Crossing the 100-publication milestone to celebrate the new year 2021

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Hanoi, January 1, 2021

As the year 2021 has just begun, it is time for us to look back to see what we have achieved so far. Last year, the year of 2020, marked a special event for the Center for Interdisciplinary Social Research (ISR, Phenikaa University) as our research center passed the 100th publication milestone [1-104].

Born on August 1, 2017, the research center has existed for 1249 days. For these 41 months, we have published 104 publications in many forms, including original research articles, editorial/viewpoint articles, data descriptors, review articles, books, book chapters, conference papers, well-recognized science blog posts, and even a software package. The share of each type of publication is given in Figure 1.

Figure 1. ISR's publications by types

After the rigorous reviewing, revising process, and thousands of corresponding letters, 68 original research articles have finally found their homes for print in 35 journals of 21 publishers, such as Elsevier, Nature Research, Springer, and Oxford University Press, Taylor & Francis.

The second most popular type of publications from ISR is editorial and viewpoint, consisting of 13 publications in prestigious journals, like *Nature*, *Nature Human Behavior*, *European Science Editing*, etc. ISR has published two conference papers, both in the Proceedings of the XXIV World Congress of Philosophy. The proceedings belong to volumes published for the Beijing World Congress in 2018. Since 2017, ISR authors have contributed to well-recognized scientific blogs, once on *Scientific Data Updates* [7], twice on *Behavioural and Social Sciences Community* operated by Nature Research [58, 96], and once on London School of Economics and Political Science's well-known *LSE Impact of Social Sciences* [100]. Three books and six book chapters were released in 2019 and 2020. Among six book chapters, five are on scientometrics, and one is on entrepreneurial finance. Data descriptors account for 5% of the total production by ISR (5 pieces), published on either *Scientific Data* (Nature Research) or *Data* (MDPI). During the last two years, ISR members have also started writing review articles on Social Medicine issues (2 pieces) and Economics disciplines (2 pieces).

Notably, ISR researchers have obtained 12 publications with Nature Research (5 journal articles, 2 data descriptions, 3 blogs, and 3 viewpoints). In addition, in May 2019, our Bayesian analysis package for R-studio software was approved and now is available on CRAN (<https://cran.r-project.org/package=bayesv>) [105] after hectic days and nights. These accomplishments, as mentioned above, are not without failure. Just from estimating the last three years, we have received more than 300 rejections from various journals and publishers among more than ten disciplines, e.g., Economics & Finance, Education, Environmental Science, Political Science, Gender Studies, Computer Sciences, Library and Information Sciences, Business & Management, Public Health, etc.

Figure 2. ISR's publication by fields

As our name suggested, ISR researchers have worked on various topics, from economics and education to art and scientometrics (Figure 2). It should be noted that some papers can be classified into several topics simultaneously, but we only selected the most related topic for presentation. Perhaps, that is why the team has collaborated with scientists who specialized in multiple disciplines.

We have worked with scientists from many prestigious institutions, such as John Hopkins University (USA), Science Po (France), National University of Singapore (Singapore), Charles University (Czech), Foreign Trade University (Vietnam), Vietnam-Germany Hospital (Vietnam), Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (Japan).

In more than three years, ISR research has contributed to society and the scientific community. For example, a group of scientists from the University of Miami used Vuong's elaboration on the growing public distrust in science [8] to explain why Americans believed in Zika conspiracy theory [106]. Our Vietnamese social scientists' database was referred to as an example to build open databases for the public [107, 108].

This year, the Indian University Grants Commission (Figure 3) referred to the blog post on *LSE Impact Blog* [100] in their guidance document of good academic practices [109]. Amidst the COVID-19, our timely work on the role of media and scientific communication to fight against the pandemic in Vietnam provides useful perspectives for research in multiple disciplines (e.g., health policy, education, economics) [77]. It was used to advocate for strong communication as an effective strategy against COVID-19 and strengthen public trust [110]. Another paper using our paper on COVID-19 also agreed that good policy is a must to control the spread of COVID-19 [111].

Figure 3. Guidance Document of Indian University Grants Commission [109]

On improving the representation of science, especially during COVID-19, a publication from the Royal Society of Canada referred to the viewpoint article on *Nature* [86], which proposed four steps for a more transparent mechanism to retract paper [112]. This initiative got the attention of scientists from many countries, thus was translated into four languages: Chinese [113], Spanish [115], German [116], and Japanese [114].

Figure 4. Note of the Royal Society of Canada [112]

The impact was not limited to ISR's publications but also our past works. In 2019, the DeVane Lectures hosted by Yale University, with the topic "Power and Politics in Today's World," used a 2014 working paper written by ISR founder [17]. *Stratfor Worldview*—the leading news agency in geopolitics—published a shorter version of [17] on their platform in 2014 [18].

Figure 5. 2019 DeVane Lectures at Yale University

2019 DeVane Lectures: “Power and Politics in Today’s World”

‘Power and Politics’ in the media

YaleNews: [Public invited to Professor Shapiro’s ‘Power and Politics’ DeVane Lectures](#)

YaleNews: [Reflecting on Bretton Woods with Yale political scientist Ian Shapiro](#)

The New York Times: [Frances McCall Rosenbluth and Ian Shapiro’s “Responsible Parties,” and the test of U.K. democracy amidst Brexit](#)

In the last few years, we have also worked on two major scientific databases: SSHPA and Scimath. SSHPA is a public database recording scientific profiles of Vietnam social researchers. This project was provided with a national research grant by the National Foundation for Science and Technology Development of Vietnam (NAFOSTED) for basic science research in the social sciences and humanities. The infrastructure of SSHPA was described in *Scientific Data* [17]. Datasets extracted from the SSHPA database were the backbones in our publications [24, 85, 88]. These original research articles investigated various aspects of social science research in Vietnam, such as productivity, collaboration pattern, and adoption of open-access publishing.

The Scimath Database is the product of the project *A Database of Vietnam Mathematics*, which was initiated under the direction of Prof. Ngo Bao Chau (Vietnam Institute for Advanced Studies in Mathematics - VIASM) and Dr. Vuong Quan Hoang (ISR, AIDSL). In 2020, ISR also had meetings with Vietnam Institute for Advanced Studies in Mathematics to report the progress of the Scimath database. The product is a preliminary report on the development of mathematics in Vietnam since the first international publication by Le Van Thiem in 1945 [118]. We expect to introduce this database to the scientific community and the public in the near future.

Figure 6. First meeting with VIASM to report the progress of Scimath database

The 100th publication is indeed special. Looking back upon those achievements in the last 1249 days, we are motivated to work even harder. We know that plenty of plans and new ideas still wait for us in the future.

Our publications are listed in the References section that follows.

And we all wish you a Happy New Year!

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