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Year 2 Mission Report

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1. Executive Summary

PROSECCO aims to consolidate research efforts within the CC community, broadly construed, by growing the community in an organic fashion (through e.g. the fostering of new students, as well the cultivation of new research links). Though not a direct funder of research in its own right, PROSECCO facilitates the creation of new, or stronger, research connections *within*-discipline, between existing CC researchers, and *cross*-discipline, between existing and new CC researchers.

PROSECCO *travel missions* are designed to achieve this last goal. PROSECCO partners may use a travel mission to visit each other, and thus use the opportunity to explore collaborative possibilities; or they may use a travel mission to visit a CC-relevant non-PROSECCO partner and thereby bring that researcher closer into the CC fold; or they may use a travel mission to invite a CC-relevant non-PROSECCO researcher (academic or student) to visit them.

PROSECCO partners have engaged in a range of travel missions – **32 in total** – in year two (running over 18 months, from March 2014 until August 2015).

- 9 missions involved PHD students
- 11 missions involved post-doc, research assistants
- 12 missions involved professors

The second year of PROSECCO activity has seen an increase in the frequency and number of short missions. The mission reports show an increased diversity of projects, enabling mostly early-career researchers to learn more about and to contribute more to the field of computational creativity. Some of the missions have enabled new collaboration activity related to the four FET-funded computational creativity projects (CoInvent, ConCreTe, Lrn2Cre8, and WHIM), not anticipated in the DOWs of the projects and therefore outside their funding envelope. Some of the collaborations have already yielded publications and/or new software systems, while others have begun longer term strategic activities, such as the visit of Prof. Antonio Chella to QMUL, which has led to a workshop at an international conference and a journal special issue on creative robotics.

As noted in the previous report, the Commission has agreed to extend PROSECCO to 30th September 2016, and therefore the funds available for short missions need to be spread somewhat more thinly than originally planned. In this context, we are very satisfied that a reasonable amount of activity is arising from the grant, and, most importantly, that that activity is having lasting impact in terms of academic contributions and activity that is likely to be sustained beyond the lifetime of the grant.

We are particularly pleased with the progress on outputs from these short missions. Of course, it is not reasonable to expect the execution of research and the generation of a publication in just two weeks, which is the standard duration of visit. However, recipients are required to state what progress they have made, on the final form. Of the 32 missions, 14 report progress towards conference papers, and 10 report progress towards journal papers. While there is a healthy targeting of ICC3, the main computational creativity conference, there is also

evidence of intention to disseminate the work funded by PROSECCO in other prestigious outlets, such as Leonardo, the top journal of its field. The remaining missions served purposes other than basic research, such as promoting work to industry, or conducting the work of PROSECCO at the annual meeting of the Association for Computational Creativity.

2. List of PROSECCO missions carried out (March 2014-August 2015)

The following table offers a high-level summary of the 32 targeted travel missions that were funded in the second year of the PROSECCO project.

	Surname	First name	Organisa-tion	Host	Mission location	Start date	End date
1	Agres	Kathleen	QMUL	OFAI	Vienna, Austria	23/11/14	06/12/14
2	Alm	Olli	University of Helsinki	University of Helsinki	Helsinki, Finland	11/07/14	15/07/14
3	Arfe	Barbara	University of Padova	Univer-sidad Com-Com-putense de Madrid	Madrid, Spain	23/10/14	23/10/14
4	Bown	Oliver	University of Sydney	QMUL	London, UK	16/06/14	20/06/14
5	Brixtel	Romain	University of Lau-sanne	University of Helsinki	Helsinki, Finland	14/09/14	19/09/14
6	Cardoso	Amilcar	University of Coimbra	ICCC	Park City, Utah, USA	29/06/15	02/07/15
7	Chella	Antonio	Palermo University	QMUL	London, UK	26/05/14	30/05/14
8	Cook	Michael	Imperial College London	University College Dublin	Dublin, Ire-land	26/02/14	28/02/14
9	Gervas	Pablo	Univer-sidad Com-putense de Madrid	Abertay University	Dundee, UK	25/08/14	26/08/14
10	Gross	Oscar	University of Helsinki	University of Sydney	Sydney, Australia	14/07/14	25/07/14
11	Gross	Oscar	University of Helsinki	University of Coimbra	Coimbra, Portugal	12/01/15	15/01/15
12	Guckels-berger	Christian	Mainz Uni-versity	Goldsmiths University	London, UK	16/06/14	20/06/14
13	Kantosalo	Anna	University of Helsinki	QMUL	London, UK	07/04/15	10/04/15
14	Linkola	Simo	University of Helsinki	University of Coimbra	Coimbra, Portugal	11/01/15	16/01/15
15	Machado	Penousal	University of Coimbra	Univer-sidad de	Buenos Aires, Ar-	23/07/15	02/08/15

				Buenos Aires	gentina		
16	Machado	Penousal	University of Coimbra	Universidad Complutense de Madrid	Madrid, Spain	11/07/15	15/07/15
17	Martins	Pedro	University of Coimbra	Jozef Stefan Institute	Ljubljana, Slovenia	09/07/14	12/07/14
18	Martins	Pedro	University of Coimbra	Jozef Stefan Institute	Ljubljana, Slovenia	08/07/15	14/07/15
19	Misztal	Joanna	Jagiellonian University	Goldsmiths University	London, UK	10/11/14	14/11/14
20	Molina-Solana	Miguel	Universidad de Granada	QMUL	London, UK	15/07/14	15/08/14
21	Navarro Caceres	Maria	University of Salamanca	QMUL	London, UK	22/02/15	26/02/15
22	Oliveira	Hugo Gonçalo	University of Coimbra	Universidad Complutense de Madrid	Madrid, Spain	13/06/15	19/06/15
23	Perez y Perez	Rafael	University Autonoma Metropolitana	University of Coimbra	Coimbra, Portugal	06/09/14	12/09/14
24	Pollak	Senja	Jozef Stefan Institute	University of Coimbra	Coimbra, Portugal	21/01/15	28/01/15
25	Toivanen	Jukka	University of Helsinki	Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah	United States	02/07/15	17/07/15
26	Toivanen	Jukka	University of Helsinki	Frankfurt International Book Fair	Frankfurt, Germany	06/10/14	12/10/14
27	Toivonen	Hannu	University of Helsinki	QMUL	London, UK	07/04/15	10/04/15
28	Urbancic	Tanja	Jozef Stefan Institute	University of Coimbra	Coimbra, Portugal	21/01/15	28/01/15
29	Veale	Tony	University College Dublin	University of Coimbra	Coimbra, Portugal	11/01/15	16/01/15

30	Veale	Tony	University College Dublin	University of Helsinki	Helsinki, Finland	01/09/14	24/09/14
31	Xiao	Ping	University of Helsinki	Goldsmiths University	London, UK	13/04/15	17/04/15
32	Xiao	Ping	University of Helsinki	QMUL	London, UK	07/04/15	10/04/15

3. Annex

- a) Individual reports by alphabetical order
- b) Travel mission guidelines