

Address at the 2022 Symposium on Library, Information and Archives Preprint Platforms

Authors: Li Mengli

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Abstract

The Library and Information Science Preprint Platform, as a sub-platform supported by the Bureau of Science Communication of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and specifically constructed by the National Science Library of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, is, like other sub-platforms, an important national infrastructure for scientific research, a vital component of the national public welfare public service capacity, a key element of the national ‘14th Five-Year Plan’ high-end exchange platform for scientific papers and scientific information, and also an important manifestation of China’s promotion of open science development.

Full Text

Opening Address at the Academic Symposium on the Library, Information, and Archives Preprint Platform

August 22, 2022

Dear colleagues and students in the library, information, and archives community: Greetings to all! Today, we convene the inaugural national “Academic Symposium on the Construction of the Library, Information, and Archives Preprint Platform” through a hybrid online-offline format. On behalf of the host organization—the Documentation and Information Center of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), which initiated and is building this platform—I would like to express sincere gratitude to the six experts presenting at this conference, to the inaugural members of the Management Committee and Scientific Advisory Committee, to volunteer representatives, and to the more than twenty LIS and archives journals that have already issued preprint policies. I also extend a warm welcome and thanks to all participants joining us online.

This past April, during his inspection of Renmin University, General Secretary Xi Jinping emphasized the need to strengthen the construction of academic re-

source repositories and build a world-class academic resource information platform with Chinese characteristics. The “Recommendations of the CPC Central Committee on Formulating the 14th Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development and the Long-Range Objectives Through the Year 2035,” adopted at the Fifth Plenary Session of the 19th CPC Central Committee, explicitly identified “building high-end exchange platforms for research papers and scientific and technological information” as one of seven key priorities for strengthening China’s national strategic scientific and technological capacity. Proposed as a national strategy, this major scientific and technological innovation platform will support the publication, review, evaluation, dissemination, and preservation of high-level research outputs. It holds great significance for improving the national innovation system, enhancing science and technology governance, perfecting S&T evaluation mechanisms, promoting efficient open sharing and broad dissemination of research information and data, and comprehensively elevating support services for research activities.

The Chinese Academy of Sciences represents China’s national strategic scientific and technological force—our nation’s team in science and technology. The CAS Documentation and Information Center serves as the national institution for scientific literature provision and information services. Over its 72-year history, the Center has consistently upheld an organizational culture and professional spirit of “serving as a stepping stone for others while daring to pioneer new paths,” providing robust support for scientific innovation at CAS and across the nation. Looking ahead to the 14th Five-Year Plan period, the Center has made forward-looking arrangements and embraced bold innovation and transformation. With a sense of duty befitting a “national team, national personnel, undertaking national missions, and bearing national responsibility,” the Center has undertaken multiple important tasks for CAS and the nation while actively promoting the construction of public welfare-oriented high-end exchange platforms. Building upon the CAS Scientific Paper Preprint Platform established during the 13th Five-Year Plan period, the Center—driven by its mission and mandate, and viewing the implementation of General Secretary Xi Jinping’s important directives and the strategic deployments of the Party Central Committee as its paramount mission and responsibility—has continued to accelerate development of the “National Preprint Platform for Frontier Academic Papers.” With active guidance from the Ministry of Science and Technology, the China Association for Science and Technology, and other ministries, and strong support from the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the Center plans to build approximately fifteen preprint sub-platforms within about five years. The China Library, Information, and Archives Preprint Platform is among the first five sub-platforms launched this year.

As a sub-platform supported by the CAS Bureau of Science Communication and specifically undertaken by the CAS Documentation and Information Center, the Library, Information, and Archives Preprint Platform—like its counterparts—represents important national infrastructure for scientific research, a vital component of the nation’s public welfare service capacity, a key element of the

national high-end exchange platform for research papers and scientific information during the 14th Five-Year Plan period, and a significant manifestation of China's efforts to advance open science.

The theme of this conference is “Library, Information, and Archives Preprints: Building a New Scholarly Communication System.” We have invited numerous experts to join participants in discussing important issues concerning LIS and archives preprints and preprint platforms, clarifying misconceptions and misunderstandings in the academic community and professional field, articulating the vital role of preprints in constructing new scholarly communication systems, and advancing the development of the LIS and archives preprint platform and the new communication system it embodies. We will also explore how preprints can play a distinctive role in the scholarly communication ecosystem, complementing traditional systems such as academic conferences and journals. Teachers, students, and practitioners in LIS and archives are essential participants and contributors to scholarly communication activities.

Amid ongoing transformation in scholarly communication systems, I hope the LIS and archives community will assess the situation, stand at the forefront of change, and accelerate our own transformation by actively supporting and participating in this new preprint-based scholarly communication system. We should take the lead in exploring reforms to academic evaluation related to preprints. I urge LIS and archives journals to actively issue preprint policies, authors to contribute their work to the platform, and institutions to become cooperative partners. I also hope more members of our community will step forward to serve as second- and third-batch members of the Management Committee or Scientific Advisory Committee, or as volunteer manuscript screeners for preprint submissions and published papers. Most importantly, I encourage researchers to deposit their latest findings as manuscripts on the LIS and archives preprint platform—either before or after journal submission—to secure first claim to their academic ideas and research results and disseminate their work to the broadest possible academic and professional audience at the fastest possible speed.

Our Center has already taken the lead in formulating a preprint policy for academic institutions, and we will continue to prioritize support for the LIS and archives preprint platform. Drawing upon our Center's unique strengths as an academic institution, educational organization, and practice-oriented body in LIS and archives, we aim to connect and collaborate with institutions, journals, and authors nationwide. By pioneering innovations in preprint policies, platform functionality, technological development, and management mechanisms, we seek to establish a model and exemplar for preprint platforms that can accumulate experience and provide reference for the development of additional sub-platforms.

I hope that experts, conference participants, and LIS and archives professionals across the nation will pay close attention to, support, and participate in the construction and development of the “China Library, Information, and Archives

Preprint Platform.”Let us work together to build this platform into an important base for LIS and archives research and practical innovation, a crucial incubator for innovative achievements, and a powerful engine driving the development of our field.

May this conference mark the beginning of widespread recognition, support, and participation in preprint platforms across China’ s LIS and archives academic community and professional sector. May 2022 become the inaugural year for the construction and development of the “China Library, Information, and Archives Preprint Platform” and the starting point for continuously advancing China’ s new preprint-based scholarly communication system in LIS and archives.

I wish this conference every success. Thank you all!

Note: Figure translations are in progress. See original paper for figures.

Source: ChinaXiv –Machine translation. Verify with original.