LINES OF OPERATION

The IEAT's main line or axis of operation is the promotion of transdisciplinarity, focusing on research and the different activities associated with it. Such promotion is carried out by means of:

- support to innovative and high-quality groups, themes, and projects of research that could not find shelter in the University's and agencies' forums and usual paths;
- stimulating the generation and diffusion of a new praxis and a new ideal of knowledge, having as a locus collective experiences of groups of varied specialties, as a tool or mean the approximation of the disciplines - to operate the interfaces and surpass them - and as a target the formation of "hybrid" professionals, in whom it is possible to foresee the researcher of the future, with a specialized formation and capable to attend more than one field of knowledge.

To achieve that, in its different lines of operation, the IEAT tries to:

- dislocate the focus of activities and the studies of disciplines and specialties for programs and research projects, either by reinforcing those already in existence or by creating new ones;
- stimulate initiatives to organize research groups characterized by the presence of specialists of different fields of knowledge, with transdisciplinary potential;
- induce activities in areas that are lacunal at the University but advanced in the global context;
- foster the exchange among UFMG's researches with groups and intellectuals highly regarded in country and abroad.
The IEAT (Institute of Advanced Transdisciplinary Studies) of the UFMG - Federal University of Minas Gerais, was created in 1999 and institucionalized in 2005.

Its purpose is to create in the University a favorable environment for transdisciplinary studies of excellence (for they go beyond the normal and the common, aiming to attain an ideal of perfection in their kind, being though aware of the diversity of things), of state-of-the-art (turned towards the new and the future), and of induction (that interfere in ways of knowledge generation, organization, and diffusion), covering the several areas of knowledge - humanities, exact and biological sciences.

This purpose and these characteristics may be thought as an axle going through a tripod. The tripod is constituted by the Institute's inductive actions, by the state-of-the-art characteristic of its studies, and by the researcher's excellence. The axle is the transdisciplinary reach of the researches - the prefix trans- suggesting a set of activities that go "beyond" the disciplines, "among" and "through" them, the term disciplinary guaranteeing the anchorage of the activities is the discipline and its specialties.

Like other advanced institutes in the country and abroad, the IEAT tries to promote, in its different lines of action, state-of-the-art knowledge, without which there is no advanced research nor excellence groups. Different from the other institutes, which promote multi- or interdisciplinarity, it looks for its identity in the promotion of transdisciplinarity, taken as a constant intellectual challenge and a permanent vanishing point. In this context, the prefix trans- appears as a methodological alternative that, based on new reality levels, works in the empty space of disciplines and specialties, trying to decode what unites and surpasses them.

As the IEAT pursues this purpose and finds its identity in the changing processes of knowledge and constitution of the real, the Institute enhances UFMG's identity and shows itself as a laboratory of ideas and a place of search, imagination and utopia.
NATURE

IEAT is a research center, which encompasses the whole University, and presents as its main characteristics, in its different lines of operation:

- basic work unit: research groups and researchers;
- focus: research programs;
- range: supra-departmental and inter-academic units;
- temporality: researchers are linked to the Institute as long as the project is operational;
- virtuality: beyond presentational activities.

PARTNERSHIP

As the Institute is not a funding agency, it seeks, along with the research groups, financial support for institutional and research projects from government agencies, University sectors, non-governmental organizations, and private companies.