

Theoretical and Practical Perspective on Heritage Bureaucracies

The Stanford workshop 'Theoretical and Practical Perspectives on Transnational Heritage Bureaucracies' aims to further our understanding on the institutional dynamics, funding schemes and power structures underlying the global governance of cultural heritage. The workshop builds on the research of Prof. Lynn Meskell and graduates students based at the Stanford Archaeology Center. This work shows how an ethnographic approach to the study of cultural intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations might best uncover the circumstances behind political decisions related to cultural heritage. The proposed workshop will integrate this research by including perspectives from scholars working on the role of the European Union in crafting a modern European identity from past commonalities. Ultimately, this workshop will bring together scholars working at the intersection between archaeology, anthropology, sociology, law and international relations and result in a broader understanding of the interplay between of transnational institutions and global civic society in shaping contemporary cultural heritage governance.