Innovative Practice and Development Thinking of Space Re-design in the Liaoning Provincial Library

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ABSTRACT
The Liaoning Provincial Library is one of the largest and most well-functional libraries. It has the largest building area and provides abundant services to the public. The Liaoning Provincial Library mainly provides readers with reading, learning, activities, innovative space services, offers creative spaces, studios, and other service spaces. In the past two years, over 4 million visited the library, and the library has held more than 2,500 activities, and has gained new experience in areas such as service philosophies, service contents, service strategies, and service guarantees. In the future, the authors still need to figure out how to integrate the interactions of multi-space usages inside and outside the library, how to express and transmit the multiple attributes and innovative areas of the public library, how to balance between organizational functions and government functions, and how to achieve the function of creative incubation using thinking and exploration practices.

KEYWORDS
China Public Library, Liaoning Provincial Library, Space Redesign, Space Service

INTRODUCTION
Liaoning Province is the only coastal province in the northeastern region of China. It is also one of the most important provinces in China, an important heavy industrial base in China, and an advance province of education and agriculture. The province is a relatively all-around developed province in China. Shenyang is in the south region of northeastern China, and it sits in the center of the Northeast Asian Economic Circle and the Bohai Sea Economic Circle. Shenyang is the capital city of the Liaoning Province, a provincial city of China (People’s Forum, 2017), and also an important metropolitan area in northeastern China with an advanced equipment manufacturing base. It is also famous for its rich culture and national history (Administration of the State Council of the People ‘s Republic of China, 2017). The city has 10 districts, 2 counties, and is the escrow of a county-level city. The city’s total area is more than 12,948 square kilometers, their urban area is 3,495 square kilometers, there is a population of 8 million 292 thousand people as of 2016, a household population
of 7 million 344 thousand, and is worth 546 billion-yuan with a disposable income of 39,135 yuan per capita, ranking first in the province (Shenyang Municipal Bureau of Statistics, 2016) (Figure 1).

Located in Shenyang, the Liaoning Provincial library has the most complete service functions of a public library. It is also Shenyang’s and the province of Liaoning’s most important public cultural service. Newly relocated to Shenyang City’s new district of Hunnan, this provincial library had a trial opening to the community on August 22, 2015 and officially opened on April 23, 2017. It is the first provincial library with a modular design in China. From the bird’s eye view, the library is in the shape of the letter “E” which represents an open book meaning “opening books will give you knowledge”. On the one hand, the Liaoning Provincial library’s construction land is 83,200 square meters and the total building area is 103,150 square meters. It is one of the largest provincial public libraries in China. With the magnificent appearance and rich connotation, the library has become beautiful scenery for the city (Wang & Wang, 2017). The Liaoning Provincial library not only provides reading spaces, learning space services to fulfill the responsibility of providing cultural communication and social educational functions, it also provides innovative space, and active space services to help meet the needs of readers and social developments. This library has become a model of China’s public library space recycling and has caught the attention of communities and industries.

At present, the Liaoning Provincial library is mainly equipped with a children’s world, special group service area, exhibition hall, multi-function lecture hall, universal learning center, multimedia service area, creative space, audio room, recording room, studio room, a Chinese and foreign literature borrowing area, historical literature reading area, information consultation service area, local literature service area, and many other service spaces. It has carried out a series of activities such as parent-child reading, film appreciations, audio book listening, play watching, classics recitations, intergenerational reading, salons, AR (augmented reality) experiences, and other activities or services that give full play to the library as a key role in the popularization of scientific and cultural knowledge, enhancement of the quality of civic civilizations, and promoting social development and progress.

Figure 1. Liaoning Provincial Library