



# IAS NEWSLETTER

30 November 2023

[www.ias.um.edu.mo](http://www.ias.um.edu.mo)

## Event Summary

### 1 2023 IAS Fellows' Welcome Meeting



The Institute for Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences (IAS) concluded its welcoming meeting for IAS Fellows on October 20, 2023, at the Common Room. The meeting brought together a diverse group of fellows, providing a platform for open discourse and academic exchange.

Professor Xingzhong Yu warmly welcomed the new group of fellows and emphasized the significance of holding a welcome meeting without masks, which deviates from the usual practice during the ongoing epidemic.

During the meeting, fellows were invited to introduce themselves, share their research interests, and express their expectations within the active IAS community, fostering engagement and collaboration.

Professor Shih-Diing Liu, this year's recipient of the EPS scheme, expressed gratitude to IAS for supporting the upcoming publication of his book. He highlighted the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration and expressed hopes for more opportunities to collaborate with fellows from different disciplines.

Professor Qingjie Wang provided valuable insights into the pivotal role of the IAS in shaping academic pursuits, reflecting the institute's enduring impact on scholarly endeavors.

The meeting created a relaxed and camaraderie-filled atmosphere, encouraging professors to passionately share their professional experiences. As conversations flowed, delightful refreshments of snacks and coffee added to the convivial atmosphere, making it a memorable gathering for all in attendance.



## 2 28 IAS Fellows for the Academic Year 2023/2024



**Joshua Parr Ehrlich**

**FAH**



**Ting-mien Lee**

**FAH**



**Defeng Li**

**FAH**



**Jun Li**

**FAH**



**Yiqing Li**

**FAH**



**Hans-Georg Moeller**

**FAH**



**João Veloso**

**FAH**



**Qingjie Wang**

**FAH**



**Jie Xu**

**FAH**



**Yuhang Xu**

**FAH**



**Jian Zhang**

**FAH**



**Ying Zhang (Ellen)**

**FAH**



**Yue Zhang**

**FAH**



**Yuansi Hou**

**FBA**



**Long Wai Lam (Rico)**

**FBA**



**Zhuo Qiao**

**FBA**



**Mingming Zhou**

**FED**



**João Ilhão Moreira**

**FLL**



**Rostam J. Neuwirth**

**FLL**



**Kei Kei Ng**

**FLL**





**Alexandr Svetlicinii**

**FLL**



**Weixing Hu (Richard)**

**FSS**



**Shih-Diing Liu**

**FSS**



**Jianhua Xu**

**FSS**



**Xinshu Zhao**

**FSS**



**Mei Wan Chen**

**FHS**



**Zhenning Li**

**FST**

### **3 The Philosophy Forum Distinguished Scholars Series was successfully conducted**

Organized by the Institute of Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences and co-hosted with the Faculty of Arts and Humanities, the “Philosophy Forum Distinguished Scholars Series” was successfully held from October 31st to November 1st, 2023. This event gathered influential philosophers and experts around the world to share their academic knowledge and perspectives. Additionally, professors from different disciplines, both within and outside the university, were invited to be moderators and panelists, promoting interdisciplinary cooperation. These discussions sparked profound contemplation of scientific principles and the human perspective on the world.



The inaugural lecture, “Where Did Red Go?” presented by Professor Jiaying Chen, commenced with an exploration of the absence of the color red as a point of departure, gradually unraveling the evolution of the connection between science and the human worldview. Professor Chen first referenced Galileo’s theory, which categorized the properties of objects into primary and secondary qualities. He then delved into the physiological mechanisms behind color perception and pondered the essence of color existence. Conclusively, Professor Chen emphasized the importance of studying the objective properties of existing entities, asserting its pivotal role in advancing scientific progress.



The second lecture, titled “Silence and Black-and-White” and delivered by Professor Zhouxing Sun. The lecture discussed four key aspects: the fusion of sound and color in the world, fundamental issues at the intersection of sound and color, sound-color nihilism, and an examination of hearing silence and observing darkness. This involved analyzing how metaphysical contemplation in ancient times was understood and how it has been treated in modern European scientific contexts. This includes examining whether it has been reduced to purely physical explanations or simplified in any way. Professor Sun extensively examined the connection between sound and color, introducing a distinctive theory on the presence of sound-color and providing a new point of view to comprehend this domain.

The third lecture, presented by Professor Yuk Hui under the title “Machine and Nothingness,” delved into the complexities of machine thinking. Professor Hui shared his experiences of using artificial intelligence software, such as ChatGPT, to explore philosophical questions. This discussion prompted reflections on how humans perceive machine thinking, human existence, and the concept of “nothingness” in relation to machines.

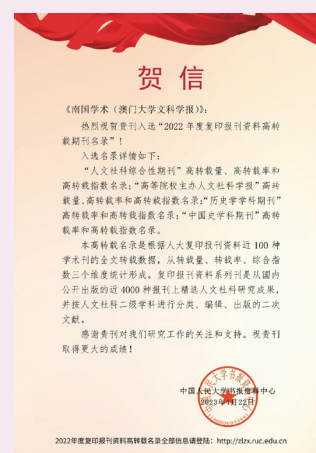
This event, which took place both on-site and through live-streaming, not only presented the profound ideas of esteemed philosophers but also sparked a renewed contemplation of the philosophical foundations behind events and a reassessment of the connection between humanity and the world. With the participation of over 600 scholars and students from both local and international backgrounds, the event sparked lively and passionate discussions.





## “South China Quarterly” indexed in the Chinese Social Sciences Citation Index (CSSCI)

Recently, the Institute of Chinese Social Sciences Research and Assessment of Nanjing University, China, sent a letter to the editorial department of South China Quarterly, the flagship journal of humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Macau, indicating that South China Quarterly, has been selected as a source journal for “the Chinese Social Science Citation Index” (CSSCI) (2023-2024). It is reported that starting in 2023, CSSCI has officially initiated a program to include academic journals published by universities and research institutions in the Macao Special Administrative Region. This move indicates the increasing attention and recognition of Macao-based academic journals by mainland academic and journal communities, and “South China Quarterly” is honored to be a part of this achievement. Before its recognition as CSSCI source journal, South China Quarterly had already gained its reputation among the established scholars who would like to contribute to it. Further to this existing achievement, SCQ has reformed itself into a new editing system based on strict external peer review and responsible internal editing by an executive editorial team within and without the University. This gives us more stable source of high-quality submissions by excellent authors. The recognition of SCQ as a CSSCI source journal, needless to say, is adding brilliance to SCQ’s existing splendour.



The Chinese Social Sciences Citation Index (CSSCI) is a humanities and social sciences citation database developed and produced by the Institute of Chinese Social Sciences Research and Assessment of Nanjing University. CSSCI follows the rules of bibliometrics and selects high-quality, editorially standard journals from over 2,700 Chinese humanities and social sciences academic journals, using a combination of quantitative and qualitative methods. CSSCI provides essential assistance to academic research at hundreds of domestic and international higher education institutions and research institutions, exerting significant influence within the academic and journal communities in China.

South China Quarterly is a comprehensive academic theoretical journal in the humanities and social sciences with the editorial philosophy of “Great Humanities, Interdisciplinary, and Beyond Boundaries.” It is aimed at global humanities and social science researchers and readers. The journal not only explores global and regional issues but also delves into Chinese issues. While it takes a global perspective on the East and China, it also adopts an Eastern perspective to address global issues. For a decade since its inception, “South China Quarterly” has maintained rich contents, fresh format, distinct viewpoints, and profound discourse, continuously discovering high-quality scholarly contributions, disseminating cutting-edge knowledge in the humanities, and striving to be a benchmark, flagship, and leading international academic journal in the Greater China region.

In April of this year, South China Quarterly was selected for the “2022 Annual Reproduction and Transcription Journals High Transcription Rate Journal List” (Information Center for Social Sciences, Renmin University of China), specifically in the categories of “Comprehensive Humanities and Social Sciences Journals,” “Higher Education Institution-Hosted Humanities and Social Science Journals,” “Historical Discipline Journals,” and “Chinese Historical Discipline Journals” with high transcription rates and high transcription indices. Previously, South China Quarterly had been selected twice (2017 and 2020 editions) in “the Important Source Journal List of Reproduction and Transcription Journals”.

The full text of South China Quarterly can be accessed on the University of Macau’s Institute of Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences website at <https://ias.um.edu.mo/scq/?lang=zh-han>

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