in the past serving as its Literary Director and as chair of its Studies in History Board.

He is currently Chair of the Russell Group, a Board Member of Universities UK (UUK), a member of the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), and a member of the Advisory Board of the Higher Education Policy Institute.

He is also a Board Member of Marketing Birmingham and, in January 2012, he was appointed Deputy Lieutenant for the county of West Midlands.



### **Professor Malcolm Press**

Professor Malcolm Press was appointed as the University's Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Knowledge Transfer in 2013. He is a member of the University Executive Board and leads on research, knowledge transfer and business

engagement. His roles include Chair of the Research and Knowledge Transfer Committee, Chair of the International Board, and Director of the Institute of Advanced Studies.

Malcolm graduated from the University of London in 1980 before going on to complete a PhD in Physiological Ecology at the University of Manchester in 1984.

He joined the University of Birmingham in 2008 as a Pro-Vice-Chancellor and inaugural Head of the College of Life and Environmental Sciences, having previously spent six years at Sheffield as Head of the Department of Animal and Plant Sciences and University Director of Research for the Environment.



### **Andréa Edwards**

Andréa is Director International Development and Mobility at the University of Birmingham, where she has responsibility for leading the University's global engagement in key regions, including the Americas, with one of the largest UK higher education teams responsible for international partnership development and student mobility. She has over 18 years' experience of working in higher education, initially within UK and international student recruitment, before focusing on partnerships, development and international relations more broadly.



### **Kate Jermey**

Kate has worked at Birmingham for eight years in an outward-facing role, to engage and encourage companies, primarily SMEs, to work with the University. Kate employs a variety of mechanisms, including academic consultancy, research programmes and student engagement, working with colleagues internally to promote Business Engagement activities. Kate also works with external funding bodies such as the Technology Strategy Board and with intermediary organisations, such as the Manufacturing Advisory Service (MAS), to source funding – and promote to SMEs – in order to support Business Engagement projects.



### **Dr Paul Thompson**

Dr Thompson is the Director of the Centre for Corpus Research at the University of Birmingham. His research interests are in: academic and other specialised discourses; the linguistic aspects of human-computer interaction; uses of educational technologies in language learning; and the exploitation of corpus resources and methodologies in teaching and learning about language. He is currently leading an ESRC-funded project entitled 'Investigating Interdisciplinary Research Discourse: the Case of Global Environmental Change' which is conducted in partnership with the international scientific publisher, Elsevier. In previous projects, he was involved in the development of two corpora of academic discourse, the British Academic Spoken English (BASE) and British Academic Written English (BAWE) corpora.

## Profiles of our representatives



### **Dr Owen Addison**

Dr Addison is a Senior Lecturer and Consultant in Restorative Dentistry at the University of Birmingham. He holds a prestigious National Institute for Health Research, Clinician Scientist Award and his time is divided between specialist clinical care and research. His research is in

biomaterials and biomedical engineering and extends from the basic sciences to clinical studies. He has received in excess of £1.25 million in the past three years for research into implanted biomaterials. In 2013 he was awarded the IADR/Academy of Osseointegration prize for innovation in implant sciences. Dr Addison is actively engaging with Brazilian scientists with collaborative grant applications and by hosting postgraduate and post-doctoral researchers.



### **Professor Hisham Mehanna**

Professor Hisham Mehanna is the Chair of Head and Neck Surgery and Director of the Institute of Head and Neck Studies and Education, at the School of Cancer Sciences, University of Birmingham. He is also Chair of the UK's National

Cancer Research Institute's head and neck group. Hisham is a head and neck, and thyroid surgeon, with a keen interest in clinical and translational research.

Hisham heads a research team of 20 researchers and holds over £9 million in research grants. The main areas of his research are Human Papillomavirus-associated head and neck cancer, and thyroid cancer. His research themes are drug development and redeployment, biomarkers of treatment response and early and late phase clinical trials.



### **Professor Paul Jackson**

Paul is a political scientist at the University of Birmingham, interested in the destruction and reconstruction of states, particularly in Africa. He is an experienced aid evaluator as well as governance and conflict analyst. Much of his research focuses on decentralisation, governance and state building.

Paul works in several overseas locations including Rwanda, Uganda, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, Iraq, Bhutan, India, Nepal and China among others. He is currently the international adviser to the Nepali Government on the reintegration of the Maoist Army following ten years of civil war in that country and has just completed a ten-year evaluation of UK involvement in the reconstruction of Sierra Leone.



### **Dr Gabriela Saldanha**

Dr Gabriela Saldanha is a Lecturer in Translation Studies in the Department of English at the University of Birmingham, where she convenes both the distance and on-campus programmes in Translation Studies. Dr Saldanha has co-edited the

second edition of the *Routledge Encyclopedia of Translation Studies*, one of the most important reference works in the field of Translation Studies and has also co-authored the first reference work on research methodologies in Translation Studies, to be published in 2013. She has a strong record of publications in the field of translation stylistics. Her current research explores translation flows and the reception of translations in a globalised literary market.

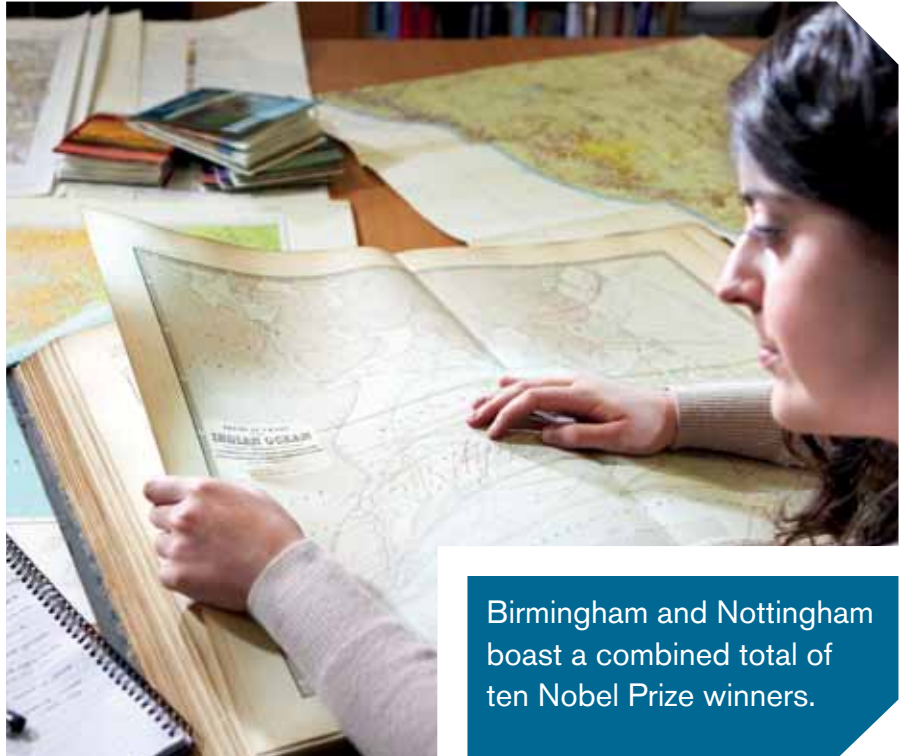


### **Patricia Borsa**

The Universities of Nottingham and Birmingham have a unique link through the joint Brazil Office in Joinville, the southern State of Santa Catarina, led by Patricia Borsa. Patricia is responsible for supporting institutional collaborations between

the two universities and Brazilian partners in education, business and government.

A Brazilian national, Patricia has extensive experience of international engagement. She was appointed as the new, joint in-country officer in 2011. Prior to this role, she worked for ten years for the University of Nottingham as a recruitment officer for South America. Patricia was originally a lecturer in English and Portuguese Language before moving into product development for HSBC Bank, Brazil.



Birmingham and Nottingham  
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