



The USM Trees Policy prohibits the cutting and trimming of trees without the permission of the Vice-Chancellor's Office. The principle is that nature must be allowed to flourish with little or no impediment. The Vice-Chancellor has also enforced a moratorium on new buildings. No new building will be constructed unless it takes over the footprint of an existing structure.

The university has also accepted the concept of "giving back to nature" and "bringing back nature". Old buildings of no historical or architectural value or alternative use will be demolished and the site returned to nature as an open space. Natural streams which have since been buried underground may be brought back to the surface to provide both visual and microclimatic benefits. Efforts are also being made to create a more pedestrian-friendly and barrier-free campus through its walkable campus agenda.