

ITQB project on biofuel cells selected for MIT-Portugal Program

FCT funds four projects in bioengineering focus areas



MIT-Portugal Program

Ricardo Louro, head of the [Inorganic Biochemistry and NMR Laboratory](#), leads one of the four winning projects of the 2008 [FCT](#) competition for funding in the context of the [MIT-Portugal Program](#) in bioengineering. The project involves studying the metabolism of bacteria that use iron minerals instead of water for photosynthesis and aims to optimize their application in bacteria fuel cells.

Bacteria fuel cells can be seen as clean alternative energy sources since they can generate electricity or produce hydrogen from organic residues.

The team involved in this project also includes Cláudio Soares, head of the [Protein Modeling Laboratory](#), Yann Astier, head of the [Single Molecule Processes Laboratory](#), Carlos Salgueiro ([FCT-UNL](#)) and Dianne Newman ([MIT](#)).

The project received support from [EDP Inovação](#) and will run for the next three years.