IPAC is an inter-faculty, multidisciplinary institute that brings together professors, researchers, and professionals dedicated to advancing heritage knowledge, training, presentation, and outreach.

IPAC takes an interest in all forms of human cultural expression, approaching them as a system whose material and intangible components mutually enrich each other through ongoing interaction. The Institute focuses on three main research areas:

> The definition of heritage in all its forms, including objects and buildings that serve as receptacles of memory; cultural sites and landscapes; and the knowledge and practices, oral traditions, and corporal expressions particular to each culture
> Social, cultural, professional, and political practices contributing to the process of heritagization
> Models and representations designed to acknowledge and understand heritage

In addition to facilitating the sharing of knowledge and know-how, IPAC projects initiate new interactions with local communities and promote openness to the world through the study of the diversity inherent to our human cultural heritage.
After a third successful year, IPAC’s summer school is now a well-established and respected community partner in its home base of Saint-Jean-Port-Joli. In addition to its contributions to research through the publication of scholarly works in the field of heritage studies, IPAC reaches a broad audience with its online Encyclopedia of French Cultural Heritage in North America. IPAC members regularly collaborate with partners in different countries the world over, another factor contributing to the Institute’s international reputation in heritage circles.

Students conducting research under the supervision of IPAC members enjoy access to a large network that transcends faculty boundaries. This interfaculty vocation enables IPAC to break down disciplinary barriers and gives student members a broader perspective on their research topics. At IPAC, many students find the co-supervisor they were looking for to complete their research, or an IPAC member whose input complements the guidance provided by their main supervisor in preparing for a thesis evaluation or dissertation defence.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

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