



Science, Culture and Society

Interdisciplinary Studies and Public Policies

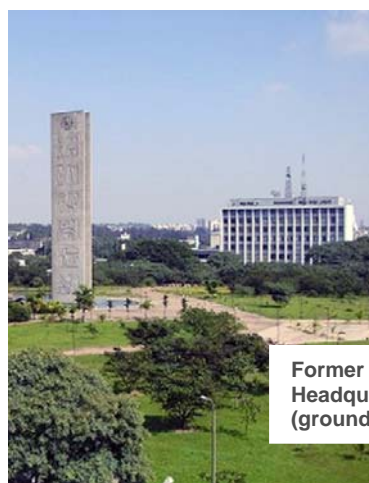
Created on November 26, 1986, the Institute of Advanced Studies (IEA) is an organ devoted to comprehensive and interdisciplinary research and discussion of fundamental issues related to science and culture.

In addition, the IEA has the responsibility of carrying out, together with other representative segments of society, studies on national, state, municipal and supranational institutions and public policies. Among these, studies on science, technology, and culture development policies, as well as on the social use of knowledge are prominent.

Due to the nature of its activities, the IEA plays a significant role in the scientific and cultural exchange between the University of São Paulo (USP) and Brazilian and foreign institutions (universities, government agencies, NGOs, scientific and cultural entities, etc.). Such exchange takes place by means of cooperation agreements and academic exchange programs or specific invitations to Brazilian or foreign researchers and intellectuals with representative works that may enrich the debates promoted by the Institute.

Since its foundation, the IEA has provided the academic community and the general public with the opportunity to establish direct contact with several Brazilian and foreign personalities from scientific and cultural areas. It has also produced essential proposals for the economic, social, and cultural development of the country.

Partnerships with other universities, scientific entities, government agencies and civil institutions have broadened the spectrum of projects developed by the IEA and enabled greater interaction between the Institute and society. The establishment of Chairs has also become a distinguished way of creating research and scientific exchange posts. The projects developed by research groups as well as the individual projects are the core of the academic activities of the Institute.



Former Presidency Building,
Headquarters of the IEA
(ground and 3rd floor)

Av. Prof. Luciano Gualberto, Travessa J, 374, 05508-010,
São Paulo, SP, Brazil, +55 11 30913922, iea@usp.br

www.iea.usp.br/english

Chairs and Agreements

The chairs and agreements host researchers and result from agreements with national or foreign institutions for the exchange of experts and other academic activities.

Research Groups

Researchers are gathered and formally organized in research groups for the development of interdisciplinary projects during a limited period of time. The groups are created after approval of their work plans — designed by Professors of USP and of other academic institutions or by members of other types of institutions of recognized excellence — by the Board of Trustees.

All groups have a coordinator responsible for the development of the project. The coordinators make sure the targets are met and the schedule is followed satisfactorily.

They are also responsible for stimulating the production of papers and other documents and planning, together with the other members, public activities on the theme explored by the research group, such as conferences, seminars, and other types of academic events.

Researchers

For the fulfillment of its responsibilities, the IEA receives collaboration of visiting professors, visiting researchers and other collaborators. Visiting professors are researchers with comprehensive projects that are fundamental for the development of the Institute's areas of interest.

Visiting researchers are experts from outside USP, that is, experts with no employment relationship with the university, holders or not of academic degrees, who develop research projects at the IEA after approval of the Board of Trustees.

The current visiting researchers are: Andy Merrifield, Ignacy Sachs, Virgilio Viana, and Zylvia Zimai-Mesquita.

CHAIRS AND AGREEMENTS

Brazil-France Research Center (Nupebraf)



Leyla Perrone-Moisés
coordinator

History

The Brazil-France Research Center was founded in August 1988 thanks to an agreement established with the *Centre de Recherches sur le Brésil Contemporain* (CRBC) at the *École Pratique des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales*, France.

Objectives

Considering the duration and intensity of the relationship between Brazil and France in all areas of knowledge, studying it is a way to better understand the development of Brazilian culture. The multidisciplinary studies developed are made public through publications, conferences, colloquia, and other activities.

Members

Antonio Dimas de Moraes, Gilberto Pinheiros Passos, Glória Carneiro do Amaral, Helena B. C. Pereira, João Roberto Gomes de Faria, Maria Luiza Guarnieri Atik, and Sandra Margarida Nitrini.

UNESCO Chair in Peace, Human Rights, Democracy and Tolerance Education



Sérgio Adorno
coordinator

History

The agreement for the establishment of the UNESCO Chair in Peace, Human Rights, Democracy and Tolerance Education at USP was signed at the headquarters of UNESCO, Paris, on December 31, 1995 and its opening at the university took place on April 26, 1996. This was the first UNESCO Chair to be established in a Portuguese-speaking country.

The former coordinators of the Chair are José Mario Pires Azanha, from the School of Education, Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, from the Center for Studies on Violence, and Dalmo de Abreu Dallari, from the Law School, all of them from the University of São Paulo.

The current coordinator is Sérgio Adorno, from the Sociology Department at the School of Philosophy, Letters and Human Sciences.

Objectives

To formulate, coordinate, carry out, and herald projects related to the theme as well as collaborate with other institutions working on the issue.

It also aims to publish papers on primary, secondary and higher education, and promote other activities that contribute to its objectives.

Members

Ana Lúcia Pastore Schritzmeyer, Dina Lida Kinoshita, Eduardo B. Bittar, Flavia I. Schilling, José Gregori, José Sérgio Fonseca, Lilia B. Schraiber, Margarida Genevois, and Belisário dos Santos Jr.

Claude Lévi-Strauss Chair



Alfredo Bosi
coordinator

History

This Chair was founded on October 1st, 2002, when Jacques Glowinski, President of the Collège de France Professors Assembly, and Adolpho José Melfi, President of USP, signed a five-year duration agreement.

The Chair is now being renewed for another three-year period, in accordance with agreements between the current President of the Professors Assembly, Pierre Corvol, and IEA's director, César Ades.

Objectives

To develop scientific cooperation between France and Brazil by offering courses, holding conferences and seminars open to participation of professors, researchers and specialists of the Collège de France and other academic institutions from both countries.

IEA and the College of Mexico Agreement



Maria Ligia Prado
coordinator

History

After its first phase from 1999 to 2004, the program was renewed on May 22, 2006 for another five-year period, thanks to an agreement signed by Javier Garcia Dantán, President of the College of Mexico, and Suely Vilela, President of the University of São Paulo.

Objectives

To organize and carry out research in the field of human and social sciences, establishing exchange programs with university professors and researchers; to edit books and journals about the activities developed; to collaborate with other national and foreign institutions for the execution of activities.

Members

Rebeca Scherer and Maria Hermínia Tavares de Almeida.

Bernardo O'Higgins Chair



Hernan Chaimovich
coordinator

History

On March 10, 2008, in Temuco, Chile, USP and the Universidad de La Frontera (UFRO) established an agreement for the creation of the Bernardo O'Higgins Chair. USP's President, Suely Vilela, and UFRO's President, Sergio Bravo, signed the agreement.

On the Chair's opening day, August 28, 2008, two conferences were held: The Higher Education System in Chile, delivered by Sergio Bravo, and Culture and Behavior: Investigating Ethnic Discrepancies in Health and Education, by Hector Betancourt, Professor of the Psychology Department at UFRO.

Objectives

To provide the Brazilian public with information on Chile and its culture. For this to happen, Chilean and Brazilian researchers and intellectuals will work side by side in São Paulo.

RESEARCH GROUPS

Environmental Sciences



Wagner Costa Ribeiro
coordinator

History

The discussion on environmental issues within the IEA has started in 1989 with the establishment of a research group for the development of the Floram Project. In 1992, the activities of the group, which was then called Environmental Sciences Area, started.

The former coordinators of the area are: Aziz Ab'Sáber (May 1989 to August 1992); Umberto Giuseppe Cordani (September 1992 to September 1995); Aldo da Cunha Rebouças (October 1995 to May 1998); Eurico Cabral de Oliveira (November 1998 to August 1999); Pedro Leite da Silva Dias (September 1999 to July 2008).

The area has now become the Research Group on Environmental Sciences, and Wagner Costa Ribeiro has been its coordinator since August 2008.

Other work groups have stemmed from this center, such as: Natural Disaster Reduction Group (based on UN's

establishment of the 'Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction'), and USP's Commission at the IGBP (International Geosphere-Biosphere Program).

Objectives

The group's main concerns are: development of studies on options for the implementation of solutions coherent with sustainable development and global change analysis.

The group aims to delve into the following themes: strategic environmental evaluations; water governance; climate change; risk, health and environment; social inclusion x exclusion; energy x food; and environmental justice.

Members

Célio Bermann, Cláudio Oller Nascimento, Eliana Heiko Matushima, Helena Ribeiro, Luis E. Sanchez, Luis Gylvan Meira Filho, Paulo Eduardo Artaxo Netto, Pedro Jacobi, Pedro Leite da Silva Dias, Sonia Maria Flores Giancesella, and Tercio Ambrizzi.

Nutrition and Poverty



Ana Lydia Sawaya
coordinator

History

This group was founded in March 2003. The proposal arose from the experience gained by a group of researchers linked to the Nutritional Education and Recovery Group (CREN), which was initially a university extension project of the Federal University of the State of São Paulo (UNIFESP).

Besides researchers who participate in university extension projects, members of civil society organizations and members of government bodies are also part of the group.

The group has been composed so as to confer an interdisciplinary and multiprofessional nature on the projects.

Objectives

To carry out research on nutrition and poverty; promote periodic debates for the discussion of themes related to

nutrition and poverty; organize round-tables with renowned researchers, members of government and of civil society organizations, either national or international; to discuss specific themes related to the subject; elaborate studies, publish and divulge them in civil society organizations and federal, state, and municipal institutions; analyze existing policies and programs at a national level; raise national and international funding for research and execution of intervention initiatives in the area of nutrition and fight against poverty; congregate researchers and Brazilian university professors working in the area, stimulating dialogue and integration.

Members

Anna Peliano, Gisela Maria Bernardes Solymos, Luis Gaj, Mariângela Belfiore Wanderley, and Semíramis Martins Álvares Domene.

Logic and Science Theory



Jair Minoro Abe
coordinator

History

The Research Group on Logic and Science Theory has existed since the IEA's foundation, in 1986. It aims to develop and apply paraconsistent logic, including in artificial intelligence, and axiomatization of science. The study of the fundamentals of several sciences has been the highlight of the group's activities. The uses of logic in the humanities also deserve attention. All these themes are discussed in seminars and lecture cycles.

Objectives

To study and debate: fundamentals of logic, mathematics, and physics; mathematical aspects of paraconsistent systems; paraconsistent logic and artificial intelligence; paraconsistency and the representation of knowledge in AI; paraconsistency and science theory; decision making in engineering; paraconsistent artificial neural networks and applications.

Members

Newton Carneiro Affonso da Costa, Lafayette de Moraes, and João Inácio da Silva Filho.

Philosophy, History and Sociology of Science and Technology



Pablo Ruben Mariconda
coordinator

History

The group started to develop its activities in 2008. It has an open constitution that aims, on one hand, to freely aggregate a large number of researchers interested in the areas covered by the group and, on the other hand, get assistance from the participants of Fapesp's Thematic Project 'Origin and Meaning of Technoscience - Of the Relationships between Science, Technology and Society'.

Objectives

To critically investigate the roles played by ethic and social values either individually upheld or incorporated in institutions, scientific practice and recent technology.

Such objective unfolds in two sets of investigation. The first one deals with the contemporary importance of technology, including the impact of its research and developments on the institutionalization of scientific research. The second one discusses the main aspects of the historic development of technoscience.

Members

Hugh Lacey, Marcos Barbosa de Oliveira, José Roberto Machado Cunha da Silva, Rui Gomes Braga Neto, Sylvia Gemignani Garcia, Mauricio de Carvalho Ramos, and Oscar Cupani.

Ecosystem Services



Vera Lúcia Imperatriz Fonseca
coordinator

History

In June 2008 the project 'Evaluation of the Sustainable Use and Conservation of Environmental Services Provided by Pollinators in Brazil' was approved.

The project aims to study ecosystem services, or environmental services, defined as the benefits conferred by the interaction between the organisms that compose the ecosystems on human well-being.

Objectives

The main topics to be approached in the different stages of the project are: consolidation of parallel activities in different programs; critical analysis and possibilities of integration; implementation of a national network based on the use of information technology to support the use and conservation of pollinators in research, education and production; economic and climate scenarios involving pollinators in Brazil; selection of key pollinator groups and implementation of a knowledge base, emphasizing the promotion of its large-scale sustainable use in agriculture and in areas recovering from the forecasted effect of climate change on pollinators and pollinization in Brazil.

Members

Antônio Mauro Saraiva and
Dora Ann Lange Canhos.

Topical Educational Issues



Maria Helena Souza Patto
coordinator

History

The Research Group on Topical Educational Issues was approved by the Board of Trustees in August 2008 in light of the project elaborated by Professors Celso de Rui Beisiegel, Jaime F. Parreira Cordeiro, José Sérgio Fonseca de Carvalho, Maria Clara Di Pierro, all from USP's School of Education, and by Professor Maria Helena Souza Patto, from the Psychology Institute at USP.

The foundation of this group was promoted by the IEA's current board, with the aim of giving continuity to the discussions on the theme, always included in the IEA's agenda.

Objectives

To study and debate issues regarding educational policies, with an initial emphasis on public basic education, deepening the theoretical reflection with its insertion in the discussion of broader themes, such as education and democracy, quality of education, educational projects and reforms, teachers' training, evaluation, and distance education, among others.

Members

Carlota Boto; Celso de Rui Beisiegel; José Sérgio Fonseca de Carvalho; Maria Machado Malta Campos, and Maria Clara Di Pierro.

Intercultural Dialogues



Sylvia Duarte Dantas
coordinator

History

This group started its activities in 2009 and it aims to promote the debate between researchers from diverse areas of knowledge who investigate, from different specific theoretical perspectives and methodologies used in their areas, the contact between cultures and its repercussions on individuals, groups and societies so as to widen references, and promote interlocutions and elaborations on interculturality.

Objectives

To establish dialogues in the interdisciplinary field in search of interlocution, enhancement and articulation of focuses, problematizations and strategies that allow a closer relationship as regards the complexity of factors resultant from the contact between cultures.

The following dimensions are considered: national identity, ethnic/racial identity, cultural identity, otherness, gender, intergroup relationships, prejudice/discrimination, ethic/violence, cultural aesthetics, perception, multiculturalism, bilingualism, among others.

Members

Ligia Fonseca Ferreira, Maura Pardini Bicudo Vêras, Federico Croci, Eugênio Bucci, Adriana Capuano de Oliveira, Gabriela Pellegrino Soares, and Koichi Mori.

Socioenvironmental Psychology



Eda Tassara
coordinator

History

The group started its activities in 2009. The environmental or socioenvironmental issue, seen as a civilization crisis, requires a multiple-perspective approach. It is, then, implicit that all the fruits of this research and discussion group shall belong to no one, disciplinarily speaking; they will be considered part of a knowledge that is seen as a common asset of humanity.

It is important to point out that, in this view of knowledge as a common asset, there has been an increasingly wider gap between the exact and biological sciences and the human and social sciences.

Objectives

In order to discuss the theme, one needs to adopt an open, critical and contextualized attitude. Open in the sense of uniting multiple perspectives in a democratic dialogue; critical in the sense of recognizing and analyzing the vicissitudes of the clashes between different views of future, intervening in their ramifications.

In the contemporary world, contextualization necessarily implies the inclusion of urban environment and its issues, reflecting upon phenomena that expand globally: hegemonic urbanity and peri-urbanities, spatialization of identity and identity stratification, excluding inclusion, culture of scarcity, poverty and consumerism.

Members

Ana Maria Blanques, Elaine Pedreira Rabinovich, Gustavo Martineli Massola, Hector Omar Ardans-Bonifacino, José Oswaldo Soares de Oliveira, Marcos Sorrentino, Sandra Maria Patrício Vichiatti, Vanessa Louise Batista, and Yara Vicentini.

Public Policies and Territoriality



Neli Aparecida de Mello
coordinator

History

This group joined the IEA in 2009. It deals with development policies that usually result in great changes of geographical space and simultaneously act at both the economic and social levels. Many of these changes mandatorily become bases for others, which are often accompanied by financial incentives that play an important role in the definition of the use of geographical space in territorial dynamics.

One of geography's objectives is to consider what takes place in the territory, be it a result of economic processes, of social mobilizations, or of government action, analyzing transformations and impacts that stem from these. The complexity of all these processes and actions within them lead to a necessary articulation with other scientific perspectives.

Objectives

To plan and carry out discussions concerning public policies with researchers, opinion makers, and government representatives, conferring an interdisciplinary and multiprofessional nature on the theme; promote regular debates on themes related to strategic federal, state and municipal public policies by means of lectures, seminars, round-tables, and symposiums; elaborate studies, publish and herald them at (federal, state and municipal) government, non-governmental and multilateral institutions.

Members

Hervé Théry, Manoel Cabral de Castro, Alessandro Soares da Silva, Diógenes Alves, and Wanderely Messias da Costa.

Innovation and Competitiveness Observatory



Glauco Arbix and Mario Salerno
coordinators

History

The project of the Innovation and Competitiveness Observatory was submitted for approval in March 2007, and on October 1 that same year its public opening took place.

IEA's partner institutions in the foundation of the Observatory are the Brazilian Agency for Industrial Development (ABDI), which is linked to the Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade; the Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA) at the Ministry of Planning, Budget and Management; and the Center for Strategic Management and Studies (CGEE), a social organization linked to the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Objectives

To establish more consistent ties with federal and state organizations in order to create a space of propositional debate for the transformation of Brazilian productive structure.

To define pathways for innovation incentive in companies and universities, thus enhancing the debate based on knowledge economics and combining different viewpoints on innovation, R&D, and Brazilian competitiveness processes.

As part of the activities foreseen in the Cooperation Agreement between USP and the Autonomous University of Nuevo León (UANL), Mexico, signed in October 2008, the Observatory shall also carry out a project in conjunction with the School of Economics at the UANL.

Members

Ale Abdal, Andre Nahum, Charles Kirschbaum, Demétrio Toledo, Guilherme Melo, Joana Ferraz, Laura Parente, Luiz Caseiro, Maria Carolina de Oliveira, Osvaldo Lopez-Ruiz, Paulo Mattos, and Zil Miranda.

OTHER PROJECTS

- The Amazon in Transformation: History and Perspectives
Coordination: Maritta Koch-Weser
- Course on Biofuels for Graduate Students
Coordination: Fulbright Foundation
- Discovering the Amazon: Discovering Yourself as a Reporter
Coordination: Pedro Ortiz and Sérgio Gomes
- Policies on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
Coordination: Betty Mindlin

SÃO CARLOS BRANCH



Sérgio Mascarenhas
coordinator

Founded in November 1997, IEA's affiliate office in São Carlos carries out projects in the scientific, technological, educational and cultural development areas.

GROUPS, PROJECTS AND COORDINATORS

- University-Company — João Fernando Gomes de Oliveira
- Education and Science Teaching — Dietrich Shiel
- Farming Instrumentation — Álvaro Macedo
- Information Technology — José Carlos Maldonato and Edson Moreira
- Nanobiotechnology — Valtencir Zucolotto
- Molecular Electronics — Roberto Mendonça de Faria
- Complex Systems — Hamilton Varela
- Education and Environment — José Galizia Tundisi
- Enhancement of the Decentralized Agency for Scientific Diffusion through Multimedia Communication and Support to Public Schools — Yvonne Mascarenhas

JOURNAL AND COMMUNICATION

ESTUDOS AVANÇADOS

The 'Estudos Avançados' journal was created in 1987 and it has just published its 66th issue. The journal is published thrice a year with an average circulation of 1,500 copies of 400 pages each.

It is one of the country's leading academic publications for scientific and cultural debate on themes of relevance to Brazil and to the world.

In 2004, the journal was included in the Brazilian scientific journal database of the Scientific Electronic Library Online, SciELO (www.scielo.br). 'Estudos Avançados' receives an annual average of 3 millions accesses and has recently been considered the most



accessed periodical in that library. In 2007, part of the contents of the Portuguese issue started to be published in an online version in English.

WEBSITE

The website www.iea.usp.br/english contains the main information about the Institute, as well as papers and videos, including recordings of conferences and seminars, issues of the 'Estudos Avançados' journal and various papers.

Contents available in Portuguese only, such as the fortnightly issues of the electronic newsletter 'contato', (www.iea.usp.br/boletim), can be accessed at www.iea.usp.br.

Journal

The English version of 'Estudos Avançados' may be accessed both at the Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO), www.scielo.br, and at the Institute's website, www.iea.usp.br/english/journal.

Videos

The online Media Library compiles videos of conferences and seminars*, as well as PowerPoint presentations displayed by speakers during the events.

Articles

This section (www.iea.usp.br/english/articles) contains full texts of conferences and other papers related to the activities of the research groups, researchers and invited speakers.

*All public events of the Institute are broadcasted live at www.iea.usp.br/aovivo.

UNIVERSITY OF SÃO PAULO
President: Suely Vilela
Vice-President: Franco Maria Lajolo

INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES
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Board of Trustees: Bader Sawaia,
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Gabriel Cohn, João Fernando Gomes de Oliveira,
João Stenghel Morgante and Julio Marcos Filho



Meeting of the Board of Trustees with the President of USP: (from the left) João Stenghel Morgante, Bader Sawaia, Carlos Henrique de Mesquita, César Ades, a reitora Suely Vilela, Gabriel Cohn, Julio Marcos Filho and João Fernando Gomes de Oliveira