

Macao in the Role of Promoting International Humanistic Exchange

Wu Zhiliang

International humanistic exchange promotes mutual understanding between peoples, reduces misunderstanding of one another, and facilitates the creation of good conditions in developing relations between countries. As one of the earliest cities open to the world in China, Macao has a deep historic and cultural background and has cumulated experience and methods in conducting exchanges with the West. Since a well-functioned platform and mechanisms are already in place, Macao can once again perform its historical function as a hub in China's international humanistic exchange only when we have sufficient understanding on this and take appropriate measures.

Are Macao Civil Servants Satisfied with Their Work? An Empirical Analysis of the Impact of Job Characteristics

Ao Io Weng Chan Wai Tan O Lai Heong

Job satisfaction is the key element to government operation and policy implementation because it can motivate civil servants to work seriously and earnestly. This paper tries to adopt quantitative approach to evaluate the job satisfaction of Macao civil servants and the impact of five major job characteristics on it, based on a representative survey in which a total of 2,097 civil servants participated. The result shows that two main job characteristics (i.e. autonomy and feedback) are the predictors of job satisfaction, while other three job characteristics (i.e. skill variety, task identity, task significance) are not significantly related to job satisfaction. Based on the result, for improving Macao civil servants' satisfaction, this paper suggests empowering more civil servants to autonomously fulfill their duties, encouraging their voice behavior, and seriously implementing the performance evaluation system as feedback providing mechanism.

Research on the Construction of Livelihood Evaluation Index System and the Livelihood Index of Macao since 1999

Lin Deqin

Economic development and livelihood improvement are the main goals of the government, so it is of great significance to quantitatively evaluate the changes in the livelihood of Macao since 1999. This paper selects 11 themes including employment and income, housing, culture and education, health care, social security, social services, transportation, food safety, air quality, garbage disposal and water quality to build an evaluation index system and calculates the livelihood index of Macao based on the data from 1999 to 2019. It is found that the comprehensive livelihood index of Macao shows an upward trend, indicating that the livelihood situation of Macao has continued to improve since 1999. However, the indexes of housing and transportation show a downward trend year by year. On the basis of empirical analysis, this paper proposes several countermeasures and suggestions from the aspects of stabilizing the supply of public housing, introducing housing purchase conditions, promoting urban renewal, and the construction of smart transportation.

The Development and Progress of Public Health in Macao: from Plague, SARS to COVID-19

Wong Ngan Hong

Public health plays an important role in disease prevention and cure efforts through local health systems, as well as an important government policy. Its emergence and reform are often closely related to the outbreak of an epidemic of disease. This article discusses the prevention and treatment measures of three major infectious diseases occurred in Macao: the 1895 plague, severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) 2003, and COVID-19 which is still raging worldwide. From the perspective of government capacity building in the era, to examine the development and progress of public health in Macao.

The Study of Judicial Review System of Macao Administrative Regulations

Fong In Long

The system for disputes raised over norms in Macao “Administrative Procedure Code” is the judicial review system of administrative regulations. The purpose of this review is to ensure the legitimacy of administrative regulations “lato sensu”. This extensive administrative regulation is different from that enacted by the Chief Executive. Therefore, the judicial review mentioned above is precisely the dispute over the provisions of administrative regulations. The limitation of judicial review mentioned above is that it is impossible to examine whether the administrative regulations and rules violate the basic law.

Time Through History

Jorge Bruxo Lurdes Escaleira

The notion of time is not exempt from some ambiguity, and we can find it encompasses several categories, from chronological time to psychological and social time. The notion of time is intrinsically connected to cultural and civilizational development, and as such, it is subject to conceptual fluctuations as seen with linear time and circular time adopted, for example, in different periods of the Greek, Chinese and European civilizations.

While “manufacturing” History, time is of the utmost importance and ontologically it cannot be detached from the notions of space and movement, which can only be dissected for scientific analysis or pedagogical practice, making time a necessary tool for understanding historical facts in a medium-term conjectural approach, and for formulating historical laws in a long-term structural approach. Short-term is also acknowledged, highlighting journalism, and emphasizing that, although it is an essential view for historians, this short-term takes on a different nature, distinct and unmistakable with journalistic reporting.

Throughout this article, influential philosophers and scientists are quoted, mainly historians, who made a reflection on this theme and considered time to be of a different nature, stating in conclusion that time has an instrumental nature and is essential not only for historians but also for scholars and researchers in this area of knowledge.