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Artificial Intelligence Empowering High-Quality Development of Academic Journals: A Review of the Seminar on High-Quality Development of Academic Journals and the Report Release Conference on the Most Popular Journals of the National Center for Philosophy and Social Sciences Documentation (Postpr...

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Abstract

of the Symposium on High-Quality Development of Academic Journals and the Release of the National Center for Philosophy and Social Sciences Documentation's Most Popular Journals Report

Full Text

Artificial Intelligence Empowering High-Quality Development of Academic Journals: A Summary of the Symposium on High-Quality Development of Academic Journals and the Release of the National Center for Philosophy and Social Sciences Documentation's Most Popular Journals Report

From May 16 to 17, 2025, the Symposium on High-Quality Development of Academic Journals and the Release Ceremony of the National Center for Philosophy and Social Sciences Documentation's Most Popular Journals Report was held in Beijing, coinciding with the ninth anniversary of the symposium on philosophy and social sciences work presided over by General Secretary Xi Jinping and his important speech delivered thereat. Gao Xiang, President and Party Secretary of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), attended the opening ceremony and delivered a speech, while Zhao Rui, Vice President and Party

Member of CASS, presided over the opening session. Also present were Zhao Chuandong, Deputy Director of the National Office for Philosophy and Social Sciences, and Ren Yuzhong, Party Committee Member and Vice President of Peking University, who gave opening remarks. The conference was organized by the CASS Library and the National Center for Philosophy and Social Sciences Documentation, with nearly one hundred editorial board representatives from philosophy and social sciences journals nationwide in attendance.

In his opening address, Gao Xiang emphasized that General Secretary Xi Jinping's important speech at the philosophy and social sciences symposium profoundly revealed the foundational role and strategic position of philosophy and social sciences in the overall development of the Party and the nation, comprehensively elaborated on the significance, fundamental principles, and specific pathways for advancing their development, and made major arrangements for accelerating the construction of a disciplinary, academic, and discourse system that fully embodies Chinese characteristics, style, and ethos. As crucial platforms for disseminating research findings in philosophy and social sciences, academic journals bear the important functions of guiding academic directions, stimulating innovation vitality, disseminating cutting-edge ideas, and promoting academic exchanges. They constitute a key link in building an independent knowledge system for Chinese philosophy and social sciences and serve as important vehicles for demonstrating national cultural soft power. At a time when profound global changes unseen in a century are accelerating and the wave of artificial intelligence is reshaping paradigms of academic production and dissemination, accelerating the construction of first-class academic journals and developing a discourse and dissemination system with Chinese characteristics represent a major historical mission entrusted to Chinese academic journals in the new era. The National Center for Philosophy and Social Sciences Documentation should actively explore application scenarios, implementation methods, and safeguard mechanisms for technical tools such as artificial intelligence in all aspects of digital construction to enhance operational efficiency, optimize working mechanisms, and improve service quality, thereby creating a comprehensive high-end platform for Chinese philosophy and social sciences that is "domestically top-tier and internationally first-class."

In his opening remarks, Ren Yuzhong stated that the National Center for Philosophy and Social Sciences Documentation has developed into a powerful and convenient information platform for the national social science community and one of the most important open-access resources for Chinese-language social sciences globally, demonstrating the international influence of Chinese scholarship and serving as an important vehicle for the academic dissemination and international expression of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era. Looking ahead, Peking University will continue to strengthen cooperation with the National Center, reinforce complementary advantages, particularly in supporting scholars and serving the development of scholarship, disciplines, and academics, and harness technology to facilitate journal construction, thereby providing more and better public goods for the social

science community nationwide and globally.

Wang Lan, Party Secretary and Director of the CASS Library, released the “Report on the Most Popular Journals in the National Center for Philosophy and Social Sciences Documentation (2024 Annual)” (hereinafter referred to as the “Journals Report”) and the “User Analysis Report of the National Center for Philosophy and Social Sciences Documentation (2024 Annual)” (hereinafter referred to as the “User Report”) at the opening ceremony. The Journals Report showcased the top 20 most popular journals, 10 most popular new journals, and 208 discipline-specific most popular journals for 2024, while for the first time presenting data on overseas user engagement with Chinese journals. The User Report, released for the first time, provided statistical analysis of platform usage, revealing that the platform’s international dissemination achieved remarkable results in 2024, with foreign visits increasing by 34.2% compared to the previous year.

During the opening session, four representatives from “most popular journals” delivered speeches. Jin Mingqing, Party Secretary and Editor-in-Chief of the Chinese Social Sciences Magazine, emphasized the importance of maintaining political correctness and academic excellence as the publication philosophy, upholding the spirit of “loyalty, dedication, and commitment,” and pursuing bold reforms and innovations according to the new tasks of the new era to continue writing new chapters for *Chinese Social Sciences* and the entire magazine. Wang Jian, Dean of the School of Economics and Management at Harbin Institute of Technology and Editor-in-Chief of *Public Administration Review*, noted that the National Center represents the largest open-access academic platform for Chinese-language philosophy and social sciences in China, and that leveraging this high-quality platform has not only significantly expanded the breadth of dissemination for his journal but also enhanced dissemination speed and deepened impact, thereby maximizing the presentation of academic value. Duan Faming, Deputy Director of the Journal Press of Hunan Normal University and Executive Editor-in-Chief of *Journal of Educational Science of Hunan Normal University*, argued that building academic journals for the new era requires strengthening strategic topic planning capabilities, focusing on major practical issues in education, actively aligning with national education development strategies, innovating academic dissemination paradigms by exploring integrated development pathways between traditional and emerging media, and enhancing international academic dialogue capabilities to systematically construct an international dissemination system for Chinese wisdom in education. Huang Wei, Director of the Journal Press of East China Normal University, stated that the National Center, with its open-sharing philosophy, provides a quality platform and professional services that break down temporal and spatial barriers to academic resources, enabling outstanding research findings to benefit broader readership while offering academic journals a stage to demonstrate their value.

The seminar segment, themed “Artificial Intelligence Empowering High-Quality Development of Academic Journals,” unfolded in four stages, featuring

a thought-provoking collision of ideas with both theoretical depth and practical value. Experts examined the comprehensive impact of artificial intelligence on academic journals from multiple perspectives.

AI's Transformative Potential and Emerging Challenges

Guo Jiahong, Executive Editor-in-Chief of *Journal of Beijing Normal University (Social Sciences Edition)*, observed that while artificial intelligence presents opportunities for enhancing manuscript processing efficiency, content quality, and dissemination effectiveness, academic journals still face challenges regarding academic integrity, data security, and team transformation. To better achieve high-quality development, the industry should formulate professional norms and standards, strengthen data security management, and enhance the capabilities of editors and reviewers in the AI era. Xing Li, Editorial Board Member of *Public Finance Research*, proposed that journals must seize the opportunities of the times while upholding their core values, maintaining content as paramount and high quality as the foundation, and thoughtfully strengthening AI collaboration to empower high-quality development. Wang Yanli, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of *Social Science Front* magazine, argued that high-quality development necessitates artificial intelligence integration, a requirement determined by the essence of journals as media, AI as technology, and the core connotation of high-quality development itself, emphasizing that “the fundamental goodness of technology represented by artificial intelligence lies in human goodness.”

Ethical Frameworks and Quality Assurance Mechanisms

Xiong Anjing, Editor-in-Chief of *South China Sea Journal*, contended that the fundamental principle of AI application in academic journals lies in promoting good while suppressing evil, requiring journals to remain true to their original mission and enhance their “three influences”: academic influence, decision-making influence, and social influence. Huang Guobin, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of *Digital Publishing Research*, discussed persistent issues in AI-empowered philosophy and social sciences content creation, including “translational plagiarism,” AI-assisted writing, and AI-generated misinformation. Addressing these problems requires building a trustworthy hierarchical content system that integrates traditional academic papers, open peer review comments, associated scientific data, author responses, and registered research reports. Wang Haidong, Editor-in-Chief of *China Examination*, proposed three strategic recommendations for academic journals facing the challenges of the AI era: the urgent need for the academic journal community to formulate a consensus guidance document; the necessity of a common AI text detection software for all journals; and the importance of continuously tracking and researching issues related to AI-empowered academic publishing.

Knowledge Systems and Disciplinary Innovation

Yang Jun, Editor of *Political Science Research*, analyzed how generative artificial intelligence is influencing the construction of an independent knowledge system in political science, manifesting in five key aspects: the expansion of research objects leading to the complexity of political phenomena in digital society; methodological innovations accelerating data-driven and computational social science research; theoretical system reconstruction challenging traditional political concepts; interdisciplinary integration promoting fusion between political science, computer science, and ethics; and new challenges for disciplinary development and governance. Guo Lin, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of *Social Security Review*, discussed the contemporary value of AI-driven digital-intelligent transformation of philosophy and social sciences journals, noting that artificial intelligence provides intelligent support for building an independent knowledge system with Chinese characteristics, enables intelligent integration of cutting-edge multidisciplinary achievements, effectively enhances the dissemination effectiveness of academic discourse systems, helps researchers quickly grasp research trends across different disciplines, and promotes interdisciplinary integration and paradigm innovation. Chen Hong, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of *Nankai Journal (Philosophy and Social Sciences Edition)*, proposed that establishing a diverse, professional digital platform for academic publishing and evaluation could effectively transform the drawbacks of existing academic evaluation systems by building an evaluation mechanism adapted to disciplinary characteristics and centered on academic achievements, breaking down the fragmented situation where universities and university journals operate independently, and integrating academic resources to construct an academic community where universities and journals mutually review and recognize each other's work.

Professional Identity and Social Responsibility

Wang Shuixiong, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of *Sociology Review*, addressed the current state of sociology journals in the AI environment and their multiple pressures in political, social, and academic dimensions, arguing that professional journals must anchor themselves to their original mission and positioning as bridges for knowledge innovation and academic exchange, drivers for disciplinary construction and development, and practitioners of social service.

The participating experts, drawing on their profound academic expertise, offered both theoretically sophisticated analyses and practically grounded innovative explorations. Their discussions not only showcased cutting-edge developments in the field but also outlined a diverse vision for future development, providing methodological guidance for the intelligent transformation of academic journals while opening new pathways for addressing common industry challenges, thereby fully demonstrating the limitless possibilities of artificial intelligence empowering high-quality development of academic journals.

At the closing ceremony, Gong Wen, Secretary of the Discipline Inspection Com-

mittee and Deputy Director of the CASS Library, released the “Initiative for the Rational Application of Artificial Intelligence in Academic Journals,” emphasizing that to better promote the rational use of artificial intelligence and empower high-quality development of academic journals, stakeholders should adhere to correct political direction and academic orientation; maintain human primacy with technology as supplement; emphasize data security and privacy protection; ensure transparency and explainability; establish industry standards and norms; improve information authenticity verification mechanisms; encourage innovative application practices; and strengthen talent team building.

This conference further strengthened exchanges and cooperation among academic journals. Numerous colleagues in academia discovered opportunities for common development through intellectual exchange, fully leveraging the National Center for Philosophy and Social Sciences Documentation’s role in building exchange platforms and promoting collaborative innovation. Under the scientific guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, the National Center will continue to unremittingly strengthen its own construction, forge ahead with determination, orient itself toward serving national strategies, drive development through technological innovation, actively promote high-quality development of philosophy and social sciences journals, strive to build platforms for academic innovation, exchange, and leadership, work to broadly disseminate the Party’s innovative theories and China’s outstanding academic achievements, and make due contributions to prospering Chinese academia, developing Chinese theory, and spreading Chinese thought.

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Note: Figure translations are in progress. See original paper for figures.

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