

**The Multi-Disciplinary Institute (IM) of the Federal Rural University, located in Nova Iguaçu, Rio de Janeiro Brazil**



The IM is a campus of the UFRRJ located in the county of Nova Iguaçu with a population of 800,000. It was authorized in 2006 and its permanent campus was inaugurated 2010). The Institute currently has 3500 students and offers the following courses of study:

- |           |                |                  |
|-----------|----------------|------------------|
| History   | Geography      | Letters          |
| Law       | Pedagogy       |                  |
| Economics | Mathematics    | Computer Science |
| Tourism   | Administration |                  |

The Director of the Multidisciplinary Institute for the last three years is **Dr. Alexandre Fortes** (History), a former Mellon Visiting Professor of Latin American History at Duke in 2011-12.

As part of the institutional exchange with Duke, the Rural is sending six professors and two staff in addition to eight student collaborators in the [Bass Connections Project on “Cost of Education: Social Mobility and Higher Education in the Baixada Fluminense”](#) of which Dr. Fortes is the Brazilian project-co-director.

- Dr. Álvaro Pereira do Nascimento (History)
- Dr. Luis Fernando Orleans (Computer Science)
- Dr. João Márcio Mendes (History)
- Dr. Márcia Pletsch (Education)
- Dr. Cláudia de Paula (Education, project manager)
- Renan Arjona, Coordinator, Dean’s Office of Undergraduate Education



**Mark your Calendar: Monday 27 March: “Cost of Opportunity Conference: Higher Education and Social Mobility in Rio’s Baixada Fluminense” Smith Warehouse Bay 5:**

- Noon-4PM: Panels & research presentations
- 4-4:30PM: Interdisciplinary Research;
- 4:30-5:15: Debut of Bass project documentary;
- 6-7:30PM: Dr. Miguel Nicolelis (Duke Neuroscience);
- 8PM: Brazilian Rap Performance @ Duke Coffee House

<http://sites.fhi.duke.edu/globalbrazil/>



The **Rural Federal University of Rio de Janeiro** (UFRRJ), or Rural, is a federal Brazilian university located in the municipality of Seropédica on the outskirts of the city of Rio in a region known as the **Baixada Fluminense** (Rio lowlands). The central campus is the largest in Latin America covering 7472 acres with a current total enrollment of 17,000 students.

The Rural was founded in 1910-11 as a national center of agricultural research and education in Brazil. Reorganized in 1943, the Seropedica campus was created in 1948 and it became part of Brazilian federal universities in the 1960s.

The multi-campus university offers 40 undergraduate majors, more than 35 graduate programs, and 4 technical fields of study. As part of the expansion of higher education under Lula-Dilma administrations, the Rural has **grown from 7,300 students and 583 faculty in 2005 to 14,600 on campus students and 1200 faculty in 2016.**

In April 2017, Dr. Alexandre Fortes will be stepping up to leadership Rural as a whole as Dean (Pró-Reitor) of Graduate Education and Research.

