

In this issue of the DATJournal, in addition to the texts selected regularly by the journal, we have 2 dossiers.

The first of them, with invited editors Gilberto Prado, Sérgio Nesteriuk and Suzete Venturelli, we bring you some selected texts from the II DAT Meeting - Design, Art and Technology 2020. The edition of this DAT Meeting took place as part of the HUB events 2020, together with a consortium formed with three other events: VII SIIMI - International Symposium on Innovation in Interactive Media, # 19.ART - International Meeting of Art and Technology, II International Retina Colloquium.

The second dossier of this DATJournal has guest editors Itamar Ferreira da Silva and Wellington Gomes de Medeiros and presents design research in Northeast Brazil, focusing on the Postgraduate Program in Design at the University of Campina Grande. This dossier continues the DATJournal special series on Postgraduate Programs in Design in Brazil, which are invited to present their trajectories, characteristics and strength lines. With this initiative, we intend, more than mapping and celebrating the strength and diversity of these Programs, to stimulate the exchange between Postgraduate Programs in Design in Brazil.

We appreciate all contributions and wish you a good reading.

Gilberto Prado and Sérgio Nesteriuk

Dossier PPGDesign/UFCG

The Postgraduate Program in Design at the Federal University of Campina Grande (PPGDesign/UFCG) is located in the state of Paraíba and is currently the only master's program in Design at a university inland in the north and northeast of Brazil. It started its activities in June 2014, as part of the Science and Technology Center, a peculiar feature compared to most similar programs in Brazil. Currently, the PPGDesign/UFCG focuses on Product Design under the contemporary perspective of Design as a complex and wide-ranging field for both practice and scientific research, considering points of view on material, immaterial, physical or virtual production.

The program consists of two research branches: Branch 1: Information, Communication and Culture, which includes studies on issues related to the theory, critique, history and development of products and artifacts with an emphasis on information and communication systems, considering semantic, semiotic, aesthetic, chromatic, graphic and methodological aspects, and studies on visual and material culture; and Branch 2: Ergonomics, Environment and Processes, which investigates issues related to the theory, critique and development of products and artifacts with an emphasis on technological, productive, methodological, biomimetic, environmental, social and ethical aspects, including: Design with focus on the countryside and Brazilian semi-arid regions, sustainable Design, project management, interface with architecture and urbanism, product-user-environment relationship, interior and street furniture Design, and Design based on the relationship between the creation, production and consumption of products and artifacts.

The faculty is mostly composed of designers, with the participation of teaching researchers from the Mechanical Engineering and Systems And Computing departments. Located inland in the northeast region of Brazil, the PPGDesign has been attracting students from both neighboring states and the northern region of the country, which reveals its strategic role in the production and dissemination of scientific knowledge. In line with the scope of the program, the dissertations have dealt with topics of both regional and national importance, focusing on research that mainly involves the social, economic and cultural reality of our country.

Regarding international partnership, the program has been making efforts to plan and cooperate with foreign institutions. Among the contacted institutions is the University of Minho, in Portugal, which has already been developing activities and articulating a partnership with the UFCG.

As for the facilities available for the program to operate, although there have been no significant changes since the beginning of the Master in Design, the department has been making efforts to plan and execute physical and laboratory projects both within the university and in other institutions. With the consolidation of the program over the past six years – verified through the success of the dissertation defenses and the insertion of its alumni in the academic market – new possibilities are being traced for the future of the PPGDesign/UFCG, among them the expansion of course offers and the improvement of its current infrastructure.

Itamar Ferreira da Silva and Wellington Gomes de Medeiros