

# The Practice and Enlightenment of Digital Humanistic Service in Foreign Libraries

Ying Zhang

Central China Normal University Hubei, Wuhan 430070

**Abstract:** This paper analyzes the problems faced by Chinese libraries in developing digital humanities services, summarizes the characteristics of foreign libraries in developing digital humanities services, and lists the typical projects of foreign libraries in developing digital humanities services, finally, this paper expounds the enlightenment of foreign libraries to our country's books and libraries by developing digital humanistic service.

**Keywords:** Introduction; Foreign Libraries; Library Services; Digital humanities

The combination of digital humanities index digital technology and humanities research is a cross-disciplinary integration, has been introduced into the computer, Library Information, Journal, humanities and other disciplines. Academic institutions and institutions in Europe and the United States launched digital humanities services earlier, especially in foreign universities and libraries, with the most outstanding digital humanities services.<sup>[1]</sup> In concrete practice, university libraries have accumulated rich experience and also explored, a multi-content service. The research on logarithm-character humanistic service of Chinese Library and Information Service is in the ascendant, but there are still some problems because of the late start and the lack of relevant theoretical research and practical experience. The author sorts out and analyzes the characteristics of digital humanistic service in foreign libraries,<sup>[2]</sup> in order to provide enlightenment and reference for the construction of digital humanistic service in Chinese libraries. At present, the research of Chinese Library and Information Service on digital humanities service is still at the primary stage, although some scholars have focused on Chinese libraries, the actual situation and the needs of the audience, from the Scientific Research Service, the technical framework, and so on, have put forward some ideas for reference, but because the service idea lags behind and lacks mature experience, many problems have arisen in the concrete practice process, this is reflected in the following three aspects.

(1) Although digital humanities is not a new thing, but throughout our country, libraries, the establishment of a dedicated digital humanities center institutions are few. The reason for this is that the Chinese library and information circles have not paid enough attention to digital people and literature. The problems reflected in the deep level are the academic circles, the backward ideas, and the so-called digital humanities of many front-line Librarian, service is nothing more than "old medicine in a new bottle". Without a correct understanding of this concept, we can not form a scientific and standardized service system.

(2) Lack of practical cases for reference, the digital age has brought the opportunity of transformation for the library, but also brought severe challenges, the library is no longer in the knowledge management services, occupy a dominant position. Digital Technology has brought about changes in the way of knowledge dissemination, and libraries have also accelerated the pace of transformation. The library science in our country hopes to find a new service mode that is up to date with the Times through digital humanistic service. However, through combing the relevant literature, we can find that the proportion of theoretical research in its research results is relatively high, and the practical cases for reference are very limited, which is the root of this research situation, is the absence of a role for the library itself. The library not only hopes to meet the challenge of the digital age and the rapid transformation,<sup>[3]</sup> but also is restricted by the traditional model, model and framework, which makes it difficult for it to compete with the data service and business that have come into being in the digital age. As a result, the idea of digital humanism has been introduced into a kind of, embarrassing Situation, its practice in the country also stagnated, did not make substantive progress.

(3) The lack of communication and cooperation among the three departments, in addition to the macro-environmental constraints, the internal mechanisms of the library, also become increasingly rigid and outdated, hindering the development of digital human services. The development of Digital Human Services requires the full cooperation of scientific research departments, technical departments, reference and consulting departments and librarians, while the service focus of Chinese libraries is still on the links of traditional acquisition cataloging, circulation and reading, etc., neglect of the harmonization of objectives and the pace of work between departments, resulting in fragmentation between departments. Therefore, digital humanities services will inevitably be hindered by this fragmentation, resulting in the implementation of difficult results.

# 1. The characteristics of digital humanistic service in foreign libraries

(1)The most outstanding characteristic of the excellent digital humanities service projects abroad is the extensive cooperation among cultural institutions, libraries and departments. The combination of humanities, social sciences and digital technologies requires cultural institutions to break down traditional barriers to information dissemination, deepen cooperation at all levels, and integrate multi-disciplinary and disciplinary resources.

(2)Focus on the actual output, the foreign digital humanities project generally has the stronger practicality, which is also the present Chinese digital humanities project lacks, the foreign books and information, the press not only pays attention to the digital humanities theory development and the academic viewpoint innovation, and apply these theories to the concrete practice process. For example, the University of London has made new advances in traditional archaeology by using digital technology to reconstruct the 3D contours and colors of sites and unearthed artifacts, and digital humanities technology has enabled the computer to render images of mysterious ancient Egyptian murals unscathed,<sup>[4]</sup> provide strong technical support to the archaeologists. In short, while the foreign digital humanities programs have made theoretical achievements, they have also focused on the actual output, which makes the advantages of digital humanities and technology visible and concrete, and further promotes the development of digital humanities and literature, it's a virtuous circle.

(3)Foreign libraries pay attention to the combination of digital humanities project and solving social problems. The University of Maryland, for example, relies on data collected on public use of social media to analyze public perceptions and attitudes about hot issues, history, events, and how people interact with each other, it provides data atlas for Sociological Research and helps to solve social problems. In a word, the Foreign Library's digital humanities service breaks through the bondage of discipline and focuses on social problems, which also provides a new idea for the development of digital humanities service in China.

(4)The typical projects of digital humanities service carried out by foreign libraries, through sorting out the digital humanities service of European and American libraries, the author has summed up three representative projects, namely digital humanities, consulting Services, special collection digital humanities projects and digital humanities, data management services. 3. 1 Digital Humanities Advisory Service, digital humanities advisory service is one of the basic services of foreign libraries, which needs to be completed across disciplines and institutions, generally including: All the local libraries, archives, related colleges and other knowledge services. In the service process, the leading library should understand the importance of the cooperative organization, provide the readers with multi-angle and wide-range consultation content, and create the precise and personalized service items for the readers.

(5) When foreign libraries carry out digital humanities service, they not only provide universal consulting service, but also excavate characteristic digital humanities project based on their own resource advantages. For example, the French National Library, in cooperation with local and local scientific research institutions, has planned a digital humanities project on the theme of "Historical Classics" , which presents numerous high-value literary and artistic works in a digital way, has promoted the historical resources dissemination and the precious document re-engraves. This project not only relies on the advantages of digital processing, technology to ease the conflict between the collection and use of library resources, but also provides a reference, for the sustainable development of resources, can help the development of cross-disciplinary.

(6)Digital Human Data Management Project, in order to ensure that digital human data can be used by researchers, foreign libraries have carried out standardized digital human data management project. For example, the emory university library applies data statistics and analysis, a technology that helps researchers capture data about a wide variety of disciplines, including health, health surveys, public opinion, and censuses, and helps research, the researchers standardized the complex data so that it could be used in the researchers' research programs. For example, <sup>[4]</sup> the French Re LIRE digital humanities project encourages digital publishing and sales in libraries and encourages readers to read books on the Web. It can be seen that the digital humanities carried out by foreign libraries are not only limited to consultation and resource acquisition, but also extended to the level of data management. With the above analysis of the characteristics and projects of the digital humanities service carried out by foreign libraries, the author thinks that the digital humanities items of Chinese libraries, therefore, the author expounds the enlightenment of the development of foreign libraries and the digital humanistic service to Chinese libraries from the following three aspects.

(7) From the experience of developing digital humanities in foreign libraries, the advanced service concept is the prerequisite for the implementation of digital humanities services, and it is under the guidance of the advanced service concept that, foreign libraries can actively promote, promote cooperative mechanisms, rely on digital processing technology to build databases, so that the traditional, humanities and digital technology truly integrated to form a cross-disciplinary, promote the development of academic research. At the same time, our libraries should follow the example of foreign libraries and strengthen the construction of digital humanities facilities: first, libraries should set up digital, digital humanities research centers to provide rich digital resources for scientific research; Second, the library should provide the corresponding technology and the human resources, guarantees the number, the word humanities service standardization, the scientific and the comprehensive.

(8)The Foreign Library digital humanities service involves the scope, the service coverage, the coverage is big and pays attention to the solution social question, therefore has established the good public praise, has obtained the social widespread approval. Our Country Chart

(9)Improve the ability of librarians, under the information environment, <sup>[5]</sup>the library services to the intelligent direction, development, in this context, only constantly update the knowledge structure of the Librarian, to provide high-quality services to users. Under the theory of information chance, the behavior of users to search, obtain and use information is influenced by various factors, librarians should make full use of their professional advantages to provide support for users to obtain information and help users to master more search skills, to improve their ability to access various databases. Conclusion, to sum up, the occurrence of information encounter under big data background is influenced by information technology, user information behavior, objective

information environment and so on. The library should analyze the users' information demand scientifically, improve the accuracy of information push, and enhance the librarians' ability, so as to raise the probability of the library users' information encounter behavior, and optimize the user experience.

## References

---

- [1] Wang Nan. Research on integration of characteristic information resources of university library in big data era: taking local information resources as an example[J]. *Technology News*, 2014(21) : 253.
- [2] Sun Jun.. Research on the digital innovation development of county public libraries in the big data era: a case study of the digital construction of local documents in Funing County, Jiangsu Libraries[J]. *Cultural and educational materials*, 2015(20) : 56-57.
- [3] Fu lai-kuen. Research on digital resource construction of university library in big data era[J]. *Inner Mongolia Science, technology and economy*, 2015(9) : 66-67.
- [4] Yeung Chiu Keung. Construction and utilization of library characteristic collection resources under big data background: a Case Study of Lanzhou University of Finance and Economics Library[J]. *Journal of Library Science*, 2016(10) : 59-61,75.
- [5] Long Chenhong. Big Data era in the central region of the Provincial Academy of Social Sciences Library Characteristics, database construction research [J]. *Science and Technology Square*, 2014(7) : 114-117.