Bernardo Fernandes

"In order to build quality education policies, a multidimensional and multiscale perspective is needed."

From his technical report "Sobral : originality and quality in education" about the success of the educational system in the Brazilian city of Sobral, located in the state of Ceará.

Lemann Center Review

December 2016

A monthly selection of current articles, papers, ideas, projects, news, and social events that are inspiring those at the Lemann Center and in the Stanford University community to engage in improving education in Brazil and in the United States.

NEWS	UPCOMING EVENTS
INSIDER'S INSIGHT	SOCIAL HAPPENINGS

News

- **Education: Equalizer or Reproducer of Social Inequality?** addresses the relationship between social inequality and education, and aims at exploring international research, public policy and practices on the matter with special focus on Mexico. Leading scholars of education discussed the subject during the two-day event organized by the Stanford Graduate School of Education and PIPE/CIDE. Professors Martin Carnoy and Paulo Blikstein participated on the panels "Does

education help reduce inequality?" and "The Digital Gap and its effects on social inequalities".

- **Biology Cloud Lab** – a Stanford team of researchers led by Ingmar Riedel-Kruse, assistant professor of bioengineering, and Paulo Blikstein, assistant professor of education, have invented a remote-controlled system called Biology Cloud Lab that enables teachers and students to design and observe experiments involving single-celled organisms. The work was published in Nature Biotechnology and can be accessed here. "Labs in most schools are stuck in the 19th century, with cookbook-style experiments," Blikstein said to Andrew Myers from Stanford News, adding, "Biology Cloud Labs could democratize real scientific investigation and change how kids learn science."
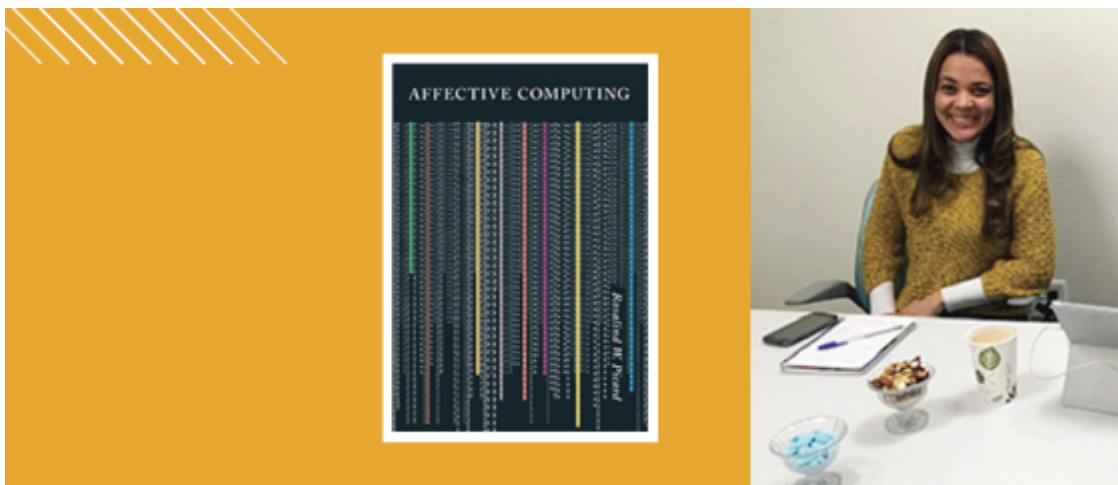

- Izolda Cela (Vice Governor of Ceará and former Secretary of Education of Sobral and the state of Ceará) and Veveu Arruda (Mayor of Sobral) visited Stanford and talked about the success of the educational system in Sobral and Ceará at Lemann Center Seminar Topics in Brazilian Education. Visiting Scholar Bernardo Fernandes reported about the experience in, "Sobral: originality and quality in education". From his perspective, "…the starting point for the construction of a quality education system in Sobral and Ceará is the political decision of the municipal government and the state government, with the support of the federal government. The story of Izolda and Veveu shows that commitment to education".

Upcoming Events

- **Seminar Series:** A [Big Picture of Brazilian and American Educational Systems.](#)
  Thursdays, 4-6pm – from Dec 15, 2016
  Lemann Center Conference Room at Stanford University

- During this quarter, Professor [David N. Plank](#) will lead a series of seminars drawing parallels between Brazilian and American Educational systems. In the first seminar, "A Big Picture of American Education Systems", Plank presented an overview of how the American systems compare to the standard Brazilian model. We encourage you to bring your questions and points of view about the theme to future discussions.

Insider's Insight

The book on Affective Computing - by Visiting Student Researcher [Rachel Reis](#)

Affective Computing is a multidisciplinary research area, which investigates

how to build computation systems with ability to detect and appropriately respond a user's emotion. This area was conceived by [Rosalind Picard](), researcher of Massachussets Institute of Technology (MIT), which in 1997 published the first book in the area entitled "[Affective Computing.]()" The challenges and research opportunities in the use of Affective Computing applied in Education has been investigated and discussed by several Brazilian researchers in the field. Rosalind Picard highlights her concern on dealing with the emotions of individuals in relation to machines, since computers do not know what is rude or what is polite. According to Picard, "if we want computers to be genuinely intelligent, to adapt us, and to interact naturally with us, then they will need the ability to recognize and express emotions, to have emotions, and to have what has come to be called 'emotional intelligence.'"

Social Happenings

Lemann Center Fellows welcomed [Izolda Cela]() (Vice Governor of [Ceará]() and former Secretary of Education of Sobral and the state of Ceará) and Veveu Arruda (Mayor of Sobral) at Stanford.

Visiting Scholar [Flavio Campos](), and Visiting Student Researchers [Rachel Reis]() and [Ariane Faria]() completed their program at Stanford. Congratulations from all of us at the Lemann Center!

Lemann Center faculty [David Plank](), [Erick Bettinger](), [Martin Carnoy]() and [Paulo Blikstein]() conferring with Emeritus Professor [Rachel Lotan]().