

FED-CEPECE Seminar: “Bridging the Science-Practice Gap in School Counseling: Using VocationalCompass for Evidence-Based Career Guidance”

Centre for Educational Psychology and Early Childhood Education, Faculty of Education

Date & Time: 30 March 2026 (Monday); 17:00-18:30

Venue: E33-3038, Faculty of Education

Language: English

Registration: Online Registration (<https://umac.questionpro.com.au/t/ARtQyZSA8H> or )

Enquiries: Mr. Brendan LEI (Email: fed_event@um.edu.mo / Tel: 8822-4120)

Speaker:

Prof. Hui XU is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology, University of Macau. Prof. Xu holds a Ph.D. in Counselling Psychology from Arizona State University, an M.A. from Beijing Normal University, and a B.A. from Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

He has garnered multiple honors, including the 2020 Early Career Award from the Society for Vocational Psychology and APA Division 17, and the 2018 Faculty Award from ACHPPI. Prof. Xu has published extensively on career decision-making under uncertainty, with a particular focus on ambiguity management, career indecision, and adaptive career processes. His work advances dual-process theory and process-oriented approaches, offering important insights into how individuals regulate, adapt, and make decisions in complex and uncertain career contexts over time. His research has been published in top journals such as *Journal of Counseling Psychology*, *Career Development Quarterly*, and *Journal of Career Assessment*. He also actively developed assessment tools and led career workshops at UM, including the well-received session 'Career Decision and Major Selection in College' for MCM College students.

Abstract:

Assisting students with career decision making is a core responsibility of school counselors. However, a significant science-practice gap often limits the efficiency, validity, and overall impact of career counseling interventions. This talk introduces a dynamic, evidence-based approach using VocationalCompass.com, a platform designed to translate cutting-edge vocational psychology into practical tools for school counselors. We will explore how to assess students' vocational personalities and identify psychological barriers to career decision making using digital tools. Attendees will learn how to interpret data-driven, personalized reports to facilitate more effective career interventions and help students navigate the uncertainties of a rapidly changing labor market.