Scholarly Publishing in China: Overview and Opportunities

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自強 弘毅 求是 拓新
improve oneself promote perseverance
seek truth
And
make innovations
Mary Elizabeth Wood (August 22, 1861 – May 1, 1931) was an American librarian and missionary, best known for her work in promoting Western librarianship practices and programs in China. She is credited with the foundation of the first library school in China, the Boone Library School, as well as spurring the development of Chinese librarianship as a modern profession.
R&D as a Background
Sources of Funding for Research in China

- National Level↓
  - A. National Social Sciences Fund, since 1991, 21 areas
  - B. National Natural Science Fund, since 1982, 7 fields
    There are two kinds of funds in this foundation, one for projects and the other for talents
  - C. National Key Technology R&D Program
  - D. National High-Tech R&D Program of China (863 Program)
    1986~2005, ¥ 30 Billion
  - E. National Key Basic Research Program (NKBGP, 973 Program)
  - F. Torch Program
• **Ministerial Level ↓**
  – Project of Chinese Ministry of Education
  – Project of Ministry of Agriculture
  – Project of Ministry of Health
  – ......

• **Local Level ↓**
  – Provincial projects
  – Municipal projects
  – University projects
  – ......

• **Horizontal projects →**
  – Enterprise projects
  – International coordination projects
  – ......
Fig. 1 R&D Funding Sources in China

(%)
Fig. 2 Annual Growth of Chinese R&D Expenditure
Fig 3. Six Countries’ R&D Expenditure
(million dollars)

Source: China Main Science and Technology Indicator Database (OECD data).
Fig. 4 Eleven Countries’ R&D Expenditure (% of GDP)

Source: China Main Science and Technology Indicator Database. http://www.sts.org.cn/kjnew/maintitle/Rdnc.asp?Mainq=1&Subq=5&Sele=(1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14)
Five Chinese Researchers

One American Researcher


NSFC ¥ 20994/paper

DIISR ¥ 5472/paper

3.8 times

SSFC ¥ 14248/paper

2.6 times
Research Outputs as a Background
According to the statistics from ISTIC (Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China)

Chinese institutions as the first authors’ affiliations:

- In 2011, 143,600 internationally published papers; 29.8%, citations above subject areas’ average citations, increased 10.1% over 2010.
- In 2011, 530,000 domestically published papers; 29.8%, citations above subject areas’ average citations, increased 10.1% over 2010.
- 134 journals was indexed by SCI, increase 6 titles over the earlier year; 211 journals was indexed by EI; 102 BY Medline; 738 in Scopus.
- 2002~2011, 1,022,600 internationally published papers, ranked No. 2; cited 6,653,400 times, ranked No. 6, 6.51/paper, grow 4.8% over the previous year.
- 2002~2011, the average impact factor of domestic journals is 0.454, CAGA (Compound annual growth rate) is 13.9%
Chinese Scholarly Publishing
Overview: some features

1. Chinese STM journal publishers are usually very small. There are no such thing like “800-pound gorilla” in the arena.

- 10,000 titles of books/ year
- 300 STM Journals
Chinese publishing houses paid more attention to books/monographs.

- Societies/associations, universities/colleges, government agencies, non-for-profit, esp. before 2012
- From the economic perspective, Chinese STM Journal publishing is insignificant.

Another three features
2. Very low STM journal prices in China
   - Few publishers could control the market and raise the subscription fees.

3. Fostered “Big 3” digital STM journal aggregators since mid-1990s in China
   I. CNKI.com (National Knowledge Infrastructure), 8000 titles, (1915-)
   II. Wanfangdata.com, >7000 titles (1998-)
   III. cqvip.com, 12000 titles
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国际文献总库
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面向行业网络的知识发现及共享平台

个人/机构数字图书馆
个性化定制及服务的全新资源应用方式

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机构导航 | 基金 | 学科专业图书馆

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- 科研助手
- 全国高职高专院校招生计划分析系统

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- 规范术语
- 翻译助手
- 数字搜索
- 表格搜索
- 图形搜索
- 综合搜索
- 汉语工具书
4. ‘three-level Review’ instead of “peer review”

![Diagram: The ‘three-level Review’ System for Academic Journals in China](image)

**Fig. 1 The ‘three-level Review’ System for Academic Journals in China**

Trends of Chinese Scholarly Publishing

• Market–oriented Reform
  – Charging Article Publishing Fees
  – Raising Prices of Academic Books
  – Depending on Academic Publishing Funds

• Internalization
  – Internationalization of Editors and Editorial Boards
  – Establish Publishing Workflows Centered around Peer-review
  – Internationalizing Journals’ Content and Form
Thank You!

谢谢！