

USP Charter on Cultural Heritage

Principles

1. Considering Article 207 of the Brazilian Federal Constitution, which emphasizes the inseparable nature of the university functions of education, research and extension, and based on the principles of Article 216 of the Constitution, the *Universidade de São Paulo* cultural heritage includes the entire set of tangible and intangible heritage that refer to the identity, actions and memory of the several groups that make up the University.
2. The of tangible and intangible dimensions of cultural heritage are inseparable because every intangible element fulfills itself within a material dimension, whereas every tangible element has a non-material dimension of value and meaning.
3. The university's cultural assets include but are not limited to cultural expressions and references associated with teaching, research, extension practices, and university life, promoted by students, professors, university employees, and by society external to it such as festivities, places, landscapes and celebrations; academic routines, practices, ways of doing, and creating traditions; digital or analog collections of an archival, museological and bibliographical nature; spaces, sites, architectural and urban complexes; memory and consciousness-related places and landscapes; scientific, artistic, and technological creations.
4. The above mentioned cultural assets constitute themselves as such, to the extent that the several groups forming the university selectively attribute value, senses and varied meanings to these assets.
5. The cultural heritage patrimonialization processes become richer when several discourses and narratives are involved, whether they argue technical, scientific, or subjective points. In this sense, the process must take place from a democratic and dissenting perspective, in which the numerous aspirations from different groups and discourses present within the university can be heard.
6. Every member of the university community, individually or collectively, is a rightful party to demand a cultural heritage patrimonialization, pursuant to the conditions established in this Charter.
7. The senses, meanings and values attributed to cultural assets have a history and are subject to transformation. Any changes in the process of cultural heritage patrimonialization, should be discussed by the competent authorities and interested parties, and endorsed by the responsible bodies.

8. The identification, inventory, research, conservation, and safeguarding processes, as well as those referring to dissemination and appreciation of cultural assets, are dynamic and must recognize the multiplicity of readings, narratives and meanings in all their actions.

Goals

9. Promote a plural and democratic cultural heritage policy, open to dissension and multiple narratives, meanings and senses attributed to the cultural assets related to the several groups that make up the University.
10. Present guidelines and recommendations to establish public policies, programs, projects, and actions to identify, safeguard and disseminate the cultural heritage within the context of the *Universidade de São Paulo*; it should also provide subsidies for the proper implementation of these initiatives, especially to the executive bodies.
11. Respect and disseminate, within the University, the relevant norms and regulations concerning the cultural heritage field, especially Article 216 of the 1988 Federal Constitution, Decree 3.551/2000, IPHAN Ordinance 127/2009, Law 8.159/1991, State Decree 48.897/2004, Law 12527/2011, State Decree 58.052/2012, the city and state applicable norms and regulations, as well as those from the University.

Guidelines

12. Constitute specific instruments for the identification, inventory, preservation, safeguarding, appreciation, and dissemination of each category of cultural assets, with the intention of putting into practice the principles outlined here. Categories include but are not limited to:
 - a) Complexes, constructions and sites (architectonic and urban assets, built complexes, infrastructure works, sites with archaeological interest, and landscapes);
 - b) Collections (institutionally gathered or disperse collections of a museological, archival, or bibliographical nature, regardless of their support);
 - c) Cultural references (manners of doing, creating; rituals, celebrations, festivities, forms of expression; places, regions, and landscapes that constitute memory or consciousness-related cultural manifestations; daily practices and activities related to the university's daily life and experience).

- d) Foster the creation of committees for cultural heritage management and reinforce existing ones.
 - e) Create cultural heritage educational instruments within the University.
13. Instruct that these specific instruments, related to the presented categories, be constantly revised, promoting them through the recommendations contained in this Charter.

Recommendations

14. For the University:
- a) Maintain a channel of communication with the State and Nacional Services of Cultural Heritage.
 - b) Disseminate this set of principles to the several bodies and agencies, both inside and outside the university.
 - c) Create conditions and make room for integrated and responsible actions by the several executive bodies, whose functions include cultural heritage.
 - d) Encourage the formation of joint-composition management councils for cultural heritage on the campuses, in the teaching units, agencies, institutes, museums, and other segments within the University.
 - e) Join forces with the extra-university cultural heritage preservation agencies, at all three levels, in the processes related to the management of cultural heritage owned by the university, pursuant to the rites outlined here.
 - f) Establish policies to promote cultural heritage, through notices or public announcements, funds, technical support, etc.
15. For those interested and proponents of cultural heritage initiatives within the University:
- a) Keep an active channel of communication with the public agencies, inside and outside the university, whose institutional role includes identification, preservation and dissemination of cultural heritage assets, in particular at the USP: the Cultural Preservation Center, the General Archive, the Library Integrated System, the Physical Space Superintendence, the Environmental Superintendence, the Management Councils and the Environmental Committees on campuses. Outside the university, the Nacional Institute for the Artistic and Historical

Heritage, the Brazilian Institute of Museums, the State of São Paulo Museum System, the National Council of Archives, the São Paulo State Archive System, the Council for the Defense of Historical, Artistic, Archaeological, and Touristic Heritage of São Paulo State, as well as the city preservation agencies.

- b) Ensure the participation of the groups related to the cultural assets.
- c) Systematically register all the actions taken with cultural heritage assets that aim at their preservation and public dissemination.
- d) Adopt the principles, guidelines, and recommendations of this Letter of Intent in order to ensure multiple interpretations of cultural heritage.