



# IAS NEWSLETTER

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Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year from the Institute of Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences (IAS) at the University of Macau!

As we approach the holiday season, we take this opportunity to reflect on the remarkable journey we have shared over the past five years. A heartfelt thank you from all of us for your invaluable support to the Institute of Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences.

This festive season, we celebrate not only the holidays but also our sixth anniversary. We are truly grateful for your encouragement and guidance along the way.

Wishing you and your loved ones a holiday filled with joy, peace, and fulfilment. We look forward to many more memorable moments together in the coming year.

Best regards,  
Institute of Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences



## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



### UM hosts International Conference on Digital Literacy and IAS Annual Conference

The 1st International Conference on Digital Literacy and the 5th Annual Conference of the Institute of Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences (IAS), organised by the IAS, was successfully held from 19 to 20 November 2025. The two-day event has brought together over 50 experts and scholars from prestigious institutions worldwide, including the University of Oxford, the University of Vienna, Peking University, and Shanghai Jiao Tong University. Under the theme 'Shaping the Future of Digital Literacy: Concepts, Evaluation, and Inclusion', the conference explores digital literacy from multidisciplinary perspectives, including law, the humanities, society, and technology, fostering in-depth discussions and exchanges.

[\(Read more\)](#)

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### Professor Jacob Soll Speaks in Distinguished Guest Lecture at IAS

On December 9, the IAS hosted the Distinguished Guest Lecture titled "The First AI Debate: Richard Price and Edmund Burke and the Problem of Numbers in Society." Professor Jacob Soll discussed Richard Price's key contributions, including publishing Thomas Bayes' theorem and integrating "prudence" with Bayesian logic to advocate data-driven decision-making over reliance on tradition or moral virtue. This offered valuable insights into decision-making, freedom, and progress in today's data-driven world.

[\(Read more\)](#)



### Tea talk: "In Conversation with Professor Soll" was successfully held

The Q&A session addressed diverse topics from UM scholars and students from different backgrounds and research fields, including cultural perspective differences, parallels between the print and AI revolutions, balancing academic rigor with public communication, history as a field of study, and global trends in the antique art market. Professor Soll provided insightful responses, highlighting the vital role of humanities in the AI era. The tea talk drew graduate students from various UM faculties.

[\(Read more\)](#)

## NEWS



### The IAS of UM Hosts Vice President Xie Shi and His Delegation from the Institute for Advanced Studies in Humanities of Sun Yat-sen University for Successful Academic Exchange

On 26 November 2025, the Institute of Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Macau (hereafter referred to as "UM-IAS") welcomed a delegation led by Professor Xie Shi, Vice President of Sun Yat-sen University (SYSU) and Director of SYSU's Institute for Advanced Studies in Humanities (hereafter referred to as "SYSU-IAS"). The two parties engaged in in-depth discussions on academic exchange, talent cultivation, and cooperation enhancement. The event concluded successfully, further consolidating the cooperation foundation between the two institutes.

[\(Read more\)](#)

## LATEST PUBLICATION



### The Latest Issue of *South China Quarterly: Journal Of University Of Macau* has been published

E-version is now available the IAS website: <https://ias.um.edu.mo/scq/>

The *South China Quarterly: Journal Of University Of Macau* is edited and published by the UM as its arts journal. It is a comprehensive journal that covers academic research and arts in humanities and social sciences with the publishing principle of "focusing on humanities, touching upon inter-disciplinary and transcending beyond boundaries". The journal is published in traditional Chinese characters and issued every quarter. Articles cover global and regional issues. Meanwhile, they not only consider the East and China from a global perspective but also engage in discussions about global issues from an Eastern viewpoint.

## Contact Us

**Address**  
3rd Floor  
Cultural Building  
University of Macau, E34  
Avenida da Universidade  
Taipa, Macau, China

**Tel**  
+853 8822 4265

**Fax**  
+853 8822 2387

**Website**  
<https://ias.um.edu.mo/>

**Email**  
[ias.enquiry@um.edu.mo](mailto:ias.enquiry@um.edu.mo)

**WeChat Official Account**  
澳大高研院UMIAS ; 澳大人文社科

**Xiaohongshu**  
澳大高研院

**Instagram**  
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