



**WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY**



Institute for
Australian and Chinese
Arts and Culture

澳英艺术文化研究院



北京外国语大学
BEIJING FOREIGN STUDIES UNIVERSITY

MEDIA RELEASE

**Announcing the 9th Foundation for Australian Studies in China Conference &
10th Australia-China Transcultural Studies Symposium**

3-6 October 2024

Parramatta City Campus, Western Sydney University, Australia

FASIC 9 Convened by

**Emeritus Professor David Walker, inaugural BHP Chair of Australian Studies at
Peking University (2013-2016)**

**Emeritus Professor Greg McCarthy, second BHP Chair of Australian Studies at
Peking University (2016-2019)**

**Emeritus Professor Pookong Kee, third BHP Chair of Australian Studies at Peking
University (2019-2022)**

ACTS 10 Organised by

**Institute for Australian and Chinese Arts and Culture (IAC) at Western Sydney
University**

With support from

Beijing Foreign Studies University

The Foundation for Australian Studies in China (FASIC) and The Institute for Australian and Chinese Arts and Culture (IAC) at Western Sydney University along with the Beijing Foreign Studies University, are pleased to announce that for the first time the 9th Foundation for Australian Studies in China Conference (FASIC 9) and the 10th Australia-China Transcultural Studies Symposium (ACTS 10) will be held back to back from 3 October to 6 October 2024, at Western Sydney University, Australia, with the joint Reception on 3 October and conference dinner on 5 October.

FASIC 9 Overview:

FASIC 9 marks a significant milestone as the first FASIC Conference to be hosted in Australia, offering an unparalleled platform to deepen academic exchanges between Australia and China.

The Conference will bring together over 100 participants from China and Australia, including leading academics, students, and professionals from a variety of disciplines. The conference will feature a comprehensive program of presentations, panel discussions, and networking opportunities aimed at exploring the latest research and developments in Australia-China relations.

FASIC 9 is also dedicated to providing a platform for emerging scholars, fostering the next generation of academic leaders in Australia-China relations. The conference will offer these scholars unique opportunities to present their work, engage with senior academics, and contribute to the vibrant academic exchange between the two countries.

The event will be held back-to-back with the 10th Australia-China Transcultural Studies Symposium (ACTS 10), further expanding the scope and impact of the discussions.

ACTS 10: Past. Present. Future. Overview:

The 10th Australia-China Transcultural Studies Symposium is organised by the Institute for Australian and Chinese Arts and Culture at Western Sydney University in partnership with Beijing Foreign Studies University. The China-Australia/Australia-China Transcultural Studies Symposium (CATS/ACTS) was a joint initiative of Beijing Foreign Studies University and the University of Adelaide in 2013. The previous nine symposiums have been held in Beijing, Adelaide and Perth, with the 9th being held in Beijing in 2023, co-organised with Western Sydney University. The 10th symposium will focus on all aspects of transcultural exchanges between Australia and China in the past, through to the present, and onward looking to the future. Topics of presentations concerned with but not limited to the following aspects of transcultural studies are welcome: education; literature; language; arts; history; translation; cultural relations and diplomacy; philosophy; tourism. Impacts of AI on transcultural studies and exchanges

will also be one of the focal points of the Symposium. Researchers, academics, experts in relevant fields and research students are all encouraged to participate and present.

Comments from the Co-Convenors:

- **Emeritus Professor David Walker, Inaugural BHP Chair of Australian Studies at Peking University:**
"Having had the privilege of organising the very first FASIC conference at Peking University in 2013, I am now delighted to be involved in FASIC 9. This year marks the first time the conference will be held in Australia. FASIC 9 provides a unique opportunity to deepen academic exchanges between Australia and China, and I look forward to the many fruitful discussions that will emerge from this gathering."
- **Emeritus Professor Greg McCarthy, Second BHP Chair of Australian Studies at Peking University:**
"The FASIC 9 conference is unique as it brings together academic experts from Australia and China, exploring the spirit of the Australian nation and the spirit of the age, for the mutual benefit of Australia and China."
- **Emeritus Professor Kee Pookong, Third BHP Chair of Australian Studies at Peking University:**
"FASIC 9 takes place at a timely juncture as the easing of international travel requirements between Australia and China is accompanied by renewed education and other people-to-people exchanges between the two countries. This conference offers a rich mix of research presentations and panel discussions on topics crucial to understanding contemporary Australia and its ties with China and the region."

About FASIC:

Established in 2011, supported by the Australia China Council (ACC) through the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, FASIC is an independent privately funded not-for-profit organisation dedicated to fostering deeper understanding between the peoples of Australia and China. FASIC has pioneered numerous initiatives, including the BHP Chair of Australian Studies at Peking University, which became a symbol of Australian Studies in China.

Through the extensive network of Australian Studies Centres across China, FASIC has facilitated cultural, educational, and scholarly exchanges, cementing its role as a bridge between the two nations.

About the Institute for Australian and Chinese Arts and Culture (IAC):

The Institute for Australian and Chinese Arts and Culture (IAC) at Western Sydney University is located at the Parramatta South campus in one of the most ethnically diverse urban centers of Australia. Australia is home to more than one million people of Chinese descent with a wide range of identities, life histories, views, and places of origin. We believe arts and culture are essential to the well-being, cohesion, and vitality of our culturally and linguistically diverse communities. The Institute is positioning itself as a hub to promote and enhance arts and cultural exchanges between Australia and mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and the wider Sinosphere. IAC also plays an important role locally in contributing to a vibrant multicultural urban society through its community engagement in developing educational and inclusive arts and cultural programs.

For Conference Updates and Registration:

Visit www.fasic.org.au or <https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/iac> for the latest information on the conference programs and registration details.

Media Enquiries:

Featured speakers and conference convenors are available for interviews upon request. For all media enquiries, please contact Stephanie Lowe, CEO at slowe@fasic.org.au.